SPS-Coordination in Kenya, and efforts towards enhanced Regional Coordination

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Kenya: 47 Counties
IMPLEMENTATION OF SPS

Institutional Framework For Addressing SPS

MINISTRY RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE/ NNA

NATIONAL NEGOTIATION COUNCIL

SPS COMMITTEE

REFERENCE CENTRES

NATIONAL ENQUIRY POINT

OGAs, Departments, COG & Private sector
SPS Delivery in Kenya

- SPS measures undertaken by various sub-sectoral committees, which are represented in the National SPS committee.
Membership to the committee

Government Departments and Ministries
✓ Department for Trade (NNA)
✓ Ministry of health (Food Safety Unit) NEP Human Health
✓ Public Universities (University of Nairobi etc)
✓ State Agencies (KEBS -TBT Secretariat), Kenya Investment Authority
✓ State Department of Agriculture (KEPHIS- NEP Plant Health & chair SPS)
✓ Director veterinary Services (NEP- Animal Health)

Private sector and others
✓ International-NGOs/institutions-e.g. UNIDO Kenya
✓ Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
✓ Farmer associations-KEPSA(KFC, FPEAK, FPC etc)
✓ Council of Governors
✓ Other co-opted members invited on need basis
Functions of the committee- 1

– information exchange including participating in its meetings as called from time to time;
– Domestic coordination mechanism for implementation of SPS;
– Developing procedures for sharing with members including relevant information and best practices as appropriate;
– Maintaining closer contact with international organizations in the field of SPS
– Participate in the multilateral and regional matters on SPS;
– Coordinate and facilitate the preparation of required notifications to the WTO Committee on Trade Facilitation;
– Provide technical advice on trade negotiations at the national, regional, inter-regional and multilateral levels;
Functions of the committee -2

• Liaise with National enquiry points (NEPs) authorities and ensure notifications are finalized & submitted to NNA;

• Collaborate with the National Monitoring Committee on Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade (NTBS) to enhance the smooth movement of goods;

• Review all issues pertaining to SPS (nationally & with trading partners)

• Technical evaluation of all SPS notifications
Recent Regional/ Continental Initiatives

✓ Kenya has established a negotiation council, which handles trade facilitation, committees such as NPSC provide important linkage

✓ National SPS Strategy and review of relevant legal instruments under consideration discussions on establishment of food safety coordination Authority;

✓ EAC has established an EAC SPS protocol, Draft SPS bill and now developing operating procedures on going for TFTA- SPS SOPS too

✓ Africa Continental Free Trade Area now in place (An SPS Framework agreed under AfCFTA)
Challenges & way forward

**Challenges**
- Limited engagement with other Enquiry points
- Weak linkages between various regulatory authorities/private sector
- Inadequate participation by the Private sector in the analysis of SPS notifications
- Inadequate capacity/evidence based capacity to address notifications

**Way forward**
- Greater embracement of technology/ E-platforms (E-ping etc)
- Technical assistance programs including mentorships (support has been received from many WTO member countries, WTO-STDF, WTO Secretariat, WB, ADB, UNIDO, ITC, UNDP etc
- Establish net work of experts use them in reviewing notifications
- Review legal framework for better SPS coordination including strengthening sector specific committees and working groups
- Greater coordination amongst RECs and members through AU-CfTA
THANK YOU

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