

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY & COMMERCE  
SRI LANKA EXPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD



NATIONAL SEMINAR ON SPS (SANITARY &  
PHYTODANITORY) AGREEMENT  
18<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014



The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures ("SPS Agreement") entered into force with the establishment of the World Trade Organization in 1995. It concerns the application of food safety and animal and plant health regulations.

The SPS Agreement sets out the basic rules for food safety and animal and plant health standards. It allows countries to set their own standards. In this regard, the agreement allows countries to use different standards and different methods of inspecting products.

The Department of Commerce (DOC) and the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) will jointly hold a National Seminar on SPS Agreement on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014 in Colombo to create the awareness about this Agreement, the applications and implications by the Sri Lankan exporters.

**Speakers** : **Ms. Gretchen H. Stanton**, Senior Counselor in the Agriculture and Commodities Division of the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Officials from Ministry of Health & National Plant Quarantine Service and Animal Production of Sri Lanka

**Target Participants** : Exporters /potential exporters and manufacturers in the Food & Beverage Sector and any other interested parties

**Topics include** (Programme attached) : Introduction to the WTO  
Why is there a SPS Agreement? What does it cover?  
What are the main provisions of the SPS Agreement?  
What are the main provisions of the TBT Agreement?  
What is the role of the SPS Committee?  
What are the main provisions of the TBT Agreement?  
SPS vs TBT  
Private Standards  
Introduction to the work of the 3 Sisters - Codex, IPPC and OIE  
National experiences and involvement in the work of the Codex, IPPC and OIE  
How to implement and benefit from the transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement  
National experiences in the implementation of the SPS Agreement  
Discussion on National Procedures for preparing Notifications

**Dates & Time** : Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> & Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014 from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00p. m

**Venue** : NDB/EDB Auditorium (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor), No 42, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02

**Registration** : Rs. 1,000/- per participant for two days including tea & lunch

**Registration Procedure:**

Please confirm your participation by completing the attached reply form along with the payment on or before Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Cheques should be drawn in favour of the "Sri Lanka Export Development Board". Pending the payment, the registration details could be sent via email to [mal@edb.gov.lk](mailto:mal@edb.gov.lk) and Fax: 2305212. For enquiries: Mrs. Malkanthi Welikala, Assistant Director/EDB on 2300721/22.

CHAIRMAN & CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
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