



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS



WORK PROGRAMME

CEFTA Subcommittee on Agriculture Including Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues

2013

*Proposed under the Bosnia and Herzegovina's Chairing
of the Subcommittee in 2013*

December 2012

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
1. THE SUBCOMMITTEE AS A PART OF CEFTA STRUCTURES	3
<i>1.1.Mandate and Scope</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>1.2.Organisation of Work</i>	<i>4</i>
2. PRIORITIES OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP	4
<i>2.1. Coordination with other CEFTA Structures</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>2.2. Harnessing the benefits of the Liberalisation in Agricultural Trade</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>2.3. Strengthening Cooperation in the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Area</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>2.4. Identification and Elimination of Non-tariff Barriers in Trade in Agricultural products</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>2.5. Experience Sharing and Transparency.....</i>	<i>9</i>
3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED REGIONAL PROJECTS	10
4. EXPECTED RESULTS.....	13
5. CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....	15
6. ANNEXES	
Annex 1: Action Plan for 2013	16
Annex 2: Logical Framework Matrix	19

INTRODUCTION

The Work Programme of the Subcommittee on Agriculture and SPS is relying on the three-year Strategic Work Programme (2012-2014) conceptualised under the Chairmanship of Albania.

The paper summarizes the mandate and scope of the Subcommittee, underlines its active collaboration with other CEFTA Structures and spells out the major activities planned for the one-year period.

In its capacity of the Chair, Bosnia and Herzegovina is fully committed to carry on with the work of its predecessors in both areas – facilitation of the agricultural trade and improvement of cooperation in sanitary and phytosanitary domain. The priorities of the Chairmanship include:

- i) Further liberalisation of trade of agricultural products,
- ii) Facilitating the regional trade through simplifying trade related procedures and regulations, and eliminating unnecessary barriers to trade,
- iii) Increase the level of transparency in SPS measures.

In the year 2013 at least one regular meeting of the Subcommittee is envisaged and two SPS expert meetings. This does not *a priori* exclude holding of other *ad hoc* meetings, workshops and roundtables that could be convened to discuss any item based on the expressed interest.

1. THE SUBCOMMITTEE AS A PART OF CEFTA STRUCTURES

1.1. Mandate and scope

The CEFTA Subcommittee on Agriculture including Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues established by the Joint Committee Decision No. 3/2007, has for the task facilitation of trade in agricultural products and improvement of cooperation in the area of sanitary and phytosanitary matters under the framework of the CEFTA Agreement. The senior civil servants responsible for agriculture and sanitary and phytosanitary issues from the CEFTA Parties hold one meeting per year, but can meet on an *ad hoc* basis if needed.

Its main mandate is to:

- Encourage negotiations among the CEFTA Parties to further liberalise trade
- Encourage negotiations to conclude, where appropriate, agreements on coordinated harmonisation or mutual recognition of sanitary and phytosanitary measures

- Review internal legislation in force or in the process of being introduced to ensure that it is fully consistent with provisions of the CEFTA Agreement
- Deal with complaints by a Party concerning the possible discriminatory application by other Parties of measures contrary to the CEFTA Agreement
- Recommend steps and solutions to remedy the problems
- Bring the unresolved issues to the attention of the Joint Committee.

1.2. Organisation of Work

The members of the Subcommittee are officially appointed senior civil servants responsible for agriculture and sanitary and phytosanitary issues from the CEFTA Parties. Usually, the meetings provide for two parallel sessions - one is a forum for debate on further liberalisation of agricultural trade while the other gathers the experts from sanitary and phytosanitary fields to discuss the most important issues on a regional basis.

The meetings are generally held once per year, but the members can meet on an *ad hoc* basis if and whenever needed. Moreover, the number of workshops, roundtables or consultations can be organised on the request of interested Parties.

In 2013, at least one official meeting of the Subcommittee members is envisaged tentatively for April 2013. It will be held according to the rules and procedures of CEFTA Agreement by the responsible government institution Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Chair will also accommodate any need from the Parties to organize additional events to support the fulfilment of its objectives.

2. PRIORITIES OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP

The Chair of the Subcommittee is committed to work on the activities started in previous years by its predecessors and will introduce some new ones in order to secure the fulfilment of a set of objectives:

2.1. Coordination with other CEFTA Structures

The Chairmanship of the Subcommittee is taken on a rotational basis with the tenure of office of one calendar year. According to the Joint Committee Decision No 2/2007 the Party that chairs CEFTA also chairs the Subcommittee on Agriculture including Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues in a given year. In line with these rules, Bosnia and Herzegovina has assumed the Chairmanship of the Subcommittee starting from 1 January 2013.

According to its mandate, the Subcommittee communicates regularly with two Subcommittees established under CEFTA: on Customs and Rules of Origin and on TBT and

NTBs as well as other CEFTA Structures such as Working Group on Trade in Services, Working Group on TBT and Working Group on Customs Risk Management with a view to avoid duplication of efforts and activities.

The following activities will be performed in 2013:

Activity 2.1.1 Coordination with SC on NTBs and TBT and SC on Customs and RO on areas with common objective

- Coordination of activities in implementation of the recommendations for the SPS to reduce potential NTBs in order to ensure synergies and avoid any overlapping (*Key dates: throughout of a current year*)
- Coordination of activities in implementation of the recommendations in the area of trade facilitation (*Key dates: throughout of a current year*)

Activity 2.1.2 Reporting to other CEFTA Structures

- Reporting on the pace of implementation of the recommendations on elimination of NTBs in the area of SPS to the SC on NTBs and TBT (*Key dates: May*)
- Reporting on results achieved to the Deputy Ministers meeting and the Joint Committee (*Key dates: June and October/November*)

Activity 2.1.3 Participation at the CEFTA meetings

- Participation of the Chair at the SC on NTBs and TBT meetings (*Key dates: May*)
- Participation of the members to the Regional Roundtable on NTBs (*Key dates: February*)
- Participation of the Chair at the Deputy Ministers meeting and sixth Joint Committee Meeting (*Key dates: June and October/November*)

Activity 2.1.4 Promotion of the achieved results

- Promotion to the business community through events such as CEFTA Trade Portal, CEFTA Week 2012, etc (*Key dates: throughout the year, October/November*)
- Exchange of information with the members of the CEFTA Forum Chambers of Commerce (*Key dates: throughout the year*)

2.2. Harnessing the benefits of the Liberalisation in Agricultural Trade

The objective set up in the Article 10.3 of the Agreement on granting further concessions in agricultural trade has been fully achieved in 2011. The Additional Protocol and Annex 10 which deal with the further liberalisation among six CEFTA Parties was signed on 11 February 2011 and entered into force in 2011 for Albania, Croatia and Macedonia (13 November), for Serbia (15 December) and in 2012 for Montenegro (6 January 2012).

Acknowledging the positive effects of the liberalisation of the trade in agricultural products

done in 2012, Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to monitor the implementation of the Additional Protocol and Annex 10 and to assess the impact of such liberalisation on the CEFTA Economies. Additionally Bosnia and Herzegovina will invite CEFTA Parties to consider the removal of the remaining tariffs and quotas, in order to achieve full liberalisation of agricultural products, thus contributing to the creation of a free regional agricultural market.

In addition, having in mind the accession of Croatia to the European Union, Bosnia and Herzegovina emphasizes the significance of the negotiations on adjustment of relevant Stabilisation and Association Agreements between the EU and relevant CEFTA Parties.

The following activities will be performed in 2013:

Activity 2.2.1 Pursuit of full trade liberalization in agricultural products

- Starting the negotiations on removal of existing tariffs and quotas in trade of agricultural products

Activity 2.2.2 Assessment of impact of liberalization performed in 2011

- The effects of the liberalisation will closely be followed through periodical analysis (*Key dates: annually*)
- Reporting to the Joint Committee on the assessment (*Key dates: annually at the JCM*)

2.3. Strengthening Cooperation in the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Areas

The Chair recognizes the need for closer regional collaboration of the national agencies in the sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary area.

The areas of joint collaboration are:

a) Institutional framework

In order to contribute to the improvement in the institutional framework, Bosnia and Herzegovina proposes the following activities in 2013:

Activity 2.3.1 Assessments on possibilities for common framework on the SPS

- Assessment of current bilateral agreements in the SPS field
- Develop mechanisms for consultations on formulating strategies in the specific SPS areas of interest

Activity 2.3.2 Institutionalized transfer of knowledge and joint training

- Establishing of focal points in the Parties that can transfer their knowledge and expertise to other less developed Parties in the specific field of SPS

- Organizing regional trainings on harmonization of legislation and practices in sanitary and phytosanitary area
- Preparing joint trainings in the risk based inspection methodology and approach
- Improving capacities in SPS agencies for development and maintaining of relevant databases

b) Sanitary and phytosanitary legislation framework

In the framework of the SPS legislation, the situation among Parties differs in relation to the stage in the EU and WTO accession. To address these issues, Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to work in the following areas:

Activity 2.3.3 Increase the transparency of legislation

- Create permanent notification mechanisms on SPS legislation
- Ensure that a new legislation is available for consultation before the process of final adoption

Activity 2.3.4 Speeding up the process of harmonization of relevant SPS legislation

- Assessment of current level of harmonization of national with the EU legislation
- Harmonization of by-laws in line with WTO-SPS and EU requirements

Activity 2.3.5 Consolidation of capacities for full implementation of risk analysis

- Sharing information and experiences for control and inspection procedures and risk analysis
- Regional trainings and joint bidding for outsourced technical assistance in this area

c) Transposition of EU SPS measures

In the area of the transposition of SPS measures the situation among Parties varies in relation to the pace and stage of the EU accession process. However, the Parties already identified the products, which have highest priority in terms of transposition of EU measures.

Activity 2.3.6 Coordination of actions in the process of transposition of EU legislation

- Follow the best experiences on necessary capacities for transposition of EU regulations
- Adopt only measures which are fully harmonized with EU and WTO-SPS principles
- Circulate a questionnaire on new legislation/practices harmonized with EU requirements on the annual basis and publish the information regularly on the CEFTA Trade Portal

d) Joint representation in international organizations, forums etc.

In the previous period the negotiating power of the CEFTA region was not recognized by representation in the international organisations such as: CAC (Codex Alimentarius Commission), OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health), IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention), OIV (International Organisation of Vine and Wine), and WTO-SPS.

As the Chair in Office during 2012, Albania was striving to transform CEFTA into a venue/instrument to boost the regional competitiveness and engage in more complex policies than merely trade.

Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to work on activities that could improve the image of the region and strengthen its negotiating power in the relevant international organisations by:

Activity 2.3.7 Joint representation of CEFTA SPS agencies in international organisations, forums

- Identify the areas where CEFTA Parties experts can jointly participate in work of different committees of the CAC, OIE, IPPC, OIV, etc
- Identify regional representatives for each of the committee where they have strategic interest to participate as a region
- Strengthen capacities of the Parties for negotiating in SPS standings at international organizations' meetings

2.4. Identification and elimination of non-tariff barriers in trade in agricultural products

Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to work in the following areas:

Activity 2.4.1 Implementation of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of the NTBs

Striving to achieve free trade without barriers, CEFTA Parties undertake to implement the recommendations of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Eliminating Non-tariff Barriers to Trade and commit themselves to refrain from introducing the new ones.

- Implement the recommendations from the second cycle of assessment of the MMF related to SPS
- Report regularly on the achievements to the SC on NTBs and TBT as well as to the Joint Committee

Activity 2.4.2 Implementation of the obligation under Article 12.3 of CEFTA Agreement

Having in mind Recommendation of the Joint Committee of the CEFTA No. 1/2012 on recognition of test report of the CABs adopted on 8 November 2012, and in compliance with the Article 12 paragraph 3 of the Agreement ("....the Parties shall enter, where appropriate,

into negotiations to conclude agreements on harmonisation or mutual recognition in sanitary and phytosanitary matters...”) Bosnia and Herzegovina will dedicate due attention to the work of finding ways to approach this goal.

- Explore possibilities and conclude bilateral/multilateral recognition agreements
- Report to the Joint Committee on the achievements and implementation

Activity 2.4.3 Cooperation with the SC on NTBs and TBT

- Participate at the meetings of the SC on NTBs and TBT and report on the developments in eliminating the NTBs in the field of SPS
- Regularly update the information on the CEFTA Trade Portal which relates to the sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary regulation and legislation

Activity 2.4.4 Cooperation with the SC on Customs and ROO

- Explore potentials to have a common regional approach for cooperation among SPS agencies and customs authorities;
- Participate in meetings of SC on customs issues and ROO when border agencies issues are to be addressed

2.5. Experience Sharing and Transparency

Based on the previous Chairmanship objectives, a set of activities with a number of necessary steps are developed in order to achieve upgrading of the transparency and information of measures sharing to the next level.

Underscoring the importance of transparency in ensuring the unrestricted access to the regional market, Bosnia and Herzegovina heartily welcomes the creation of the CEFTA SPS Database and invites members of the Subcommittee on Agriculture and SPS to take necessary actions in order to secure its proper functioning.

During its Chairmanship, Bosnia and Herzegovina expects that the CEFTA SPS Database will become fully operational. Based on the principals of transparency and comprehensiveness, the database will provide with information on the key laws, bylaws and measures in three relevant fields (sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary) in the CEFTA region. The online notification of the SPS measures will be added in the later stage. The easily accessible database will significantly contribute to the reduction of SPS related non-tariff barriers to regional trade.

A set of activities with a number of necessary steps are developed in order to achieve upgrading of the transparency and information of measures sharing to the next level:

Activity 2.5.1 Collecting data on food safety, plant and animal health measures

- Collecting of the information on food safety, plant and animal health measures in each of the Parties
- Collecting of other relevant information such as list of laboratories that can contribute to the facilitation of trade in the region

Activity 2.5.2 Database on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

- Classification and systematization of all the collected information in order to establish a database easy to manipulate
- Establishing of the information platform to support the uploaded data
- Employment of the search engine that will provide with the easy finding of the necessary information
- Promotion of database to the wider circle of users

Activity 2.5.3 Promotion and information sharing on SPS regulation

- Regular update of the CEFTA Trade Portal on the SPS section
- Presentation of achievements in SPS (agencies cooperation, removal of NTBs, conclusion of mutual recognition agreements, etc) in the CEFTA Week, international conferences, forums, etc.

3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED REGIONAL PROJECTS

The implementation of the Work Programme for 2013 will require the active participation of all the CEFTA Parties, and will be supported adequately by the technical tailor-made assistance.

3.1. Coordination with other CEFTA Structures

Activity 3.1.1 Coordination with SC on NTBs and TBT and SC on Customs and RO on areas with common objective

- These activities does not require outsourced technical assistance

Activity 3.1.2 Reporting to other CEFTA Structures

- These activities does not require outsourced technical assistance

Activity 3.1.3 Participation at the CEFTA meetings

- These activities does not require outsourced technical assistance

Activity 3.1.4 Promotion of the achieved results

- These activities does not require outsourced technical assistance

3.2. Harnessing the benefits of the Liberalisation in Agricultural Trade

Activity 3.2.1 Pursuit of full trade liberalization in agricultural products

- This activity does not require outsourced technical assistance

Activity 3.2.2 Assessment of impact of liberalization performed in 2011

- This activity does not require outsourced technical assistance

3.3. Strengthening Cooperation in the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Areas

Implementation of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of NTBs

The Multilateral Monitoring Framework is developed with the assistance of the OECD Private Sector Development Division. The main objective of this assistance is to conduct regular independent monitoring of the elimination of NTBs, perform the extensive analysis of trade flows in intermediary and final goods among CEFTA Parties with the aim of identifying a set of priority sectors and goods for NTBs elimination.

With the financial assistance from the European Commission the OECD–CEFTA MMF project on elimination of NTBs will extend to another three years. The assessment will cover the final goods in all areas where the NTBs are identified: (i) technical barriers to trade (standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment); (ii) sanitary and phytosanitary measures; (iii) administrative barriers to trade. For each category of the NTB the specific guidance and recommendations will be prepared. A regional roundtable will be organized among the representatives of the government of the CEFTA Parties and the private sector to discuss and follow up on the actions deriving from the findings of the monitoring.

Activity 3.3.1 Assessments on possibilities for common framework on the SPS

- No additional technical assistance is envisaged

Activity 3.3.2 Institutionalized transfer of knowledge and joint training

- Two SPS expert meetings are scheduled for 2013. Technical assistance will be provided through TAIEX and through national IPA Project EUTTP2. This would include the logistics as well as outsourcing the technical experts

Activity 3.3.3 Increase the transparency of legislation

- Creation of permanent notification systems might require additional technical and financial support by interested donors

Activity 3.3.4 Speeding up the process of harmonization of relevant SPS legislation

- No additional technical assistance is envisaged

Activity 3.3.5 Consolidation of capacities for full implementation of risk analysis

- Technical assistance is needed. Potential partners include TAIEX

Activity 3.3.6 Coordination of actions in the process of transposition of EU legislation

- Technical expertise will be required in organization of regional trainings. TAIEX technical support is needed

Activity 3.3.7 Joint representation of CEFTA SPS agencies in international organisations, forums

- Technical expertise might be needed in identifying the areas of interest and capacity building of experts who will participate in the various committees of FAO, IPPC, OIE.

3.4. Identification and elimination of non-tariff barriers in trade in agricultural products

Activity 3.4.1 Implementation of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of the NTBs

- The OECD team of experts provides technical assistance on assessments, recommendations and guidelines. Implementation of recommendations might require additional technical support

Activity 3.4.2 Implementation of the obligation under Article 12.3 of CEFTA Agreement

- Technical expertise is secured through the Secretariat

Activity 3.4.3 Cooperation with the SC on NTBs and TBT

- No additional technical assistance is envisaged

Activity 3.4.4 Cooperation with the SC on Customs and ROO

- No additional technical assistance is envisaged

3.5. Experience Sharing and Transparency

Activity 3.5.1 Collecting data on food safety, plant and animal health measures

- Technical expertise is secured through the Secretariat

Activity 3.5.2 Database on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

- Technical expertise and financial assistance in creating and updating the database is secured through the Secretariat. Further stages such as online notification and further upgrading of the system will need assistance. The potential partners include GiZ

Activity 3.5.3 Promotion and information sharing on SPS regulation

- No additional technical assistance is required.

4. EXPECTED RESULTS

4.1. Coordination with other CEFTA Structures

Activity 4.1.1 Coordination with SC on NTBs and TBT and SC on Customs and RO on areas with common objective

- The regular coordination is achieved through consultation process at the meetings and coordination of the work programmes

Activity 4.1.2 Reporting to other CEFTA Structures

- Report to the Deputy Ministers meeting and the Joint Committee meeting

Activity 4.1.3 Participation at the CEFTA meetings

- The Chair participate at the meeting of the other two Subcommittees
- The Chair participate at the meeting of the Deputy Ministers and Joint Committee

Activity 4.1.4 Promotion of the achieved results

- The CEFTA Trade Portal and the CEFTA SPS Database are promoted to the wider audience

4.2. Harnessing the benefits of the Liberalisation in Agricultural Trade

Activity 4.2.1 Pursuit of full trade liberalization in agricultural products

- The negotiations on removal of remaining tariffs and quota are concluded

Activity 4.2.2 Assessment of impact of liberalization performed in 2011

- The report on the Assessment of the Impact of liberalization is prepared and presented to the Joint Committee

4.3. Strengthening Cooperation in the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Areas

Activity 4.3.1 Assessments on possibilities for common framework on the SPS

- Mechanisms for consultations among CEFTA SPS agencies on formulating the national strategies are developed

Activity 4.3.2 Institutionalized transfer of knowledge and joint training

- Regional trainings on harmonization of legislation and practices in sanitary and phytosanitary area

Activity 4.3.3 Increase the transparency of legislation

- Permanent notification mechanisms on SPS legislation is developed
- A new legislation is available for consultation before the process of its final adoption

Activity 4.3.4 Speeding up the process of harmonization of relevant SPS legislation

- Assessment of current level of harmonization is completed
- Harmonization of by-laws in line with WTO-SPS and EU requirements is ensured

Activity 4.3.5 Consolidation of capacities for full implementation of risk analysis

- Regional trainings and sharing information and experiences are organized

Activity 4.3.6 Coordination of actions in the process of transposition of EU legislation

- Questionnaire on new legislation/practices harmonized with EU requirements is published annually on the CEFTA Trade Portal

Activity 4.3.7 Joint representation of CEFTA SPS agencies in international organisations, forums

- Regional representatives for participation at the meetings of CAC, IPPC and OIE are identified

4.4. Identification and elimination of non-tariff barriers in trade in agricultural products

Activity 4.4.1 Implementation of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of the NTBs

- The recommendations in the area of SPS are implemented
- The report on successful implementation is submitted to the Joint Committee

Activity 4.4.2 Implementation of the obligation under Article 12.3 of CEFTA Agreement

- Bilateral/multilateral recognition agreements concluded
- Report on the implementation submitted to the Joint Committee

Activity 4.4.4 Cooperation with the SC on Customs and ROO

- The joint areas of cooperation between the SPS agencies and customs authorities in the region are identified
- The participation at the SC on customs and ROO meetings secured

Activity 4.4.3 Cooperation with the SC on NTBs and TBT

- The Chair/members of the SC on Agriculture and SPS report on the achievements at the regular meetings of the SC on NTBs and TBT
- The members are actively involved in the assessments process of the MMF in the SPS field

4.5. Experience Sharing and Transparency

Activity 4.5.1 Collecting data on food safety, plant and animal health measures

- Information on SPS measures and other relevant regulation is collected by the Parties and outsourced assistance

Activity 4.5.2 Database on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

- Information platform to support the uploaded data is developed
- The search engine is functional

Activity 4.5.3 Promotion and information sharing on SPS regulation

- the SPS section of the CEFTA Trade Portal is updated regularly with the new regulation in CEFTA Parties
- The achievements in the SPS cooperation are widely promoted at the conferences, forums, workshops

5. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The tentative calendar for the year 2013 is as follows:

MEETING/EVENT	DATES in 2013
Fourth Regional Roundtable on Elimination of NTBs	February 2013
Sixth meeting of the Subcommittee on Agriculture and SPS	April 2013
1 st Meeting of the SPS experts	April 2013
Participation at the meetings of the Subcommittee on NTBs and TBT	End of May 2013
2 nd Meeting of the SPS experts	September 2013
CEFTA Week 2013	October/November
Seventh Joint Committee Meeting	October/November

Annex 1: ACTION PLAN FOR 2013

OBJECTIVE	PHASES	ACTION	KEY MILESTONES	TIMEFRAME
Coordination with other CEFTA Structures	1. Coordination of activities with SC on NTBs and TBT on common areas	1.1. Coordination of activities in implementation of the recommendations for the SPS with the SC on NTBs and TBT	Recommendations in the area of SPS are implemented	January-December
	2. Reporting to the other CEFTA structures	2.1. Reporting on the pace of implementation to the SC on NTBs and TBT 2.2. Reporting on results achieved to the Joint Committee	Semi-annual Report submitted to Deputy Ministers Annual Report submitted to the Joint Committee	June 2013 October 2013
	3. Participation at the CEFTA Meetings	3.1. Participation of the Chair at the SC on NTBs and TBT meetings 3.2. Participation of the Chair at the seventh JCM	CEFTA Parties are regularly participating at the official CEFTA meetings	May 2013 October 2013 October/November
	4. Promotion of the results	4.1. Promotion to the business community through CEFTA Trade Portal, CEFTA Week 2012 4.2. Exchange of information with the CEFTA Forum Chambers of Commerce	Implemented recommendations and results are promoted at the CEFTA Trade Portal, CEFTA Secretariat's website, CEFTA Week, at international conferences, forums	Continuous October/November
Harnessing the benefits of the liberalisation in agricultural trade	1. Pursuit of trade liberalization in agricultural products	1.1. Starting the negotiations on removal of existing tariffs and quotas in trade of agricultural products	The negotiations on removal of remaining tariffs and quotas are concluded	January- December
	2. Assessment of impact of liberalization on the CEFTA Economies	2.1. Following of the effects of the liberalisation through periodical analysis 2.2. Reporting to the Joint Committee on the assessment	Report on the assessment of the impact of the liberalisation is submitted to the Joint Committee	October/November
Strengthening the cooperation in SPS area	1. Assessments on possibilities for common framework on the SPS	1.1. Assessment of current bilateral agreements in the SPS field; 1.2. Develop mechanisms for consultations on formulating strategies in the specific SPS areas	Assessment of bilateral agreements done Discussion on mechanism for consultations held	April – December 2013
	2. Institutionalized transfer of knowledge and joint training	2.1. Establishing of focal points in the Parties that can transfer their knowledge to other less developed Parties in the specific field of SPS; 2.2. Organizing regional trainings on	Discussions on potential focal points in some of the Parties held Identification of regional trainings need completed	April –December 2013

		harmonization of legislation and practices in phytosanitary area		
	3.Increase the transparency of legislation	3.1.Create permanent notification mechanisms on SPS legislation; 3.2.Ensure that a new legislation is available for consultation before the process of final adoption	The type and frequency of notifications discussed and common solutions agreed	April –December 2012
	4.Speeding up the process of harmonization of relevant SPS legislation	4.1.Assessment of current level of harmonization of national with the EU legislation; 4.2.Harmonization of by-laws in line with WTO-SPS and EU requirements	The Parties' stage and dynamics in EU, WTO accession processes reported	April -December 2013
	5.Consolidation of capacities for full implementation of risk analysis	5.1.Sharing information and experiences for control and inspection procedures and risk analysis; 5.2.Regional trainings and joint bidding for outsourced technical assistance in this area	Information shared, needs for training in specific areas at the regional level agreed	April -December 2013
	6.Coordination of actions in the process of transposition of EU legislation	6.1.Follow the best experiences on necessary capacities for transposition of EU regulations 6.2.Circulate a questionnaire on new legislation/practices harmonized with EU requirements on the annual basis	Questionnaire on new legislation/practices harmonised with the EU requirements published on the CEFTA SPS Database and Trade portal	By December 2013
	7.Joint representation of CEFTA SPS agencies in international organisations, forums	7.1.Identify areas of interest and regional representatives for each of the committee where they have strategic interest to participate,	Areas of interest at the international organisations meetings discussed	April 2013
Identification and Elimination of NTBs in trade in agricultural products	1. Implementation of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of the NTBs	1.1.Implement the recommendations from the second cycle of assessment of the MMF related to SPS 1.2.Reporting on the achievements to the SC on NTBs and TBT and to the Joint Committee	The recommendations are implemented Report on activities submitted to the SC on NTBs and TBT and to the JC	April 2013 - 2015
	2. Implementation of the obligation under Article 12.3 of CEFTA Agreement	2.1.Explore possibilities for concluding bilateral/multilateral recognition agreements 2.2.Reporting to the Joint Committee	The possibilities and areas of interest for concluding bilateral/multilateral recognition agreements discussed and joint actions agreed	January-December April 2013 May 2013 October/November

	3.Cooperation with the SC on NTBs and TBT and SC on Customs and Rules of Origin	3.1.Perform regular exchange of information with the SC on NTBs and TBT and SC on Customs and Rules of Origin 3.2.Participate at the meetings of the expert groups 3.3.Regularly update the information on the CEFTA Trade Portal which relates to SPS 3.4. Explore potentials to have a common regional approach for cooperation among SPS agencies and customs authorities	Exchange of information performed Participation of chair/members secured	January - December
Improved experience sharing and transparency	1.Collecting data on food safety, plant and animal health measures	1.1.Collect information on food safety, plant and animal health measures in each of the Parties 1.2.Obtain information on other relevant regulation that can complement the SPS list of measures	The types of SPS measures identified and endorsed for uploading in the database Information on SPS measures and additional information collected	January –June 2013
	2.Database on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	2.1.Establish the information platform to support the uploaded data and be user friendly to the wider circle of beneficiaries 2.2.Perform the uploading of data at the first stage in a non-interactive format 2.3.Promotion of database to the wider circle of users	The information platform set up First uploading of data performed Database promoted to users	April- June 2013
	3.Promotion and information sharing on SPS regulation	3.1. Update SPS section of the CEFTA Trade Portal 3.2. The achievements in the SPS cooperation are widely promoted at the conferences, forums, workshops.	CEFTA Trade Portal regularly updated Achievements of the SPS cooperation widely promoted	January-December October/November

ANNEX 2: Logical Framework Matrix

LOG FRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR PRIORITIES OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON Agriculture and SPS		Period: 2012 -2014	
Overall objective	Indicators of Achievement	Sources of verification	
To develop further actions, particularly in the following priority areas, with the objective to fully implement the Chapter III of the Agreement, in specific Articles 10, 11 and 12; improve the cooperation in the SPS area; work on eliminating NTBs and strengthen the cooperation with other CEFTA Structures.	All meetings of the Subcommittee are held with the active participation of CEFTA Parties	Report of the Subcommittee	
Priorities	Indicators of Achievement	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
1) Coordination with other CEFTA Structures 2) Harnessing the benefits of the liberalisation in agricultural trade 3) Strengthening the cooperation in the sanitary and phytosanitary area 4) Identification and Elimination of NTBs in trade in agricultural products 5) Improved experience sharing and transparency	1) The full synergies among the CEFTA Structures achieved with no overlapping of activities and efforts 2) The positive impact of liberalisation is proved 3) The number of transposed SPS legislation is increased 4) The number of NTBs that have origin in SPS area have decreasing tendency 5) The CEFTA Parties are timely informed about the new regulations with a potential hindering impact on trade	Report of SC on Agriculture and SPS Report of SC on NTBs and TBT CEFTA Market Access Database CEFTA SPS Database	1) Each CEFTA Party remains committed to the CEFTA process and its provisions. 2) Bilateral problems between the CEFTA Parties which do not have any direct relevance to the implementation of the Agreement do not affect the smooth functioning of the Agreement. 3) International donors keep committed to support financially the CEFTA.

Activities	Results	Means	Assumptions
<p><u>Priority 1 :</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Implementation of the MMF 2) Reporting to the other CEFTA structures 3) Participation at the CEFTA Meetings 4) Promotion of the results <p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pursuit of trade liberalisation in agricultural products 2) Assessment of impact of liberalisation on the CEFTA economies <p><u>Priority 3:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Assessment on possibilities for common framework on the SPS 2) Institutionalized transfer of knowledge and joint training 3) Increase the transparency of legislation 4) Speeding up the process of harmonization of relevant SPS legislation 5) Consolidation of capacities for full implementation of risk analysis 6) Coordination of actions in the process of transposition of EU legislation 7) Joint representation of CEFTA SPS agencies in international organisations, forums 	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recommendations from the MMF implemented 2) Annual and semi-annual reports of the SC on Agriculture and SPS submitted to the JC 3) Parties are regularly participating at the official CEFTA meetings 4) Implemented recommendations and achieved results are promoted at the CEFTA Trade Portal, Secretariat's website, CEFTA Week, international conferences, forums <p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The negotiations on removal of remaining tariffs and quotas are concluded 2) Report on the assessment of the impact of the liberalisation on CEFTA economies is submitted to the JC <p><u>Priority 3:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Assessment of bilateral agreements done 2) Focal points for dissemination of knowledge in more advanced CEFTA Parties are established 3) Regional training is held in the areas such as: harmonization of legislation and practices in phytosanitary area 4) Permanent notification mechanisms on SPS legislation is developed 5) A new legislation is available for consultation before the process of its final adoption 6) Assessment of current level of harmonization is completed 7) regional representatives for participation at the meetings of CAC, IPPC and OIE are identified 8) Questionnaire on new legislation/practices harmonized with EU requirements is published annually on the CEFTA SPS Database and the Trade Portal 	<p>SC on Agriculture and SPS SC on NTBs and TBT meetings Regional Roundtable on NTBs OECD MMF Project CEFTA Trade Portal CEFTA Secretariat website</p> <p>SC on Agriculture and SPS meetings Joint Committee</p> <p>SC on Agriculture and SPS External donors</p> <p>IPPC, CAC, OIE, WTO</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Each CEFTA Party remains committed to the CEFTA process and its provisions. 2) Bi-lateral problems between the CEFTA Parties which do not have any direct relevance to the implementation of the Agreement do not affect the smooth functioning of the Agreement, 3) International donors keep committed to support financially the CEFTA.

<p><u>Priority 4:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Implementation of the Multilateral Monitoring Framework on Elimination of the NTBs 2) Implementation of the obligation under Article 12.3 of CEFTA Agreement 3) Cooperation with the SC on NTBs and TBT 	<p><u>Priority 4:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The recommendations in the area of SPS are implemented 2) The report on achievements and implementation is submitted to the Joint Committee 3) The members are actively involved in the assessments process of the MMF in the SPS field 4) The bilateral/plurilateral agreements among respective Parties are concluded where appropriate 5) Exchange of information is performed regularly 6) The Chair/members of the SC on Agriculture and SPS are present at the regular meetings of the SC on NTBs and TBT 7) The members are active in updating of the SPS section of the CEFTA Trade Portal 	<p>SC on NTBs and TBT SC on Agriculture and SPS OECD MMF Project CEFTA SPS Database CEFTA Trade Portal</p>	
<p><u>Priority 5;</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collecting data on food safety, plant and animal health measures 2) Creation of a Database on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures 3) Promotion and information sharing on SPS regulation 	<p><u>Priority 5:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Information on SPS measures and other relevant regulation is collected 2) Information platform to support the uploaded data is developed 3) the SPS section of the CEFTA Trade Portal is updated regularly with the new regulation in CEFTA Parties 4) The achievements in the SPS cooperation are widely promoted at the conferences, forums, workshops. 	<p>SC on Agriculture and SPS Outsourced technical assistance</p>	