WTO National Workshop:

Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement)

DRAFT Programme

(11 April 2023)

**VENUE**

Baguio City, Philippines

**15–17 August 2023**

**Structure and objective**

This workshop will provide an overview of the SPS Agreement, with special emphasis on transparency, with a view to enhance the understanding and knowledge of the technical staff of the regulatory agencies handling SPS matters in the Philippines. In addition, participants will benefit from training on the ePing SPS&TBT Platform, which is available to search and access SPS notifications, specific trade concerns and other SPS related documents; improve national coordination; and submit notifications online. The workshop will combine presentations and interactive activities, as well as sharing of experiences by relevant national actors.

**Resource persons - WTO**

**Ms Isabel Calderón**

Economic Affairs Officer

Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Section, Agriculture and Commodities Division

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**Ms Marion Doléans**

Notifications Coordinator

Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Section, Agriculture and Commodities Division

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**Resource persons – Philippines**

TBC

**Background materials**

WTO sites, platforms and documents relevant to sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

* [WTO | Sanitary and phytosanitary measures - Gateway](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/sps_e.htm)
* [Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures](https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/15sps_01_e.htm)
* [WTO | Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures – members' transparency toolkit](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/transparency_toolkit_e.htm)
* [WTO | The SPS Committee](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/work_and_doc_e.htm)
* [WTO | Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures - Major decisions and reference documents](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/decisions06_e.htm)
* [ePing SPS&TBT platform](https://eping.wto.org/en)
* [[WTO | SPS Declaration at MC12: Responding to Modern SPS Challenges](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/sps_declaration_mc12_e.htm)](https://www.wto.org/french/tratop_f/sps_f/sps_declaration_mc12_f.htm)
* [SPS eLearning Course](https://www.learning.wto.org/local/coursecatalogue/index.php?categoryid=50)

WTO video "Let's Talk Food Safety"

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7HHRTHc4zA>

Videos created and provided by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries

* National treatment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s04acalFRrc>
* Basic rights and obligations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LB7KD0Hm1X4>
* Equivalence: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GxsV16ufBU>
* Harmonization: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzPzRFeL5bE>
* Regionalisation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8sg8b-dvKH4>
* Risk assessment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwMkm95ZnE0>
* Transparency: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSAVAzagh-k>

**Day 1: Tuesday, 15 August 2023**

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| **Time** | **Agenda Item** |
| 8:30 – 9:00 | **1.1  Registration of participants** |
| 9:00 – 9:30 | **1.2  Opening Ceremony**   * Opening remarks:   + *Representative from the Philippines*   + *Representative from the World Trade Organization (WTO)* |
| 9:30 – 10:15 | **1.3  Overview and Objectives**   * Introduction of participants and ice-breaker activity * Structure and objective of the workshop * Self-assessment quiz   *Resource persons: Isabel Calderón and Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 10:15 – 10:45 | **1.4  Introduction to the WTO and the SPS Agreement**   * General introduction to the WTO and the SPS Agreement   *Resource person: Isabel Calderón, WTO* |
| **10:45 – 11:00** | **Coffee Break** |
| 11:00 – 12:45 | **1.5  Overview of Key Principles of the SPS Agreement**   * Interactive group activity * Discussion & presentation   *Resource persons: Isabel Calderón and Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| **12:45 – 14:00** | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | **1.6  Identifying SPS Challenges**   * Group activity: Identifying SPS Challenges   *Resource persons: Isabel Calderón and Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | **1.7  Sharing of National Experiences in Implementing the SPS Agreement**   * Benefits and challenges of the implementation of the SPS Agreement * Impact on trade   *Resource persons: The Philippines* |
| **15:30 – 15:45** | **Coffee Break** |
| 15:45 – 16:45 | **1.8  The SPS Committee: Overview**   * Role and function * Committee agenda items * Specific trade concerns   *Resource person: Isabel Calderón, WTO* |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | **1.9  Brief Recap**  *Resource person: Isabel Calderón, WTO* |

**Day 2: Wednesday, 16 August 2023**

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| **Time** | **Agenda Item** |
| 9:00 – 9:30 | **2.1  Debrief of Day 1: Key provisions learnt**   * Interactive activity with participants   *Resource person: Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 9:30 – 10:30 | **2.2  Introduction to the transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement**   * The transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement * SPS notification formats   *Resource person: Isabel Calderón and Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| **10:30 – 10:45** | **Coffee Break** |
| 10:45 – 11:15 | **2.3  Overview of online sources of SPS information**   * WTO Documents Online * Trade Concerns Database * ePing SPS&TBT Platform   *Resource person: Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 11:15 – 12:45 | **2.4  ePing SPS&TBT Platform**   * Registration * Search functions – Interactive exercise   *Resource person: Marion Doléans and Isabel Calderón, WTO* |
| **12:45- 14:00** | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | **2.5  ePing SPS&TBT Platform – Cont'd**   * Communication functions   *Resource person: Isabel Calderón, WTO* |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | **2.6  National SPS coordination on transparency matters**   * Presentation from SPS national notification authority (NNA)/national enquiry point (NEP)   *Resource persons: SPS NNA/NEP from the Philippines* |
| **15:30 – 15:45** | **Coffee Break** |
| 15:45 – 16:45 | **2.7  ePing SPS&TBT Platform – Cont'd**   * Notification functions   *Resource person: Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | **2.8  Brief Recap**  *Resource person: Isabel Calderón, WTO* |

**Day 3: Thursday, 17 August 2023**

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| **Time** | **Agenda Item** |
| 9:00 – 9:30 | **3.1  Debrief of Day 2: Key points learnt**   * Interactive activity with participants   *Resource person: Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 9:30 – 10:30 | **3.2  The SPS Committee: Current Issues**   * MC12 SPS Declaration Work Programme * Follow-up to the Fifth Review   *Resource person: Isabel Calderón, WTO* |
| **10:30 – 10:45** | **Coffee Break** |
| 10:45 – 11:30 | **3.3  Specific Trade Concerns (STCs) in the SPS Committee**   * STCs involving the Philippines * Trade Concerns Database - Interactive exercise   *Resource persons: Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 11:30 – 12:45 | **3.4  STCs in the SPS Committee – Group exercise**   * Case study – Work in small groups   *Resource persons: Isabel Calderón and Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| **12:45 - 14:00** | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **3.5  STCs in the SPS Committee – Group exercise - Cont'd**   * Discussion & presentation * Debrief   *Resource persons: Isabel Calderón and Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| **15:30 – 15:45** | **Coffee Break** |
| 15:45 – 16:30 | **3.6  Looking ahead, what next?**   * Key takeaways and final Q&A * Post-assessment quiz   *Resource persons: Isabel Calderón and Marion Doléans, WTO* |
| 16:30 – 17:00 | **3.7  Closing session**   * Evaluation * Closing remarks:   + *Representative from the Philippines*   + *Representative from WTO* |

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