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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**WTO SPS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN 2018:
GENERAL INFORMATION, SELECTION PROCESS AND APPLICATION FORM**

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT¹

Addendum

1 THEMATIC SPS WORKSHOP

1. At its 1-2 March meeting, the SPS Committee agreed to use the occasion of the SPS thematic workshop in July to focus on control, inspection and approval procedures (Annex C of the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures). This SPS thematic workshop on control, inspection and approval procedures will take place on Monday 9 and Tuesday, 10 July 2018. The SPS informal and regular meetings will be held on 11-13 July 2018.

2. The objective of the workshop is to bring together officials responsible for participation in and implementation of the SPS Agreement, as well as the relevant international standard-setting bodies for an in depth discussion, at a technical level, on control, inspection and approval procedures. More specifically:

- a. Participants will review the relevant provisions of the Agreement and jurisprudence. 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 Annex C provisions of the SPS Agreement. The relationship between the SPS and Trade Facilitation Agreements in the context of Annex C will also be discussed;
- b. Participants will be exposed to the relevant international and regional work on: (i) approval procedures; (ii) certification procedures, including electronic certification schemes; and (iii) control and inspection procedures, including sampling and testing; and
- c. Participants will discuss their experiences in complying with Annex C, including information on their domestic regulatory and legal infrastructures.

3. The workshop will be open to participation by all delegates from WTO Members and Observers attending the SPS Committee meeting in July 2018.

4. Government officials from WTO Members and Observers meeting the above-mentioned criteria and wishing to apply for the thematic workshop must consult the instructions provided in Annex III of G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.8, which is reproduced hereafter for ease of reference, and complete and submit by 3 April 2018 the online application form available at:

<https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2018-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/>.

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

ANNEX III**THEMATIC SPS WORKSHOP IN 2018**

Title of the activity	SPS Thematic Workshop on Control, Inspection and Approval Procedures (Annex C)¹
Dates	9 to 10 July 2018
Venue	Geneva, Switzerland
Eligible WTO Members and Observers	WTO least-developed and developing country Members and Observers
Pre-requisites for funding	<p>Only for government officials holding direct responsibilities in the SPS area.</p> <p>Preference will be given to applications from least-developed countries (LDCs), and from developing country Members and Observers that have not been sponsored to participate in a thematic workshop on the SPS Agreement in the recent past. No more than one participant from each country will be selected.</p> <p>Fluent in either English, French or Spanish.</p>
Application	<p>Candidates must fill-in and submit the online application form which is available at:</p> <p>https://worldtradeorganization.wufoo.eu/forms/2018-wto-sps-technical-assistanceapplication-form/</p> <p>Candidates should complete and submit the online application form by <u>3 April 2018</u>.</p> <p>Incomplete forms or forms sent after the deadline will not be considered.</p>
Results of the selection	<p>Only selected candidates will be informed about the results of the selection during April 2018.</p> <p>Administrative and logistical information will be provided in due course to the selected candidates.</p> <p>For administrative purposes, selected candidates will be required to immediately provide their passport information, including number, place and date of issue, and date of expiry.</p>

¹ The subject has been defined since the circulation of G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.8 on 30 January 2018.