Promoting Transparency Through the Improvement of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Notifications in APEC Region

by

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Non-tariff Measures Week
Non-tariff Measures: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
PERU’S INITIATIVE ON PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY THROUGH THE IMPROVEMENT OF SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY NOTIFICATIONS IN APEC REGION
IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROBLEM

Information is often unclear and unpredictable

Transparency obligations are more focused on procedures than in the outcome of the notifications

The cost of obtaining and adapting the relevant information on NTM is normally higher for MSMEs

When looking for NTMs, there is still a significant transparency gap since systematic and comparable information is not generally available

Poor information accessibility related to NTMs is a key concern for the private sector

Vagueness of information
PERU’S INITIATIVE ON PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY THROUGH THE IMPROVEMENT OF SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY NOTIFICATIONS
APEC’s main pillar of work is advancing on trade facilitation and liberalization, by addressing different issues, including nontariff barriers and transparency, as outlined in the Bogor Goals.

The forum also contributes with initiatives that supports and strengthens the Multilateral Trading System.
STUDY OF APEC ECONOMIES’ SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) NOTIFICATIONS ON QUALITY AND COMPLETENESS OF INFORMATION
OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

To evaluate the quality and completeness of the information provided by APEC economies, in accordance with the Recommended Procedures for Implementing the Transparency Obligations of the SPS Agreement.

In that sense, this study seeks to raise awareness and increase the understanding of:

- The compliance of SPS notifications with the Recommended Transparency Procedures.
- Key items from SPS notifications that should be clearly expressed to improve the quality and completeness of the information.
- Private sector perception of SPS notifications and main challenges related to the quality and completeness of the information.
RESULTS – REGULAR NOTIFICATIONS
It should be noted that the global average decreases until **58.55%** when items 1, 2, 4 and 7 are excluded, considering that those are always going to obtain a qualification of 100 percent.

To obtain this result, the evaluation of items 9 and 13 has not been considered, since the broad kind of information presented. It has not been possible to catalog that information in specific factors.
RESULTS – EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

- AGENCY OR AUTHORITY HANDLING
- COMMENTS
- DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE AND
- PERIOD OF APPLICATION
- EXISTENCE OF INTERNATIONAL
- STANDARD, GUIDELINE OR
- RECOMMENDATION
- NATURE OF URGENT PROBLEM(S) AND
- REASON FOR URGENT ACTION
- OBJECTIVE AND RATIONALE
- DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT
- MEMBER NOTIFYING
- AGENCY RESPONSIBLE
- PRODUCTS COVERED
- REGIONS OR COUNTRIES LIKELY TO BE
- AFFECTED
- TITLE, LANGUAGE AND NUMBER OF
- PAGES OF THE NOTIFIED DOCUMENT
- EXISTENCE OF INTERNATIONAL
- STANDARD, GUIDELINE OR
- RECOMMENDATION
RESULTS – EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS (II)

AVERAGE  84.38%

It should be noted that the global average decreases until 75.45% when items 1, 2, 4 and 7 are excluded, considering that those are always going to obtain a qualification of 100 percent.

To obtain this result, the evaluation of items 10 and 13 has not been considered, since the broad kind of information presented. It has not been possible to catalog that information in specific factors.
PERCEPTION OF IMPORTANCE OF ITEMS IN WTO SPS NOTIFICATIONS

MOST IMPORTANT

3. Products covered

6. Description of content

4. Regions or countries likely to be affected.

12. Final date for comments and agency or authority handling comments

9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available

LESS IMPORTANT

2. Agency responsible

5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document.

13. Text available from
APEC PRIVATE SECTOR PERCEPTION ON MAJOR CHALLENGES ON WTO SPS NOTIFICATIONS

- Lack of information of the draft measure: 28.57%
- It is difficult to determine which products are involved: 19.05%
- Different languages used in the linked documents: 35.71%
- International standard is not provided: 9.52%
- There is not enough time to comment: 7.14%
## Alignment between WTO SPS Notifications Evaluation and Private Sector Perception

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From 3. Results of the Notifications’ Analysis</th>
<th>From 4. Private Sector Experiences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Item to be improved in regular SPS notification</strong></td>
<td><strong>Item to be improved in emergency SPS notification</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - Products covered</td>
<td>3 - Products covered</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 - Description of content</td>
<td>6 - Description of content</td>
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<td>10 - Proposed date of adoption and of publication</td>
<td>11 - Date of entry into force and period of application</td>
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<td>11 - Proposed date of entry into force</td>
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<td>12 - Final date for comments and agency or authority handling comments</td>
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STUDY OF APEC ECONOMIES’ SPS NOTIFICATIONS ON QUALITY AND COMPLETENESS OF INFORMATION

Available at:

CTI PUBLIC – PRIVATE DIALOGUE (PPD) ON PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY THROUGH THE IMPROVEMENT OF INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN THE SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) NOTIFICATIONS
CTI PUBLIC – PRIVATE DIALOGUE (PPD) ON PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY THROUGH THE IMPROVEMENT OF INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN THE SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) NOTIFICATIONS

WTO Guidelines
Public sector experience
Private sector experience
Sources of information related to SPS and NTMs
Transparency at RTAs/FTAs
NEXT STEPS

Intersesionally discussions of draft recommendations

AMM 2019: Ministers endorse adoption of APEC recommendations on SPS notifications

APEC Leaders welcome the adoption of the APEC recommendations on SPS notifications
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