



Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures in Afghanistan

Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program
Workshop on SPS Measures

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I. Legal Framework for SPS Measures

A. International Agreements

Actually, there is no international agreements regarding SPS measure in Afghanistan.

B. National Laws and Regulations: plant protection and quarantine [laws](#) have been finalized, with WTO requirements, and submitted to Ministry of justice,

- Number of chapter: 8
- Number of articles : 50
- Number of pages : 36

II. SPS Management Roles, Functions, and Responsibilities

A. Name of government agency involved in SPS

Three major agencies directly involved in SPS such as **Plant Protection and Quarantine Directorate (PPQD)**, **Animal Health and Livestock (AHL)** and **Quality Control Directorate (QCD)**.

SPS functions: the main functions of the agencies involved in SPS is to control export and import agriculture commodities in the entry points .

- regulations promulgated by :

— year : 1995:

- status of implementation : still it is being implemented.*
- SPS practices: usually taking sampling, inspection and physical testing are available.*
- SPS facility of the agency: only quarantine networks are available, and physicals observation, not lab and no quarantine equipment's.*

III. SPS Risk Assessment and Border Procedures

Actually, nothing have been done in SPS Risk Assessment in the borders.

Border procedures : after physical observation, only health certificates are given to importers and exporters.

IV. Initiatives on SPS Measures: Current and Planned

A. Regulatory Amendments

- list of ongoing revisions to 'I. National Laws or Regulations on SPS Measures '
- PPQD Law and regulation is available.
- Animal health and Livestock Law and regulation are available

- list of new SPS Laws or Regulations currently being drafted or proposed
 1. PPQD Law and regulation with WTO and SPS requirement.
(proposed)
 2. Animal health and Livestock Law.(drafted)

Programs and Projects on SPS

1. Name : FAO : seed improvement project.
 - *Period : 3 years .*
 - *Funding source : European commission*
 - *Description: work on plant quarantine law was one of the major activity of this project.*
 - *Status : already finished.*

2. Name : IAIDS (Improved Agriculture input delivery system).
 - *Period: about 4 years.*
 - *Funding source : WB*
 - *Description : this project provide plant quarantine facilities in all entry points of Afghanistan .*
 - *Status: preparation phase .*

V. Proposals for Regional Cooperation on SPS Measures

Mutual recognition of laboratory testing results?

Yes, this is important.

Priority handling of perishables at border crossing points?

Yes .

Joint SPS management at borders?

This part is very important.

CAREC SPS Working Group?

At least CAREC SPS working Group should visit Afghanistan entry points (borders , check post and customs)

What are your priorities?

Afghanistan's Proposal for Regional Cooperation on SPS measures

- Provide capacity building on SPS measures.
- Strengthening the relation with all involved agencies, working on SPS measures.
- Strengthening mutual cooperation in the region.

Thank you very much