



S&D in the SPS Committee

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Special and Differential Treatment in the SPS Agreement - Article 10

- Members shall take account of the **special needs** of developing countries
- Members should accord **longer time frames** for compliance with SPS measures
- The Committee can grant **specified, time-limited exceptions** from obligations
- Members should **encourage participation** in relevant international organizations



S&D-related work of the SPS Committee

- Standing agenda item on S&D
- Addressed as part of Reviews of the SPS Agreement (G/SPS/53, 2010)
- Procedure to enhance Transparency of S&D Treatment
 - G/SPS/33 adopted in 2004
 - Revision adopted in 2009

Procedure to Enhance the Transparency of S&D Treatment – G/SPS/33/Rev.1

- Normally to be used during the comment period of an SPS notification
- Steps:
 1. Developing country Member identifies problems, requests opportunity to discuss
 2. Where possible, longer time-frame for compliance
 3. If not, consultations to find a mutually satisfactory solution
 - Change in the proposed measure
 - Technical assistance
 - S&D treatment

Procedure to Enhance the Transparency of S&D Treatment – G/SPS/33/Rev.1 (cont'd)

- If measure already in force, can still request consultations
- Transparency:
 - addendum to the original notification
 - format provided
 - so far, **no notifications** received
 - no information on use of this procedure

Other S&D-related work

- SPS Committee report on S&D proposals
 - G/SPS/35, from 2005
- Proposals related to Articles 10.2 and 10.3 of the SPS Agreement being considered by CTD(SS)
- Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)
 - Partnership to coordinate and fund SPS-related Technical Assistance
 - www.standardsfacility.org