

Theme:1

Improving quality and clarity of notifications

10 March 2026

Japan's presentation for the 3rd TWG

Challenge: Lack of description of the likely effects on trade

Procedures for implementing the transparency obligations of the SPS Agreement (Article 7) G/SPS/7/Rev.5

6. Description of content

A summary of the proposed or adopted (in the case of late submissions) sanitary or phytosanitary regulation clearly indicating its content and health protection objective. The summary should be as complete and accurate as possible to allow the full understanding of the proposed regulation. **To the extent possible, likely effects on trade should be described.** Abbreviations should be avoided. Where practicable it should also include an outline of the specific sanitary measures the regulation will apply. **The summary should enable trading partners to determine whether the notified measure is likely to have an impact on products they wish to export to the notifying Member.**

Challenge:

Lack of description of the likely effects on trade

Notification for Animal health and phytosanitary measure

Example:
G/SPS/N/JPN/1359

What was notified?

- Add emus to the list of animals subject to animal quarantine



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

(25-4685)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

G/SPS/N/JPN/1359

22 July 2025

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Original: English

NOTIFICATION	
1.	Notifying Member: <u>JAPAN</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Live poultry and poultry products
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: ☒ All trading partners ☐ Specific regions or countries:
5.	Title of the notified document: Draft revision of the Ministerial Ordinance for Enforcement of the Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Disease Control. Language(s): . Number of pages:
6.	Description of content: MAFF is proposing a revision of the Article 45 of the Ministerial Ordinance for Enforcement of the Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Disease Control to add emus to the list of animals subject to animal quarantine with regard to Notifiable Avian Influenza. Once emus are subject to animal quarantine, the import of live emus and products derived from emus will not be permitted without an appropriate health certificate issued by the animal health authority of the exporting country.
7.	Objective and rationale: ☐ food safety. ☒ animal health. ☐ plant protection. ☐

Potential solution: Japan's Approach to Likely Effects on Trade in Box 6

Notification for Animal health and phytosanitary measure

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Share common understanding of “likely effects on trade” through sharing practices.

“Likely effects on trade” may concisely include:

- Additional certification or documentation requirements
- Additional inspection
- Changes to testing procedures
- In some cases, the simplification or removal of existing procedures

As the Guidelines (G/SPS/7/Rev.5) state, “To the extent possible, likely effects on trade should be described,” our proposal is not intended to create any additional obligations but rather to ensure a common understanding through sharing practices.

Thank you for your attention