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**THE IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTING SPS AND TBT AGREEMENTS:
THE CASE OF FISH EXPORT TO EUROPEAN UNION BY TANZANIA**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) were signed mainly to protect the right of members to adopt measures, which ensure the quality of exports. Also, it includes protecting human health, animal, or plant life; protect the environment; or prevent deceptive practices. The use of these measures entails adherence to equal treatment for domestic & foreign products from member countries and ensure that regulations & measures do not limit trade unnecessarily. Also it seeks to harmonize sanitary and phytosanitary measures on as a wide basis as possible. While implementation of these agreements may increase transparency and reduce trade restriction, it is likely that developing country Members, least developed country Members in particular, will be left behind given their poor economic position to be able to cope and maintain international standards on their exports. Developing country Members are likely to be marginalized in the whole process of implementing the Agreements. The major objective of this study is to assess the impact of the implementation of the SPS and TBT agreements with respect to fish export to European Union countries from Tanzania (Lake Victoria in particular).

2.0 SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY AND TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE AGREEMENTS

2.1 Sanitary and Phytosanitary

The SPS Agreement entered into force with the establishment of the World Trade Organization on 1 January 1995. It concerns the application of food safety and animal and plant health regulations.

The SPS Agreement, while permitting governments to maintain appropriate sanitary and phytosanitary protection, reduces possible arbitrariness of decisions and encourages consistent decision-making. It requires that sanitary and phytosanitary measures be applied for no other purpose than that of ensuring food safety and animal and plant health. In particular, the agreement clarifies which factors should be taken into account in the assessment of the risk involved. The Agreement directs that measures to ensure food safety and to protect the health of animals and plants should be based as far as possible on the analysis and assessment of objective and accurate scientific data.

The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures sets out the basic rules for food safety and animal and plant health standards. It allows countries to set their own standards. But it also says regulations must be based on science. They should be applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health. And they should not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between countries where identical or similar conditions prevail. Member countries are encouraged to use international standards, guidelines and recommendations where they exist. However, members may use measures, which result in higher standards if there is scientific justification. They can also set higher standards based on appropriate assessment of risks so long as the approach is consistent, not arbitrary. The agreement still allows countries to use different standards and different methods of inspecting products.

2.1.1 Rationale for the SPS agreement

All countries maintain measures to ensure that food is safe for consumers, and to prevent the spread of pests or diseases among animals and plants. These sanitary and phytosanitary measures can take many forms, such as requiring products to come from a disease-free area, inspection of products, specific treatment or processing of products, setting of allowable maximum levels of pesticide residues or permitted use of only certain additives in food. Sanitary (human and animal health) and phytosanitary (plant health) measures apply to domestically produced food or local animal and plant diseases, as well as to products coming from other countries.

Sanitary and phytosanitary measures, by their very nature, may result in restrictions on trade. All governments accept the fact that some trade restrictions may be necessary to ensure food safety and animal and plant health protection. In practice however, governments are sometimes pressured to go beyond what is needed for health protection and to use sanitary and phytosanitary restrictions to safeguard domestic producers from economic competition¹. Such pressure is likely to increase as other trade barriers are reduced as a result of the Uruguay Round agreements. A sanitary or phytosanitary restriction which is not actually required for health reasons can be a very effective protectionist device, and because of its technical complexity, a particularly illusory and difficult barrier to dispute.

The Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) builds on previous GATT rules to restrict the use of unjustified sanitary and phytosanitary measures for the purpose of trade protection. The basic aim of the SPS Agreement is to maintain the sovereign right of any government to provide the level of health protection it deems appropriate, but to ensure that these sovereign rights are not misused for protectionist purposes and do not result in unnecessary barriers to international trade.

2.2 Harmonization of SPS measures

In order to harmonize sanitary and phytosanitary measures on as wide a basis as possible, Members are encouraged to base their measures on international standards, guidelines and recommendations where they exist. However, Members may maintain or introduce measures, which result in higher standards if there is scientific justification or as a consequence of consistent risk decisions based on an appropriate risk assessment. The Agreement spells out procedures and criteria for the assessment of risk and the determination of appropriate levels of sanitary or phytosanitary protection.

It is expected that Members would accept the sanitary and phytosanitary measures of others as equivalent if the exporting country demonstrates to the importing country that its measures achieve the importing country's appropriate level of health protection. The agreement includes provisions on control, inspection and approval procedures.

¹ WTO/Understanding the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Agreements,
http://.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/spsund_e.htm

2.3 Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

Technical Barriers to Trade was negotiated in the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations (1974-79) - the 1979 TBT Agreement or "Standards Code". Although this agreement was not developed primarily for the purpose of regulating sanitary and phytosanitary measures, it covered technical requirements resulting from food safety and animal and plant health measures, including pesticide residue limits, inspection requirements and labeling. Governments that were members of the 1979 TBT Agreement agreed to use relevant international standards (such as those for food safety developed by the Codex) except when they considered that these standards would not adequately protect health. They also agreed to notify other governments, through the GATT Secretariat, of any technical regulations, which were not based on international standards. The 1979 TBT Agreement included provisions for settling trade disputes arising from the use of food safety and other technical restrictions.

The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, reached in the Tokyo Round, seeks to ensure that technical negotiations and standards, as well as testing and certification procedures, do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade. However, it recognizes that countries have the right to establish protection, at levels they consider appropriate, for example for human, animal or plant life or health or the environment, and should not be prevented from taking measures necessary to ensure those levels of protection are met. The agreement therefore encourages countries to use international standards where these are appropriate, but it does not require them to change their levels of protection as a result of standardization.

2.4 Scope of SPS and TBT measures

The scope of the two agreements is different. The SPS Agreement covers all measures whose purpose is to protect:

- Human or animal health from food-borne risks;
- Human health from animal- or plant-carried diseases;
- Animals and plants from pests or diseases;

Whether or not these are technical requirements.

The TBT (Technical Barriers to Trade) Agreement covers all technical regulations, voluntary standards and the procedures to ensure that these are met, except when these are sanitary or phytosanitary measures as defined by the SPS Agreement.²

² WTO/Understanding the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Agreements, http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/spsund_e.htm

TBT measures could cover any subject, from car safety to energy-saving devices, to the shape of food cartons, human disease control (unless carried by plants or animals). In terms of food, labeling requirements, nutrition claims and concerns, quality and packaging regulations are generally not considered to be sanitary or phytosanitary measures and hence are normally subject to the TBT Agreement.

On the other hand, by definition, regulations that address microbiological contamination of food, or set allowable levels of pesticide or veterinary drug residues, or identify permitted food additives, fall under the SPS Agreement. Some packaging and labeling requirements, if directly related to the safety of the food, are also subject to the SPS Agreement.

The two agreements have some common elements, including basic obligations for non-discrimination and similar requirements for the advance notification of proposed measures and the creation of information offices ("Enquiry Points"). However, many of the substantive rules are different. For example, both agreements encourage the use of international standards. However, under the SPS Agreement the only justification for not using such standards for food safety and animal/plant health protection are scientific arguments resulting from an assessment of the potential health risks. In contrast, under the TBT Agreement governments may decide that international standards are not appropriate for other reasons, including fundamental technological problems or geographical factors.

In addition, sanitary and phytosanitary measures may be imposed only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant health, on the basis of scientific information. Governments may, however, introduce TBT regulations when necessary to meet a number of objectives, such as national security or the prevention of deceptive practices.

3.0 ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE SPS AND TBT ON TANZANIAN FISHERY INDUSTRY

3.1 Contribution of the fishery industry

Tanzania is well endowed with water resources, sharing three of the largest inland lakes in Africa, a diverse river system, and an ocean coastline. It therefore has a significant fisheries sector, most of that is artisanal. Fish landings from fresh and marine water average 329,000 tons (for 1998 and 1999) and it is estimated that in the contribution of the sector to the national GDP is 3%. The sector has a lot of economic and social significance, it is the main source of protein to nearly one third of the population, and provides employment and is a source of recreation and tourism.

Also, the sub-sector is major source of foreign exchange. In 1999, it is estimated that export of fish and fishery products earned the country US\$ 61.2 million, slightly lower compared to US\$ 72.5 million recorded in 1998 (Nile Perch products from Lake Victoria contributed about 85.5% and 93.3% respectively)³.

3.2 European Union ban of fish from Lake Victoria

For the past three years Tanzania has witnessed two bans of its fish from Lake Victoria into the European Union market. The first ban during the period was imposed on fresh fish exports to the EU between January and July 1998 because of a cholera epidemic. The second ban was in late March 1999 with allegation of fish poisoning. The 1999 ban was lifted ten months later following the commendations of the European Union Standing Veterinary Committee, which found Tanzania's fish to be free from the alleged poison.

Article 2:1 of the Agreement on the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures states that Members have the right to take sanitary and phytosanitary measures necessary for the protection of human, animal or plant life or health, provided that such measures are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement. Despite the fact that Article 2:2n of the agreement correctly directs that Members shall ensure that any sanitary or phytosanitary measure is applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health, is based on scientific principles and is not maintained without sufficient scientific evidence, in paragraph 7 of Article 5 of the agreement a loophole, which EU should have taken advantage of to impose the unjustified fish ban, allows that in cases where relevant scientific evidence is insufficient, a Member may provisionally adopt sanitary or phytosanitary measures on the basis of available pertinent information, including that from the relevant international organizations as well as from

³ Calculations based on data obtained from URT, *Economic Survey for 1999*, Dar es Salaam

sanitary or phytosanitary measures applied by other Members. In such circumstances, Members shall seek to obtain the additional information necessary for a more objective assessment of risk and review the sanitary or phytosanitary measure accordingly within a reasonable period of time.

However, Article 4:1 directs that Members shall accept the sanitary or phytosanitary measures of other Members as equivalent, even if these measures differ from their own or from those used by other Members trading in the same product, if the exporting Member objectively demonstrates to the importing Member that its measures achieve the importing Member's appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection. For this purpose, reasonable access shall be given, upon request, to the importing Member for inspection, testing and other relevant procedures. Tanzania and its trade partner EU should have, upon request, entered into consultations with the aim of achieving bilateral and multilateral agreements on recognition of the equivalence of specified sanitary measures which should have done away with the fish ban.

3.3 Economic effects of the ban

In Tanzania, fish landings from Lake Victoria have fluctuated over the years but current estimates put the figure at around 200,000 tons. This is over 50% of the national total fish landings and over 60% of total freshwater fish landings. About 80% of this is Nile Perch (FAO, 1997)⁴. The FAO study estimates the number of fishermen, who are predominantly artisanal, to be around 26,000 and nearly 500,000 people are employed in one way or other in fisheries-related activities. According to the Lake Victoria Fish Processors Association of Tanzania, the plants have created direct and indirect employment for over 28,000 people in the Lake zone and, in Mwanza Region alone, the plants are spending an average of Tshs 30 million (equiv. US\$ 0.5 million) daily on the purchase of fish from artisanal fishermen, thus boosting the rural economy.

The dominance of artisanal fishing may impair the quality of fish during handling partly contributed by limited handling facilities at the landing sites before it reaches prospective buyers.

Lake Victoria exports to the EU account for 60 percent of the total Tanzanian fish exports, which were 16 percent of total non-traditional export earnings in 1998/99. Temporary fish export bans have a major adverse impact on the industry, in terms of foreign exchange earnings, income and employment generation. For instance, in the last fish ban, the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources estimated the daily loss of export revenue to be Tshs 80 million. Following the ban, about 4,000 people (let alone small-scale fishermen who could not find a market for their catch) were suspended from work.

⁴ FAO, 1997, Tanzania, *Lake Victoria Fisheries, Study on Fish Quality Improvement and Related Investment Proposals*, Formulation Mission Report. Rome

3.3.1 *What went wrong?*

The major cause for the fish bans is non/little compliance to fish legislation and regulations existing in Tanzania. There is good number of regulations on fish in Tanzania but it seems they are not fully complied with by some fishermen and fish processing factories partly due to inadequate and/or inefficient enforcing mechanism.

The Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in Tanzania are not very strict. The Laws or ordinance, which are used, are out-dated and ineffective. With respect to export the country still faces a lot of problems in complying with international sanitary and phytosanitary standards due to poor/absolute technology used in processing of food; inadequate skills in processing and manufacturing; and poor/absolute instruments used to inspect the products; and ignorance of farmers, manufacturers to the existing laws and standards to be adhered complicates the problem. The limitations can be evidenced by the case of Tanzania's fish ban into the European Union Market in 1998 and 1999.

3.4 Fisheries legislation laws and By- Laws

The basic current legislation on fisheries is the Fisheries Act, No. 6 of 1970 (Ssentongo and Juhulya, 2000)⁵. The Act applies to marine and fresh water fishing. It provides for the protection, conservation, development, regulation and control of fish, fish products and aquatic flora. The Law specifies that a license is required to engage in fishing, gathering, manufacturing, selling, marketing, importing or exporting of fish, fish products, aquatic flora or aquatic flora products. It is the major legal instrument facilitating implementation of the current fisheries policy and management measures. Under Part IV of the Act, the Minister is empowered to regulate the fishing industry through a licensing mechanism and may impose fishing restrictions. Also the Minister can fill any lacunae that are found in the Act, by making regulations, which cater for specific demand of the industry.

Other instruments include the Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act (1989); the Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute Act (1980) and the Marine Parks and Reserves Act (1994). The main fisheries regulations in the mainland Tanzania include Fisheries (Marine Reserves) Regulations, 1975; Fisheries (Inland Waters) Regulations, 1981; Fisheries (General Amendment) Regulations, 1991; Fisheries (General Amendment) Regulations, 1996; and Fisheries (Amendment) Regulations, 1997.

It is worth noting that the responsible Minister is granted general powers to make regulations for the purpose of protecting, conserving, developing, regulating or controlling the capture,

⁵ Ssentongo G. W and James Jihulya (2000) Report on the Tanzania Fisheries Sector Review, FAO Sub-Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa.

collection, gathering, manufacture, storage or marketing of fish, fish products and aquatic flora. The Minister is empowered by Law to make regulations on a wide range of specific issues including use of explosives, poisonous or toxic substances.

The Fisheries Principal Regulations, 1989, for example specifies that fishermen and fish dealers must hold a licence in order to engage in fishing, collecting or export of fish or fish products. Reporting pertaining to fish killed, processed, preserved, packed, bought, sold, imported, exported or otherwise acquired or disposed of, is required from every licensee. The Law explicitly prohibits the use of explosives, poisons, and electric devices for fishing purposes throughout Tanzanian waters. In line with the polluter pays principle” the Fisheries Act states that any person who causes water pollution is required to clean polluted waters at his own expense.

3.4.1 Implementation of different Fisheries Acts

The FAO (1997) study indicates that most of the processing plants of Lake Victoria fish did not comply with, for instance, the Tanzanian Food Act of 1978 and Government Notice No. 63 May 1982, both of which set out regulations for the secure observance of sanitary and clean conditions, practices and methods for the manufacture, transport, storage, packaging and marking of food (including fish) intended for human consumption. Quality concerns did not appear to be high in the priorities of the processing plant owners and operators. Some plants lacked a functioning and well equipped laboratory and concepts like the widely practiced Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), which would ensure that checks for contamination, disease etc. are made at all critical possible fault lines, are not practiced (FAO, *Ibid.*).

3.4.2 Measures taken to control quality of fish from Lake Victoria

The major issue of concern to avoid further fish export bans was for all stakeholders in the country’s fishing industry to observe safety and hygienic standards and to protect Lake Victoria from environmental degradation. The Government has a responsibility as a regulator, monitor and facilitator of the sector. Through the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources, the Government has stated that it is committed to tackling the problems of illegal fishing and any other malpractice in the fishery industry to do away with fishermen and other individuals in the fishery industry who are inclined to enrich themselves by using whatever quick means available on the expense of the Tanzanian economy.

Although seminars have been conducted to educate people in the fishing industry to produce high fish quality products it is still skeptical that such vice like illegal fishing, bad fish handling

and the non cleanliness of the environment practices will not continue without close monitoring of the process by the authorities and strict penalties imposed even before exporting the fish.

3.4.3 Rationale for quality control

The international market where Tanzania exports Nile Perch is becoming more and more stringent regarding the standards and quality of food products they import. For example, within the EU countries, fish product imports originating from third countries (non-EU members) are allowed entry only if the exporting country has complied with all the measures required by the EU for the purpose of guaranteeing the quality and safety of the fish (FAO, 1997. According to FAO study the EU Council Directive 91/493 on the matter decrees that, as from January 1993, the fishery imports from third countries should be subject to provisions that are at least equivalent to those governing the production in EU member countries. This includes the enactment of National Fish Control Legislation; the presence of a competent and well-equipped fishery inspection service; and the fish exported must have been hygienically caught and handled on board fishing and transport boats, landing sites and processing plants.

Besides the need to comply with the external requirements of fish importers, the improvement of fish quality also serves the interest of the fishermen, the processing plant owners and operators, and the national at large. This is because the adoption of internally accepted fish quality control standards, such as the HACCP methodology would substantially reduce the financial losses suffered by fishermen and middlemen when fish is rejected by the processing plants on account of poor quality; ensure a product of a high quality from the processing plants which would assure that their consignments are not turned away by prospective importers resulting in financial businessmen and government. Other advantages are to enable the product to fetch better prices in the international market, thus higher margins for the processing plants and increased foreign exchange earnings for the government; and lead to a reduction in health hazards because of safer and more nutritive fish products. Tanzania's accession to WTO implies that it should abide by the SPS and TBT agreements.

3.5 Problems To Tanzania's Compliance To SPS And TBT Agreements

Tanzania lacks behind in complying with SPS/TBT agreements because of insufficient technical know-how, competent human and financial resources and facilities. Whereas, in Article 9 of the Agreement on the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures is well indicated that technical assistance is important to, especially developing country Members, either bilaterally or through the appropriate international organisations (e.g. in the areas of processing technologies, research and infrastructure, including in the establishment of national regulatory bodies). Technical assistance may take the form of advice, credits, donations and grants, including for the purpose of

seeking technical expertise, training and equipment to allow such countries to adjust to, and comply with, sanitary or phytosanitary measures necessary to achieve the appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection in their export markets. Given persistent ban on Tanzania's fish, it seems this provision has not been given due consideration. Also, the Agreement directs the importing developed countries to extend technical assistance to the exporting trade partner.

In Article 9 it is well recognised of the position developing countries, including Tanzania, are in. It is correctly put that where substantial investments are required in order for an exporting developing country Member to fulfil the sanitary or phytosanitary requirements of an importing Member, the latter shall consider providing such technical assistance as will permit the developing country Member to maintain and expand its market access opportunities for the product involved. However, the major weakness of this provision is that it does not make it mandatory for the importing country to extend such technical assistance to the poor exporting country. Although Article 10:1 of the Agreement directs that in the preparation and application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures, Member shall take account of the special needs of developing country Member, and in particular of the least-developed country Member, this does not bind the importing country Member to comply with the provision and the situation would be complicated in the struggle to protect the interest of local producers in the importing country Member.

3.6 Needs to Lake Victoria fishery industry

In order to ensure adequate and quality production of fish products from lake Victoria significant investment is needed partly from the private sector but on the other hand from the public sector (following private sector reluctance to investment in such areas as utilities). Whereas, private sector investments would be in such areas as for upgrading of processing plants; establishment of new plants; construction of ice making and chilling plants; and improving artisanal and gillnetting facilities, public sector would direct itself into construction of landing sites infrastructure and strengthening of fish quality control mechanisms.

According to the FAO (1997) study, in the private sector, existing processing plants would need to be upgraded, new built and setting up ice plants and chilling rooms. Upgrading. With respect to public sector, the study recommended that, there was a need to put in place landing sites with requisite infrastructure. On the other hand, institutional strengthening of the Fisheries Department would be inevitable largely through training of fish quality assurance and control staff; holding workshop for stakeholders; and provision of communication and transport facilities to enhance logistical capacity. The study estimates the total cost to amount to over US\$ 9 million.

3.7 Cost summary of recommended investments

PRIVATE SECTOR

	Units	US\$'100	% of FE	Amount of FE
Upgrading of processing plants				
general refurbishment	11	660	70	462
Equipment	11	3,740	90	3,366
Sub-total	11	4,400	87	3,828
Establishment of new plants	2	1,600	80	1,280
Construction of ice & chilling plants				
- ice	17	320	90	288
plants				
- chilling rooms	16	192	70	134
Sub-total	33	512	82	422
Improved artisanal gillnetting*	200	1,146	25	286
Total private sector investment		7,658	76	5,816

PUBLIC SECTOR

Construction of landing site infrastructures				
- mainland landing & service sites	10	780	45	35
- mainland fishermen landing sites	6	306	45	138
- island landing sites	4	168	45	76
Sub-total	20	1,254	45	565
- Institutional strengthening				
- purchase of vehicles**		147	70	103
- training & workshops***		120	30	36
- others		8	20	16
Sub-total		345	45	155
Total public sector investment		1,599	45	720
GRAND TOTAL		9,257	67	6,356
Physical contingencies (10%)		926		636
TOTAL INVESTMENT COSTS		10,183	70	7,172

* 100 motorised units and 100 non-motorised units

** 2 cars, 10 motor-bikes, 30 bicycles; 10 motor-boats

*** Training 10 fish quality inspectors & 30 fish quality controllers

Source: FAO, 1997, Tanzania, *Lake Victoria Fisheries, Study on Fish Quality Improvement and Related Investment Proposals*, Formulation Mission Report. Rome

3.8 Constraints

The major constraints to fishery operations on Lake Victoria can be summarized as:

- ◆ lack of capacity to enforce fishery legislation to protect the lake's fish resources;
- ◆ lack of information on the magnitude and status of the fish resources;
- ◆ low capacity in the Department of Fisheries, particularly at district level;
- ◆ poor road infrastructure to the landing sites and market destinations;
- ◆ fish filleting plants with outmoded equipment and inappropriate premises;
- ◆ lack of ice-making plants where fishermen could conveniently buy ice;
- ◆ in Mwanza and Musoma, lack of credit finance for fishermen to buy boats, engines and fishing gear.

According to Article 14 of the SPS Agreement, the least-developed country Members are allowed to delay application of the provisions of the SPS Agreement for a period of five years following the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement with respect to their sanitary or phytosanitary measures (i.e. 2000) affecting importation or imported products. The given time period for least-developed country Member is not enough. It implies that if constraints and issues of concern are not addressed least-developed country Member, Tanzania in particular will not be able to benefit from the implementation of SPS/TBT agreements.

4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Tanzania lacks behind in complying with SPS/TBT agreements because of insufficient technical know-how, competent human and financial resources and facilities. It is shown in the paper that given Tanzania's poor economic situation benefit little from the execution of the SPS/TBT agreements. As a pre-requisite, capacity in both fish production and quality management need to be put in place. Technical assistance is very important for Tanzania and other developing countries to be able to comply with the agreements. Concerning quality control, it is evident that Tanzania has no option out but to comply with international quality standards. Standards should not be seen merely as technical instruments. They should be viewed as a means of industrial improvement, means of protecting the healthy and safety of Tanzanians and their trade partners and, ultimately, as partnership between consumers, industrialists and the public sector.

Following recommendations concerning quality control and in light of recent experience with the standards imposed export buyers such as the European Union it important to operationalize the following strategies:

- ◆ Handling of harvested fish by the vendor before purchase for processing much be hygienic;
- ◆ Appropriate equipment such as toilet facilities, clean potable water and acceptable landing arrangements at the jetties should be provided at landing sites;
- ◆ Plant layout and design should prevent product cross-contamination;
- ◆ Hygiene training programs should be institutionalized in the sector;
- ◆ Processing plants should operate self-monitoring and audit schemes
- ◆ Developing countries should be given enough time frame between invocation of the TBT or SPS measures and its implementation;
- ◆ African countries including Tanzania should seek necessary funding to set up country and regional testing laboratories; and
- ◆ In setting SPS and TBT standards developed countries should be required to provide notification obligation and indicate whether interests of developing countries have been taken into account in setting such standards.

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