

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

**WT/ACC/SPEC/RUS/36**

26 June 2007

(07-2705)

---

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

Original: English

## **ACCESSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

### Checklist of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Issues<sup>1</sup>

The following submission, dated 20 June 2007, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the Russian Federation.

---

---

<sup>1</sup> Revision of WT/ACC/SPEC/RUS/13/Rev.4/Add.1.

**Checklist of SPS 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: introduction of new standards, animal health regulations and food safety regulations shall conform to SPS Agreement principles.	<p>The Russian Federation does not intend to complicate access to its markets by introducing a less favourable treatment for the purposes of the SPS Agreement. All sanitary, veterinary and phytosanitary measures maintained by the Russian Federation are to be applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health, as required by the WTO SPS Agreement.</p> <p>Development and introduction of new standards, animal health regulations and food safety regulations will carry out in conformity with the domestic legislation in force and rules and norms of WTO SPS Agreement.</p> <p>The ongoing work on drafting of the technical regulations (TRs) in the SPS area is aimed at fulfilling this condition. According to Federal Law No.184-FZ "On Technical Regulation", TRs are documents, establishing requirements on technical regulation issues, which are obligatory for application and execution. The Government of the Russian Federation adopted the Program of Development of Technical Regulations (Government Decision N 1421-r of November 6, 2004, as amended on May 29, 2006), which envisages the development of 22 special technical regulations related to the veterinary, sanitary and phytosanitary control and supervision.</p>
2. Article 7 and Annex B.3.	2. Establishment and operation of a single Contact Point for Information ("Enquiry point").	<p>Article 44 of Federal Law №184-FZ provides for the establishment of Federal Information Fund for Technical Regulations and Standards. This Fund is a state information resource.</p> <p>A single information system, designed to provide interested persons with information on documents contained in Federal Information Fund for Technical Regulations and Standards, is created and functioning in the Russian Federation in manner and on terms specified by the Government of the Russian Federation (Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 500 of August 15, 2003 "On the Federal Information Fund for Technical Regulations and Standards and the Single Information System for Technical Regulation").</p> <p>Interested persons are given free access to the information resources that are being created.</p> <p>Federal Information Fund for Technical Regulations and Standards is established and run by Federal State Unitary Enterprise "Russian scientific and technical Center of information on standardization, metrology and conformity assessment" (FSUE "Standartinform"). FSUE "Standartinform" operates since 2005.</p> <p>Within the framework of FSUE "Standartinform" Russian Information Center on standardization, certification and to overcoming of technical barriers in trade (RIC WTO TBT/SPS) has been operating</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
		<p>since 1997. In the structure of RIC WTO TBT/SPS there is an Enquiry (dispatching) service (National Enquiry Point - NEP), providing the implementation of WTO Agreements on TBT and SPS in corpore.</p> <p>The contact information (web-address, address/phone/fax numbers and e-mail) of NEP:</p> <p><a href="http://www.gostinfo.ru">http://www.gostinfo.ru</a>;  Address: 4 Granatny per., Moscow 103001, Russian Federation;  Phone: +7 (495) 332-56-28, 332-56-59, 225 61 89;  Fax: +7 (495) 332-56-59,  e-mail: <a href="mailto:enpoint@gostinfo.ru">enpoint@gostinfo.ru</a>.</p> <p>The primary function of RIC WTO TBT/SPS activity is the operative supply of the domestic authorities and businesses, as well as foreign trade partners and the Secretariat of the WTO with rules, directives, regulations, the domestic and foreign national standards and certification systems.</p> <p>NEP provides answers to the requests of interested parties, renders information and documentation on TBT and SPS, standards, conformity assessment.</p> <p>NEP publishes on the website the list (on month by month base) of WTO member's notifications on TBT and SPS in Russian (<a href="http://www.gostinfo.ru/show.php?ric_vto/reestr_yved.htm">http://www.gostinfo.ru/show.php?ric_vto/reestr_yved.htm</a>).</p>
3. Articles 7 and Annex B, also G/SPS/7.	3. Transparency: notification and access to documentation:	<p>Currently, the transparency of the legislative process in the SPS sphere is provided through publication of all regulatory legal acts related to SPS measures in official editions: "Rossiyskaya Gazeta", "Sobranie zakonodatelstva Rossiyskoy Federatsii", "The Bulletin of Regulatory Acts of Federal Executive Authorities", "The Bulletin of international agreements", "The Bulletin of Regulatory and Methodical Acts of the Ministry of Health and Social Development of the Russian Federation", and "The Information bulletin of the Ministry of agriculture of the Russian Federation".</p> <p>There are also some non-official editions, such as "Veterinariya" magazine, newspapers "Veterinarniy Konsultant", "Veterinary Gazette" and "Zatschita i karantin rasteniy" (month edition) as well as in other special editions.</p> <p>All information on SPS measures and current SPS legislation are presented on websites of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation - <a href="http://www.mcx.ru">www.mcx.ru</a>;</li> <li>- the Ministry of Health and Social Development of the Russian Federation - <a href="http://www.mzsrff.ru">www.mzsrff.ru</a>;</li> <li>- the Federal Supervisory Service for Customer's Rights' and Human Welfare (Rospotrebnadzor) - <a href="http://www.rospotrebnadzor.ru">www.rospotrebnadzor.ru</a>;</li> </ul>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
		<p>- the Information and Methodical Center “Expertiza” of Rospotrebnadzor - www.crc.ru.</p> <p>The transparency of the procedure of elaboration of technical regulations is provided in the Federal Law “On Technical Regulation”. According to its provisions, the author of a draft TR is obliged to provide, on demand of any stakeholder, a copy of the draft TR at his disposal. According to Article 9 of the above law the Ministry for Industry and Energy of the Russian Federation (further to be referred as MIE) jointly with the Public Council on Technical Regulation under the Ministry holds every week public hearings of the draft TRs (address: Moscow, Kitaigorodskiy proezd, 7). The time-table of the public these hearings is sited on the web-sites of the Ministry and the Public Council.</p> <p>The comments regarding the draft TRs are addressed by any stakeholders directly to the author or to the MIE in written form. Contact information of the author of the SPS-related draft TRs can be received in the MIE (Department for Technical Regulation and Metrology, phone: +7(495)710-40-44, fax +7(495)925-78-61), and in the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (Department for Food and Food-Processing Industry and Quality of Products, phone +7(495)207-89-62, fax +7(495)975-13-34).</p> <p>Participation of foreign stakeholders in development, public discussions of projects of the TR by the active Russian legislation is not restricted.</p> <p>Since December 2003, “Newsletter (Vestnik) of Technical Regulation” was published by Gosstandart (afterwards by the Federal Agency on Technical Regulation and Metrology). This is an official publication, which contains all notifications on the development and outcome of public discussions on draft TRs, reports of expert commissions on technical regulations, draft legislative acts, and other regulatory legal documents in the area of technical regulation.</p>
(a) Annex B.5(b) and Annex B.10.	<p>Whenever an international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist or the content of a proposed sanitary or phytosanitary regulation is not substantially the same as the content of an international standard, guideline or recommendation, and if the regulation may have a significant effect on trade of other Members, Members shall:</p> <p>(a) notify other Members, through the Secretariat, of the</p>	<p>The legislative and implementation work in the Russian Federation is aimed at ensuring harmonization of the national legal base with the provisions of international standards, guidelines and recommendations (OIE, IPPC, Codex Alimentarius). In particular, phytosanitary measures maintained by the Russian Federation are based on the recommendations and principles of the IPPC, as well as those of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization. According to the Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No.159 of 24 March 2006 “On Implementation of the Veterinary Measures Regarding Importation of Live Animals and Products of Animal Origin to the Customs Territory of the Russian Federation”, while importing to the Russian customs territory of live animals and products of animal origin, in case of contradiction of veterinary requirements, stated in the national legislation of the Russian Federation to the international veterinary requirements, operating norms of the OIE Code are to be applied.</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
(b) Annex B.5 (a), (c), (d).	<p>products to be covered by the regulation together with a brief indication of the objective and rationale of the proposed regulation. Such notifications shall take place at an early stage, when amendments can still be introduced and comments taken into account;</p> <p>(b) - publish a notice at an early stage in such a manner as to enable interested Members to become acquainted with the proposal to introduce a particular regulation;</p> <p>- provide upon request to other Members copies of the proposed regulation and, whenever possible, identify the parts which in substance deviate from international standards, guidelines or recommendations;</p> <p>- without discrimination, allow reasonable time for other Members to make comments in writing, discuss these comments upon request, and take the comments and the results of the discussions into account.</p>	<p>According to the Article 7 of Federal Law №184-FZ the drafting process of the technical regulations in the SPS sphere also taking account of the respective international standards, recommendations and other documents of international organisations in the relevant areas.</p> <p>However, in case the proposed national regulations would be substantially contrary to the relevant international standards (For the purposes of paragraph 3 of Article 3, there is a scientific justification if, on the basis of an examination and evaluation of available scientific information in conformity with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, Russian authorities determine that the relevant international standards, guidelines or recommendations are not sufficient to achieve its appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection.) guidelines or recommendations, or those would not exist, the Russian Federation will comply to the notification obligations stipulated by the Annex B of the WTO SPS Agreement, as a part of its general commitment to fulfill the requirements of the Agreement.</p> <p>The agencies involved in the preparation of the notifications required by the provisions of the SPS Agreement, will be the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Health and Social Development and the MEDT as the coordinating authority responsible for providing notifications to the WTO.</p>

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 and plant health.	<p>The products produced in, or imported into the territory of the Russian Federation for distribution to the population or use in industry, agriculture, civil construction development or for transportation with direct human involvement, or for private and household use, have to conform to the requirements of sanitary and epidemiological rules, norms and hygiene regulations (Articles 13, 15, 16 of Federal Law No. 52-FZ). Such conformity is to be confirmed by a sanitary and epidemiological approval or, in case of new foodstuff, materials and items, by a registration certificate.</p> <p>The procedure for sanitary and epidemiological expertise of products and for issuing a sanitary and epidemiological approval is established under "The Procedure for Conduct of a Sanitary and Epidemiological Expertise of Products", approved by Order of the Ministry of Health and Social Development No. 325 of 15 August 2001 (as amended of 18 March 2002). This Order contains a list of products subject to sanitary and epidemiological expertise. The Federal Supervisory Service for Customers' Rights' Protection and Human Welfare (further to be referred to as Rospotrebnadzor) together with Federal Customs Service approves a list of goods for which the sanitary and epidemiological conclusions or certificates of the state registration should be made out at customs clearance (document No. 01-06/30702 of 26 August 2005). This list was published in the Customs Bulletin Vol.20 and placed on a web site of Rospotrebnadzor: <a href="http://www.rospotrebnadzor.ru">www.rospotrebnadzor.ru</a>.</p> <p>The procedure of sanitary and epidemiological expertise is conducted prior to the commencement of industrial production or reprocessing in the territory of the Russian Federation, and - in the case of imported products - prior to conclusion of the contract, and based upon an enquiry of an exporter interested in supplying products to the Russian market. The expertise consists of assessment of the documentation submitted, additional laboratory expertise, if necessary, and – in case the product complied with all requirements - issuance of sanitary and epidemiological approval. Such approval is issued for a given type of products and is valid for five years. This period can be extended providing that there have been no violations of the regulations. Applications for approval are to be submitted to the relevant Rospotrebnadzor's territory body. Sanitary and epidemiological approvals are valid throughout the whole territory of the Russian Federation. Imports of products that have not passed a prior sanitary and epidemiological expertise are subject to expertise upon importation. In such cases, approvals are valid for that particular consignment only. Sanitary and epidemiological surveillance is conducted by the territorial authorities of Rospotrebnadzor at the stage of distribution of products on Russia's domestic market. Respective procedures and requirements do not discriminate between domestic and imported products.</p> <p>Government Resolution No. 987 of 21 December 2000 "On State Surveillance and Control in Ensuring Quality and Safety of Food Products" delineates the functions of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision (further referred to as Rosselkhoznadzor) and Rospotrebnadzor in the expertise</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
		<p>of animal products. A sanitary and epidemiological approval is the confirmation of the conformity of goods with the requirements of sanitary legislation and is the responsibility of Rospotrebnadzor. For exportation, importation, and domestic circulation of products, Rosselkhoznadzor has to certify that animal products are safe from a veterinary viewpoint and comply with veterinary norms and requirements.</p> <p>Federal Laws No. 52-FZ (Federal Law No. 52-FZ "On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population" dated 30 March 1999) and No. 29-FZ (Federal Law No. 29-FZ "On the quality and safety of food products" dated January 2, 2000), and Government Resolution No. 988 of 21 December 2000 "On the State Registration of New Foodstuffs, Materials and Items" impose uniform requirements upon state registration both of new foodstuffs, materials and items first produced in the territory of the Russian Federation (Russian goods), and goods imported into the Russian Federation for the first time. Sanitary and epidemiological expertise and state registration of products constitute a single process. Based on the results of the sanitary and epidemiological expertise, either a sanitary epidemiological approval, or, for the products subject to state registration, a registration certificate is issued.</p> <p>A state registration certificate is issued for every type of product for the whole period of industrial production (reprocessing) in the case of Russian products, or for the whole period of supplies in the case of imported products. State registration of potentially hazardous substances and types of products is performed by Rospotrebnadzor and, in the case of new food products of animal origin, by Rospotrebnadzor in conjunction with the MOA (according to Government Resolution No. 262 of 4 April 2001; Government Resolution No. 987 of 21 December 2000 and Government Resolution No.988 of 21 December 2000). Lists of products subject to state registration are attached to the above mentioned Government Resolutions. The requirements and criteria with respect to safety of products for the human health and environment pursuant to Articles 1, 2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 37, 38, 39, 41 and 42 of Federal Law No. 52-FZ are implemented by state sanitary and epidemiological rules and norms which are regulatory legal acts of a binding nature for all citizens, individual entrepreneurs and legal entities.</p> <p>Import of goods subject to state veterinary control (excluding processed goods) from the countries, in which there were no outbreaks of transmissible animal diseases, is carried out on the basis of written import permits issued by Rosselkhoznadzor. These permits are provided to importers (legal entities, individual entrepreneurs and others) free of charge and are valid for a period of a calendar year. An importer should apply for a permit in written form to the regional veterinary authority of Rosselkhoznadzor in the appropriate subject of the Russian Federation not less than 30 days before the importation takes place. The application should contain description of consignment, purpose of import, country of origin, consignment's route and place of storing. Upon the positive consideration the regional veterinary authority addresses Rosselkhoznadzor for obtaining the import permit for the consignment in</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
		<p>question. Processed goods of animal origin destined for human consumption, which are heat-treated and originating from the countries, in which no outbreaks of transmissible animal diseases have been discovered, are imported to the Russian Federation on the basis of import permits issued under the same procedure.</p> <p>Federal Law No. 99-FZ “On Quarantine of Plants” of 15 July 2000 provides with framework for plant quarantine in the Russian Federation and implementation of phytosanitary measures. According to Russian legislation phytosanitary measures applies only to the extent necessary to prevent import and acclimatization of quarantine objects in the Russian Federation. Pursuant to the SPS Agreement, Russia as well as the other countries has the right to introduce phytosanitary measures in respect of insufficiently studied hazardous organisms and carry out phytosanitary risk assessment in accordance with international risk assessment techniques (standards).</p> <p>Federal Law of the Russian Federation No. 4979-1 “On Veterinary Practices” of 14 May 1993 provides with framework for protection of animal and human health and implementation of sanitary and veterinary measures.</p>



WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
5. Articles 2.2, 3.3 and 5.2.	5. Science-based regulations: regulations governing animal and plant health protection and food safety control shall be based on scientific evidence.	<p>Pursuant to Federal Law No.184-FZ “On Technical Regulation” (Article 7) dated December 27, 2002 veterinary-and-sanitary and phytosanitary measures shall be elaborated and applied on the basis of scientific data and also taking account of the respective international standards, recommendations and other documents of international organizations for the purposes of compliance with the necessary level of veterinary-and-sanitary and phytosanitary protection to be determined taking account of the degree of actual science-based risk.</p> <p>Pursuant to Law No. 4979-1 of the Russian Federation “On Veterinary Practices” dated May 14, 1993, any existing and newly developed veterinary regulatory documents have to be based on scientific evidence or international requirements.</p> <p>In compliance with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on SPS Measures, which have stated norms and standards of the OIE as the requirements used in the international trade of living animals and production of animal origin, the Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No.159 of 24 March 2006 “On Implementation of the Veterinary Measures Regarding Importation of Live Animals and Products of Animal Origin to the Customs Territory of the Russian Federation” stipulates that while importing to the Russian customs territory of live animals and products of animal origin, in case of contradiction of veterinary requirements, stated in the national legislation of the Russian Federation to the international veterinary requirements, operating norms of the OIE Code are to be applied.</p> <p>Phytosanitary measures maintained by the Russian Federation are based on the recommendations and principles of the International Plant Protection Convention (Rome, 1951, edition of 1997) as well as those of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization.</p> <p>Pursuant to Article 38 of Federal Law No. 52-FZ “On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population” dated March 30, 1999 sanitary rules and safety criteria should be based on the results of scientific research and epidemiological studies, as well as on monitoring of human health and harmful environmental factors. Sanitary requirements are aimed at ensuring the safety of products and human life and health. All rules, criteria and requirements in respective fields are applied uniformly and without discrimination between domestic and imported goods.</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 maximum possible extent, the WTO Members shall follow international standards, guidelines, and recommendations in establishing SPS measures.	<p>Federal Law No. 52-FZ “On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population” dated March 30, 1999 (Article 38) and the Statute on the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Regulation approved by Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 554 dated July 24, 2000 (Section 5 and 6), require that international requirements and recommendations must be analyzed and used in the national sanitary regulations and legislation to the extent it is practicable and reasonable to do so. The harmonization proceeds by reference to the documents of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission, WHO recommendations, EC documents and documents of other international organizations.</p> <p>The aim of legislative and implementation work in the Russian Federation is to ensure harmonization of the national legal base with the requirements of the WTO, OIE (Office International des Epizooties) and IPPC: International Veterinary Codex, Codex Alimentarius and the WTO Agreement on SPS.</p> <p>Russian delegation always participates in OIE regular meetings and general sessions, which are held annually in France (Paris).</p> <p>Russian delegation takes part in IPPC meetings and experts are involved in elaboration of new international standards on phytosanitary measures.</p> <p>Russian specialists took part in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Codex Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Uses (Germany, 2003,2004,2005);</li> <li>- Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (Holland, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005);</li> <li>- Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (USA, 2004, 2005);</li> <li>- Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (Hungary, 2005);</li> <li>- Codex Committee on Food Contaminants (Chine, 2007) and etc.</li> </ul> <p>The competent authorities are actively involved in international cooperation in the SPS field. Such international cooperation is carried out, in particular, on the basis of bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreements and accordance with the OIE Code, Codex and IPPC.</p> <p>Russian Federation is currently the party to 20 bilateral and multilateral agreements with third countries on food hygiene, safety, sanitary or phytosanitary measures. The list of these agreements is attached.</p> <p>Phytosanitary measures applied by the Russian Federation are based on the principles of the International Convention on Quarantine and Protection of Plants (Rome, 1951, edition of 1997), recommendations of the European and Mediterranean Organization on Quarantine of Plants which member the Russian Federation (USSR) is since 1957. The list of ISPM in Russian language sited at website of the Ministry</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
		<p>of agriculture of the Russian Federation in Rosselkhoznadzor section (<a href="http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he_id=900">http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he_id=900</a>).</p> <p>The Russian Federation is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the party of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International Plant Protection Convention (Rome, 1951, edition of 1997)</li> <li>- Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) from 03.03.1973</li> <li>- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) from 05.06.1992</li> </ul> </li> <li>- the member of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- World organization for Animal Health (OIE) from 1927</li> <li>- Commission Codex Alimentarius from 1961</li> <li>- World Health Organization</li> <li>- European and Mediterranean Organization on Quarantine of Plants, 1957</li> <li>- UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) from 29.07.2006.</li> <li>- International Sugar Organization (ISO), from 07.01.2003</li> </ul> </li> <li>- the participant of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), from 10.07.1987.</li> <li>- International Grain Council (IGC), from 01.07.1995 r.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- the observer of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fisheries Committee of OECD, 1961 r.</li> <li>- Group on Cereals, Animal Feeds and Sugar of Committee for Agriculture of OECD</li> <li>- Group on Meat and Dairy Products of Committee for Agriculture of OECD</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
7. Article 4.	7. Equivalence: Members shall recognize measures maintained by other Members provided that the same level of protection is achieved.	<p>Russia would comply with the equivalence principle for the purposes of the SPS Agreement if the exporting country objectively demonstrates that its measures achieve Russian appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection.</p> <p>The procedure for sanitary and epidemiological examination of products and issuance of sanitary and epidemiological opinions establishing conformity (or non-conformity) of products to sanitary and epidemiological requirements are provided by Russian law, resolutions of the Government of the Russian Federation and Order of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation No. 325 “On Sanitary and Epidemiological Assessment of Products” dated August 15, 2001 as amended and supplemented by Order of the Ministry of Health of Russia No. 84 dated March 18, 2002 (Order of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation No. 217 of July 20, 1998 is inoperative).</p> <p>In order to facilitate trade the Russian Federation has concluded agreements on veterinary certificates for the most types of animal products with the veterinary services of many exporting countries. The requirement to obtain a veterinary certificate of the form established by such an agreement is not mandatory for performing imports into Russia. In the absence of such an agreement with the exporting country animal products are exported to the Russian Federation under common veterinary certificates based on the requirements listed in Letter of the State Veterinary Service of the Russian Federation No. 13-8-01/1-1 – 3-7 of 23 December 19992. Veterinary certificates contain guarantees of the state veterinary service of the exporting country that the products fulfilled the terms and conditions of import. The certificate also includes information on the veterinary situation in the exporting country at the moment of production and export of products and raw materials of animal origin to the Russian Federation with regard to highly dangerous animal diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease, cattle plague, African swine fever, etc. The certificate should confirm the absence of such diseases.</p>

---

<sup>2</sup> Are placed in Konsultantplus.

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
8. Article 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3.	8. Risk Assessment: obtaining scientific evidence and conducting risk assessments to ensure that measures are science-based and applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal and plant health.	<p>Under current legislation of the Russian Federation (Federal Law No. 52-FZ “On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population” dated March 30, 1999, Federal Law No. 99-FZ “On Quarantine of Plants” dated July 15, 2000, Law of the Russian Federation No. 4979-1 “On Veterinary Service” dated May 14, 1993, Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 268 “On the State Plant Quarantine Service of the Russian Federation” dated April 23, 1992, and Federal Law №184-FZ dated December 27, 2002, and Federal Law No. 184-FZ dated December 27, 2002) (article 6) all measures undertaken are based on scientific evidence and risk assessment (examination of the degree of potential threat latent in a harmful factor or commodity) and are applied only to the extent that is necessary for protection of human health and environment, and animal and plant health.</p> <p>Pursuant to Federal Law No.184-FZ “On Technical Regulation” (Article 7) dated December 27, 2002 the provisions of international standards, recommendations of international organisations of which the Russian Federation is a member, the incidence of diseases and pests and also measures adopted by suppliers for combating diseases and pests, ecological conditions, economic consequences associated with the possibility of harm, the amounts of spending on measures to prevent harm shall be taken into account in the evaluation of the degree of risk.</p> <p>The policy of the Government of the Russian Federation is aimed at ensuring that its veterinary, sanitary or phytosanitary measures are based on an assessment, as appropriate to the circumstances, of the risk to human, animal or plant life or health, taking into account risk assessment techniques developed by relevant international organizations. The principle of regionalization is also widely used when deciding to take a measure. Acceptance of veterinary certificates issued by foreign veterinary services is also a common practice in the framework of bilateral agreements, or where such foreign veterinary service demonstrates efficient compliance of its domestic veterinary rules and implementation practices to the rules and norms of international organizations such as OIE, the Codex Alimentarius FAO Commission and IPPC, and with Russian requirements based on such rules and norms.</p> <p>All phytosanitary measures are applied in accordance with IPPC standards and based on risk assessment. The Federal State Establishment “All-Russian Center on plant quarantine” (FGU “VNIKR”; Moscow region) is responsible for respective studies.</p> <p>All sanitary and veterinary measures are applied in accordance with OIE recommendations and based on risk assessment (Section 1.3. OIE, 2006). The following institutions inter alia are responsible for respective studies: the FGU “Federal Center for animal health protection” (Vladimir) and the FGU “All-Russian Center on quality of medicine for animals and feed” (Moscow).</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
<p>9. Article 6 and Annexes A.6 and A.7.</p>	<p>9. Regional characteristics: measures shall reflect the regional characteristics both of the areas from which products originate and the areas for which they are destined.</p>	<p>Should imported products be destined for several regions, the import quarantine permit is issued by Rosselkhoznadzor. When only one region was targeted, the import quarantine permit is issued by the respective regional authority of Rosselkhoznadzor. Applications for an import quarantine permit are required to describe the product in question, the country of origin, the exporting country, size of consignment, terms of importation, destinations, and cross-border checkpoints. The import quarantine permit indicates the phytosanitary requirements for the products subject to quarantine. Each consignment of products subject to quarantine have to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate confirming that phytosanitary state of the product conforms to the conditions specified in the import quarantine permit. Phytosanitary certificates are issued in the exporting country by agencies of the official national plant protection organization.</p> <p>Russian legislation in plant quarantine sphere is based on IPPC provisions and international standards on phytosanitary measures. Accordingly regionalization applies to all imported regulated products.</p> <p>All measures maintained under sanitary legislation apply without discrimination to both the area of origin of the goods and the target area. Regional characteristics are relevant only for the purposes of risk assessment of different factors, including the public nutrition structure, and subject to the permitted daily dose (PDD) recommended by international organizations. Pursuant to the Statute on the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Regulation approved by Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 554 (Section 4) dated July 24, 2000, the relevant regulation in the Russian Federation is provided by federal sanitary rules and hygienic regulations only. Where necessary to accommodate certain special hygienic, epidemiological and ecological factors and the state of public health in any particular region of the Russian Federation, special federal sanitary rules will be adopted for and will regulate such territory.</p> <p>Regional characteristics are a factor for the purposes of devising phytosanitary measures for use in a particular region.</p>

WTO Reference	Commitments (by the time of accession)	Progress of Implementation; Estimated Time Required to Undertake the Commitment
10. Article 2.3, and Annex C.1(a) and (d).	10. Non-discrimination: unwarranted discrimination of Members and differentiated treatment of national and foreign suppliers are prohibited.	<p>Non-discriminatory treatment is provided by the current legislation of the Russian Federation. Sanitary-epidemiological, veterinary and phytosanitary rules, criteria and requirements are applied uniformly to all foreign and domestic products and suppliers and without discrimination to domestic and foreign products and suppliers.</p> <p>The current legislation of the Russian Federation in the veterinary sphere is uniform for all veterinary services of subjects of the Russian Federation and establishes identical requirements both to foreign and domestic goods and manufacturers (the Articles 1, 14, 15, 18 of Law of the Russian Federation No.4979-1 of May 14, 1993 “On Veterinary Practices”).</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 feedstuffs comply with the Agreement.	<p>The Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation approved “Regulations on Sanitary and Epidemiological Examination of Products by Order No. 325 of August 15, 2001 (as amended and supplemented on March 18, 2002, No. 84). This Order specifies and details products that are subject to sanitary and epidemiological examination the list of which has been reduced as compared to the previous version provides a revised validity term for a sanitary and epidemiological approval (5 years or 1 year for pilot batch). An approval issued by a centre of the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance Authority on concrete kind of production is valid during established period everywhere in the Russian Federation on uniform terms for both domestic and imported products. The register is created and conducted for these purpose.</p> <p>Based on Federal Law No. 52-FZ “On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population” dated March 30, 1999 the sanitary-epidemiological rules and norms “Hygienic requirements on food safety and food value” (SERN) were enacted. SERN set up hygienic safety and value norms on food for humans, and also requirements on compliance of these norms for production, import and turnover of food products.</p> <p>Procedures for sanitary and phytosanitary control, inspection and approval will be gradually adjusted to the SPS Agreement requirements. Specific sections relating to procedures for state control and surveillance are included in the newly developed draft federal laws – general and specific technical regulations on foodstuffs.</p>

Annex

List of Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements in the SPS Sphere,  
to which the Russian Federation is Party

1. The Agreement between The Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America on agriculture biotechnology, Hanoi, 19 November 2006;
2. The Agreement between The Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America on importation of beef, Hanoi, 19 November 2006;
3. The Agreement between The Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America on importation of pork meat, Hanoi, 19 November 2006;
4. The Agreement between The Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America concerning inspection and certification of slaughter, processing, and cold storage facilities to be in the official list of facilities which are allowed to export poultry and poultry products and pork and pork products to the Russian Federation, Hanoi, 19 November 2006;
5. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science, Moscow, 16 October 2003;
6. The Agreement for the law protection of sorts of plants (The Community of the Independent States, Moscow, 16 March 2001
7. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Hungarian Republic for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science, Budapest, 30 September 1999;
8. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Greek Republic for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science, Athens, 28 July 1999;
9. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Turkish Republic for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science, Moscow, 5 November 1999;
10. The Agreement for the cooperation in the field of preservation and use of genetic resources of cultural plants of the states-participants of the Community of the Independent States of 1 July 1999;
11. The protocol on the uniform order of application of technical, medical, pharmaceutical, sanitary, veterinary, phytosanitary and ecological standards, norms, rules and requirements concerning goods imported into the state-participants of the Customs Union agreements”, ratified by the Russian Federation on 25 August 1999;
12. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Argentina Republic for the cooperation in the field of quarantine and protection of plants (with lists of pests, diseases of plants and the weeds having quarantine value), Moscow, 26 June 1998;



13. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America for the sale of the agricultural goods, Moscow, 23 December 1998;
  14. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the New Zealand for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science, Moscow, 15 May 1998;
  15. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science, Moscow, 14 October 1997;
  16. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the cooperation in the field of quarantine and protection of plants (with lists of pests, diseases of plants and the weeds having quarantine value), Moscow, 14 October 1997;
  17. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic India for the cooperation in the field of quarantine and protection of plants (with lists of pests, diseases of plants and the weeds having quarantine value), Moscow, 25 March 1997;
  18. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Union Republic of Yugoslavia for the cooperation in the field of quarantine and protection of plants (with lists of pests, diseases of plants and the weeds having quarantine value), Belgrade, 31 October 1996;
  19. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Union Republic of Yugoslavia for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science, Belgrade, 31 October 1996;
  20. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Ukraine for the cooperation in the field of quarantine of plants (with lists of pests, diseases of plants and the weeds having quarantine value), Moscow, 27 August 1996;
  21. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Turkmenistan for the cooperation in the field of quarantine of plants (with lists of pests, diseases of plants and the weeds having quarantine value), Moscow, 18 May 1995;
  22. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia for the cooperation in the field of quarantine and protection of plants (with lists of pests, diseases of plants and the weeds having quarantine value), Moscow, 11 November 1993;
  23. The Agreement for the cooperation in the field of veterinary science (The Community of the Independent States), Moscow, 12 March 1993; and
  24. The Agreement for the cooperation in the field of quarantine of plants (with lists of quarantine pests, diseases of plants and the weeds). (The Community of the Independent States), Moscow, 13 November 1992.
-