



**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

**WTO SPS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN 2014:  
GENERAL INFORMATION, SELECTION PROCESS AND APPLICATION FORM**

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT<sup>1</sup>

*Addendum*

**1 THEMATIC SPS WORKSHOP**

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. This SPS thematic workshop on risk analysis will take place on Monday, 13 and Tuesday, 14 October 2014. The SPS informal and regular meetings will be held on 15-17 October 2014.

2. The objective of the workshop is to bring together officials responsible for participation in and implementation of the SPS Agreement, the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) for an in depth discussion, at a technical level, on decision making and communication during the risk analysis process. More specifically:

- a. Participants will review relevant developments in SPS-related risk analysis since the SPS workshop in 2000 ([G/SPS/GEN/209](#)).<sup>2</sup> This will include information from the Codex, IPPC and OIE on their respective work, as well as a review of the outcome of WTO dispute settlement cases as they relate to the risk assessment provisions of the SPS Agreement.
- b. Participants will discuss the link between risk assessment outcomes and risk management decisions, including sharing their experiences in using risk assessment as a basis for making SPS-related risk management decisions, and their experiences in co-operation between the public and private sectors.
- c. Participants will discuss their experiences in SPS-related risk communication.
- d. Participants will explore ways to leverage resources to more effectively perform risk assessments, as well as emerging issues and challenges in risk analysis.

**2 REGIONAL SPS WORKSHOPS**

3. Three regional workshops on the SPS Agreement will be organized in 2014, with **revised dates and venues, and application deadlines** as follows:

- Regional SPS Workshop for Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus. **Vienna, Austria, 8 to 11 September 2014.** Application deadline: 6 June 2014;

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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.

<sup>2</sup> The PowerPoint presentations and the programme from the 2000 SPS workshop are available at: [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)

- Regional SPS Workshop for the Pacific (co-organized with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat). **Nadi, Fiji, the week of 10 November 2014**. Application deadline: 18 July 2014;
- Regional SPS Workshop for Latin America (co-organized with the Inter-American Development Bank). **Montevideo, Uruguay, week of 17 November 2014**. Application deadline: 15 August 2014.

4. The Secretariat will select a maximum of thirty participants for the Regional SPS Workshop for Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus, as well as for the Regional SPS Workshop for the Pacific. For the Regional SPS Workshop for Latin America (co-organized with the Inter-American Development Bank), two government officials will be selected from each eligible country.

5. The targeted audience for these workshops are government officials:

- a. holding direct responsibilities in the SPS area, i.e. SPS notification authority or enquiry point; Codex, IPPC or OIE contact points; officials from a relevant Ministry in charge of coordinating SPS matters and international trade; and
- b. possessing a proven intermediate level of understanding of the principles and structure of the WTO, and of the principles and provisions of the SPS Agreement.

6. Interested candidates must fill-in and submit the online application form which is available at: <https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2014-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/>. Applicants applying for the **Regional SPS Workshop for Latin America** should also submit their curriculum vitae (CV) electronically, using the link to the online application form.

7. Additional information on these Regional SPS Workshops is available in the tables below.

<b>Title of the activity</b>	<b>Regional SPS Workshop for Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus</b>
<b>Dates</b>	<b>8-11 September 2014</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Joint Vienna Institute - Austria</b>
<b>Eligible WTO Members and Observers</b>	Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	Preference will be given to those candidates that have successfully completed the WTO SPS E-Learning Course by the time of their application. All participants are expected to have completed the SPS E-Learning Course before the start of the workshop. The E-Learning Course is available at: <a href="http://etraining.wto.org">http://etraining.wto.org</a> .  Fluency in English.
<b>Application</b>	Candidates must fill-in and submit the online application form which is available at:  <a href="https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2014-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/">https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2014-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/</a>  Candidates should complete and submit the online application form before <b>6 June 2014</b>  Incomplete forms or forms sent after the deadline will not be considered.
<b>Results of the selection</b>	Only selected candidates will be informed about the results of the selection during July 2014.  Administrative and logistical information will be provided in due course to the selected candidates.  Selected candidates will be required to immediately provide their passport information, including number, place and date of issue, and date of expiry.

<b>Title of the activity</b>	<b>Regional SPS Workshop for the Pacific</b> (co-organized with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat)
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Week of 10 November 2014</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Nadi, Fiji</b>
<b>Eligible</b>	<p><b>WTO Members:</b><sup>3</sup> Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu</p> <p>Additional funding <b>may</b> be available for the participation of candidates from member countries of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) which are not WTO Members.<sup>4</sup> This is subject to confirmation.</p>
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	<p>Preference will be given to those candidates that have successfully completed the WTO SPS E-Learning Course by the time of their application. All participants are expected to have completed the SPS E-Learning Course before the start of the workshop. The E-Learning Course is available at: <a href="http://etraining.wto.org">http://etraining.wto.org</a>.</p> <p>Fluency in English.</p>
<b>Application</b>	<p>Candidates must fill-in and submit the online application form which is available at:</p> <p><a href="https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2014-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/">https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2014-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/</a></p> <p>Candidates should complete and submit the online application form before <b>18 July 2014</b>.</p> <p>Incomplete forms or forms sent after the deadline will not be considered.</p>
<b>Results of the selection</b>	<p>Only selected candidates will be informed about the results of the selection during August 2014.</p> <p>Administrative and logistical information will be provided in due course to the selected candidates.</p> <p>Selected candidates will be required to immediately provide their passport information, including number, place and date of issue, and date of expiry.</p>

<sup>3</sup> The WTO will fund the participation of WTO Members from the Pacific.

<sup>4</sup> Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands, Tuvalu.

<b>Title of the activity</b>	<b>Regional SPS Workshop for Latin America</b> (co-organized with the Inter-American Development Bank – IDB)
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Week of 17 November 2014</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Montevideo, Uruguay</b>
<b>Eligible WTO Members and Observers</b>	Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, <i>Cuba</i> <sup>5</sup> , Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay.
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	Preference will be given to those candidates that have successfully completed the WTO SPS E-Learning Course by the time of their application. All participants are expected to have completed the SPS E-Learning Course before the start of the workshop, or may be required to have completed the first part of an IDB Online Training Course, if available. The WTO SPS E-Learning Course is available at: <a href="http://etraining.wto.org">http://etraining.wto.org</a> .  Fluency in Spanish.
<b>Application</b>	Candidates must fill-in and submit the online application form which is available at:  <a href="https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2014-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/">https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2014-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/</a>  Candidates must also submit their curriculum-vitae (CV) electronically, using the link to the online application form.  Candidates should complete and submit the online application form before <b><u>15 August 2014</u></b> .  Incomplete forms or forms sent after the deadline will not be considered.
<b>Results of the selection</b>	Only selected candidates will be informed about the results of the selection during September 2014.  Administrative and logistical information will be provided in due course to the selected candidates.  Selected candidates will be required to immediately provide their passport information, including number, place and date of issue, and date of expiry.

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<sup>5</sup> Participants that are selected from Cuba will be financed by the WTO.