



South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation

National Validation Meeting: SASEC National Sanitary-phytosanitary and Technical Barriers to Trade Diagnostic Study for Bangladesh

“Identification of Potential Exports Facing SPS and TBT Measures in the SASEC Subregion”

26 October, 2017: Bronze Room, Level 4, Westin Dhaka Hotel, Gulshan 2, Dhaka, Bangladesh

AGENDA

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share findings of the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) national sanitary-phytosanitary (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) diagnostic study for Bangladesh • Present recommendations coming out of the study for consideration by the Government of Bangladesh • Seek comments and feedback from public and private sectors for inclusion in the final diagnostic study report
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPS/TBT national core group • Participants from related Government Agencies • Participants from private sector • Asian Development Bank
Venue	Bronze Room, Level 4, Westin Dhaka, Gulshan 2, Dhaka
09:30–10:00	Registration
10:00-10:30	Opening Session: Welcome and Opening
10:00-10:30	Opening Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Rose McKenzie, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, Asian Development Bank</i> • <i>Mr. Shaquib Quoreshi, ADB National Consultant on SPS-TBT: Summary of National Diagnostic Study</i> • <i>Mr. Shubhashish Bose, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh</i>
10:30–10:45	Session One: Introduction of SASEC and the National Diagnostic Studies
10:30–10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ADB will discuss SPSTBT in the context of the ongoing SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework 2014-2018, and introduce the SPS-TBT national diagnostic studies ongoing in six SASEC countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka).</i> Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Rose McKenzie, ADB • Dr. Selim Raihan, ADB International Consultant for SPS-TBT



10:45–11:00	Tea/Coffee Break and Official Photograph
11:00–11:45	Session Two: Patterns of Bangladesh Trade with SASEC Countries, and Bangladesh Products with Export Potential, Affected by Non-Tariff Barriers
11:00–11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ADB national consultant for SPS-TBT will discuss recent and current patterns of trade between Bangladesh and five other SASEC countries (Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka), based on analysis of import and export data 2002–2015. A list of products will be presented, which have the potential for export from Bangladesh, yet are subject to SPS/TBT measures in other SASEC countries, and explain the methodology used to identify these products, and how the products are grouped.</i> • Q&A <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. A.H.M. Ahsan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shaquib Quoreshi, ADB National Consultant on SPS-TBT
11:45–12:30	Session Three: Brief Overview of SPS and TBT Measures, Institutions, and Infrastructure in Bangladesh
11:45–12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Session Three provides an overview of current SPS and TBT measures in Bangladesh, focusing on (i) legal structures, (ii) institutional frameworks, (iii) infrastructure facilities for both SPS and TBT. Existing gaps in these areas of SPS and TBT in comparison with international best practices will be highlighted.</i> • Q&A <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. A.H.M. Ahsan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shaquib Quoreshi, ADB
12:30–13:30	Lunch Break
13:30–14:15	Session Four: Identification of Standards, Regulations, and Procedural Barriers Facing Bangladesh Exports
13:30–14:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Session Four identifies standards, regulations and procedural obstacles in both Bangladesh and in other SASEC countries that impede trade of the identified potential export items from Bangladesh. Reasons for these obstacles are presented and discussed, based on the findings of the national SPS-TBT diagnostic study.</i> • Q&A <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Selim Raihan, ADB <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shaquib Quoreshi, ADB

14:15–15:00	Session Five: Recommendations for Future Actions
14:15–15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ADB national consultant will present (i) possible measures to address SPS-TBT constraints in Bangladesh within the overall framework of the World Trade Organization; (ii) proposed actions to address the issue relating to technical regulations and standards, as well as the staging of individual and related initiatives such as MRAs etc; (iii) proposals to address SPS and TBT infrastructure and human capacity constraints; and (iv) potential sources of technical assistance and expertise in SPS and TBT.</i> <p>Q&A</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Manzur Ahmed, Private Sector Development and International Trade Consultant <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shaquib Quoreshi, ADB
15:00–15:15	Tea/CoffeeBreak
15:15–15:30	Session Six: Finalization of Summary of Proceedings
15:15–15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ADB will present a Summary of Proceedings capturing the issues raised in comments and feedback throughout Sessions 1-6, and confirm the necessary adjustments to be made to the final national SPS-TBT diagnostic study for Bangladesh.</i> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Rose McKenzie, ADB • Dr. Selim Raihan, ADB • Mr. Shaquib Quoreshi, ADB
15:30–15:45	Closing Remarks by the Co-Chairs