



## THE ROLE OF SPS CAPACITY BUILDING IN PROMOTING THE INTEGRATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES INTO WORLD TRADE: THE CASE OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

30 SEPTEMBER 2007

### Opening Remarks

09:00 – 09:15

### Session 1: Addressing the challenge of the increasing importance of SPS measures on international trade

09:15 – 09:35

*The impact of SPS measures on international trade is significant and will continue to grow as consumers in both developed and developing country markets strive for increased food safety. Thus, enhanced market access opportunities for developing countries most frequently need to be accompanied by a targeted effort to increase capacity to address SPS issues as part of a broader strategy to improve competitiveness and modernize agri-food chains. This session will look at the increasing importance of SPS measures within international trade and the challenges faced by developing countries in addressing SPS issues within a broader development strategy.*

**Speaker:** OIE Representative

### Session 2: Strengthening the demand side – SPS needs in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

09:35 – 11:00

*Various needs assessments in the area of SPS have been performed for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. This session will examine these assessments, identifying the most pressing challenges and limitations faced by these countries as an example of the concerns that developing countries need to address in order to increase their participation in export markets. The discussion will look at the way in which these countries have integrated their SPS capacity building needs into broader national strategies for enhancing competitiveness.*

**Moderator:** FAO representative

**Presentation:** Dr. Spencer Henson

**Panel discussion:** Senior officials of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, AU-IBAR

### Break

### Session 3: The view from the private sector

11:15 – 12:45

*The perspective of the private sector from both developing and developed countries is essential in identifying needs based on actual challenges faced by producers and key demands from consumers. This session will present the views of producers from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, a standard setting body and major retailers. The discussion will look at the benefits and challenges of integrating the private sector views in SPS needs assessments.*



**Moderator:** KEPHIS representative

**Panel discussion:** Industry representatives, a private standards-setting body and a supermarket chain

## **Lunch break**

12.45 – 14.15

### **Session 4: Assessing the supply side of SPS related assistance – Compilation of selected donors' assistance in East African countries**

14.15-16.00

*EAC countries have received assistance on SPS issues in the past five years. A compilation of the assistance provided by all donors will be presented. The discussion will then aim at identifying areas where assistance has been provided, assess the impact of that assistance and identify priority areas where assistance is still required. The discussion will be placed in the context of broader assistance strategies for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The view from the perspective of donors will complement the discussion.*

**Moderator:** OECD representative

**Presentation:** Dr. Peter Brattinga

**Panel discussion:** Senior officials from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda; donor representatives (USAID, DFID, EC, NEPAD)

## **Break**

### **Session 5: Bridging the gap between supply and demand – Lessons learnt from existing processes**

16.15-17.30

*Strengthening the link between needs and the future supply of technical assistance is key to maximizing the positive impact of technical assistance. Adequate identification and surveying of needs, good practice in the delivery of technical assistance and consistent follow-up are essential in promoting that link. The discussion will focus on how to do it, that is, concrete ways by which the needs of the Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda can be synchronized with the future supply of technical assistance in the SPS area and that response co-ordinated to avoid duplication of effort.*

**Moderator:** Economic Commission for Africa representative

**Panel discussion:** FAO, KEPHIS, COMESA, African Union representatives, Enhanced Integrated Framework Secretariat

**Closing remarks:** WTO representative

17:30 – 17:45