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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

**WORKSHOP ON RISK ANALYSIS**

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

*Note by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>*

1. At its 25-26 March meeting, the SPS Committee agreed to use the occasion of the SPS thematic workshop in October to focus on risk analysis, based on the proposal submitted by the United States, in the context of the Fourth Review.
2. On this basis, the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization is organizing a special workshop on risk analysis to be held in Geneva, Switzerland on Monday, 13 October and Tuesday, 14 October 2014. The workshop will be followed by informal and formal meetings of the SPS Committee during the same week. Representatives of Members, Observers and Observer Organizations are all invited to participate in the workshop on 13 and 14 October, as well as the subsequent meetings of the Committee.
3. Documents G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.4 and G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.4/Add.1 provided information on the workshop and on the application process. More than 500 applications were received by the deadline of 6 June 2014. The WTO, with the financial assistance of the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund (DDAGTF), will sponsor the participation of approximately 50 government officials from developing country Members and Observers. The Secretariat will select participants to be sponsored among applications from government officials holding direct responsibilities in the SPS area.
4. The workshop will provide a platform for discussion and experience sharing on developments and best practices in the area of SPS-related risk analysis.
5. The following is the proposed programme of the workshop. Delegations wishing to provide any specific comments regarding this programme should submit them to the WTO (E-mail: [Anneke.Hamilton@wto.org](mailto:Anneke.Hamilton@wto.org)) by 25 July 2014. For further enquiries about the workshop, please contact Ms Anneke Hamilton (Tel: +(41 22) 739 6566; Fax: +(41 22) 739 5760; E-mail: [Anneke.Hamilton@wto.org](mailto:Anneke.Hamilton@wto.org)).

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<sup>1</sup> This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

**WORKSHOP ON RISK ANALYSIS**  
**MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER – TUESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2014**  
**WTO, CENTRE WILLIAM RAPPARD, GENEVA**

DRAFT PROGRAMME

**MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2014**

**10:00 – 10:30**

**Workshop overview and objectives**

This session will provide an overview of the workshop and its objectives. In addition, this session will briefly review the previous information session on risk analysis held by the SPS Committee in 2000<sup>1</sup> highlighting the main outcomes.

*Speaker: WTO Secretariat*

*Speaker: TBC (Participant from previous workshop to highlight the outcomes from the 2000 workshop; and identify areas that merit further exploration 14 years later in the area of risk analysis).*

**10:30 – 11:30**

**Session 1: The SPS Agreement and Risk Analysis**

**Part 1: Conceptual approach - What the SPS Agreement says**

Presentation from the Secretariat on Members' obligations as they relate to risk analysis under the provisions of Article 5 of the SPS Agreement.

**Part 2: Practical approach - Lessons Learned from Dispute Settlement**

A speaker will summarize outcomes of dispute settlement cases as they relate to risk analysis. Particular focus will be placed on issues related to risk analysis that have been raised in WTO dispute settlement cases and the relevant findings.

*Speaker: WTO Secretariat*

**11:30 – 13:00**

**Session 2: SPS Risk Analysis in the Current Age**

**Part 1:** Define risk assessment by today's standards using scientific experts with specific examples from various sectors, and discuss responding to challenges such as dealing with uncertainty, data availability, and qualitative vs. quantitative risk assessment.

**Part 2:** Discuss risk management using specific examples such as implementation of HACCP in several sectors.

*Moderator: TBC*

*Speakers: TBC*

**13:00 – 15:00**

**Lunch break**

**15:00 – 15:45**

**Session 2: SPS Risk Analysis in the Current Age (cont'd)**

**Part 3:** Round table Q&A session with the experts from this session to answer questions specific to risk analysis.

*Moderator: TBC*

*Speakers: TBC*

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/sps\\_e/risk00\\_e/risk00\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/risk00_e/risk00_e.htm).

**15:45 – 16:45**

**Session 3: International Standards and Guidelines for Performing Risk Analysis**

**Part 1:** Codex

**Part 2:** IPPC

**Part 3:** OIE

In this session, representatives from each of the three international standard-setting bodies will discuss efforts to strengthen the guidelines, address gaps, and ensure these guidelines are understood and followed by Members. This session will be followed by Q&A.

**Moderator:** TBC

**Speakers:** Codex, IPPC, OIE

**16:45 – 17:45**

**Session 4: Members Discuss Their Risk Management Experiences**

Through the use of case studies, speakers in this session will explain their experience with making risk management decisions in the SPS realm, how those decisions are related to risk assessments they have undertaken and how practical experiences with risk mitigation can improve risk management decisions. In addition, speakers will address the extent to which the objective of minimizing negative trade effects is taken into account when determining the appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection. This session will be followed by a question and answer period.

**Part 1:** Developing country

**Part 2:** Developed country

**Moderator:** TBC

**Speakers:** TBC

**17:45 – 18:00**

**Closing remarks and wrap-up of day 1**

**Speaker:** TBC

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**TUESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2014**

<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b>
<b>10:15 – 11:15</b>	<p><b>Session 4: Members Discuss Their Risk Management Experiences (cont'd)</b></p> <p>Through the use of case studies, speakers in this session will explain their experience with making risk management decisions in the SPS realm, how those decisions are related to risk assessments they have undertaken and how practical experiences with risk mitigation can improve risk management decisions. In addition, speakers will address the extent to which, the objective of minimizing negative trade effects is taken into account when determining the appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection. This session will be followed by a question and answer period.</p> <p><b>Part 1:</b> Developing country</p> <p><b>Part 2:</b> Developed country</p> <p><i>Moderator: TBC</i> <i>Speakers: TBC</i></p>
<b>11:15 – 12:00</b>	<p><b>Session 5: Experience of International and Regional Organizations</b></p> <p><b>Part 1: International Level - OECD, World Bank, or other international organization</b></p> <p>Speaker from an international organization will discuss outcomes related to risk assessment, risk management and risk communication of various workshops organized at the international and regional levels since 2000 on implementation of the SPS Agreement.</p> <p><b>Part 2: Regional Level - IICA</b></p> <p>Speaker from IICA will discuss regional initiatives related to risk assessment, risk management and risk communication.</p> <p><i>Moderator: TBC</i> <i>Speakers: TBC</i></p>
<b>12:00 – 13:00</b>	<p><b>Session 6: Leveraging Resources for Risk Assessments - Ways to Address Resource Constraints</b></p> <p>This session will explore new ways that Members can meet their WTO obligation to perform risk assessments and base their measures on science, in light of limited financial and human resources. Topics will include Members sharing experiences with having risk assessments drafted by parties other than the importing country (e.g., the exporting country or a third party) and sharing data with other Members who have received similar market access requests. Members will also share their experiences in coordinating efforts and resources across the public and private sector. This session will be followed by a question and answer period.</p> <p><i>Moderator: TBC</i> <i>Speakers: TBC</i></p>
<b>13:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>

**15:00 – 17:00****Session 7: Members Discuss their Risk Communication Experiences**

During this session Members will share their experiences in important elements of risk communication with particular focus on practical examples. Each speaker will tackle an aspect of risk communication, followed by brief discussion among Members.

**Part 1:** Internal risk communication: Ensuring effective communication between and among risk assessors and risk managers.

**Part 2:** Translating the risk assessment and risk management into communication messages, including communicating uncertainty and leveraging new communication tools (social media etc.).

**Part 3:** Targeting communication – who are the audiences, what do they need/want to hear, and when to communicate it?

**Moderator:** TBC

**Speakers:** TBC

**17:00 – 18:00****Session 8: Outcomes and Next Steps**

This session will be mainly devoted to Q&A. Speakers will identify a few key outcomes of the sessions and Members will discuss what, if any, follow up steps are warranted, including possible organization of a separate event or workshop focusing on particular elements of risk analysis.

**Moderator:** TBC

**Speakers:**

- Developing country representative
  - Developed country representative
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