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**Working Party on the Accession
of the Russian Federation**

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ACCESSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Checklists of TBT and SPS Issues in the Accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation has submitted the following checklists of TBT and SPS issues in the accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO, with the request that it be circulated to members of the Working Party.

Checklist of TBT Issues in the Accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
1. Generally agreed principle in WTO accession negotiations	1. Standstill: the introduction of new standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures should be fully compatible with the TBT Agreement	The Russian party does not intend to complicate access to its markets by introducing a less favourable treatment for the purposes of the TBT Agreement. The basic parameters were defined in the Russia's draft commitments in respect of access to goods and services markets. Measures for market protection will be undertaken in full compliance with the Russia's international obligations, the Russian legislation in force and the requirements of draft laws currently under development. Legal and regulatory framework for the implementation of the above is provided under the «Interministerial Programme of Measures to Ensure Compliance with the WTO TBT Agreement and the WTO SPS Agreement for 1999 – 2000» (see Note below and the Annex hereto).
2. Article 15.2 and TBT Committee Decision (G/TBT/1)	2. Submission of Statement on Implementation	Pursuant to the TBT Agreement this commitment will be fully implemented after the accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO (see also Section 3 herein).
3. Article 10	3. Establishment and operation of a single Contact Point for Information ("enquiry point")	The Russian single Information Center on TBT/SPS ("TBT/SPS Enquiry Point") was set up at Gosstandart of Russia on the basis of All-Russia Research Institute for Classification, Terminology and Information on Standardisation and Quality (VNIKI). The function of the TBT/SPS Enquiry Point is to provide, in conjunction with specialised information centres of different ministries and agencies, the necessary TBT and SPS related information to all interested parties, including foreign participants of international trade. The Russian TBT/SPS Enquiry Point address: 4 Granatny per., Moscow 103001 Russian Federation. tel./fax 230 25 98 E-mail: ENPOINT@VNIKI.RU Gosstandart of Russia also has a web site (www.GOSTR.RU) which can be used for access to information stored on the Macronet interministerial network (regarding TBT and SPS).
4. Articles 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15.2, Annex 3 and G/TBT/1	4. Identification of authority responsible for notifications, publications and other internal procedures to ensure transparency obligations are met on an ongoing basis:	
(a) Articles 2.9.1, 3.1, 5.6.1, 7.1, 10.1.5	(a) identification of publication where notices of proposed technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures will appear;	The Russian TBT/SPS Enquiry Point specified in Section 3 above, which has started publishing a specialised Bulletin («Vestnik»), is currently ready to assume this function.
(b) Article 2.9.2, 2.10.1, 3.2, 3.3, 5.6.2, 5.7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 10.7, 10.10	(b) identification of authority responsible for making notifications to the WTO;	Gosstandart of Russia and other ministries and agencies concerned are planned to be responsible for the preparation of notifications. The organisation responsible for making notifications to the WTO is the Russian TBT/SPS Enquiry Point.

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
(c) Articles 2.9.4, 2.10.3, 3.1, 3.3, 5.6.4, 5.7.3, 7.1, 7.3	(c) guidance/law to ensure regulatory authorities afford non-discriminatory consideration of comments in the preparation of a final regulation;	The draft Federal Law «On Technical Measures in Trade» (to be submitted to the Government of the Russian Federation in 2000) requires that all federal executive authorities developing technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures shall publish any new drafts and consider and take into account comments thereon from all interested parties.
(d) Articles 2.11, 2.12, 3.1, 5.8, 5.9, 7.1	(d) guidance/law to ensure regulatory authorities allow a reasonable period of time between the final publication of a technical regulation and conformity assessment procedure and its entry into force so that suppliers can adapt;	All federal executive authorities must allow a sufficient period of time between the adoption of a technical regulation or conformity assessment procedure and its entry into force as provided under the draft Federal Law «On Technical Measures in Trade».
(e) Article 4, Annex 3 (J, K, L, N, O); Article 8.1	(e) publication and notification of work programme for standards and non-governmental conformity assessment procedures, including publication of notices of draft standards and an opportunity for public comment.	These functions will be performed by the Russian TBT/SPS Enquiry Point which has started publishing a specialised Bulletin (“Vestnik”). Besides, programmes of standardisation measures are published in the Annual Catalogue of Standards.
5. Articles 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	5. Development and Application of Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures: Existence of legal and/or administrative underpinnings (or “reasonable measures” as appropriate) to ensure ongoing compliance with provisions of the agreement concerning, in particular:	
(a) Articles 2.1, 3.1, 5.1, 5.2, 7.1	(a) non-discrimination with respect to the treatment of products;	There is no discrimination of imported goods (as far as the TBT Agreement is concerned) in the Russian Federation.

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
(b) Articles 2.2, 3.1, 5.1, 5.2, 7.1	(b) the prohibition of unnecessary obstacles to international trade and the consideration of less trade-restrictive alternatives to fulfilling legitimate objectives;	Unnecessary obstacles to international trade are being lifted in the course of harmonisation of the current legislation and conformity assessment procedures with the international requirements (notably, amendments were made to Law No. 5151-1 of the Russian Federation "On Certification of Products and Services" of June 10, 1993 (with supplements and amendments of December 27, 1995); amendments are underway to Law No. 5154-1 of the Russian Federation "On Standardisation" of June 10, 1993 (with supplements and amendments of December 27, 1995). This commitment is more specifically defined in the draft Federal Laws "On Technical Measures in Trade" and "On Confirmation of Conformity Assessment of Products and Services to the Regulatory Regulations" (the draft Federal Laws are to be submitted to the Government of the Russian Federation in 2000).
(c) Article 2.3, 3.1, 7.1	(c) the ongoing review of technical regulations to ensure they are appropriate to achieve the desired legitimate objective;	Ongoing review of technical regulations to ensure their conformity to legal requirements is implemented in practice.
(d) Article 2.4, 3.1, 5.4, 7.1	(d) the consideration of appropriate international standards, guides and recommendations as a basis for technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures;	Current practice heavily relies on international standards, guides and recommendations in the development of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures. Besides, the requirement to use the above as a basis for national technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures is provided under the draft Federal Law "On Technical Measures in Trade".
(e) Article 2.7, 3.1, 7.1	(e) the consideration of equivalent technical regulations of other Members;	Technical regulations of WTO Members are routinely considered in the development of national technical regulations. Notably, as far as standards containing obligatory requirements are concerned, this commitment is being implemented under the Law of the Russian Federation "On Standardisation" (Article 6).
(f) Article 6, 7.1	(f) the acceptance of the results of conformity assessment procedures conducted by bodies in an exporting Member country;	Under Article 4 of Law No. 5151-1 of the Russian Federation "On Certification of Products and Services" dated June 10, 1993 as amended by Federal Law No. 154-FZ of July 31, 1998 the Russian side accepts the results of conformity assessment procedures of those international systems to which Russia has acceded. In other cases the acceptance of the results of conformity assessment procedures is defined under multilateral and bilateral agreements.
(g) Article 5.2, 7.1, 10.4	(g) non-discriminatory and cost-based fee structure.	Gosstandart of Russia has adopted and agreed with the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation the "Rules of Certification. Fees for Certification of Products and Services". This document is currently undergoing registration procedures with the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation. The document provides a uniform fee payment structure for national and foreign applicants, and is based on the costs effectively incurred by certification authorities and testing laboratories in carrying out the conformity assessment procedures.

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
6. Article 4 and Annex 3, Article 8	6. Development and Application of Standards and Conformity Assessment Procedures: Existence of legal and/or administrative underpinnings (or "reasonable measures" as appropriate) to ensure ongoing compliance with provisions of the agreement concerning, in particular:	
(a) Annex 3 (D), Article 8.1	(a) non-discrimination with respect to the treatment of products;	There is no discrimination of imported goods (as far as the TBT Agreement is concerned) in the Russian Federation.
(b) Annex 3 (E), Article 8.1	(b) the prohibition of unnecessary obstacles to international trade;	Unnecessary obstacles to international trade are being lifted in the course of harmonisation of the current legislation and conformity assessment procedures with the international requirements. The necessary measures are being taken under the «Interministerial Programme of Measures for 1999 – 2000» (see the Note below and the Annex hereto).
(c) Annex 3 (F), Article 8.1	(c) the consideration of appropriate international standards, guides and recommendations as a basis for standards;	This requirement is implemented in the principal standards of the State Standardisation System (GOST R 1.0-92 “The State Standardisation System of the Russian Federation. The Main Principles”; GOST R 1.2-92 “The State Standardisation System of the Russian Federation. The Procedure for Development of State Standards.”)
(d) Annex 3 (M), Annex 3 (P), Articles 8.1, 10.4	(d) non-discriminatory and cost-based fee structure.	Gosstandart of Russia has adopted and agreed with the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation the “Rules of Certification. Fees for Certification of Products and Services”. This document is currently undergoing registration procedures with the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation. The document provides a uniform fee payment structure for national and foreign applicants, and is based on the costs effectively incurred by certification authorities and testing laboratories in carrying out the conformity assessment procedures. The ISO approaches are applied for the purposes of payment of the cost of standards.

Note: Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned has prepared the new «Interministerial Programme of Measures to Ensure Compliance with the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for 1999 – 2000» (see Annex) which defines an actualized set of focused measures to enable the Russian Federation to accede to the above Agreements. This Programme is approved by the Commission of the Government of the Russian Federation on the WTO Issues.

Notably, Section 1 of the Programme contemplates writing 17 legislative and legal regulatory acts to define the legal framework for standardisation and conformity assessment developments for the purposes of Russia’s accession to the WTO (including draft Federal Laws “On Technical Measures in Trade”, “On Assessment of Conformity of Products and Services to Regulatory Requirements”, “On Amendments to the Law of the Russian Federation “On Standardisation”, “On Amendments to the Law of the Russian Federation “On Protection of Consumer Rights”).

Sections 2 and 3 of the Programme include measures to harmonise the national standards and conformity assessment procedures with their international analogues.

Checklist of SPS Issues in Accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
1. Generally agreed principle in WTO accession negotiations.	1. Standstill: the introduction of new standards, animal health regulations and food safety regulations shall conform to SPS Agreement principles.	<p>The Russian party does not intend to complicate access to its markets by introducing a less favourable treatment for the purposes of the SPS Agreement. The basic parameters were defined in the Russia's draft commitments in respect of access to goods and services markets. Measures for market protection will be undertaken in full compliance with the Russia's international obligations, the Russian legislation in force and the requirements of draft laws currently under development.</p> <p>Measures with regard to sanitary-epidemiological and veterinary issues are aimed at human and animal health protection and are fully consistent with the SPS Agreement.</p> <p>Development and application of new standards, norms for animal health protection and food safety regulations proceed by reference to the requirements of the SPS Agreement.</p> <p>The legal and regulatory framework for plant quarantine (phytosanitary) protection is consistent with the SPS Agreement.</p> <p>As Russia is preparing to accede to the SPS Agreement, the standstill principle is implemented through the «Interministerial Programme of Measures to Ensure Compliance with the WTO TBT Agreement and the WTO SPS Agreement for 1999-2000» (See Annex).</p>
2. Article 7 and Annex B.3.	2. Establishment and operation of a single Contact Point for Information ("enquiry point").	<p>The Russian single Information Center on TBT/SPS ("TBT/SPS Enquiry Point") was set up at the Gosstandart of Russia on the basis of All-Russia Research Institute for Classification, Terminology and Information on Standardisation and Quality (VNIKI). The function of this TBT/SPS Enquiry Point is to provide, in conjunction with specialised information centres at the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Federation, the necessary SPS related information to all interested parties including foreign participants of international trade.</p> <p>The Russian TBT/SPS Enquiry Point address: 4 Granatny per., Moscow 103001 Russian Federation; tel./fax 230 25 98; e-mail: enpoint@vniiki.ru</p> <p>A specialised SPS information centre was established at the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (sanitary and epidemiological issues) on the basis of the Centre for Hygienic Regulations and Certification.</p> <p>Address of the specialised SPS Information Center at the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation: 18/20 Vadkovsky per., Moscow 101479 Russian Federation; tel. 978 2496, fax 973 1976; e-mail: snodeadmin20@gost.ru</p>
		<p>A specialised SPS information center was established at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Federation (veterinary and phytosanitary issues) on the basis of the Principal Computing Centre (by Order No. 500 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Federation dated August 10, 1998).</p> <p>Address of the Specialised SPS information centre at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Federation: 15 Krzhizhanovskogo street, Moscow, Russian Federation; tel. 124 7796; fax: 124 7374 (www.aris.ru).</p>
3. Articles 7 and Annex B, Also G/SPS/7.	3. Transparency: notification and access to documentation:	

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
(a) Annex B.5.(b) and Annex B.10.	(a) identification of authority responsible for making notifications to the WTO and ensuring transparency obligations are met on an ongoing basis;	(a) The Russian TBT/SPS Enquiry Point is the agency which is responsible for providing notifications to the WTO, distribution of information and ensuring access to the SPS documentation (in compliance with the transparency requirement), and it will start full operation in such capacity immediately upon accession. Preparation of the necessary materials and documents pertains to the authority of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (sanitary and epidemiological issues) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (animal health and plant control).
(b) Annex B.5(a).	(b) establish guidance or law requiring publication of proposed measures at an early stage for comment;	(b) The organ of the press in which notifications required under the SPS Agreement would be officially published will be determined by the Government of the Russian Federation. The Russian TBT/SPS Enquiry Point, which has started publishing a specialised Bulletin ("Vestnik"), is currently ready to assume this function. This requirement will be implemented after the accession. At present listings of newly developed sanitary legislation are published in specialised journals. The Ministry of Health's "Bulletin of Regulatory and Policy Documents Regarding State Sanitary and Epidemiological Supervision" is currently completing its registration procedures. Regulatory and legal documents on veterinary and phytosanitary measures are published in the Information Bulletin of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Products of the Russian Federation.
(c) Annex B.5.(c).	(c) provision in law or administrative procedure to provide copies of proposed measures to WTO Members; and	Various draft legal and regulatory acts, notably the Draft Federal Law "On Technical Measures in Trade", require provision of information on proposed measures to WTO Members. After the Law is adopted this requirement will be added to the state sanitary and epidemiological regulations. This SPS Agreement requirement concerning veterinary and phytosanitary measures will be implemented gradually by adopting appropriate legal and regulatory acts.
(d) Annex B.5(d).	(d) require in law or administrative procedure, a reasonable period of time for comment from Members and the public, and establishment of a process to take comments into account without discrimination.	The Draft Federal Law "On Technical Measures in Trade" provides a proper period of time for comments from the WTO Members and interested persons regarding the newly developed Russian laws, standards and other documents, and sets forth the requirement to consider and take into comments and proposals. Non-discriminatory treatment in international trade is provided under the current legislation of the Russian Federation. Comments and proposals are considered and taken into account without discrimination unless capable of adversely affecting the protection of human health, human environment, animal and plant health.

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
4. Article 2.2.	4. Necessity: measures are applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant health.	<p>It is now under implementation pursuant to Federal Law No. 52-FZ "On Sanitary and Epidemiological Well-Being of the Population" dated March 30, 1999, sanitary and epidemiological requirements are aimed only at ensuring human-friendly environment and product safety, protection of human life and health as well as prevention of appearing and dissemination of diseases.</p> <p>Pursuant to the requirements of Federal Law No. 4979-1 of the Russian Federation "On Veterinary Service" dated May 14, 1993 and the Code of the International Office of Epizootics, measures are applied only to the extent necessary to protect human and animal health.</p> <p>Under Resolution No. 268 of the Government of the Russian Federation "On the State Plant Quarantine Service of the Russian Federation" dated April 23, 1992, phytosanitary quarantine applies only to the extent necessary to prevent import and assimilation of items subject to quarantine in the Russian Federation.</p> <p>Further improvement of Russian legislation is contemplated in the draft Federal Law "On Quarantine of Plants" (adopted by the State Duma in the third reading in November 1999). Russia reserves the right to introduce phytosanitary measures in respect of harmful organisms which have not been completely studied in phytosanitary terms and can be potentially dangerous for Russia, with subsequent analysis of the phytosanitary risk in accordance with the international norms.</p>
5. Articles 2.2, 3.3 and 5.2.	5. Regulations Based on Science: regulations governing animal and plant health and food safety shall be based on scientific evidence.	<p>It is now under implementation pursuant to Federal Law No. 52-FZ "On Sanitary and Epidemiological Well-Being of the Population" dated March 30, 1999, regulations governing human health protection and food safety shall be based on all embracing scientific evidence.</p> <p>Under Federal Law No. 4979-1 of the Russian Federation "On Veterinary Service" dated May 14, 1993, existing and newly developed veterinary regulatory documents shall only be adopted on the basis of scientific evidence or subject to international requirements.</p> <p>Resolution No. 268 of the Government of the Russian Federation "On the State Plant Quarantine Service of the Russian Federation" dated April 23, 1992, requires, among other provisions, that phytosanitary risks and their management (i.e. phytosanitary measures) be supported by scientific evidence, and prohibits application of phytosanitary measures for purposes other than plant quarantine regulation.</p> <p>The scientific substantiation requirement in respect of quarantine regulations is based on the recommendations of the International Plant Protection Convention – IPPC) and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO), the European Union's directives and the results of the national research projects.</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
6. Articles 3.1, 3.3 and 3.4.	6. Harmonization: to the extent possible, members shall follow international standards, guidelines, and recommendations in establishing SPS measures.	Federal Law No. 52-FZ "On Sanitary and Epidemiological Well-Being of the Population" dated March 30, 1999 and Statute "On the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Regulations" approved by Resolution No. 625 of the Government of the Russian Federation dated June 5, 1994, requires that national sanitary regulations shall analyse and use international requirements and recommendations. This requirement is also implemented under Federal Law No. 4979-1 "On Veterinary Service" dated May 14, 1993 and Resolution No. 268 of the Government of the Russian Federation "On the State Plant Quarantine Service of the Russian Federation" dated April 23, 1992. Notably, to substantiate the introduction of a phytosanitary measure, the above instruments allude, wherever applicable, to recommendations of IPPC and EPPO and international standards. Further adjustment of procedures for full analysis and harmonisation of sanitary and phytosanitary measures to incorporate international standards, rules and recommendations will take no less than three years.
7. Article 4.	7. Equivalence: members shall recognize different measures that achieve the same level of protection.	Russia complies with the equivalence principle for the purposes of the SPS Agreement provided that sanitary and phytosanitary measures maintained by other countries achieve the necessary level of protection of public, animal and plant health.
8. Article 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3.	8. Risk Assessment: developing scientific evidence and conducting risk assessments to ensure that measures are based on science and applied only to the extent necessary to protect health.	Under the current legislation of the Russian Federation (Federal Law No. 52-FZ "On Sanitary and Epidemiological Well-Being of the Population" dated March 30, 1999, Federal Law No. 4979-1 "On Veterinary Service" dated May 14, 1993 and Resolution No. 268 of the Government of the Russian Federation "On the State Plant Quarantine Service of the Russian Federation" dated April 23, 1992) measures are based on scientific evidence and risk assessment (examination of the potential threat latent in a harmful factor or commodity) to the extent that is necessary for protection of human, environmental, animal and plant health. To comply with the commitments with regard to sanitary and hygienic, epidemiological, veterinary and phytosanitary measures, and to conduct an analysis of the above and substantiate the need for their harmonisation with the international risk assessment methods in the first place, will require a transition period of no less than 3 years upon accession to the WTO depending on the challenges of required scientific solutions in terms of state of the art and funds availability. ¹

¹ The length of the transition period (no less than three years) is due to the need for a scientifically grounded revision of national sanitary, veterinary and phytosanitary rules to comply with the international norms, including those laid down by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

This will involve, among other activities, collection, translation into Russian and analysis of the relevant international documents, their comparison with the Russian legislation and regulatory acts in effect, analysis of international practice of new sanitary, veterinary and phytosanitary regulation of imports and exports operations, update the material and technical resources of sanitary, veterinary and phytosanitary institutions, and if it is necessary and this is sufficient scientific confirmation to amend and supplement the legal and regulatory documents in effect, to accommodate the various regional characteristics within the Russian Federation, based on a profound study and scientific evidence.

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
9. Article 6 and Annexes A.6 and A.7.	9. Regional conditions: measures take into account the regional characteristics both of the areas from which products originate and the areas for which they are destined.	<p>It is implemented that all measures maintained under sanitary legislation apply without discrimination to both the area of origin of the goods and the targeted area. Regional characteristics are relevant only for the purposes of risk assessment of different factors, including the nutrition structure and subject to the permitted daily dose (PDD) recommended by international organisations.</p> <p>Veterinary measures take into account the regional characteristics pursuant to Federal Law No. 4979-1 "On Veterinary Service" dated May 14, 1993, and the requirements of the International Office of Epizootics.</p> <p>Regional characteristics are a factor in quarantine regulation for the purposes of devising phytosanitary measures tailored for use in a particular region.</p>
10. Article 2.3, and Annex C.1(a) and (d).	10. Non-discrimination: measures do not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between different members or between domestic and foreign suppliers.	<p>Non-discriminatory treatment is provided by the current legislation of the Russian Federation. Sanitary-epidemiological, veterinary and phytosanitary requirements are applied without discrimination to both domestic and foreign producers and domestic and foreign suppliers.</p>
11. Article 8 and Annex C.	11. Control, inspection and approval procedures: ensure that procedures, including systems for approval of the use of additives or for establishing tolerances for contaminants in foods, beverages or foodstuffs comply with the Agreement.	<p>The Russian Federation continues to improve its procedures for sanitary and phytosanitary control, inspection and approval. Notably, the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation approved new "Regulations on Hygienic Assessment of Products, Commodities and Manufactures" (Order No. 217 of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation of July 20, 1998; English translation was submitted to the WTO Secretariat in October 1999).</p> <p>Procedures for sanitary and phytosanitary control, inspection and approval will be gradually adjusted to the SPS Agreement requirements over no less than a 3 year period, as new legislation and regulatory documents are being developed, and sanitary, veterinary and quarantine institutions build up adequate material and technical resources, based on the available funds, under the Programme of Measures to Ensure Complete Compliance with the TBT/SPS Agreements of the WTO.</p>

ANNEX

Inter-Ministerial Programme of Measures to Ensure Compliance with the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization for 1999 – 2000

(prepared by the Interministerial TBT/SPS Working Group* and approved by the Commission of the Government of the Russian Federation on the WTO Issues)

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies Responsible	Dates	Note
1.	PREPARATION OF DRAFT LEGISLATIVE ACTS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION			
1.1	Analysis of the current national and foreign legislation and prepare proposals with regard to making amendments to the existing and newly developed legislative acts and regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation in order to conform them to the requirements of the Agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade and on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO TBT and SPS Agreements)	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned ²	IV quarter 2000	Ministries and other federal executive authorities work according to their independent plans, sharing relevant information for better results and to implement the transparency principle.
1.2	Preparation of draft amendments to the existing and newly developed legislative and regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation to conform them to the requirements of the WTO TBT and SPS Agreements.	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	IV quarter 2000 (continues in 2001)	Ministries and other federal executive authorities work according to their independent plans, sharing relevant information for better results and to implement the transparency principle.
1.3	Preparation of the draft Federal Law «On Technical Measures in Trade», including: – preparation and submission of the draft Law to the Government of the Russian Federation; – participation in the procedure for endorsement of the Law by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	I quarter 2000 II-IV quarters 2000	Competent ministries and other federal executive authorities shall: – prepare proposals to be included in the drafts; – consider the drafts; – participate in the work of the Interministerial working group's discussions of the drafted materials; – agree the final version of the document.

² See the attached list of the Federal Executive Authorities participating in the activity of the Interministerial TBT/SPS Working Group.

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies Responsible	Dates	Note
1.4	<p>Preparation of the draft Federal Law «On Confirmation of Assessment of Products and Services to the Regulatory Requirements», including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – preparation and submission of the draft Law to the Government of the Russian Federation; – participation in the procedure for endorsement of the Law by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. 	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	<p>I quarter 2000</p> <p>II-IV quarters 2000</p>	<p>Competent ministries and other federal executive authorities shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – prepare proposals to be included in the drafts; – consider the drafts; – participate in the work of the Interministerial working group's discussions of the drafted materials; – agree the final version of the document.
1.5	<p>Preparation of the draft Federal Law «On Amendments to the Law of the Russian Federation «On Standardisation»», including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – preparation and submission of the draft Law to the Government of the Russian Federation; – participation in the procedure for endorsement of the Law by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. 	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	<p>II quarter 2000</p> <p>III-IV quarters 2000</p>	
1.6	<p>Preparation of the draft Federal Law «On Amendments to the Law of the Russian Federation «On Protection of Consumer Rights»», including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – participation in the procedure for endorsement of the Law by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. 	Ministry of Antimonopoly Policy of the Russian Federation in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	Accomplished	
1.7	<p>Preparation of the draft Federal Law «On Safety of Substances», including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – preparation and submission of the draft Law to the Government of the Russian Federation; – participation in the procedure for endorsement of the Law by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. 	Gosgortekhnadzor of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	<p>2000</p> <p>2000</p>	Harmonisation of the technical legislation of the Russian Federation with the relevant regulations of international law.
1.8	<p>Preparation of the draft Federal Law «On Providing of Electromagnetic Compatibility», including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – participation in the procedure for endorsement of the Law by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. 	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	Accomplished	Harmonisation of the technical legislation of the Russian Federation with the relevant regulations of international law.

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies Responsible	Dates	Note
1.9	Preparation of the draft Federal Law «On Safety of Machinery», including – submission of the Draft Law to the State Duma; – participation in the procedure for endorsement of the Law by the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	Accomplished III quarter 2000	Harmonisation of the technical legislation of the Russian Federation with the relevant regulations of international law.
1.10	Improvement of the Law of the Russian Federation «On Veterinary Service»	Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Federation in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	IV quarter 2000	
1.11	Preparation of the draft Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation «On the Procedure for Using Food Additives, Materials and Goods in Contact with Food Products», including – submission of the draft Resolution to the Government of the Russian Federation;	Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	Accomplished	
1.12	Preparation of the draft Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation «On the List of Products Subject to State Registration, and the Terms of Supplying Such Products to the Consumer Market of the Russian Federation», including – submission of the draft Resolution to the Government of the Russian Federation;	Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	I quarter 2000	
1.13	Preparation of the draft Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation «On the Procedure for State Registration of Certain Types of Substances and Products Potentially Dangerous to Human Health», including – submission of the draft Resolution to the Government of the Russian Federation.	Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	Accomplished	

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies Responsible	Dates	Note
1.14	Preparation of a supplement to the draft new «State Sanitary and Epidemiological Regulations» developed for the purposes of implementation of Federal Law No. 52-FZ «On Sanitary and Epidemiological Well-Being of the Population» dated March 30, 1999, which would address the requirements of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.	Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation	I quarter 2000	

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies Responsible	Dates	Note
1.15	<p>Preparation of the following draft resolutions of the Government of the Russian Federation for implementation of Federal Law No. FZ-29 “On Quality and Safety of Foodstuffs” dated January 2, 2000:</p> <p>“On Approval of Regulations on State Registration of Foodstuffs, Materials and Goods in Contact Therewith”</p> <p>“On Amendments and Supplements to Resolution No. 1013 of the Government of the Russian Federation dated August 13, 1997, and Resolution No. 766 of the Government of the Russian Federation dated July 7, 1999, Regarding the Lists of Products Whose Conformity to Regulatory Requirements Is to Be Confirmed by Manufacturer’s Conformity Certificate”</p> <p>“On Federal Executive Bodies Authorised by the Government of the Russian Federation to Perform Mandatory Certification of Certain Types of Foodstuffs and Services”</p> <p>“On Regulations on Carrying out Mandatory Certification of Certain Types of Foodstuffs, Materials and Goods, Services in Retail Trade in Foodstuffs and Public Catering Sectors”</p> <p>“On Amendments and Supplements to Regulatory Acts Regarding Marking and Labelling of Foodstuffs During Their Parcelling, Packing and Marking”.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation</p> <p>Gosstandart of Russia</p> <p>Gosstandart of Russia</p> <p>Gosstandart of Russia</p> <p>Gosstandart of Russia</p>	<p>2000</p> <p>2000</p> <p>2000</p> <p>2000</p> <p>2000</p>	
1.16	<p>Preparation of the draft law «On the Quarantine of Plants», including</p> <p>– submission of the draft Law to the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.</p>	Ministry of Agriculture and Food	Accomplished	

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies Responsible	Dates	Note
1.17	Support of the work of the Interministerial working group on the issues of accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO TBT/SPS Agreements, including participation in the development of Russia's proposals for the negotiations to be conducted during the new round of the WTO multilateral trade negotiations.	Federal executive authorities represented in the Interministerial working group.	According to the schedule of the Interministerial working group	

Note: Specialists of the Institute of Law under the Government of the Russian Federation are engaged in the work on draft laws.

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies	Period	Note
2.	HARMONISATION OF THE STATE STANDARDISATION SYSTEM OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION WITH THE CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE FOR THE PREPARATION, ADOPTION AND APPLICATION OF STANDARDS. HARMONISATION OF THE STATE STANDARDS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS.			
2.1	Implementation of measures for the accession of the Russian Federation to the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards, including preparation of notifications to the ISO regarding the accession of the Russian Federation to the Code of Good Practice.	Gosstandart of Russia Gosstroy of Russia Federal executive authorities may be engaged for the purposes of adjustment of a measure	Accomplished	Implementation of the requirements of Article 4 of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.
2.2	Development of amendments to GOST R 1.0-92 and GOST R 1.2-92 to include in the said standards a reference to the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards (Annex 3 to the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade)	Gosstandart of Russia Gosstroy of Russia	Accomplished	
2.3	Development and bringing into effect in the territory of the Russian Federation of a state standard entitled GOST R "State Standardisation System of the Russian Federation. Standardisation and Related Types of Activities. Terms and Definitions."	Gosstandart of Russia Gosstroy of Russia Federal executive authorities may be engaged for the purposes of adjustment of a measure	Accomplished	Bringing the terminology in conformity to Annex 3 to the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade
2.4	Development and adoption of a state standard of the Russian Federation on rules and procedures for preparation of notifications on technical regulations and standards of their conformity to the international regulations and standards.	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	I quarter 2000	
2.5	Preparation and adoption of a document on the procedure for use of international norms and recommendations in the development of sanitary rules, hygienic norms and procedures for preparation of notifications of newly developed and approved documents in sanitary legislation to the WTO Secretariat	Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	I quarter 2000	
2.6	Carrying out harmonisation of state standards of the Russian Federation, norms and rules of federal executive authorities with the international and regional standards, norms and rules.	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	According to the programme for state standardisation and plans of federal executive authorities	

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies	Period	Note
2.7	Development of requirements in respect of control over the quantity of packed goods in any kind of package, in the stage of packing, distribution and import.	Gosstandart of Russia Ministry of Trade of the Russian Federation	I quarter 2000	
2.8	Development of requirements metrological requirements in respect of inspecting companies in charge of pre-shipment inspection in the customs territory of the Russian Federation.	Gosstandart of Russia	I quarter 2000	

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies	Period	Note
3.	DEVELOPMENT OF PROCEDURES FOR CONFIRMATION OF CONFORMITY OF A PRODUCT TO TECHNICAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS. HARMONISATION OF CERTIFICATION RULES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED RULES			
3.1	Preparation of draft regulatory acts in order to implement in the Russian Federation the principal requirements of the Law "On Confirmation of Assessment of Products and Services to Regulatory Requirements"	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	2000 (continues in 2001)	
3.2	Bringing the existing regulatory documents on confirmation of assessment of products and services in line with the principles of TBT and SPS Agreements	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	2000	Supplement of the existing certification documents, including rules of the mandatory certification system and the rules of certification of similar products and the schemes underlying the product certification procedures, with the requirement to use a conformity assessment declaration. Further improvement of the above by simplifying the certification system, better definition and reduction of the nomenclature of goods subject to mandatory certification; excluding the variety of certificates.
3.3	Development of methodological basis for determining a product's hazardous potential and the extent to which it affects the potential danger of production facilities in which such product is used. Further, based on the above, development of principles of classifying such products as subject to mandatory certification or manufacturer's conformity assessment declaration for the purposes of confirming their conformity to the requirements of regulatory documents.	Gosstandart of Russia in conjunction with the ministries and agencies concerned	II quarter 2000	Development of methodological basis for determining a product's hazardous potential and for correlation of the ways of conducting its conformity assessment (certification schemes, conformity assessment declaration) with its hazardous potential.

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies	Period	Note
4.	CREATION OF RUSSIA'S ENQUIRY POINT FOR TBT AND SPS ISSUES			
4.1	Implementation of Agreements made by Gosstandart and federal executive authorities on the maintenance of the Federal fund of standards	Gosstandart of Russia Federal executive authorities	Permanent	
4.2	Development of a network of information centres (information processing points) at federal executive authorities and territorial authorities of Gosstandart of Russia	Gosstandart of Russia Federal executive authorities	Permanent	
4.3	Creation of a service for terminological examination of legislative and regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation	Gosstandart of Russia	2000	Upon agreement with the Administration of the State Duma of the Russian Federation and the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation
4.4	Putting into operation the Russian Enquiry Point for synchronising the actions of Russia and the WTO on TBT and SPS issues	Gosstandart of Russia	Accomplished	

No.	Measure	Principal Agencies	Period	Note
5.	INFORMATION ACTIVITY			
5.1	Conducting of workshops for business experts, ministries and agencies and legislative authorities on issues of accession to the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	Gosstandart of Russia Federal executive authorities	1999 – 2000	According to annual plans
5.2	Participation in organisation and implementation of measures contemplated by international and regional authorities in standardisation with a view to providing technical assistance to the Russian Federation for ensuring compliance with the requirements of TBT and SPS Agreements.	Gosstandart of Russia Federal executive authorities	1999 – 2000	
5.3	Preparation and publishing in mass media of materials on the accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO regarding technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures	Gosstandart of Russia Federal executive authorities	Permanent	
5.4	Setting up a periodical entitled "Vestnik" (Specialized Bulletin of the Russian Enquiry Point) for publication of documents and materials on TBT/SPS issues	Gosstandart of Russia Federal executive authorities	Accomplished \	Federal executive authorities submit to Gosstandart of Russia any documents on TBT or SPS issues available to them.

List of the Federal Executive Authorities Participating in the Activities of the Interministerial Working Group on the
Accession of the Russian Federation to the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and the Agreement on the
Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (IWG on WTO TBT/SPS)

- Ministry of Railways of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Atomic Energy of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence Issues, Extraordinary Situations and Rectification of Effects of Natural Calamities
 - Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Fuel and Energy of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Trade of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Economy of the Russian Federation
 - Ministry of Telecommunications and Informatization of the Russian Federation
 - State Committee of the Russian Federation for Land Policy
 - State Committee of the Russian Federation for Environmental Protection
 - State Committee of the Russian Federation for Fishing
 - State Committee of the Russian Federation for Standardisation and Metrology (Gosstandart).
 - State Committee of the Russian Federation for Construction and Housing Development (Gosstroy).
 - State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation
 - Russian Federal Service for Air Transport.
 - Russian Federal Service for Land-Surveying and Mapping
 - Russian Federal Service for Forestry
 - Russian Road Agency
 - Russian Federal Mining and Industrial Supervision Board (Gosgortekhnadzor)
 - Russian Federal Supervision Board for Nuclear and Radiation Safety
 - Russian River Register
 - Russian Marine Navigation Register
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