

**NATIONAL SEMINAR ON SPS AGREEMENT
18 – 19 SEPTEMBER 2014: COLOMBO, SRI LANKA**

DRAFT PROGRAMME: (AS OF 14.08.2014)

DAY 1 (THURSDAY, 18TH SEPT. 2014)

08.30 – 9.00	Registration
09.00 – 09.15	Official opening
09.15 – 09.30	Overview of objectives and programme; assessment of needs
09.30 – 09.45	Introduction to the WTO
09.45 – 10.00	Why is there a WTO SPS Agreement? What does it cover?
10.00 – 10.15	<i>Tea Break</i>
10.15 – 10.45	Viewing of film “Trading Safely” by the Standards and Trade Development Facility
10.45 – 12.00	What are the main provisions of the SPS Agreement? (<i>exercise and presentation</i>)
12.00 – 12.30	What are the main provisions of the TBT Agreement? (<i>exercise and presentation</i>)
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13.30 – 14.00	What are the main provisions of the TBT Agreement?continued
14.00 – 14.30	What is the role of the SPS Committee? (<i>exercise</i>)
14.30 – 15.00	What is the role of the SPS Committee? (<i>presentation</i>)
15.00 - 15.15	<i>Tea Break</i>
15.15 – 15.45	SPS vs TBT
15.45 – 16.00	Private Standards
16.00 – 16.30	Introduction to the work of the 3 Sisters - Codex, IPPC and OIE (<i>exercise</i>)
16.30 – 17.00	National experiences and involvement in the work of the Codex, IPPC and OIE presentations by Sri Lankan experts

DAY 2 (FRIDAY, 19TH SEPT. 2014)

09.00 – 09.30	How to implement and benefit from the transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overview of transparency provisions (<i>exercise</i>) - level of implementation by WTO Members
09.30 – 10.15	How to access information on SPS issues: the WTO SPS Information Management System (SPS IMS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on-line demonstration of the system (* Internet Access needed) - practical exercises to search for specific SPS information
10.15 – 10.30	<i>Tea Break</i>
10.30 – 10.45	Discussion on National Procedures for preparing Notifications <i>(To be led by the National Authority)</i>
10.45 – 11.15	National experiences in the implementation of the SPS Agreement <i>(Presentation by the National Authority)</i>
11.15 – 12.30	How to address trade problems linked to SPS measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of options and actual practice with particular focus on specific trade concerns raised in the SPS Committee - Group work to identify specific trade problems affecting Sri Lanka and refer to relevant provisions of the SPS Agreement to make your case - How to react to an incoming (emergency / new) notifications (Group exercise on how a National Enquiry Point and/or other entities should react to an incoming notification of concern from a trading partner)
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13.30 – 14.30	How to react to an incoming notification / How to address trade problems linked to SPS measures ... (<i>continued</i>)
14.30 – 15.00	Ongoing ITC/STDF Project in Sri Lanka on SPS <i>(Presentation by Sri Lankan Coordinator)</i>
15.00 – 15.15	<i>Tea Break</i>
15.15 – 16.15	Open Discussion / Questions & Answers
16.15 - 17.00	Evaluation and Closing