

TABLE OF PRIORITY ACTIVITIES: INSPECTION & QUARANTINE MEASURES

<p>Strategic Objective ~ To Achieve a Greater Degree of Trade Facilitation by Reducing the Need for Inspection and Quarantine Measures at the Border through Progressive Implementation of the WTO SPS and TBT Agreement for GMS WTO Members, and the Adoption of Similar Disciplines for GMS Countries in the Process of WTO Accession</p>				
<p>Principal Action I: Enhance the compliance of GMS countries with the WTO TBT and SPS agreements, technical regulations, and standards in line with their current or future WTO commitments, and improve cooperation and exchange of information among focal units, enquiry points or the national notification authority (as specified by individual GMS countries)</p>				
Description of Activities	Target Date	Indicators of Achievement	Institutions Responsible	Risks & Assumptions
<p>Identification of legislative, regulatory and procedural gaps between regulations and standards set out in the WTO SPS & TBT Agreements, and the existing situation in each GMS country.</p> <p>Introduction/strengthening of country-specific focal units/enquiry points/national notification authorities responsible for coordinating the different departments, agencies and bodies involved, and developing relevant legislative, regulatory and administrative provisions in SPS and TBT matters.</p> <p>Establishment of GMS mechanisms for coordination with business community, GMS countries and international bodies including the WTO.</p>	<p>At the latest by 31 December 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gap analysis completed, results enumerated, and shared between GMS countries. - Implementation plan, with measurable annual targets, agreed in each GMS country. - Enquiry points/notification authorities set up and operational. - Arrangements for trade, intra-regional, & international consultation & cooperation established and operational. 	<p>GMS Quarantine and Inspection Authorities</p> <p>GMS Standards and Quality Authorities</p> <p>GMS SFA-TFI Units</p>	<p>Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of political commitment in GMS Countries. - Overlap/duplication with other external assistance. - Slow progress in WTO accession negotiations of Vietnam and Lao PDR <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective coordination between GMS countries. - Foundation for Activity BII. - Activity supports CBTA. - Activity takes full account of, and seeks to integrate with, other relevant initiatives, activities and projects.

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Principal Action II: Introduce, where necessary, and align quarantine and inspection laws, regulations and procedures in each GMS country with commonly agreed international standards, and develop a harmonized approach – particularly in relation to procedures, forms and formats – between all GMS countries

Description of Activities	Target Date	Indicators of Achievement	Institutions Responsible	Risks & Assumptions
<p>Closing of gaps identified through Activity BI by introducing appropriate laws, regulations, procedures, forms and formats.</p> <p>Identification of laws, regulations, procedures, forms and formats which can be harmonized across the GMS.</p>	<p>At the latest by 31 December 2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Laws, regulations, procedures, forms and formats introduced, aligning with SPS & TBT Agreements, and in accordance with national implementation plan agreed under Activity BI. – Further opportunities to harmonize law, regulations, procedures and forms between GMS countries identified and agreed. – Harmonization ‘action program’, with measurable annual targets, initiated. 	<p>GMS Quarantine & Inspection Authorities</p> <p>GMS Standards and Quality Authorities</p> <p>GMS SFA-TFI Units</p>	<p>Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lack of political commitment in GMS Countries. – Overlap/duplication with other external assistance. – Slow progress in WTO accession negotiations of Vietnam and Lao PDR. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Effective coordination between GMS countries. – Dependent upon effective implementation of Activity BI. – Effective coordination with Activities BIII & IV. – Activity supports CBTA. – Activity takes full account of, and seeks to integrate with, other relevant initiatives, activities and projects.

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Principal Action III: Improve the transparency, for trade operators and the public, of all GSM technical standards, inspection and quarantine laws, regulations, procedures and forms, e.g. through appropriate publications in English (as required by Annex 4, Article 31 of the CBTA)

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<p>Development of multi-media GSM information platforms for Inspection and Quarantine Measures, Technical Standards & Quality-related matters, which enable trade operators and the public in all GSM Countries, and externally, to access comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date information about inspection and quarantine laws, regulations, procedures, forms and formats in each GSM country.</p>	<p>At the latest by 31 December 2009</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GSM database(s) for Inspection & Quarantine/Standards/Quality laws, regulations, procedures and forms developed and operational. - Links to website on GSM Countries' Inspection & Quarantine/Standards/Quality/Trade & Investment websites, and on ADB website, fully functional. - Database & website update and maintenance arrangements in place. - Multilingual 'information notices', leaflets, explanatory notes, posters etc produced and distributed to trade bodies, customs brokers, public areas, etc. - Traders and trade representatives trained. 	<p>GSM Quarantine and Inspection Authorities</p> <p>GSM Standards and Quality Authorities</p> <p>GSM SFA-TFI Units</p>	<p>Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of political commitment in GSM Countries. - Overlap/duplication with other external assistance. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of development finance. - Appropriate counterpart inputs from GSM beneficiaries. - IT infrastructure available. - Activity supports CBTA. - Activity takes full account of, and seeks to integrate with, other relevant initiatives, activities and projects.

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Principal Action IV: Develop greater inter-agency cooperation in individual countries and at the GMS level, and improve the sharing and exchange of information/data between them, in connection with risk assessment, control, inspection and approval procedures, and conformity assessment procedures, with a view to establishing common procedures and working practices

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Strengthen the cooperation of the relevant authorities in the area of the sharing and exchange of inspection and quarantine information/data, e.g. through meetings, seminars, electronic data exchange, etc.	At the latest by 31 December 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular formal exchanges of relevant information & data between GMS countries, using a wide range of available methods. – Exchanges lead directly to the establishment of common working practices and procedures. 	<p>GMS Quarantine and Inspection Authorities</p> <p>GMS Standards and Quality Authorities</p> <p>GMS SFA-TFI Units</p>	<p>Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lack of political commitment in GMS Countries. – Overlap/duplication with other external assistance. – Overlap/duplication with existing platforms. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Availability of development finance. – Appropriate counterpart inputs from GMS beneficiaries. – Activity supports CBTA. – Activity takes full account of, and seeks to integrate with, other relevant initiatives, activities and projects.