

SPS regulations in Saudi Arabia

Article 1: General Provisions

- 1.1 These regulations shall be applied to all SPS measures taken by the Kingdom which will affect international trade directly or indirectly. These measures shall be applied according to WTO's SPS agreement.
- 1.2 The definitions provided for in annex 1 of WTO's SPS agreement shall be applied in these regulations.
- 1.3 The following annexes shall be integral of these regulations.
 - A-Definition
 - B-Clarity and transparency of the organizing regulations
 - C-The bodies of replying to inquiries and notifications
- 1.4 Nothing in these regulations shall affect the rights of WTO member states according to TBT agreement with respect to the measures beyond the scope of these regulations.

Article 2: Basic rights and obligations

- 2.1 The Kingdom shall have the right to take SPS measures to protect the life of human beings, animals and plants provided that they are consistent with the provisions of SPS agreement.
- 2.2 Applying any SPS measures shall be limited to the amount of necessity to protect the health or life of human beings, animals or plants based on scientific rules and principles, not continuing application without sufficient scientific evidences, with the exemption of temporary measures based on available info, provided that an effort is made to seek additional necessary info to increase the objectivity of risk assessment, to review these measures within reasonable time.

between the Kingdom and WTO member states having

2.4 SPS measures shall adhere to WTO member states obligations according to the provision of GATT 1994 on these measures, particularly Article 20.B. as long as the taken measures adhere to the stipulation of concerned agreement.

Article 3: Harmonization

3.1 SPS measures taken by the Kingdom shall be based on the international standards, guidelines and recommendations, with the exceptions of scientifically-justified precautionary measures that achieve protection levels higher than the measures taken based on international standards or recommendations conforming to all the regulations provisions.

3.2 SPS protection measures complying with standards are necessary to protect the health of human beings, animals or plants, and they are presumably conforming to the provisions of SPS agreement and GATT 1994.

3.3

different than those taken by other WTO member states trading in the same product, if this member country proves objectively that its measures achieves the protection level of the Kingdom. To verify this, the Kingdom may take any procedures such as inspection and necessary testing or any other necessary procedures. Through talks with other countries, Saudi Arabia may reach a definite bilateral or multilateral agreement recognizing the equivalence of SPS measures. Other WTO member states shall have the same right.

4.2 Upon request of a WTO member state, the Kingdom may

pias in treatment or restriction on international trade during

Article 7: Transparency

In application of annex B provisions, the Kingdom shall notify the WTO secretariat of any changes in its SPS measures and provide info, thereupon.

Article 8: Control, Inspection and Approval Procedures

The Kingdom shall observe the provision of annex C upon inspection, control, and approval including regulations to approve additives or allowed level of pollutants in foods and beverages and animal feeds provided conforming to and not conflicting with the provisions of these regulations.

Article 9: Consultations and Dispute Settlement

- 9.1 Consultation and dispute settlement shall be according to Article 22 and 23 of GATT 1994, and the content of this agreement and the MOU, on dispute settlement, unless provided for otherwise herein.
- 9.2 Nothing in this agreement shall affect other WTO member states according to any other international agreement.
- 9.3 SPS agreement shall not harm the Kingdom's rights in any other international agreement, including the right to go for good offices or mechanisms of dispute settlement in any