Session 8: Improving the implementation and benefits of SPS transparency provisions
English Group B

Topics Discussed:

• Handling comments

• Dealing with, and obtaining translations for, notified documents not in one of the WTO languages
1. Handling comments: main issues

- Identified 2 types:
  - Logistical – the process
  - Preparing the response to the submitted comments
- Volume of comments - prioritizing
- When comments don’t go through the NNA
- Language issues
- Political will
- Time limits and delays
1. Handling comments: possible solutions

- Public consultations
- Internal coordination – list contact people
- Develop operational manuals
2. Dealing with, and obtaining translations for, notified documents not in one of the WTO languages: main issues

- Lack of resources
- Budget constraints
- Time limitations
2. Dealing with, and obtaining translations for, notified documents not in one of the WTO languages: possible solutions

- Cooperate with other countries to share translations
- Platform of sharing eg IPPC Phyto resource page
- Webpage on SPS Gateway
- Create a register of experts