



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

Hotel Taj, Diplomatic Enclave, New Delhi  
11 December 2017: New Delhi, India

### AGENDA

<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share findings of the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) national sanitary-phytosanitary (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) diagnostic study for India</li> <li>• Present recommendations coming out of the study for consideration by the Government of India</li> <li>• Seek comments and feedback from public and private sectors for inclusion in the final diagnostic study report</li> </ul>
<b>Participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPS-TBT national core group</li> <li>• Participants from related Government Agencies</li> <li>• Participants from private sector</li> <li>• Asian Development Bank</li> </ul>
<b>Venue</b>	Taj Diplomatic Enclave Hotel, New Delhi – Jehangir Hall
<b>09:30–10:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>10:00-10:20</b>	<b>Opening Session: Welcome and Opening</b>
10:00-10:20	<p><b>Opening Remarks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Rose McKenzie, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, Asian Development Bank</li> <li>• Mr. Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Government of India</li> </ul>
<b>10:20–10:30</b>	<b>Tea Break and Official Photograph</b>
<b>10:30-11:30</b>	<b>Session One: India’s Trade Pattern and Potential Exports to SASEC Countries, and Overview of SPS and TBT Measures, Institutions, and Infrastructure in India</b>
10:30-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>ADB national consultant for SPS-TBT will (i) discuss recent and current patterns of trade between India and five other SASEC countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka), based on analysis of import and export data 2001–2015; (ii) present a list of products with potential for export from India; (iii) explain the methodology used to identify these products, and how the products are grouped; and (iv) present a brief overview of current SPS and TBT measures in India, focusing on legal structures, institutional frameworks, infrastructure facilities, and existing gaps in comparison with international best practice.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Chair:</b> Mr. Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Joint Secretary</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Surendar Singh, ADB Consultant</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>



	<p><b>Session Two: Identification of Standards, Regulations and Procedural Barriers Facing Indian Exports, and Current Efforts in India to Address SPS-TBT Concerns</b></p>
11:30–12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Session Two identifies standards, regulations and procedural obstacles in both India and in other SASEC countries that impede trade of the identified potential export items from India. Both SPS-TBT and other major non-tariff measures and associated procedural obstacles will be considered. Reasons for these obstacles are presented and discussed, based on the findings of the national SPS-TBT diagnostic study. This session will also consider India's evolving position on SPS-TBT issues related to its global and regional trade, specific initiatives taken by India to address the concerns of SPS-TBT raised by other SASEC countries, how SPS-TBT standards and regulations are being upgraded in India, and the roles of associated institutions.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Chair:</b> Mr. Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Joint Secretary</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Surendar Singh, ADB Consultant</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>
12:30–13:30	<p><b>Session Three: Recommendations for Future Actions</b></p>
12:30–13:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>ADB national consultant will present (i) possible measures to address SPS-TBT and other non-tariff constraints in India 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.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Chair:</b> Mr. Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Joint Secretary</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Surendar Singh, ADB Consultant</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p>
13:30–14:30	<p><b>Lunch Break</b></p>
14:30–15:00	<p><b>Session Four: Finalization of Summary of Proceedings</b></p>
14:30–15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>ADB will present a Summary of Proceedings capturing the issues raised in comments and feedback throughout Sessions 1-3, and confirm the necessary adjustments to be made to the final national SPS-TBT diagnostic study for India.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Chair:</b> Mr. Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Joint Secretary</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Rose McKenzie, ADB Dr. Selim Raihan, ADB</p> <p><b>Closing Remarks by the Chair</b></p>