



**Regional Workshop for Asia
on the
WTO Agreements on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
&
Technical Barriers to Trade**

Programme

Bangkok, Thailand
10-13 November 2015

10 NOVEMBER 2015

Meeting Room H

9:00 – 9:15

Opening Ceremony

- UNESCAP Representative (*Susan F. Stone, ESCAP*)
- WTO Representative (*Gretchen Stanton, WTO*)

9:15 – 9:45

Structure and Objectives of the Workshop

Facilitator: Serra Ayrál, WTO

- Participants introduce themselves and their expectations for the workshop
- Survey results / overview of programme

9:45 – 10:15

SPS and TBT in Context – Introduction to Non-tariff Measures (NTMs) in the Multilateral Trading System

Facilitator: Gretchen Stanton, WTO

10:15 – 10:30

STDF Film – *Trading Safely*

*** *Coffee break (10:30 – 10:45)* ***

10:45 – 12:30

Basic Provisions of the SPS and TBT Agreements

Facilitator: Gretchen Stanton, WTO

- Overview of scope, principles and disciplines
- Exercise

*** *Lunch break (12:30 – 13:30)* ***

13:30 – 14:15

SPS vs. TBT Exercise

14:15 – 15:30

The Role of International Standards in the SPS & TBT Areas

Facilitator: Serra Ayrál, WTO

- Q&A session with Codex, OIE, ISO, IEC

*** *Coffee break (15:30 – 15:45)* ***

15:45 – 17:00

The SPS & TBT Committees

Facilitator: Serra Ayrál, WTO

- Role and function
- Current issues

11 NOVEMBER 2015

Meeting Room H

9:00 – 11:30

Transparency and Coordination in the SPS and TBT Areas

Facilitator: Serra Ayrál, WTO

- Overview of the transparency provisions of the SPS and TBT Agreements
- Exercise
- Presentation of national experience related to transparency by Punsara Nishanthi Leeladasa Meegaha Palage from Sri Lanka

*** *Coffee break (10:45 – 11:00)* ***

11:30 – 12:30

Round table discussion: Main SPS and TBT Issues Affecting Trade in Asia

Facilitator: Gretchen Stanton, WTO

- National presentations by Seema Shukla from India and Adam Manik from Maldives
- Regional presentations:
 - "SPS and TBT measures affecting trade in the Asia-Pacific" by Adam Heal, ESCAP;
 - "Regional SPS and TBT issues affecting Asia" by Shashi Sareen, FAO

*** *Lunch break (12:30 – 13:30)* ***

13:30 – 15:45

Trade Facilitation

Facilitator: Melvin Spreij, WTO

- Introduction to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) (*Melvin Spreij, WTO*)
 - The TFA in relation to the SPS and TBT Agreements (*Gretchen Stanton, WTO*)
- Implementing SPS Measures to Facilitate Safe Trade – STDF case studies from Asia (*Melvin Spreij, WTO*)
 - STDF Film – *Safe Trade Solutions*

*** *Coffee break (15:30 – 15:45)* ***

15:45 – 17:00

Trade Facilitation cont'd

- Presentations:
 - "Trade facilitation, paperless trade and e-SPS implementation in Asia-Pacific" by Yann Duval and Maame Agyeben, ESCAP;
 - "Information management in agrifood Chains for agrifood trade facilitation" by Shashi Sareen, FAO

12 NOVEMBER 2015

Conference Room 2

09:00 – 10:45	<p>Work of relevant organizations: Break-out sessions with Codex, OIE, FAO, ISO, IEC and UNIDO for in-depth and practical discussions on technical issues on SPS (i.e. food safety, plant protection and animal health) and TBT</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Serra Ayrar, WTO</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Break-out sessions with Codex, OIE, FAO, ISO, IEC and UNIDO for in-depth and practical discussions on technical issues on SPS (i.e. food safety, plant protection and animal health) and TBT <p><i>Codex, OIE, FAO, ISO, IEC and UNIDO representatives</i></p> <p>*** <i>Coffee break (10:45 – 11:00)</i> ***</p>
11:00 – 12:30	<p>Work of relevant organizations: Break-out sessions with Codex, OIE, FAO, ISO, IEC and UNIDO (cont'd)</p> <p><i>Codex, OIE, FAO, ISO, IEC and UNIDO representatives</i></p> <p>*** <i>Lunch break (12:30 – 13:30)</i> ***</p>
13:30 - 15:30	<p>Work of relevant organizations: Break-out sessions with Codex, OIE, ISO, IEC and UNIDO (cont'd)</p> <p><i>Codex, OIE, ISO, IEC and UNIDO representatives</i></p> <p>*** <i>Coffee break (15:30 – 15:45)</i> ***</p>
15:45 – 17:00	<p>Work of relevant organizations: Plenary session</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Serra Ayrar, WTO</i></p>

13 NOVEMBER 2015

Conference Room 2

9:00 – 10:45 How to address SPS & TBT trade problems – from Committee to WTO dispute settlement panels

Facilitator: Gretchen Stanton and Serra Ayrar, WTO

- Presentation
- Case Study

*** *Coffee break (10:45 – 11:00)* ***

11:00 – 12:30 How to address SPS & TBT trade problems – from Committee to WTO dispute settlement panels (cont'd)

Facilitator: Gretchen Stanton and Serra Ayrar, WTO

- Presentation
- Case Study

*** *Lunch break (12:30 – 13:30)* ***

13:30 – 15:00 The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

Facilitator: Melvin Spreij, WTO

- Overview of the STDF partnership
- Funding opportunities
- Success stories based on STDF support

*** *Coffee break (15:00 – 15:15)* ***

15:15 – 16:45 Round table discussion: SPS & TBT-related Technical Assistance

Facilitator: Melvin Spreij, WTO

- Codex, IPPC, OIE, ISO, IEC, UNIDO, WTO, FAO

16:45 – 17:15 Overview and Wrap-up