WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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17 October 2007

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English/ French

QUESTIONNAIRE ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Submission by Rwanda

Addendum

Technical assistance requirements:					
	Information	Training	Infrastructure (Hard and/or Soft)	Specific Concerns	Other
Rights, obligations and practical operation of the SPS Agreement					
Food safety					
Animal health					
Plant health	Provision of information on SPS, international standards on phytosanitary measures (financial support for the conferences, workshops and seminars participation; exchanges training (internship))	 Training on transparency, equivalence, risk analysis, SPS globally. Beneficiaries: Decision makers, technicians, private sectors involved in import and export 	 Soft infrastructure: Harmonization with East African Community in SPS; Procedures and import and export techniques; National regulatory framework (implementation), training of human resources on whole food chain in the region, potential markets, etc. Hard infrastructure: Connection to the global market: computer + accessories + internet Field equipment for PRA; physical equipment for testing and monitoring; hotline (green phone) for alerts, etc. 	Transparency: Implementation of Annex B of the SPS Agreement	Information on related issues and agreements such as food safety, TBT Agreement etc.
Contact details		<u> </u>	1	I	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(Such information could include, inter alia, a more detailed description of the technical assistance required, any relevant background information on the reasons for the request, the possibility of using a regional approach to the provision of the requested assistance and the scope for a coordinated approach among relevant international organizations.)

Rwanda has identified horticulture as providing an excellent opportunity to boost exports and foreign exchange earnings.

An agency – the Rwanda Horticulture Development Authority (RHODA) – has just been created with a view to promoting the production and exportation of horticultural products. The challenge is considerable for staff and private sector operators with no experience in the area of horticulture. And yet the exportation of agricultural products in particular must meet the quality standards and regulations of the different buyers (countries of destination).

This is why Rwanda will need substantial capacity-building support for RHODA staff as well as for private sector operators who are beginning, albeit timidly, to engage in the exportation of horticultural products.