



UPDATE ON NEPAL'S INITIATION ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) MEASURES

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The World Trade Organisation (WTO)

**Nepal became 147th
member country of WTO
on 23 April 2004.**

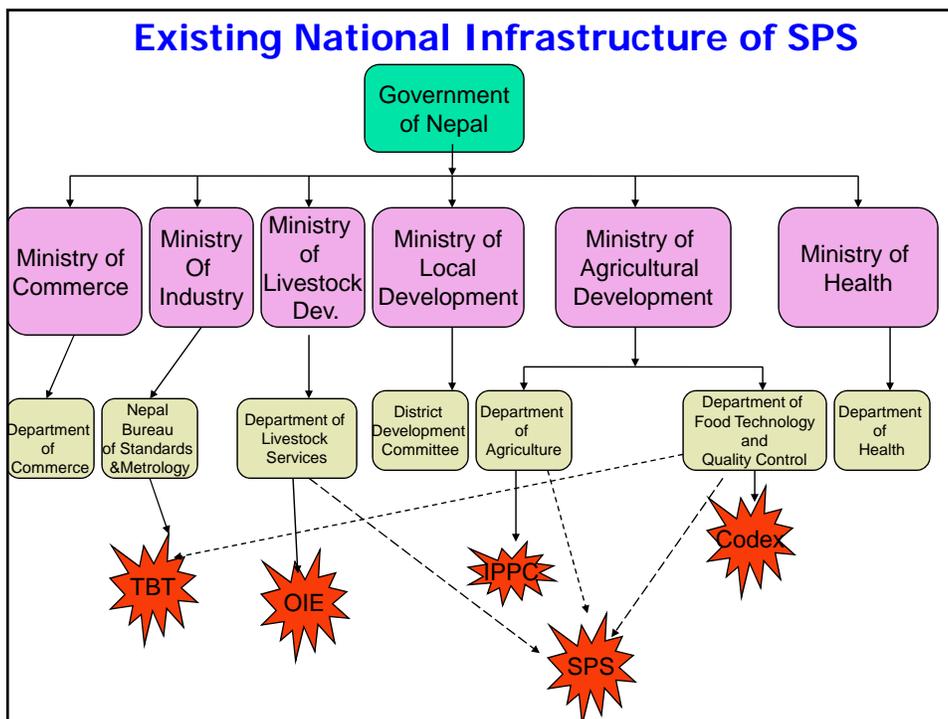


Concerns of SPS in National Policy and Strategy

- **National Agriculture Policy (NAP), 2004**
 - To regulate the use of pesticides to minimize their effects
 - To develop technical regulations and standards to control food quality and certify food products
 - To regulate private agricultural laboratory services and high-quality product processing services
 - To mobilize local bodies for conformity assessment and certification of products and processes
 - To provide necessary support for organic certification.

National Policy and Strategy ...

- **Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS)**
 - Adoption and implementation of internationally compatible food quality and safety standards
 - Formation of an independent Food Authority
 - Adoption of legislation for establishing National Accreditation Body and for accreditation of standards certification bodies
 - Strengthening and upgrading to internationally accredited level laboratories under DFTQC, DoA and DoLS
 - Strengthening the capacity of the DFTQC
 - Strengthening the capacities of PPD and NPQP
 - Strengthening surveillance programs by adopting *One Health Approach for animal health*

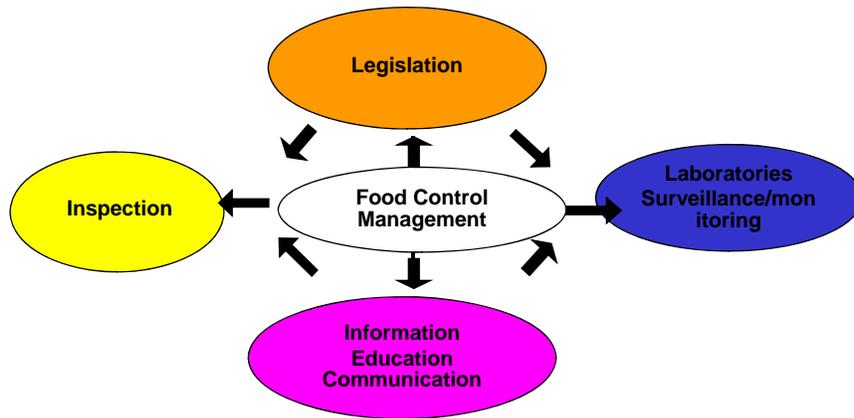


SPS related Main Legislation and Implementing Agencies

Act/Rules	Implementing Agencies
Food Act 1967 and Food Rules 1970	DFTQC, MOAD
Feed Act 1977 and Feed Regulation 1984	DFTQC, MOAD
Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection Act 1998	DLS, MOLD
Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection Rules 2000	DLS, MOLD
Animal health and livestock service act 1998	DLS, MOLD
Animal health and Livestock service Rules 2000	DLS, MOLD
Plant Protection Act 2007 and Plant Protection Rules 2009	DOA, MOAD
Pesticide Act 1991 and Pesticide Rules 1994	DOA, MOAD

[Note: MOAD: Ministry of Agricultural Development; MOLD: Ministry of Livestock Development ; DFTQC: Department of Food Technology and Quality Control; DOA: Department of agriculture; DLS: Department of livestock Services]

National Food Control System



Legislative Framework for Food Safety & Quality

- Food act and Food regulation
- Food Standards
- Directives on Export Import Inspection and Certification System
- Food Industries Inspection Guidelines
- Code of Practices for food industries
- Feed act and Feed regulation
- Feed Standards
- Feed Industries Inspection Guidelines

Central Food Laboratory, DFTQC

- CFL has been Accredited by NABL, India as per ISO/IEC 17025 (Sept 12, 2012)
- Scope: 27 Chemical Parameters

Scope Extension Plan in 2016

- Chemical contaminants: 59
- Microbiology tests: 17



Directives on Export-Import Inspection and Quality Certification System in Nepal

Part I : Export Certification System

- Certification of food safety and quality management system
- Phytosanitary certification system
- Sanitary certification system

Part II : Import Certification System

- Import certification of food
- Import of plant and plant products
- Import of animal and animal products.

Priority Exportable Food Commodities and Initiation on Market Compliance

- Tea:
 - Initiation of Organic, IPM and GAP Practices
 - Production of green, orthodox and CTC tea
 - Food safety management system in tea processing industries (ISO 22000)
 - Development of code of conduct for trade mark
- Coffee:
 - Production of organic coffee
 - Development of code of conduct for trade mark
 - Extension on production

Priority Exportable Food Commodities and Initiation on Market Compliance...

- Cardamom:
 - Working on increasing productivity and production
 - Initiation on pest risk analysis
- Ginger:
 - Development of Good Agricultural Practices
 - Establishing ginger washing centre
 - Development of value chain in ginger
- Honey:
 - Developing Good Beekeeping Practices and Residues Monitoring Plan
 - Strengthening inspection and certification capacity

Phytosanitary Activities and WTO notification

- The National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Nepal has approved the regulated diseases, pests and insects of pumpkin, cucumber, bitter gourd and radish, Cut flowers (Gerbera and Carnation), Cabbage, Cauliflower, Hot Chilly, Large Cardamom and Tea, which were notified to the WTO.

Status of Obligation of WTO

- Establishment and operation of a single Contact Point for Information ("enquiry point") (Article 7 and Annex B:3) - **Fulfilled**
- Acquisition of equipment and training of SPS enquiry point personnel (Article 7 and Annex B:2) - **Fulfilled**
- Approval or Amendments to: Plant Protection Act 1972 - **Fulfilled**
- Approval or Amendments to: Seed Act 1988 – **Fulfilled**
- Designation of authority responsible for making notifications to the WTO – **Fulfilled**

Status of Obligation of WTO...

- Review of all existing regulations and new amendments to ensure regulations are based on risk assessments and sufficient scientific evidence – **Regular**
- Upgrading of human resources with special emphasis on quarantine management, meat inspection, veterinary investigation and animal disease risk analysis – **Regular**
- Declaration of pest or disease-free areas and areas of low pest or disease prevalence (Article 6 and Annex A: 6 and A: 7) – **Regular**
- Approval or Amendments to: Plant Protection Regulations 1975 - **Fulfilled**

Status of Obligation of WTO...

- Membership in the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) – **Fulfilled**
- Implementation of Publication and Notification procedures including a process to take comments into account without discrimination (Annex B: 1, 3, 5 and 10) – **Regular**
- Initial notification of legislation and regulations to WTO – **Fulfilled**
- Development of SPS guidelines and protocols – **Regular**
- Upgrading and strengthening of quality control unit, laboratory, quarantine system and field veterinary system – **Regular**

Status of Obligation of WTO...

- Development of pre and post quarantine facilities – ***Regular***
- Harmonization with international standards, guidelines, and recommendations (Article 3) – ***Regular***
- Control, inspection and approval procedures for all SPS measures – ***Regular***
- Review the import of the PIC (Prior Inform Consent) listed pesticides Methyl Parathion and Monocrotophos – ***Regular***
- Streamline and scientifically build land border quarantine procedures (in line of APPPC) - ***Regular***

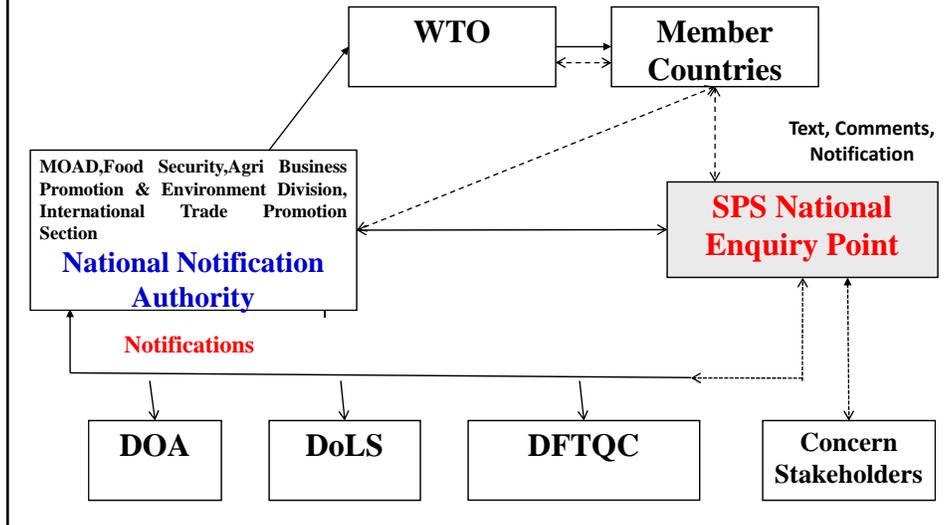
Major Constraints and Issues on SPS

- **Amendment and upgrade of Act, Regulation & Standards in compliance with Codex, OIE and IPPC**
- **Inadequate technical capacity & capabilities on surveillance, quarantine pest diagnosis, updating pest list, developing ALOP (Adequate Level of Protection)**
- **Inadequate physical infrastructure and other facilities to provide technically justified regulatory services**
- **Inadequate work on mutual recognition on SPS measures with trading partners**

Major Constraints and Issues on SPS ...

- Implementation of food safety management system (GAP, GHP, GMP, HACCP, ISO 22000) in food processing industries
- Upgrading/strengthening laboratories for surveillance, monitoring and certification
- Capacity building in development of framework on risk analysis
- Preparedness and alert system during the epidemic/crisis
- Strengthening Export/Import inspection and Certification system

SPS Notification Authority/ SPS National Enquiry Point



Four Major Challenges & Responding Objectives for Enhancing export competitiveness of Nepal (NTIS-2016)		
S.No.	Challenges	Objectives/Strategies
1	Ensuring Proper Market Access	Strengthen trade negotiation capacity (specially bilateral)
2	Building Domestic Support Institutions for creating business friendly environment and addressing NTBs challenges	Strengthen Non-Tariff related domestic capacity (SPS, TF, TBT, IPRs, Domestic service regulations, etc.)
3	Strengthening Supply capacity of priority export sectors	Strengthen supply capacity of inclusive export potential goods and services (Focused on 19 Products development)
4	Mobilizing overseas development assistance	Strengthen the GoN's capacity to manage TRTA and Aft to implement NTIS

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Initiation and Ways Forward

- **Development of National Food Safety Policy**
- **Laboratories Strengthening and Extension of Accreditation scopes in safety parameters (Pesticide residues, Heavy Metals, Microbiological parameters) and accreditation in regional labs**
- **Establishment of the National Reference Labs**
- **Reinforcement of risk based food safety inspection and monitoring system**
- **MoU between and among the trading partners for exportable commodities**

Initiation and Way Forward...

- **Promotion and adoption of Nepal GAP in primary production**
- **Promotion of food safety management system (GAP, GHP, GMP, HACCP, ISO 22000) in food processing industries**
- **Development of infrastructure for SPS measures (competent labs., holding yard at borders, treatment and fumigation facilities)**
- **Intensify consumer education, training and awareness**
- **Integrate SPS aspects into a single competent agency : Food Safety Authority**

Initiation and Ways Forward

- **Complying with exporting countries of SPS measures**
- **Trade competitiveness of agro-commodities should be enhanced**
- **Managing the volume, value & quality aspects of exporting products**
- **Efforts towards decreasing cost of production & promotion of exportable agro-commodities in international market**
- **Developing commercial farm for quality agro-products**
- **Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP), GMP/GAP certification for global trade integration and Internal Quarantine**
- **Internationally accredited & certification**

Potential Areas of Cooperation

- Product specific international certification and technical assistance for value chain and export market.
- **Recognition of certification issued by Nepalese competent Authorities, e.g. for Food Product (DFTQC), Plant Products (PPD/DoA/NPPO), Animal health (DoLS).**
- Integrated and holistic setup of quarantine system.
- Technical support and technology transfer for decreasing cost of production & promotion of exportable agro-commodities in international market.
- Support for Accreditation and inspection system of Central Food Laboratories and other SPS laboratories.
- Regional value chain Cooperation for the Potential export products and support for HACCP, GMP/GAP certification for global trade integration and Internal Quarantine.



Food, if not safe, is not food

Thank You!