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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

**SPS@25 EVENT  
MONDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2020**

WTO, CENTRE WILLIAM RAPPARD, GENEVA

DRAFT PROGRAMME

*Revision*

In the context of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), the Secretariat organized a commemorative event for the SPS Committee.

The session first covered the history of the SPS Agreement over the past 25 years since its negotiation, and the evolution of the Committee. It also looked into the future and explored the coming challenges over the next 25 years in different areas relevant to the SPS Agreement. Members were invited to share their questions to speakers in advance (email to [SPSCommittee@wto.org](mailto:SPSCommittee@wto.org)); some of the questions were asked anonymously during the session. Throughout the sessions, videos with messages from former Chairpersons of the Committee were shown.

The event was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on Monday, 2 November 2020, starting at 15:00. The event took place at the WTO and could also be attended virtually through the Interprefy platform.

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**Chairperson:** Mr Gregory MacDonald

**Opening remarks:** DDG Alan Wolff

**1 EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SPS AGREEMENT BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK**

Informal discussion on the negotiation of the SPS Agreement and the evolution of the work of the SPS Committee.

**Speakers:**

- **Mr Digby Gascoine**, negotiator of the SPS Agreement and former Australian SPS Committee delegate.
- **Mr Gonzalo Ríos Kantorowitz**, Head of the Department of International Negotiations, Agricultural and Livestock Service SAG, Ministry of Agriculture, Chile.
- **Ms Gretchen H. Stanton**, former Secretary of the SPS Committee, Chairperson of the working group that negotiated the SPS Agreement.

**Moderator:**

- **Ms Christiane Wolff**, Secretary of the SPS Committee.

*Followed by Q&A session and discussion.*

## **2 THE CRYSTAL BALL**

What will the SPS world look like in 25 years? How will the work of the Committee evolve? Will the SPS Agreement stay relevant? Experts from different areas shared their views on the future challenges that may arise in the SPS area.

**Speakers:**

- **Dr Tan Lee Kim**, Director-General, Food Administration & Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Food Agency.
- **Dr Washington Otieno**, Plantwise Programme Executive, CABI.

**Moderator:**

- **Ms Christiane Wolff**, Secretary of the SPS Committee.

*Followed by Q&A session and discussion.*

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