

WTO- SPS Agreement- and Relevant Experience & Lessons learnt and way forward

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SPS Agreement

- Nepal became 147th member of the WTO on 23rd April 2004
- Nepal will now be obliged to implement the technical regulations and standards (TRS) related agreements with some transition period.
- It includes the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures.
- Trade related SPS measures, in general, include all measures that are applied by a country to ensure the safety of food for human consumption and prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases.
- SPS covers food and agricultural sectors and the issue relates to the level of microbial, toxic and physical contaminants.
- SPS measures must serve a legitimate domestic objective (i.e. protect human, animal or plant or health)
- They should be non-discriminatory or should not constitute a disguised form of protectionism.
- Usually the developing countries apply lower SPS standards, qualitatively or quantitatively, than developed countries. SPS Agreement should help to facilitate trade from developing to developed countries by improving transparency, promoting harmonization, equivalence and preventing the implementation of SPS measures that cannot be justified scientifically.

Nepal's commitments on SPS

- ❖ Nepal is a party to different international instruments and has different laws to harmonize and implement the sanitary and phytosanitary measures.
- ❖ Nepal is also a member of different international standards including Codex Alimentarius and has different laws to adopt and implement the sanitary measures
- ❖ Nepal has also informed about lack of technical expertise to implement the SPS Agreement
- ❖ Ministry of Agriculture Development has res-established SPS enquiry point in DFTQC
- ❖ As per the commitments Nepal should fully implement the SPS Agreement by 31 December, 2006

Nepal's commitments on SPS

- ❖ Nepal has confirmed to review laws and regulations relating to SPS Measures and accordingly amend necessary legislation
- ❖ Nepal has committed to apply existing measures in a non-discriminatory manner to all imports.
- ❖ Nepal has also committed to notify existing SPS measures to the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
- ❖ Nepal would fully participate in the work of the SPS Committee.
- ❖ Nepal has expressed its interest for technical assistance.

RANGE OF SPS FUNCTIONS

- Apply GAP, GMP and HACCP (farms +firms)
- Develop legislation and standards
- Register/control feed, agro-chemicals, vet drugs
- Conduct basic research, diagnosis and analysis
- Accredite labs/vets/other 3rd party entities
- Develop/apply quarantine procedures
- Conduct epidemiological surveillance
- Inspect/license food establishments
- Strategic investment in new products and markets (enterprises)
- Develop/maintain pest or disease-free areas
- Test products for residues and contaminants
- Establish/maintain products traceability
- Report possible hazards to trading partners
- Notify WTO/trading partners on new SPS measures

THREE LEVELS OF STANDARD SETTING

- International conventions

SPS agreement, based on standards set by CODEX, IPPC and OIE

National and other standards

- NS.EU, US, etc
- • Buyers standards

The “EurepGap” requirements are “good agricultural practices” (GAP) set by the Euro-Retail Produce Working Group ([Eurep](#)), which the EU described as a consortium representing major retailers, Safe Food Quality, British Retail Consortium

SPS commitments and its progress

- ❖ Up-gradation of testing labs at DFTQC, Plant Quarantine Offices are taking place
- ❖ Nepal has become a member of IPPC
- ❖ Policy, Acts, rules, directives related to food, plant and animal quarantine are being updated
- ❖ Also working in development of Food Safety Act covering Food to Fork
- ❖ Export –Import Inspection and Quality Certification System in Nepal has been established for Certification of Food Safety and Quality Management System, Phyto-sanitary Certification System, Veterinary Certification .
- ❖ Quarantine posts established in importing customs points.

SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF LDCS

- Limited human skills, technical and financial resources
- No proper legal framework and delay in regulatory reforms.
- No data bases on human health, pests and diseases
- No recognition of “competent authority”; no market access for a range of products and markets
- Limited provision of SPS and market services
- Multiple investment climate protocols for participating

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_5328

