

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/ACC/SPEC/RUS/36/Rev.1
11 July 2011

(11-3420)

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

Original: English

ACCESSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Checklist of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Issues

Revision

The following submission, dated 8 July 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the Russian Federation.

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 norms and 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. The same principles are valid for all Decisions of the Customs Union¹ Commission and legally binding acts (CUC).</p> <p>Development and introduction of new standards, animal health regulations and food safety regulations will be carried out in full conformity with the CU and national legislation in force and rules, and obligations derived from of the WTO SPS Agreement.</p> <p>The on-going work on drafting the technical regulations (TRs) in the SPS area is aimed at fulfilling this condition. According to the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC)² Agreement on Implementation of Coordinated Policy in the Field of Technical Regulation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, the Federal Law No. 184-FZ of 27 December 2002 "On Technical Regulation", technical regulations are documents, establishing requirements on technical regulation issues, which are obligatory for application and execution.</p> <p>The work plan and timetable for adoption of priority technical regulations are established by the CU Commission Decision No. 492 of 8 December 2010 and EurAsEC Interstate Council Decision No. 521 of 19 November 2010.</p> <p>The Federal Law No. 99-FZ of 15 July 2000 "On Quarantine of Plants" establishes the procedure for application of phytosanitary measures. The CU does not have common phytosanitary requirements and those are developed and implemented at the national level (Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation No. 456 of 29 December 2010). This law will be replaced by the new one which is now under development (http://mex.ru/documents/document/show/15896.285.htm).</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 the Federal Law No. 184-FZ of 27 December 2002 provides for the establishment of a 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 the Federal Information Fund for Technical Regulations and Standards, is created and functioning in the Russian Federation in a manner and on terms specified by the Government of the Russian Federation (Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 500 of 15 August 2003 "On the Federal Information Fund for Technical Regulations and Standards and the Single Information</p>

¹ Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, and Belarus.

² Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan.

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		<p>System for Technical Regulation"). Interested persons are given free access to the information resources that are being created.</p> <p>The Federal Information Fund for Technical Regulations and Standards is established and run by the Federal State Unitary Enterprise "Russian Scientific and Technical Centre of Information on Standardization, Metrology and Conformity Assessment" (hereafter: FSUE "Standartinform"). FSUE "Standartinform" operates since 2005.</p> <p>Within the framework of the FSUE "Standartinform", the Russian Information Centre on Standardization, Certification and Overcoming Technical Barriers to Trade (hereafter: RIC WTO TBT/SPS) has been operating since 1997. In the structure of RIC WTO TBT/SPS there is an Enquiry (dispatching) Service (National Enquiry Point - NEP), providing information on the implementation of the WTO Agreements on TBT and SPS.</p> <p>The contact information (web-address, address/phone/fax numbers and e-mail) of NEP is:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Address: 4 Granatny pereulok, Moscow 123995, Russian Federation; Phone: +7 (495) 332-56-28, 332-56-59, 690-38-41; Fax: +7 (495) 332-56-59, 719-78-20; e-mail: enpoint@gostinfo.ru http://www.gostinfo.ru.</p> <p>The primary function of RIC WTO TBT/SPS 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, national, CU 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, and conformity assessment.</p> <p>NEP publishes on the website the list (on a monthly basis) of notifications of WTO Members on TBT and SPS in Russian (http://www.gostinfo.ru/show.php?ric_vto/reestr_yved.htm).</p>
3. Articles 7 and Annex B, also G/SPS/7.	3. Transparency: notification and access to documentation:	<p>EurAsEC documents are available on the EurAsEC web-site: www.evrazes.com.</p> <p>EurAsEC Interstate Council Decision No 15 of 27 November 2009 "Rules and Procedures of the Customs Union Commission", provides that the documents of the CUC are published on the official web-site of the CUC and that they come into force no earlier than a month after their official publication.</p> <p>According to Article 6 of the EurAsEC Interstate Council Decision No. 1175 and Article 7 of the CU Commission Decision No. 527, third-country interested parties could provide comments on draft EurAsEC Technical Regulations proposed by any of the EurAsEC or CU Parties.</p>

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		<p>Documents of the CU are officially published on the CUC website: www.tsouz.ru.</p> <p>CU Commission Decision No. 625 of 7 April 2011 established a public consultations procedure. Drafts CU documents in the SPS field are placed on the CUC website after their review by the TBT and SPS Coordinating Committee. The period for comments from the public is no less than 60 days. Interested parties including foreign governments and foreign economic operators are to submit their comments and suggestions to the CUC Secretariat³.</p> <p>Furthermore, according to CU Decision No. 527 of 28 January 2011, draft CU Technical Regulations must be published on the website of the CU and should be available for public consultation for at least 2 months.</p> <p>All information on SPS measures and current SPS legislation are presented on the websites of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation - www.mcx.ru; - the Ministry of Health and Social Development of the Russian Federation - www.minzdravsoc.ru; - the Federal Supervisory Service for Customers' Rights and Human Welfare (Rospotrebnadzor) - www.rospotrebnadzor.ru; and - the Information and Methodical Centre "Expertiza" of Rospotrebnadzor - www.crc.ru. <p>In addition, the transparency of the domestic 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" (monthly edition) as well as in other special editions, "Sbornik normativno pravovyh aktov v oblasti sanitarno-epidemiologicheskogo blagopoluchija naselenija".</p>
(a) Annex B.5(b) and Annex B.10.	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	<p>According to Article 5 point 2 of the EurAsEC Agreement on Implementation of Coordinated Policy in the Field of Technical Regulation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, dated 25 January 2008, Parties of the EurAsEC recognize national standards that comply with international standards. EurAsEC technical regulations are developed on the basis of relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations.</p> <p>CUC Decision of 22 June 2011 "On application of international standards, guidelines and recommendations" includes the following provisions:</p>

³ 119121 Moscow, Smolensky boulevard 3/5; tel: + 7.495.604.40.38; info@tsouz.ru.

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(b) Annex B.5 (a), (c), (d).	<p>effect on trade of other Members, Members shall:</p> <p>(a) notify other Members, through the Secretariat, of the 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in the absence of CU or national SPS documents in force on the CU territory establishing obligatory requirements, it is necessary to apply standards, recommendations and guidelines of the International Office of Epizootics (OIE), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the Commission of "Codex Alimentarius" (hereafter: international standards) respectively; - in case of SPS requirements in force on the CU territory are more stringent than relevant international standards, in the absence of scientific justification of risk to human, animal or plant life or health, in corresponding part international standards are applied. <p>In addition, CUC Decision No. 625 establishes a procedure for examination of SPS measures at the request of an interested party, including foreign governments, which that party believes are more stringent than international standards and not justified by science and a risk assessment with the view of aligning them with international standards.</p> <p>The legislative and implementation work in the Russian Federation is aimed at ensuring harmonization of the CU and national legal base with the provisions of international standards, guidelines and recommendations (OIE, IPPC, and Codex Alimentarius).</p> <p>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. The Government Resolution No. 329 names Rosselkhoznadzor as the federal agency responsible for fulfilling the duties stipulated in Article IV of the IPPC.</p> <p>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 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>However, in case a proposed Customs Union or national regulation is not substantially the same as the relevant international standards, the Russian Federation will comply with the notification obligations stipulated by Annex B of the WTO SPS Agreement, as a part of its general commitment to fulfil the requirements of this Agreement.</p> <p>The agencies involved in the preparation of the notifications required by the provisions of the WTO SPS Agreement, will be the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Health and Social Development of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation as the coordinating authority responsible for providing notifications to the WTO.</p>

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4. Article 2.2.	4. Necessity: measures are applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal and plant health.	<p>According to Article 10 of the EurAsEC Agreement on Implementation of Coordinated Policy in the Field of Technical Regulation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, dated 25 January 2008, Parties of the EurAsEC ensure the application of SPS measures only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal and plant life or health.</p> <p>The CUC Decision No. 299 of 28 May 2010 states that the products produced in, or imported into the CU territory have to comply with the sanitary, epidemiological and hygienic requirements. This Decision approved the List of goods subject to sanitary and epidemiological surveillance; regulation on sanitary and epidemiological surveillance at the Customs Union territory and Customs Union border; common form of documents confirming safety of products; and Customs Union common sanitary and epidemiological requirements.</p> <p>The conformity for certain groups of products (food additives, food supplements, GMO, infant nutrition and dietetic nutrition) must be supported by a state registration certificate.</p> <p>The procedure of state registration is determined by the above-mentioned CUC Decision and the domestic law. The procedure of state registration includes the review of an application and other documents. A State registration certificate is issued within 30 days after the application. Food supplements and food additives are registered at the federal level in the Russian Federation and other products are registered in the territorial bodies of Rospotrebnadzor. The products subject to state registration can be registered in the Republics of Kazakhstan and Belarus as well.</p> <p>The State registration certificate is valid throughout the CU territory. The period of validity of the state registration certificate covered the whole period of manufacture or delivery of controlled goods to the CU territory.</p> <p>The CUC Decision No. 317 of 18 June 2010, Federal Law of the Russian Federation No. 4979-1 of 14 May 1993 "On Veterinary Practices" (to the extent that it does not contradict the CU Commission Decision No. 317 of 18 June 2010) provide the framework for protection of animal and human health and implementation of sanitary and veterinary measures. This law will be replaced by the new one which is now under development (http://www.mcx.ru/documents/document/show/15824.300.htm). Similar provisions are included into the draft of the new law.</p> <p>Import of goods subject to state veterinary control is carried out on the basis of written import permits, for goods from establishments placed on the list of approved establishments, and accompanied by the relevant export veterinary certificate. Import permits are issued by Rosselkhoznadzor (including through the automated system ARGUS) free of charge and are valid for a calendar year.</p> <p>CUC Decision No. 318 of 18 June 2010 and national legislation being established in the draft "On Plant Quarantine", which is expected to be in effect by 1 January 2012, and Order No. 456 establish the legal basis for application of phytosanitary measures in the CU.</p>

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		<p>According to Russian legislation, phytosanitary measures apply only to the extent necessary to prevent import and acclimatization of quarantine objects in the Russian Federation. Pursuant to the SPS Agreement, the Russian Federation, as well as the Other Countries, have 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>5. Articles 2.2, 3.3 and 5.2.</p>	<p>5. Science-based regulations: regulations governing animal and plant health protection and food safety control shall be based on scientific evidence.</p>	<p>According to Article 10 of the EurAsEC Agreement on Implementation of Coordinated Policy in the Field of Technical Regulation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, dated 25 January 2008, the Parties base their SPS measures on principles which have sufficient scientific evidence.</p> <p>The preambles of CU SPS Agreements state that the Parties take into account the principles and rules of the relevant international organizations, including OIE, IPPC, and Codex Alimentarius.</p> <p>CUC Decision of 22 June 2011 "On application of international standards, guidelines and recommendations" provides for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the absence of CU or national SPS documents in force on the CU territory establishing obligatory requirements, it is necessary to apply respective international standards; and - In case the SPS requirements in force on the CU territory are more stringent than relevant international standards, in the absence of scientific justification of risk to human, animal or plant life or health, the corresponding part of the international standards are applied. <p>Pursuant to Article 38 of Federal Law No. 52-FZ "On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population" dated 30 March 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.</p> <p>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 when importing live animals and products of animal origin into the customs territory of the Russian Federation, if requirements stated in the legislation of the Russian Federation are more stringent than international veterinary requirements, the international standards (e.g., the relevant provisions of the OIE Code) are to be applied.</p> <p>According to the Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 329 of 29 May 2006, 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.</p>

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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>Article 5.2 of the Agreement on Implementation of Coordinated Policy in the Field of Technical Regulation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of EurAsEC states that EurAsEC technical regulations are to be developed on the basis of relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations.</p> <p>Article 10 of the above-mentioned Agreement stipulates that Parties of EurAsEC apply sanitary and phytosanitary measures only for the extent necessary to protect human life and health on the basis of international and regional standards.</p> <p>CU Commission Decision No. 625 of 7 April 2011 "On Harmonization of CU Legal Acts in the Field of Sanitary, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Measures with International Standards" creates at CU level a procedure similar to the Decree of the Russian Federation No. 761. CU SPS measures that after examination are recognized as more stringent than international standards, without scientific justification for such restriction or risk to human, animal or plant life or health, would be brought into conformity with international standards. Interested persons, which include foreign governments, could bring measures to the attention of the CU Parties and participate in the examination. A regulation on implementing CUC Decision No. 625 is available for public comment. Furthermore, another CUC decision "On application of international standards, recommendations, and guidelines" stipulates that: 1) in the absence of CU or national documents applied in the territory of the CU, it is necessary to apply international standards; and 2) if SPS measures in force in the territory of the Customs Union are more stringent than international standards, in the absence of a scientific justification, the corresponding international standard will be applied.</p> <p>Currently, sanitary requirements for production processes and for domestic establishments are set out by the national legislation. Product requirements are stipulated in the CU Commission Decision No. 299 of May 2010.</p> <p>Federal Law No. 52-FZ "On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population" dated 30 March 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 24 July 2000 (Section 5 and 6), require that international requirements and recommendations must be analysed and used in the national sanitary regulations and legislation to the extent that 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, and documents of other international organizations.</p> <p>Phytosanitary measures applied by the Russian Federation are based on the principles of the IPPC, recommendations of the European and Mediterranean Organization on the Quarantine of Plants of which the Russian Federation (USSR) is a member is since 1957. The list of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) in the Russian language was available at the Rosselkhoznadzor website (http://www.fsvps.ru/fsvps/laws/class/10/44). The Delegation of the Russian Federation takes part in IPPC meetings and experts are involved in the elaboration of new international standards on phytosanitary measures.</p>

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		<p>The Russian Delegation always participates in OIE regular meetings and general sessions, which are held annually in France (Paris).</p> <p>Russian specialists took part in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Codex Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Uses (Germany, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2009, 2010); - Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (Holland, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2009, 2011); - Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (USA, 2004, 2005); - Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (Hungary, 2005, 2009); - Codex Committee on Food Contaminants (China, 2007, Holland 2011) - Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (2011); and - Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (2011) and other similar meetings. <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 Alimentarius and IPPC.</p> <p>The Russian Federation is currently party to 34 bilateral and multilateral intergovernmental agreements with third countries on food hygiene, safety, sanitary or phytosanitary measures. The list of these agreements can be found in the Annex to this document.</p> <p>The Russian Federation is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - party to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Plant Protection Convention (Rome, 1951, edition of 1997); - Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) from 3 March 1973; - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) from 5 June 1992. - member of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World organization for Animal Health (OIE) from 1927; - Commission Codex Alimentarius from 1961; - World Health Organization; - European and Mediterranean Organization on Quarantine of Plants, 1957; - UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) from 29 July 2006; and - International Sugar Organization (ISO), from 7 January 2003. - participant at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), from 10 July 1987; - International Grain Council (IGC), from 1 July 1995.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - observer at the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisheries Committee of OECD, 1961; - Group on Cereals, Animal Feeds and Sugar of Committee for Agriculture of OECD; and - Group on Meat and Dairy Products of Committee for Agriculture of OECD.
7. Article 4.	7. Equivalence: Members shall recognize measures maintained by other Members provided that the same level of protection is achieved.	<p>For all its SPS measures, the Russian Federation would comply with the equivalence principle for the purposes of the SPS Agreement, if the exporting country objectively demonstrates that its measures achieve the Russian appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection. The Russian Federation intends to introduce into the CU documents and national legislation relevant provisions on equivalence as well as procedures for the recognition of equivalence, in accordance with the SPS rules and international standards and recommendations.</p> <p>Forty CU common forms of veterinary certificates for import into the CU territory from any third country had been adopted by Decision No. 607 of 7 April 2011, for each of the categories of controlled goods established in the CUC Decision No. 317.</p> <p>According to CU Commission draft Decision "On Veterinary Measures", if a country made a substantiated request to negotiate a veterinary certificate that differed from the Common Form prior to 1 January 2013, veterinary certificates in effect in the Russian Federation, or one of the other CU Parties, before 1 July 2010, as well as their subsequent amendments, could continue to be used until an agreement is reached on a CU veterinary certificate. For other countries, importation of veterinary controlled goods after 1 January 2013 would only be permitted with the common CU Veterinary certificate.</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 Customs Union Decision No. 299 of 28 May 2010, Resolutions of the Government of the Russian Federation and Order of the Rospotrebnadzor No. 224 of 27 July 2007 (as amended with the order No. 309 of 12 August 2010).</p>

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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>The CUC Decision of 22 June 2011 "On application of international standards, guidelines and recommendations" includes the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in the absence of CU or national SPS documents in force in the CU territory establishing obligatory requirements, it is necessary to apply standards, recommendations and guidance of the International office of epizootics, the International plant protection convention, the Commission of "Codex Alimentarius" (hereafter: international standards) respectively; and - in case of SPS requirements in force in the CU territory are more stringent than relevant international standards, in the absence of scientific justification of risk to human, animal or plant life or health, in corresponding part international standards are applied. <p>The preambles of CU SPS Agreements⁴ state that the Parties take into account the principles and rules for risk assessment of the relevant international organizations, including OIE, IPPC, and Codex Alimentarius.</p> <p>All sanitary and veterinary measures are applied in accordance with OIE recommendations and based on risk assessment (Chapter 2.1. OIE, 2010). The following institutions, <i>inter alia</i>, are responsible for the respective studies: the FGU "Federal Centre for animal health protection" (Vladimir) and the FGU "All-Russian Centre on quality of medicine for animals and feed" (Moscow).</p> <p>According to the draft Quarantine Law (Article 5) phytosanitary risk assessment is the procedure of evaluation of biological or other scientific and economic data to identify the necessity of regulation of pest and to introduce phytosanitary measures. The authorized body carries out the phytosanitary risk assessment for every pest and periodically, at least once a year, revises it. The methodology of carrying out the phytosanitary risk assessment was established by the authorized body.</p> <p>All phytosanitary measures are applied in accordance with IPPC standards and based on risk assessment. The Federal State Establishment "All-Russian Centre on Plant Quarantine" (FGU "VNIKR"; Moscow region) is responsible for the respective studies.</p> <p>The following institutions are responsible for conducting risk assessments related to sanitary measures: the Federal Centre of Hygiene and Epidemiology (Rospotrebnadzor); the Federal Scientific Centre of Hygiene, named by A. Erisman (Rospotrebnadzor); and the Scientific Research Institute of Nutrition of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences.</p>

⁴ CU Agreement on Veterinary and Sanitary Measures, CU Agreement on Plant Quarantine, Agreement on Sanitary Measures.

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9. Article 6 and Annexes A.6 and A.7.	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>Common veterinary requirements are adopted by the CUC Decision No. 317 of 18 June 2010 and each Chapter of these requirements stipulates that the regionalization principle is recognized. Regionalization in the sphere of applying veterinary measures is carried out in accordance with the OIE Code (Chapter 4.3. OIE, 2010).</p> <p>The Russian legislation in the plant quarantine sphere is based on IPPC provisions and international standards on phytosanitary measures. Accordingly, regionalization applies to all imported regulated products. Phytosanitary certificates are issued in the exporting country by agencies of the official national plant protection organization. Regional characteristics are a factor for the purposes of devising phytosanitary measures for use in a particular region.</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.</p>
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, measures and requirements are applied uniformly to all foreign and domestic products and suppliers and without discrimination between domestic and foreign products and suppliers. The same measures, requirements, criteria and rules are not applied in a manner that would constitute a disguised restriction on international trade.</p> <p>In accordance with Article 29.2 of the Federal Law No. 164-FZ of 8 December 2003 "On Basics of Regulation of Foreign Trade Activity", SPS requirements are implemented in respect of goods originating from foreign countries in the same way they are applied in respect of similar products of Russian origin.</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 (Articles 1, 14, 15, 18 of the Law of the Russian Federation No. 4979-1 of 14 May 1993 "On Veterinary Practices").</p> <p>According to the draft Quarantine Law (Article 6), phytosanitary requirements apply to regulated products originating from foreign countries in the same manner as they apply to the same regulated products of Russian origin.</p>

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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>As of 1 July 2010, the "Regulation of a single system of joint inspections of sites and sampling the goods (products), subjected to veterinary control (supervision)" approved by CU Commission Decision No. 317 of 18 June 2010 entered into force. This Decision outlined two possibilities for exporting countries' establishments to become eligible to export to the Russian Federation. The first option was that the competent authority of the exporting country provided guarantees to the CU that the establishment met the requirements of the CU. The second option was through a joint inspection by all CU Parties. Now this Regulation is under amendment to include details of the decision-making procedure and to bring this Regulation in line with international standards and guidelines.</p> <p>The CUC Decision No. 299 of 28 May 2010 determined sanitary and epidemiologic requirements for food products, sets 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. The national sanitary-epidemiological rules and norms "Hygienic requirements on food safety and food value" (SERN) are being amended to reflect the regulations of the CUC Decision No. 299 of 28 May 2010.</p> <p>The Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation approved "Regulations on Sanitary and Epidemiological Examination of Products", by Order No. 224 of 27 July 2007 (as amended with the order No. 309 of 12 August 2010), issued by a centre of the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance Authority on concrete kind of production is valid everywhere in the Russian Federation on uniform terms for both domestic and imported products.</p> <p>Relevant procedures on phytosanitary control were adopted by CU Commission Decision No. 318 of 18 June 2010.</p>

ANNEX

List of Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements in the SPS Sphere to which the Russian Federation is Party (last amended on 24 May 2011)

1. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the South African Republic for the cooperation in the field of quarantine and protection of plants of Moscow, 5 August 2010;
2. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Turkish Republic for the cooperation in the field of quarantine and protection of plants, Moscow, 13 January 2010;
3. The Agreement between the Governments of the Customs Union on Sanitary Measures, St.-Petersburg, 11 December 2009;
4. The Agreement between the Governments of the Customs Union on Veterinary and Sanitary Measures, St.-Petersburg, 11 December 2009;
5. The Agreement between the Governments of the Customs Union on Plant Quarantine, St.-Petersburg, 11 December 2009;
6. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia for the Cooperation in the field of Veterinary Science, Moscow, 11 April 2008;
7. The Agreement on Implementation of Coordinated Policy in the Field of Technical Regulation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Eurasian Economic Community, Moscow, 25 January 2008;
8. 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;
9. 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;
10. 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;
11. 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;
12. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the Cooperation in the field of Quarantine and Protection of plants, Casablanca, 7 September 2006;
13. The Agreement on the cooperation procedure on hygienic evaluation of potentially hazard products imported into the member-states of the Community of the Independent States, Cholpon-Ata, 16 April 2004;

14. 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;
15. The Agreement for the Legal protection of sorts of Plants (The Community of the Independent States, Moscow, 16 March 2001;
16. 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;
17. 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;
18. 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;
19. 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 4 June 1999;
20. 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;
21. 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;
22. 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;
23. 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;
24. The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Vietnam for the cooperation in the field of Veterinary Science, Moscow, 24 November 1997;
25. 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;
26. 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;

27. 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;
 28. 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;
 29. 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;
 30. 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;
 31. 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;
 32. 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;
 33. The Agreement for the cooperation in the field of Veterinary Science (The Community of the Independent States), Moscow, 12 March 1993; and
 34. 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.
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