



UNION AFRICAINE

BUREAU INTERAFRICAIN DES RESSOURCES ANIMALES

Sanitary and Phyto Sanitary Information Bulletin n°0: April 2011

Foreword from the Director of AU-IBAR

This Bulletin is being produced by African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), in order to provide some relevant information on sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues to all interested stakeholders. This is the first issuance of the Bulletin which for the time being will be produced quarterly, and be distributed to African SPS institutions, African SPS stakeholders, WTO/STDF and international standard-setting organizations for wider dissemination. Please help us in spreading widely to any relevant person who should be interested in. We sincerely wish you'll find some useful information for your activities in this first Bulletin.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Ahmed El-Sawalhy
Director, AU-IBAR

For any comment, remark or question, click on the link to send a mail at
STS@au-ibar.org

1 AU-IBAR and PAN-SPSO News

More information on these events available on AU-IBAR website: <http://www.au-ibar.org/>

Update

Regional Training of Trainers (TOT) workshops on the use of science-based methods and development of scientific arguments in standard-setting

COMESA: 12-17 April 2010, Lilongwe, Malawi for 8 Member states.

CEN-SAD: 8 – 10 June 2010, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso for 5 member states

SADC: 15 – 20 November 2010, Gaborone, Botswana for 7 member states

ECOWAS: 2 – 5 March 2011, Bamako, Mali for 15 member states

EAC: 16 – 19 March 2011, Mombasa, Kenya for 4 member states

ECCAS: 13 – 16 April 2011, Libreville, Gabon for 7 member states

IGAD: 16 – 21 April 2011, Djibouti, Djibouti for 4 member states

Regional workshops on the sensitization on the creation/strengthening of national SPS committees

COMESA: 14 – 15 December 2009, Siavonga, Zambia for 7 member states

CEN-SAD: 15 – 18 February 2010, Bamako, Mali for 5 member states

SADC: 11 – 12 April 2011, Johannesburg, South Africa for 13 Member states

ECOWAS: 28 February – 1 March 2011, Bamako, Mali for 15 member states

EAC: 14 – 15 March 2011, Mombasa, Kenya for 4 member states

ECCAS: 11 – 12 April 2011, Libreville, Gabon for 7 member states

IGAD: 2 – 3 June 2010, Tadjourah, Djibouti for 4 member states

Upcoming

3rd Panafrican meeting for Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) on Africa's coordinated positions on animal health standards, 2 – 4 May 2011, Nairobi, Kenya.

Third Panafrican meeting for National Plant Protection Officers (NPPOs) on coordinated positions on draft international standards on phytosanitary measures (ISPMs): Libreville, Gabon, 28 – 30 June 2011.

National workshops and trainings: series of national workshops on the sensitization on national SPS committees and training on the use of scientific arguments in standard-setting process are going on and will end on 30th June 2011.

The second Continental Training of trainers is planned to take place in June 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Panafrican Chief Veterinary Officers (CVO's) meeting on Africa's coordinated position on animal health standards, 6-8 Mai 2010, Entebbe, Uganda.

Technical meeting of African CVOs and Animal Health experts to identify animal health standards of common interest to Africa on the reports of the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes: Nairobi, 30th March – 1st April 2011.

Workshop on status of phytosanitary information management jointly organized with AU-IAPSC and ARIS 2 (Animal Resources Information System) project, 15-16 June 2010, Nairobi, Kenya.

Technical Meeting of African Members of the Standards Committee and Subsidiary bodies in preparation of the NPPOs meeting, 6 – 7 August 2010, Lusaka, Zambia.

Second Panafrican meeting for National Plant Protection Officers (NPPOs) on coordinated positions on draft international standards on phytosanitary measures (ISPMs): Lusaka, Zambia 9 – 13 August 2010

Preparatory Technical meeting for the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures 6 (CPM 6), Douala, Cameroon, 21 – 22 February 2011

Preparatory technical meeting of African experts on Food Hygiene to prepare draft common positions with regard to the draft Codex standards that will be discussed during the 42nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH), 17 – 19 November 2010, Nairobi, Kenya.

African Codex experts meeting on Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF) in preparation of the 5th Session of the CCCF in the Netherlands
Accra, Ghana, 27 – 29 January 2011.

African Codex experts meeting on Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) in preparation of the 43rd Session of the CCPR in China

Accra, Ghana, 27 – 29 January 2011.

Second Panafrican meeting of Codex Alimentarius Contact Points on Africa's coordinated position on food safety standards, Accra, Ghana, 27 – 29 January 2011.

4th meeting of the Steering Committee of PAN-SPSO project, 15 October 2010, Cape Town, South Africa.

CVOs Technical group on animal health standards, first week of September, Nairobi, Kenya.

2 Standard-setting process

All adopted standards of the three International Standard-setting Organisations are available on their respective websites, following the links below:

Codex Alimentarius: http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/standard_list.do?lang=en

IPPC: <https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=13399&L=0>

OIE: http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_sommaire.htm for Terrestrial Animal Health Code
http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/fcode/en_sommaire.htm for Aquatic Animal Health Code

In next editions of this bulletin, you will find links towards proposed draft standards and newly adopted standards relevant for African countries.

3 Scientific information

- Animal health

Bovine tuberculosis: Gamma interferon is being considered for inclusion on the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code. Two recent articles can help understanding this issue:

- A comparative study of Gamma-interferon (IFN- γ) assay and intradermal tests in a naturally infected dairy herd in Brazil. [Read more](#)

Reference: C. D. Marassi, L. Medeiros, W. Lilenbaum, The use of a Gamma-Interferon assay to confirm a diagnosis of bovine tuberculosis in Brazil, Short Communication, Acta Tropica, n°113, 2010, p.199–201

- A large review of existing publication on possible interference between tuberculin skin test (TST) and interferon gamma (IFN- γ) assay. [Read more](#)

Reference: I. Schiller *et. al.*, Bovine tuberculosis: Effect of the tuberculin skin test on in vitro interferon gamma responses, Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology, n°136, 2010, p.1–11

Foot-and-mouth disease: Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) remains one of the most important disease in terms of trade for animal products.

- A review of control strategies against FMD revisiting the questions of where, how, and when to use vaccination against FMD. [Read more](#)

Reference: A.M. Hutbera, R.P. Kitchingb, J.C. Fishwickc and J. Bires, Foot-and-mouth disease: The question of implementing vaccinal control during an epidemic, The Veterinary Journal, Article in Press (2010), doi:10.1016/j.tvjl.2010.02.018

- A study on reliability of serological tests of non-structural proteins (useful in recognition of FMD-free status) as a mean of distinction between infected and vaccinated animals. [Read more](#)

Reference: F. Lee, M. H. Jonga, D. W. Yang, Presence of antibodies to non-structural proteins of foot-and-mouth disease virus in repeatedly vaccinated cattle, Veterinary Microbiology, n°115, 2006, p.14–20

- Economics

A trial to assess the impact of SPS measures on processed food exports from developing countries using panel data econometric analysis. [Read more](#)

Reference: J. Jongwanich, The impact of food safety standards on processed food exports from

developing countries, Food Policy, n°34, 2009, p.447–457.

4 News from Member states and Regional Economic Communities

Kenya notified to the WTO (G/SPS/GEN/1019)¹ an initiative of development of early warning system and use of e-pest surveillance tool. [Read more](#)

KEPHIS (Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service) reported various activities held on behalf of technical assistance for capacity building (G/SPS/GEN/1020). [Read more](#)

ECOWAS Parliament held a meeting in May 2010 to review draft regulations on Veterinary drugs management and production.

COMESA published its common SPS regulations in the 1st quarter of 2010. [Read more](#)

5 ISSOs News

OIE:

Publications

Report from the OIE ad hoc Group on Trade in Animal Products, October 2009: a wide publication review about the risks associated with trade in deboned beef (DB) from foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) infected cattle, countries or zones.

Read more: http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/ENG_DFID_paper_fin.pdf

Reference: Qualitative assessment of the commodity risk factor for spread of foot-and-mouth disease associated with international trade in deboned beef, D J Paton, M Sinclair, R Rodríguez,

Outcomes of the 78th OIE General Session, held in Paris, France, on 23-28 May 2010. G/SPS/GEN/1024. [Read more](#)

Next events (2010 second semester): information on these events available on OIE website: http://www.oie.int/eng/manifestations/en_manifs.htm

IPPC:

Publications

Information on newly adopted International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and capacity building projects, G/SPS/GEN/1028. [Read more](#)

Next events: information on these events available on IPPC website: <https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1110636&L=0>

IMPORTANT : 2011 Member consultation on draft ISPMs

The member consultation period is open from 20 June till 30 September 2011. The drafts for review and other information are available at the following link on the IPP: https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=draft_ispms

¹ To access to all WTO documents mentioned in this Bulletin, please go to point 7. WTO notifications, where you can find an explanation on how to download WTO documents.

Codex Alimentarius

Publications

A large amount of information concerning the FAO and WHO capacity development activities (ongoing or planned projects) and tools, **G/SPS/GEN/1030**. [Read more](#)

You can easily download all **Codex Alimentarius Newsletter** from the Codex Website following this link: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/newsletter.jsp>

Next events (2011 second semester): information on these events available on Codex website: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/current.jsp?lang=en>

6 WTO News

Next events (2011 second semester)

Title	Date	Location	From
SPS Committee meetings (Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures)	29 June 2011	30 June 2011	Geneva (Switzerland)
	19 October 2011	20 October 2011	Geneva (Switzerland)

WTO trainings:

- [E-Learning Courses on the SPS Agreement](#)
- [Regional SPS Workshop for French-speaking Africa](#)
- [Regional SPS Workshop for English-speaking Africa](#)
- [Advanced Course on the SPS Agreement](#)

7 WTO notifications

List of relevant SPS notifications for African countries for June and July are available [here](#).

A very useful tool to receive, classify and manage SPS notifications, or write one. **“Procedural Step-by-step Manual for SPS National Notification Authorities & SPS National Enquiry Points”**. Read more: http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/sps_procedure_manual_e.pdf

Note on how to download full text WTO documents

Every document diffused by WTO on SPS measures has a symbol which allows anybody to find it on WTO website and to access to full-text versions in different WTO official languages.

You just have to go on the website: <http://docsonline.wto.org/>, and then click on « SIMPLE SEARCH » and enter the document symbol (e.g: G/SPS/N/BRA/626) in the field « Document Symbol » and click on « Search ». On the search results page, in the last column « Original format », you can download the full text documents in different languages by clicking on the corresponding letter.

Note on how to subscribe to electronic transmission of WTO documents

All unrestricted documents related to the SPS Agreement are now being sent via e-mail, usually twice a week. To subscribe to the list and receive all relevant documents (including notifications, sent only in the original language), send an e-mail message to: listserv@list.unicc.org with the following in the body of the message (leave the subject line blank):

SUBSCRIBE SPSNOTIFS your full name OR SUBSCRIBE SPSDOCS your full name

Example: SUBSCRIBE SPSDOCS john smith. The e-mail address of the computer from which the request was sent will be automatically registered.

Overview regarding the level of implementation of the transparency provisions of the SPS agreement, **G/SPS/GEN/804/Rev.2**. [Read more](#)

Description of STDF project development and financing practical details, **G/SPS/GEN/1029**. [Read more](#)