



# Current Status, Constraints and Future Plan for Phytosanitary in Myanmar



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## Plant Quarantine Activities in Myanmar

- Pesticide Law and Plant Pest Quarantine Law were enacted in 1990 and 1993 respectively.
- Plant Protection (PP) Division is legally responsible to issue Phytosanitary Certificates & Import Certificate according to Plant Pest Quarantine Law enacted in Myanmar.
- The certificate for Import & Export are issued in Head Quarter (Yangon) and seven border entry points & two inspection stations.
- Establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites is still under consideration.

#### **Current Capability on SPS**

- Myanmar has not been signed yet International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), but being a FAO member and as are informed, the authorities are trying our best to carry out the task of SPS measures, to be upgraded and in line with the International Standard of Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs).
- Myanmar, now together with Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, is trying to build capacity in Phytosanitary area under NZAID, AUSAID program.

### Constraints for development of SPS

- A serious constraint in Myanmar was a lack of adequate information on SPS measures.
- There is a need to set up appropriate databases that could be readily assessed by all stakeholders is order to enhance the implementation of SPS measures.
- In addition, Myanmar, on the other hand, many aspects of the legal/legislative framework (e.g., food safety/sanitation laws and regulations) still needed to be reviewed/revised to make them more consistent with modern food safety systems, as well as with provisions of the SPS and other related agreements.

### Constraints for development of SPS (Cont.)

- Food safety and quality assurance systems such as HACCP were also relatively less applied in Myanmar.
- A few firms had adopted HACCP but many including small and medium enterprises and yet to upgrade hygiene standards in production, handling and distribution of foods.
- The subject of food safety was multifaceted in character, Myanmar had a multiplicity of Ministries involved such as Agriculture, Health, Livestock breeding and Fisheries, Commerce and Industry. This sectoral approach has resulted in many co-ordination problems.

Therefore, Myanmar should be minimized the fragmented activities and promote a more coordinated approach to the implementation of SPS measures.

#### Issues to be addressed in the future

- To set-up a strong technical team with well-trained personnel equipped with adequate laboratory facilities
- To strengthen Plant Quarantine Inspection offices including Head office
- To upgrade or fine tuning of existing National Phytosanitary Database

#### Issues to be addressed in the future (Cont.)

• Myanmar is very keen to co-operate with experts and authorities of relevant countries and competent international organizations, to look into possible ways and means of resolving such issue.

