



**CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON  
THE INCEPTION OF PARTICIPATION OF AFRICAN NATIONS IN SPS  
STANDARD SETTING ORGANISATIONS (PAN-SPSO) PROJECT  
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**THE SADC SPS AGENDA**

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# OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- 1. The Context – The SADC Protocol on Trade**
- 2. The SPS Annex to the Protocol on Trade**
- 3. Institutional Arrangements**
- 4. Ongoing Programmes with SPS component(s)**





# The SADC Protocol on Trade

- **Inception**

- **Concluded on 24 August 1996 – Maseru, Lesotho**
- **Focuses on trade in goods and Services:**
  - customs related matters
  - trade laws
  - investment related matters and
  - institutional arrangement
- **General objectives**
  - Trade liberalization
  - To ensure efficient production
  - Enhance economic development
  - Establish a Free Trade Area by 2008, Customs union 2010 and Common Market by 2015 (Ref: RISDP)





# The SADC Protocol on Trade

- **Is Consistent with Regional Integration**
- **Promotes Integration and Liberalization of Trade through:**
  - Setting rules of origin
  - Removal of trade barriers





# The SADC Protocol on Trade

- **Provision for SPS Annex**

- Removal of Trade Barriers

- ❖ **Trade Laws- SPS Article 16:**

- ✓ **Member states shall base their SPS measures on international standards, guidelines and recommendations to facilitate harmonization of such measures (OIE, Codex, IPPC)**
- ✓ **Member states shall enter into agreements of equivalence**





# The SPS Annex to the Protocol on Trade

- **Overall objective**
  - To affirm MS existing rights and obligations under the WTO Agreement on the Application of SPS measures
- **Specific objectives include to:**
  - Facilitate protection of human, animal or plant life or health in MS
  - Enhance MS implementation of WTO SPS Agreement
  - Enhance technical capacity to implement and monitor SPS measures
  - Provide regional forum for addressing SPS matters and resolving trade related SPS issues





# The SPS Annex to the Protocol on Trade

- **Key provisions – Annex focuses on:**
  - Scientific justification
  - Harmonization
  - Equivalence
  - Transparency





# Institutional Arrangements

- **Article 14 of Annex provides for establishment of :**
  - A SADC SPS Coordinating Committee (SADC SPS-CC)
  - National Committees on SPS measures (which shall include national enquiry points)
- **Membership to SADC SPS-CC**
  - Representatives from national committees
  - SADC Secretariat





# Institutional Arrangements

- SADC SPS-CC designed to act as consultative forum for:
  - Promotion of transparency in SPS in order to identify and resolve SPS problems to avoid formal disputes
  - Promotion of objectives of the Annex
  - Strengthening cooperation between regulatory bodies having responsibilities for SPS measures





# Institutional Arrangements

- **SADC SPS-CC reports to the SADC Trade Negotiating Forum with specific functions, notably:**
  - Consultations and exchange of technical information relating to SPS
  - Reviewing progress and monitoring implementation of the Annex
  - Overseeing implementation of SADC regional programmes related to SPS measures
  - Participation at international standard setting organization
  - Developing guidelines and procedures for determining equivalence in areas of SPS and risk assessment techniques and methodologies





# Institutional Arrangements

- **Livestock Sector Unit (SADC-FANR)**
  - Headed by Senior Programme Manager
  - Currently supported by three projects
  - Spearheads the SADC Livestock Agenda through the Livestock Technical Committee and its Sub Committees on:
    - Epidemiology & Informatics
    - Veterinary Public Health & Food Safety
    - Animal Production, Veld and Marketing
    - Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostics





# Ongoing Programmes

- **Promotion of Regional Integration (PRINT) in the SADC Livestock Sector**
  - Derives from Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP)
  - EU-funded (€7.9 mio.)
  - Four components (LIMS, Training, Studies, Policy)
  - LIMS: integrated system with components in AH, AP, Livestock Marketing and Trade
  - **LIMS includes data capture on regional capacity to monitor veterinary medicinal residues**
  - **Ongoing study on Value Added Information Management System (VAIMS)**
  - **Proposed study on zoning and traceability to expand beef export trade from region**





# Ongoing Programmes

- **SPS/FOOD SAFETY Project (capacity building on residue control)**
  - EU-funded
  - Main objective: to promote regional trade through integration and greater access of SADC agric exports within SADC, to EU & other markets
  - Components include:
    - Strengthening regulatory frameworks for food safety
    - Harmonization of registration and control of crop pesticides and vet medicinal products
    - Strengthening lab analytical capacity of above residues
    - Improving institutional coordination on SPS issues
    - Raising awareness on SPS/Food safety issues





# Ongoing Programmes

- **Strengthening Institutions for Risk Management of Trans-boundary Animal Diseases in the SADC region (SADC TADs Project)**
  - AfDB funded (US\$ 21.86 mio.)
  - Beneficiary countries: AO, ZM, MZ, MW, TZ
  - Components include:
    - Creation of virtual centres for information sharing
    - Capacity building and investment in equipment facilities
    - Operational activities





# Ongoing Programmes

- **SADC Foot and Mouth Disease Project (SFMDP)**
  - EU-funded (€ 12.6 mio.)
  - Overall objective: to contribute to poverty reduction and foster economic growth and integration in the SADC region
  - Project purpose: To reduce spread of FMD and its negative impact on both livestock producers and intra/extra regional trade of livestock and livestock products





# Ongoing Programmes

- **Expected outputs**

- Reduced FMD occurrence in Zimbabwe border areas and other priority areas where FMD outbreaks are linked/result from the Zimbabwe situation
- SADC region is better equipped to prevent FMD spread
- SADC FMD epidemiological intelligence established
- SADC region empowered to coordinate and implement progressive control and effective prevention of FMD
- Competent authorities for export certification better skilled and equipped





# Ongoing Programmes

- **Topical issues with respect to trade in livestock and their products**
  - The necessity for extremely costly and logistically difficult surveillance to be conducted when a satisfactory risk assessment has shown that the risk of BSE being present in a country is negligible (e.g. through the use of the Geographical BSE Risk (GBR) assessment method).
  - The questionable scientific base justifying the need for de-boned beef to be derived from cattle under 30 months of age only.
  - Export of beef from FMD free areas with or without vaccination.
  - Private standards interfacing with SPS/TBT issues





# Ongoing Programmes

- **Formulation of the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy (SADC RAP)**
  - SADC-FANR initiative
  - Derives from RISDP and Dar-es-Salaam Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in the SADC region
  - Ongoing consultative process to develop policy framework
  - Current initiatives to contribute to process include:
    - Seed policy harmonization
    - SPS Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade
    - Harmonized strategies to control TADs (SFMDP, SADC TADs etc)
    - AIMS & LIMS





**Thank you**

**Merci**

**Obrigado**

