

Trade Facilitation Workshop on Sanitary/Phytosanitary and Technical Barriers to Trade

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Participants from Nepal



NEPAL...

Natural Beauties



Status on SPS TBT

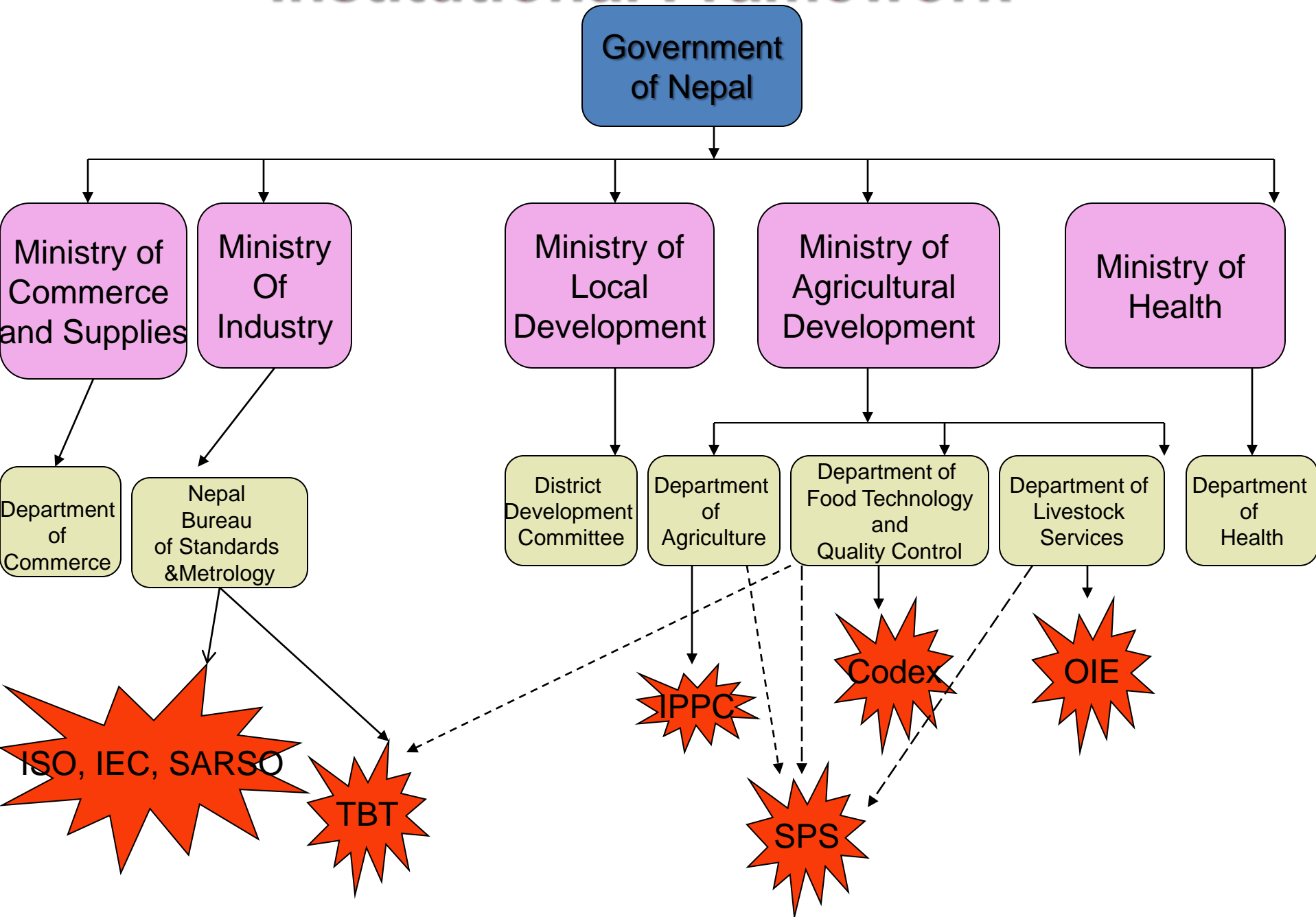
Legislative Framework for SPS/TBT

- **Food act 1966 and Food rules 1970**
- **Plant protection act 2007 and Plant protection rules 2010**
- **Animal health & livestock services act 1998 and Regulations 1999**
- **Pesticide Act 1991 and Regulations 1993**
- **Animal Slaughterhouse & Meat Inspection Act 1999 and Animal Slaughterhouse & Meat Inspection Regulation 2001**
- **Standards Weights and Measures Act 1969**
- **Nepal Standards Act is in the process of revision**
- **A new bill – Accreditation Act is also in the draft stage**
- **Nepal Standards (certification mark) Act 1980**

Institutions Involved

- **Department of Food Technology and Quality Control, DFTQC**
- **Department of Agriculture**
- **Department of Livestock Services**
- **Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology, NBSM**

Institutional Framework



How does the country wish to carry forward the recommendations made in the brainstorming meeting in November 2013?

- **SPS/TBT Subgroup formation,**
- **Conducting National Studies on SPS/TBT.**
- **Taking SPS/TBT agenda in the National Trade and Transport Facilitation Committee**
- **Inclusion of existing Focal points of SPS and TBT along with relevant stakeholders in SASEC SPS/TBT subgroup.**
- **Improving coordination and collaboration among development partners.**
- **Submit report of the Nepal's delegation with recommendation to the concerned Ministries/Agencies for implementation.**

What are the best options to seek support within the mandate of SARSO to address these issues, without causing duplication of effort, including possible formation of a SASEC Subgroup on Standards and Regulations and taking into account the past work done on these areas/issues?

- **5 technical committees of SARSO on food, Chemicals, Textile, Construction materials and Electrical, electronics in developing regional standards**
- **Progress in bit slow**
- **Need to speed up Standards development (SARSO)**
- **Need to include identified product in SARSO**
- **Need to have a system for recognition of conformity assessment results in the region (identified product)**
- **Need to facilitate capacity building on standardization and conformity assessment among member states**

Issues & Challenges

- **Weak conformity assessment infrastructure.**
- **Non recognition of certification & testing.**
- **Inadequate testing and calibration facilities.**
- **High cost and lengthy process of conformity assessment for exporters**
- **Insufficient mechanism for the protection of public health and safety (both legislative and institutional)**
- **Weak coordination and cooperation among institutions**
- **Lack of system for risk analysis, risk based inspection etc..**
- **Inadequate technical Infrastructure, physical facilities and human resource**

What efforts the government is taking to address these issues?

- **Product and system certification of NBSM – accredited by NABCB, India**
- **Central food lab of DFTQC (27 parameters), Chemical and food labs of NBSM (28 parameters), one private lab are accredited by NABL, India**
- **Mass lab (calibration) – accredited by NABL, India**
- **Central food lab and NBSM labs are in the process of extending the scope of accreditation**
- **Few government and private labs are in the process of accreditation**
- **There is no accreditation body at national level**
- **Accreditation bill is drafted and in the process of approval**
- **In the process of MoU with NABL and NABCB to create NAFP < National Accreditation Focal Point**

What efforts is the government taking to address these issues?... Continued.

- **Pest risk analysis on major 20 crops**
- **Post entry quarantine testing facility and fumigation chamber are under construction**
- **Quarantine treatments MB, HT (collaboration with private sector)**
- **Adoption and harmonization as of ISPMs as NSPMs**
- **Preparation of national standards on phytosanitary measures (NSPM) : 16 approved 18 drafted,**
- **Good agriculture practices (GAP) Standards and IPM product Standards are developed**
- **Internal quarantine guideline (IQ) on major traded crops are developed**
- **Enhancing SPS capacity of ginger exports through PPPP**

Future Needs

- **Strengthening of infrastructure, physical facilities and human resource**
- **Upgrading, harmonization of acts, regulations and standards according to international Standards and guidelines**
- **Participating in Regional and International standards setting in the areas of national interest**
- **System for recognition of conformity assessment results at SAARC level**
- **Have a accreditation system in the country**
- **Formulating national standards for the major exportable products of Nepal harmonized with ISO/CODEX/OIE/**

Future Needs (contd.)

- **Strengthening conformity assessment capacity (certification, inspection, testing) in focused area**
- **Launch GAP certification, Organic certification, Food Safety Certification for export products such as tea, lentils, large cardamom, ginger and MAPs.**
- **Training of human resource on risk analysis, risk based inspection, food safety, quick & screening test, spot test**

Comments on the TOR for national and regional diagnostics studies.

- **The TOR for National and regional diagnostic Studies has extensive coverage. Some of the thoughts are;**
 - **TOR has to reflect the role of National Trade and Transport Facilitation Committee, a prime agency to steer TF at national level.**
 - **Action to be translated into Implementation Plan for Software and Hardware.**
 - **Study to reflect the ways and measures to better facilitate the participation of SMES and socially marginalized section of the society in export through out the supply chain.**
 - **Need to align proposed SASEC Study plan in line with perspective plans and action plans of relevant agencies in SPS/TBT.**
 - **Assess the adequacy and appropriateness of institutional mechanism and suggest best practices that can be adopted in national context in SPS/TBT.**

Conclusion

- **National and Subregional Studies has to be conducted as per the revised TOR .**
- **Draw comprehensive action plan for SPS/TBT.**
- **Investment in SPS/TBT (Hardware and software) in a coordinated fashion.**
- **Constituting the SPS TBT subgroup and linkages to National TF Committee and other subgroups and SPS/TBT forum.**

A photograph of a snow-capped mountain peak against a blue sky with clouds. The mountain is the central focus, with its peak covered in a thick layer of white snow. The sky is a clear, bright blue, and there are some wispy white clouds scattered around the mountain. The overall scene is bright and clear.

THANK YOU !