



ACTIVITIES OF THE SPS COMMITTEE AND OTHER RELEVANT WTO ACTIVITIES IN 2023

REPORT BY THE WTO SECRETARIAT¹

This report to the 18th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) provides a summary of the activities of the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the "SPS Committee") during 2023. It outlines SPS Committee discussions of relevance to the CPM related to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) following the main agenda items of SPS Committee meetings, i.e. [specific trade concerns \(STCs\)](#); [transparency](#); [equivalence](#); [regionalization](#); [monitoring the use of international standards](#); [technical assistance](#); and [thematic sessions and workshops](#). The report also includes a sub-section on [the MC12 SPS Declaration](#) adopted in June 2022, as well as relevant information on [dispute settlement](#) in the WTO and on the [Trade Facilitation Agreement](#) (2017).

1 WORK OF THE SPS COMMITTEE

1.1. The SPS Committee held three regular meetings in 2023 (on 22-24 March, 12-14 July and 15-17 November)². Mr Tang-Kai Wang of Chinese Taipei served as Chairperson at the March 2023 meeting. In July 2023, Mr Tayutic Mena of Costa Rica was appointed Chairperson for the 2023-2024 period.

1.2. The Committee agreed to the following tentative calendar of regular meetings for 2024: 20-22 March, 26-28 June and 13-15 November.³

1.3. In 2020, the Committee adopted the [Report of the Fifth Review](#) of the Operation and Implementation of the Agreement, launched in 2018.⁴ Since then, Members have been working on the implementation of the recommendations in the Report. At the November 2023 meeting, the Committee discussed and adopted the proposed process for the Sixth Review of the SPS Agreement. The Committee will work on the Review throughout 2024, and the process is scheduled to be completed in early 2025.⁵

1.1 The MC12 SPS Declaration Work Programme

1.4. At the WTO 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12), held in June 2022, Ministers adopted the "SPS Declaration: Responding to Modern SPS Challenges".⁶ The Declaration instructed the SPS Committee to launch a work programme, open to all Members and Observers, to further enhance the implementation of the SPS Agreement in an effort to better manage issues related to international trade in food, animals and plants.

1.5. Five Thematic Groups, led by co-stewards, were set-up to suggest ideas or submit proposals for discussion in the SPS Committee, each focusing on one of the themes detailed in paragraph 8 of the MC12 SPS Declaration. Thematic Groups met on the margins of the March, July and November 2023 Committee meetings, as well as in intersessional consultations held in February, May and September 2023.⁷ The IPPC secretariat actively participated in discussions and provided

¹ This report has been prepared under the WTO Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of WTO Members or to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

² The reports of the March, July and November 2023 meetings are contained in documents [G/SPS/R/109 and Corr.1](#), [G/SPS/R/110 and Corr.1](#) and [G/SPS/R/111](#), respectively.

³ The tentative dates of the SPS Committee meetings for 2024 are contained in document [G/SPS/GEN/2117](#) and on the dedicated webpage <https://www.wto.org/spscommittee>.

⁴ See WTO official documents [G/SPS/64](#) and [G/SPS/64/Add.1](#). A page dedicated to the Reviews of the Operation and Implementation of the SPS Agreement is available at https://www.wto.org/sps_review.

⁵ The proposed process is contained in document [G/SPS/W/346](#).

⁶ See WTO official document [WT/MIN\(22\)/27](#). A page dedicated to the MC12 SPS Declaration is available at <https://www.wto.org/spsdeclaration>.

⁷ Report of these meetings are available in summary reports of the formal SPS Committee meetings [G/SPS/R/109](#), [G/SPS/R/110](#), and [G/SPS/R/111](#), including their annexes.

presentations on the relevant themes covered in the Groups.⁸ At the November 2023 meeting, the Committee adopted a factual summary prepared by the Secretariat containing information on the discussions held by Members during the Work Programme.⁹

1.6. The Declaration instructed the Committee to address the outcomes of the Work Programme, and report on key findings and action undertaken as a result of this work to the 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13) with recommendations, as appropriate, to be held in Abu Dhabi in February 2024. The former Chairperson of the SPS Committee, Mr Tang-Kai Wang, acted as a facilitator during the Work Programme and prepared a draft report for this purpose, which contains seven findings of the Work Programme and a recommendation for the Committee to continue targeted discussions and reflections on the implementation of the SPS Agreement.¹⁰ One Member objected to the adoption of the report. Upon Members' request, the current Chairperson of the SPS Committee, Mr Tayutic Mena, prepared a factual report of the Work Programme under his own responsibility.¹¹ At MC13, Ministers took note of all the reports submitted by the chairpersons of the subsidiary bodies.

1.2 Specific trade concerns

1.7. The SPS Committee devotes a large portion of each regular meeting to the consideration of specific trade concerns (STCs). Any WTO Member can raise concerns about the food safety, animal or plant health requirements imposed by another WTO Member. Issues raised in this context are sometimes related to the notification of a new or changed measure or based on the experience of exporters. Often other WTO Members share the same concerns. At SPS Committee meetings, WTO Members usually commit to exchange information and hold bilateral consultations to resolve the identified concern. Detailed information on STCs discussed in the SPS Committee can be found in the WTO [Trade concerns database](#).

1.8. A summary of the STCs raised in meetings of the SPS Committee is compiled on an annual basis by the WTO Secretariat.¹² From the establishment of the WTO in 1995 until 31 December 2023, Members have raised [575 STCs](#), of which 126 (22%) have been primarily related to [plant health](#).

1.9. Three (18%) out of the 17 new STCs raised for the first time in 2023 related to plant health issues. These were:

- The EU's concern regarding Japan's approval procedures to import plant products ([ID 567](#)), raised in March 2023, and discussed again in July 2023;
- South Africa's concern regarding EU *Xylella fastidiosa* surveillance requirements to third countries ([ID 571](#)), raised in November 2023; and
- China's concern regarding India's suspension of imports from apples, pears and marigold seeds ([ID 572](#)), raised in November 2023.

1.10. The following previously raised concerns were again discussed in 2023:

- South Africa's concern regarding the EU phytosanitary measures on citrus black spot ([ID 356](#)). The concern has been discussed five times since it was first raised in June 2013;
- The EU's concern regarding US import restrictions on apples and pears ([ID 439](#)). The concern has been discussed 16 times since it was first raised in March 2018;
- The EU's concern regarding the US non-recognition of the pest-free status in the European Union for Asian longhorn beetle and citrus longhorn beetle ([ID 471](#)). The concern has been discussed 10 times since it was first raised in June 2020;

⁸ Detailed reports prepared by the co-stewards on the work of each of the Groups are available in documents [G/SPS/W/332 to G/SPS/W/336](#) (March 2023) and [G/SPS/W/339 to G/SPS/W/343](#) (May 2023).

⁹ The factual summary is available in document [G/SPS/70](#).

¹⁰ The Committee draft report is available in document [G/SPS/W/344/Rev.3](#).

¹¹ The Chairperson's report is available in document [G/SPS/71](#).

¹² The latest version of this summary was circulated in February 2024 in document [G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.24](#). These summaries are public documents available from <https://docs.wto.org/>. Information on SPS documents and STCs can also be searched through the [ePing SPS&TBT Platform](#).

- Peru's concern regarding Bolivia's import restrictions on agricultural and livestock products ([ID 530](#)). The concern has been discussed six times since it was first raised in November 2021;
- Chinese Taipei's concern on China's import suspension of fresh fruits ([ID 532](#)). The concern has been discussed six times since it was first raised in November 2021;
- Brazil's concern regarding the US undue delays in opening its citrus market ([ID 542](#)). The concern has been discussed twice since it was first raised in March 2022; and
- The EU's concern regarding Morocco's import ban on ornamental plants ([ID 548](#)). The concern has been discussed three times since it was first raised in June 2023.

1.11. In addition to the above, Members discussed several pesticide MRL-related STCs in all Committee meetings in 2023, displaying growing attention to the topic. Some of the STCs related to other concerns may also refer to issues related to control, inspection and approval procedures relevant to plant health.¹³

1.3 Other information

1.12. In 2023, WTO Members also provided to the Committee the following general information, related either in part or entirely to plant protection:

- European Commission proposal on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed ([G/SPS/GEN/2142](#))¹⁴: European Union (March 2023);
- Information on Ukraine's SPS situation¹⁵: Ukraine (March, July and November 2023). Several other Members spoke in support of Ukraine under the same agenda item;
- Declaration regarding quarantine pests¹⁶: Chile (March 2023);
- Declaration of freedom from *Xylella fastidiosa*¹⁷: Türkiye (July 2023); and
- Information on the issuance of electronic phytosanitary certificates¹⁸: Côte d'Ivoire (November 2023).

1.13. In addition to the above, several Members provided information on initiatives and activities related to setting pesticide MRLs.¹⁹

1.14. In March, June and November 2023, the IPPC presented reports on relevant activities contained in documents [G/SPS/GEN/2104](#), [G/SPS/GEN/2137](#) and [G/SPS/GEN/2169](#), respectively. In March 2023, the IPPC referred to the 17th session of the CPM (CPM-17) to be held that same month, when the agenda included the recommendation of four draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) for adoption, adjustments to the IPPC standard setting procedure, a new draft CPM recommendation on sea containers, a report on current IPPC focus groups, and emerging topics. The IPPC also informed on the planned side sessions on events on the African phytosanitary programme initiative and sea containers, as well as on the progress on the ePhyto solution. In June 2023, the IPPC's intervention mainly focused on the outcomes of the CPM-17. Four new standards had been adopted, two new focus groups on global research coordination and laboratory diagnostic networking had been established, and sustainable funding for electronic sanitary certificates had been discussed. The IPPC also referred to its adjustments to its dispute

¹³ See the summary reports of the Committee meetings in documents [G/SPS/R/109](#) (March 2023), [G/SPS/R/110](#) (July 2023) and [G/SPS/R/111](#) (November 2023).

¹⁴ See document [G/SPS/GEN/2142](#) and section 3.1.2 of the summary report of the July 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/110](#)).

¹⁵ See section 2.1.4 of the summary report of the March 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/109](#)), section 3.1.4 in the July 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/110](#)) and section 2.1.7 of the summary report of the November 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/111](#)).

¹⁶ See document [G/SPS/GEN/2107](#) as well as section 4.2.1.2 of the summary report of the March 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/109](#)).

¹⁷ See section 5.2.1.1 of the summary report of the July 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/110](#)).

¹⁸ See document [G/SPS/GEN/2175](#) as well as section 2.1.1 of the summary report of the November 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/111](#)).

¹⁹ See the summary reports of the Committee meetings in documents [G/SPS/R/109](#) (March 2023), [G/SPS/R/110](#) (July 2023) and [G/SPS/R/111](#) (November 2023).

settlement procedures, future AMR work and associated survey, coordination activities related to Banana *Fusarium*, two planned questionnaires related to all IPPC standards and e-commerce, and the approval of 10 draft ISPMs. In November 2023, the IPPC also provided an update on their work including standard setting, implementation and facilitation, integration and support, as well as some internal management initiatives such as the global phytosanitary programme, the global trade support team, and the IPPC centre of excellence. The IPPC referred to the discussions around sustainable funding for ePhyto, One Health and antimicrobial resistance, and coordination activities related to Banana *Fusarium oxysporium* TR4 global coordination. The IPPC also reported on the activities by the IPPC Observatory and on the new guides published in 2023.

1.15. On several occasions, Members referred to the importance of the in-person attendance of the representatives of the international standard setting bodies (ISSBs) in SPS Committee meetings to maintain and strengthen the connection between the Committee and the ISSBs.

1.16. The International Olive Council (IOC) submitted a request for observer status in the SPS Committee in June 2022, which was circulated in document [G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.20](#). At that meeting, the Chairperson indicated that he had been informed that it would not be possible to reach consensus status on IOC's request.²⁰ In February 2023, the IOC renewed its interest to be granted observer status to the SPS Committee and, following discussions at the March 2023, the Chairperson requested the Secretariat to write to the IOC indicating that the Committee was not in a position to grant its renewed request for observer status.²¹

1.17. As a follow-up to the Fifth Review, the Committee created an electronic Working Group on Approval Procedures. Under the co-stewardship of Canada and Paraguay, 25 Members plus one observer organization met virtually from November 2020 until March 2023. At the March 2023, the Committee adopted a Collection of available tools and resources in relation to SPS approval procedures ([G/SPS/67](#)) and Recommendations in relation to SPS approval procedures ([G/SPS/68](#)).

1.4 Transparency

1.18. WTO Members have a legal obligation to notify new or modified draft SPS measures when these deviate from the relevant international standards, including ISPMs. The recommendations²² adopted by the SPS Committee, however, encourage the notification of all new or modified measures even when these conform to international standards.²³ Although this recommendation does not change the legal obligations of WTO Members, it enhances transparency regarding the application of ISPMs.

1.19. In 2023, a total of 1,994 notifications were submitted to the WTO. Of these, 1,222 were regular (plus 9 revisions to regular notifications), and 220 were emergency notifications; the rest was constituted by addenda and corrigenda. A total of 354 (18%) of the 1,222 regular notifications and 10 (1%) of the 220 emergency ones identified plant protection as their main objective. A majority of these (194 of the 354 regular plant protection notifications and 9 of the 10 emergency ones) indicated conformity with a relevant ISPM.

1.20. Since the beginning of the pandemic, several Members have imposed measures aimed at facilitating trade, namely through the acceptance of copies or scanned documents instead of requiring originals or implementing electronic signatures, following the on-going trend of the ePhyto solution. A total of 40 (20 regular, one revision, 15 addenda and one corrigendum to regular, as well as 3 emergency) notifications related to COVID-19 indicated plant protection as an objective. All regular and emergency notifications were trade facilitating. Detailed information on measures adopted by WTO Members is available in the dedicated website [COVID-19 and world trade](#).

1.21. The [ePing SPS&TBT Platform](#), released in 2022, allows easy access and management of all WTO SPS-related documentation, including notified SPS measures, contact lists of national

²⁰ See section 9.2.1.1 of the summary report of the November 2022 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/107](#)).

²¹ See section 4.7.1 and Annex A of the summary report of the March 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/109](#)).

²² A technical revision of the recommended transparency procedures was adopted in the November 2022 Committee meeting and circulated in January 2023 as [G/SPS/7/Rev.5](#).

²³ See WTO official document [G/SPS/7/Rev.5](#), paragraph 2.3.

notification authorities (NNAs) and enquiry points (NEPs), STCs (see [section 1.2](#) above), as well as other SPS-related documents circulated at the WTO. An ePing App is available since July 2022, allowing users to receive alerts on notifications of their interest on their mobile phone.

1.22. The Committee will hold a workshop on transparency in March 2024.²⁴

1.5 Equivalence

1.23. The guidelines on the implementation of Article 4 of the SPS Agreement on equivalence note, *inter alia*, the work undertaken on the subject in the Codex, WOH (founded as OIE) and the IPPC, and encourage the further elaboration of specific guidance by these bodies. No contributions were made by any of the standard-setting bodies in 2023 under this agenda item. In 2023, one Member submitted [one notification](#) on the recognition of equivalence of another Member's SPS measures.

1.6 Regionalization

1.24. Article 6 of the SPS Agreement requires that measures take into account pest- or disease-free areas or areas of low pest or disease prevalence. In the context of the SPS Committee, this concept is frequently referred to as "regionalization". Guidelines on regionalization²⁵ adopted by the SPS Committee identify the type of information normally needed for the recognition of pest- or disease-free areas or areas of low pest or disease prevalence, as well as typical administrative steps in the recognition process. The Committee agreed to monitor the implementation of Article 6, on the basis of information provided by WTO Members.

1.25. The WTO Secretariat prepared one report on the implementation of Article 6, covering the period from 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2023 based on information provided by WTO Members through notification and at SPS Committee meetings.²⁶ The report summarized (i) requests for recognition of pest- or disease-free areas or areas of low pest or disease prevalence; (ii) determinations on recognition of regionalization; and (iii) Members' experiences in the implementation of Article 6 and the provision of relevant background information on their decisions to other interested Members. Relevant issues outlined in the report included a declaration regarding quarantine pests.

1.26. In the context of the MC12 SPS Declaration Work Programme, Thematic Group 3 held extensive discussions on regionalization.²⁷

1.7 Monitoring the use of international standards

1.27. The procedure adopted by the SPS Committee to monitor the use of international standards invites WTO Members to identify specific trade problems they have experienced due to the use or non-use of relevant international standards, guidelines or recommendations.²⁸ These problems, once considered by the SPS Committee, are drawn to the attention of the relevant ISSBs. No new nor previously raised issues related to plant protection were raised since the issuance of the previous report.

1.28. The WTO Secretariat prepares annual reports on the monitoring procedure summarizing the standards-related issues that the Committee has considered and the responses received from the relevant ISSBs. The Secretariat's annual report covering the period from 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2023 was circulated to Members in June 2023.²⁹

²⁴ More information is available at https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/sps_1803202410_e/sps_1803202410_e.htm.

²⁵ See WTO official document [G/SPS/48](#).

²⁶ See WTO official document [G/SPS/GEN/2127](#).

²⁷ Detailed reports of the dedicated discussions are available in documents [G/SPS/W/336](#) and [G/SPS/W/341](#).

²⁸ See WTO official document [G/SPS/11/Rev.1](#).

²⁹ See WTO official document [G/SPS/GEN/2126](#).

1.29. The IPPC, together with WOH and Codex, held a joint hybrid side event on the margins of the March 2023 Committee meeting on Monitoring the implementation of international standards. The three ISSBs presented their respective observatory projects.³⁰

1.8 Technical assistance

1.30. At each of its meetings, the SPS Committee solicits information from WTO Members regarding their technical assistance needs and activities. The IPPC's reports to the Committee summarized some of the activities of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee.

1.31. Several Members, including the European Union³¹, Argentina³², the Russian Federation³³, the United States³⁴, Canada³⁵ and Japan³⁶ shared information about SPS technical assistance activities provided. Similarly, Senegal³⁷ and Ukraine³⁸ informed of the technical assistance received. In addition, several observer organizations outlined their technical assistance activities to the Committee.³⁹

1.32. Document [G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.13](#) issued in 2023, provides information on all WTO technical assistance activities in the SPS area planned for the calendar year. National seminars were provided upon request by WTO Members. The follow-up to the first edition of a new SPS Transparency Champions Course was delivered in English in June 2023 and a revamped advanced course on the SPS Agreement was delivered in English. Further information on SPS activities is available through <http://www.wto.org/sps/ta>.

1.33. Before the March 2023 SPS Committee meeting, the WTO Secretariat circulated its report entitled "SPS Technical Assistance and Training Activities", containing detailed information on all SPS-specific technical assistance activities undertaken by the WTO Secretariat from 1994 to the end of 2022.⁴⁰

1.9 Thematic sessions and workshops

1.34. In the context of the MC12 SPS Declaration Work Programme, the SPS Committee organized several informal sessions and intersessional consultations on the themes defined in paragraph 8 of the Declaration. The IPPC provided presentations in several meetings of different Thematic Groups during the Work Programme.⁴¹

1.35. In the November 2023 meeting, the Committee held a [Thematic Session on Risk Communication, Misinformation and Disinformation](#)⁴², based on a proposal by the United States.⁴³

1.36. Members have not yet proposed topics for the 2024 thematic sessions. The Committee will hold a workshop on transparency in March 2024.⁴⁴

³⁰ More information is available at <https://www.woah.org/en/event/monitoring-the-implementation-of-international-standards/>.

³¹ See section 6.2.1 of the summary report of the 2023 March Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/109](#)).

³² See section 7.2.1 of the summary report of the 2023 July Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/110](#)).

³³ See section 6.2.1 of the summary report of the 2023 November Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/111](#)).

³⁴ See section 6.2.2 of the summary report of the 2023 November Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/111](#)).

³⁵ See section 6.2.3 of the summary report of the 2023 November Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/111](#)).

³⁶ See section 6.2.4 of the summary report of the 2023 November Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/111](#)).

³⁷ See section 7.2.2 of the summary report of the July 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/110](#)).

³⁸ See section 6.2.2 of summary report of the November 2023 Committee meeting ([G/SPS/R/111](#)).

³⁹ See the summary reports of the Committee meetings in documents [G/SPS/R/109](#) (March 2023), [G/SPS/R/110](#) (July 2023) and [G/SPS/R/111](#) (November 2023).

⁴⁰ See WTO official document [G/SPS/GEN/521/Rev.18](#).

⁴¹ The presentations and responses to the questionnaire are available in the page dedicated to the MC12 SPS Declaration, <https://www.wto.org/spsdeclaration>.

⁴² The programme, presentations and recordings are available at https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/sps_1411202310_e/sps_1411202310_e.htm.

⁴³ See WTO official document [G/SPS/GEN/2067/Rev.1](#).

⁴⁴ More information is available at https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/sps_1803202410_e/sps_1803202410_e.htm.

1.10 Dispute Settlement

1.10.1 The WTO Dispute Settlement Procedure

1.37. Any WTO Member may invoke the formal dispute resolution procedures of the WTO if they consider that a measure imposed by another WTO Member violates any of the WTO Agreements, including the SPS Agreement. If formal consultations on the problem are unsuccessful, a WTO Member may request that a panel be established to consider the complaint.⁴⁵ A panel of three individuals considers written and oral arguments submitted by the parties to the dispute and issues a written report of its legal findings and recommendations. The parties to the dispute could, until December 2019, appeal a panel's decision before the WTO's Appellate Body which has not been operative since end-2019 due to a lack of quorum. The Appellate Body examined the legal findings of the panel and could uphold or reverse these.

1.38. According to the SPS Agreement, when a dispute involves scientific or technical issues, the panel should seek advice from appropriate scientific and technical experts. Scientific experts have been consulted in all but one SPS-related dispute. The experts are usually selected from lists provided by the relevant international organizations, including the ISSBs referenced in the SPS Agreement. The parties to the dispute are consulted in the selection of experts and regarding the information solicited from the experts.

1.10.2 SPS Disputes

1.39. As of January 2024, 621 complaints have formally been raised under the WTO's dispute settlement procedures. Of these, 53 have concerned SPS issues, and panel (and as the case may be, Appellate Body) reports have been issued in fourteen SPS-related disputes.

1.40. Four panel reports have concerned plant pests and quarantine requirements: (i) the United States' complaint about Japan's requirement for testing each variety of fruit for efficacy of treatment against codling moth (*Japan-Agricultural Products*)⁴⁶; (ii) the United States' complaint about Japan's set of requirements on apples imported from the United States relating to fire blight (*Japan-Apples*)⁴⁷; (iii) New Zealand's complaint against Australia's restrictions on apples (*Australia-Apples*)⁴⁸; and (iv) Mexico's complaint against Costa Rica's restrictions on fresh avocados (*Costa Rica-Avocados*).⁴⁹

1.41. The developments of these and other disputes can be followed at <http://www.wto.org/disputes>.

1.11 Trade Facilitation

1.42. The WTO's multilateral Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), which entered into force in 2017, aims to enhance the movement, release and clearance of goods across borders. The TFAs 36 provisions set out requirements for border agencies to streamline border formalities, improve transparency and enhance intra-agency and cross-border cooperation. It requires each WTO Member to establish a national committee to oversee its implementation.

1.43. As of 31 December 2023, 156 out of the 164 Members have deposited their ratification of the Agreement, representing 95% of the WTO's Membership.

1.44. Under the TFA, developing and least-developed country (LDC) Members can self-designate which provisions they will implement either immediately, after a transition period, or upon receiving

⁴⁵ A flow chart of the dispute resolution process can be consulted at http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/disp2_e.htm.

⁴⁶ The report of the panel is contained in document [WT/DS76/R](#). The Appellate Body report is contained in document [WT/DS76/AB/R](#).

⁴⁷ The report of the panel is contained in document [WT/DS245/R](#). The Appellate Body report is contained in document [WT/DS245/AB/R](#).

⁴⁸ The report of the panel is contained in document [WT/DS367/R](#). The Appellate Body report is contained in document [WT/DS367/AB/R](#).

⁴⁹ The report of the panel is contained in document [WT/DS524/R](#).

assistance and support for capacity building. By end-2023, 95% of developing and LDC Members had designated their commitments accordingly.⁵⁰

1.45. In order to meet the national implementation deadlines, and reap the full benefits from implementation of this Agreement, the successful integration of plant protection authorities into national discussions on trade facilitation is essential. Indeed, the objectives of trade facilitation and plant protection support each other. Trade facilitation seeks to incentivize trade in safe plant products by promoting more efficient and effective controls, such as through a greater focus on inspections on high-risk products, while also suggesting ways to conduct checks before or after the border to avoid the creation of bottlenecks.

⁵⁰ Developed countries were required to implement all provisions of the TFA from its entry into force on 22 February 2017.