



Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures in *Pakistan*

Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program
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I. Legal Framework for SPS Measures

A. International Agreements

- The SPS agreement is a WTO agreement among the signatory of WTO member ,which guide WTO members in development/establishment and application of all the sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures affecting international trade directly or indirectly. It follows the general WTO rules on dispute settlement by providing a panel to consult for technical/scientific information, at the request of the parties to the dispute or on its own initiative (WTO) legal framework It covers multilateral agreement on SPS0.
- The GATT General Agreement on Trade and Tariff) turned its attention toward agriculture during Uruguay round of 1980's and early 1990's particularly sanitary aspects of agriculture.
- Significant out come of Uruguay round was transformation of GATT into WTO. 1994 (agreement on the application (SPS agreement) SPS agreement sets out the

legal framework for the safe international trade are: -

- Human/animal life or health from food- borne risk(arising from additives, contaminants, toxins or disease causing organism in the food).
- Human life or health from animal or plant carried diseases.
- Animal and plant life/health from pest disease or disease causing organism.
- Damage caused by the entry, establishment or spread of the pest.

STANDARD SETTING ORGANIZATION

- IPPC = International Plant Protection Convention (FAO) (Revised Text of IPPC 1997).
- OIE = World Organization for Animal Health
- CODEX= C. Alimentarius (FAO/WHO)

These sister organizations now encouraging WTO members to harmonize their SPS measures.

However to meet standard of three sister organization, it is necessary funding and training for new technologies (at molecular level for PCR & HPLC etc), for SPS measures to the developing countries

B. National Laws and Regulations

- **Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act 1976**
- **Agricultural Pesticide Ordinance 1971**
- **Pakistan Plant Quarantine Rules 1967**
- **Proposed Phytosanitary Act 2012**
- **International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)**
- **International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)**
 - Standards, guidelines, recommendations → international harmonization
- **Codex Alimentarius**
 - Created in 1963 by FAO and WHO
 - Deals operational arrangements concerning food safety
- **WTO (January 1, 1995)- SPS Agreement**
 - Set rules that governs sanitary and phytosanitary aspects of Int'l trade

II. SPS Management Roles, Functions, and Responsibilities

A. **Name of Government Agency**

Department of Plant Protection

is also designated as the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) under the provisions of International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), a multilateral treaty signed by 160 countries in 1951, under the auspices of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nation

with the mandate to:

- enhance the phytosanitary capabilities of the country;
- to check pest and disease spread on crops;
- and to facilitate trade of agricultural commodities under WTO agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS).

Inspection of Import and Export: Department of Plant Protection regulates the country's international trade of agro-commodities through its Plant Quarantines Outposts established on all sea ports, international air terminals, dry ports and international borders.

All the imports are subjected to:

- Pest Risk Analysis and inspection/ treatment prior to issuances of Import Permits (IPs) and Release Orders (ROs).
- **The exports** are regulated by issuance of
Phytosanitary Certificates (PCs) according to the requirements and trade agreements signed with the importing countries.

Regulations Promulgated by the Agency; year; Status of Implementation

Protocol of phytosanitary requirements for export of Mango with People's Republic of China	03.11.2003	Pakistan is exporting mango to China with low demand and no complaints from AQSIQ China is received to NPPO Pakistan
Protocol of phytosanitary requirements for export of Citrus with People's Republic of China	05.04.2005	Pakistan is exporting citrus to China with low demand and no complaints from AQSIQ China is received to NPPO Pakistan
Protocol of phytosanitary Requirements for export of Rice with People's Republic of China	05.04.2005	Pakistan is exporting rice to China in letter and spirit and no complaints from AQSIQ China is received to NPPO Pakistan

Memorandum of Understanding with Mexico for the Export Rice from Pakistan	12.10.2006	Rice Export is in progress
Memorandum of Understanding with Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Islamic Republic of Iran	23.02.2005	Mango & Citrus export is in progress
Agreement with Government the Republic of Uzbekistan	02.05.2006	Plant Quarantine SPS Issues / Exchange of Plant Quarantine Law
Memorandum of Understanding between NPPO Islamic Republic Pakistan and NPPO Republic of Mauritius	30.07.2007	Sanitary and Phytosanitary issues. Protocols has been finalized in 2011 and Pakistan is likely to export Mango in 2012 Season.
Memorandum of Understanding with Republic of Argentina	05.12.2006	SPS Issues & Exchange of Information on Plant Quarantine
Memorandum of Understanding with Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	24.08.2008	For Mango export
Procedures for the export of plant material to the territory of the Russian Federation	06.06.2008	Export of Citrus and Rice is in progress

Phyosanitary protocol is finalized in 2009 for the export of mango from Pakistan to USA subject to Irradiation Treatment. <u>25 May 2012</u> SOPs/ Work Plan for export of Rice Addendum/ Flight Schedule	In the year 2011 mango exported to USA in low quantity.	Mango (Irradiation Treatment) was given in USA
Phyosanitary Protocol with NPPO Pakistan and NPPO Japan is finalized in 2010.	Commercial export could not be done due to unavailability of commercial VHT plant	Mango samples sent to Japan in 2011 on the directives of President of Pakistan for gift samples to counterpart in Japan after VHT Treatment on the pilot project granted by JICA
MoU Between NPPO Pakistan & NPPO Lebanon was signed on 30.06.2011 for the Export of Mango from Pakistan to Lebanon.	Export is expected in the coming season of 2012.	-

SPS practices (e.g., sampling, inspection, testing, limiting risks) by the agency

2% sampling or according to the article/its situation etc.

Inspection carried out with hand lens, floating methods for seeds, blotter method test, dissecting ,cold /hot treatment,radiation,fumigation,Disinfestations of fruit pests like Fruit fly with Vapor Heat Treatment plan etc at in land.

SPS facility (e.g., laboratory, quarantine) of the agency

Central Plant Quarantine Laboratory At Karachi DPP

PCSIR Laboratories Karachi, Lahore Islamabad

Nuclear Institute of Agriculture and Biology Faisalabad

Nuclear Institute of Biology and Genetic Engineering, Faisalabad etc

III. SPS Risk Assessment and Border Procedures

Physical Inspection – mandatory for import and export articles

Laboratory testing –risk-based may be at border or inland for first time import is inevitable

Handling and treatment of perishables: It may create awareness and by avoiding professional dishonesty like plug in points during transit for cool chain by the transporters etc.

Measures taken to minimize time in transit of perishables:

Type of SPS inspections (inspection must start from day first in the fields to overcome the forth coming problems in the final products instead of inspection at the eleventh hrs particularly in perishable items.) *visual, by lens, by dissecting etc.*

List of border crossing points with SPS checkpoints/facilities and equipment Chaman, Sust border, Lahore ,Taftan (BCP,S), Islamabad, Karachi Bhalwal, Sialkot, Peshawar,Quetta) Normally ,Dissecting box lens, microscope, collecting vials.

Percentage of border crossing equipped points for SPS inspections
(20%)

IV. Initiatives on SPS Measures: Current and Planned

A. Regulatory Amendments

List of ongoing revisions to 'I. National Laws or Regulations on SPS Measures '

Revision of plant quarantine act 1976 in its draft form since 2009

List of new SPS Laws or Regulations currently being drafted or proposed Regulations,

Food Safety authority at provincial level.

Plant Animal Health Regulations at provincial level.

B. Programs and Projects on SPS

Name of the program/project, implementation period, funding source

Special program for strengthening SPS facilities and quality inspection services in compliance with WTO established of an integrated national animal and plant health inspection services

Description

Aflatoxin & pesticide residues of plant product EC Plant health regulation on import of Pakistani products, bird flue surveillance in EU and Pakistan)

Status (2006-07 to 2011-12)

Funding: UNIDO

V. Proposals for Regional Cooperation on SPS Measures

Mutual recognition of laboratory testing results:

It may be planned by using same methodology and procedure for the laboratory test. No doubt those will be acceptable for both partners or may be provided opportunity to the scientists working together.

Priority handling of perishables at border crossing points:

It must be rapid and safe to facilitate trade and avoid delay in handling of perishables items in consideration ones scientific based reservation only and all documentation at one window.

Joint SPS management at borders:

Pre shipment inspections carried out too and joint SPS management at land routs only, although joint working on SPS by quarantine official at the site of production by the consent of contracting party for import /export.

CAREC SPS Working Group:

Head (Advisor & Director General) of the Department of Plant Protection Karachi must be included in the working group because phytosanitary measures directly related to this organization of Pakistan. Committee of SPS must be informed about the working plan at gross root level too.(officials/ farmers working in the field).

What are your priorities:

Like every nations we urge to enhance of our export to the other countries by adopting the international standards and need to have non discriminative treatments in the trade like SPS and TBT, with CAREC member particularly in transport and trade facilitation at BCP,S with our borders under consideration of SPS Measures.

PAKISTAN



THANKS