

How to address SPS & TBT trade problems?

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Resolving Trade Problems -Exercise

Sour Grapes







Ways to Address Trade Concerns

- 1. Bilateral and/or Regional Efforts
- 2. SPS/TBT Committee Specific Trade Concerns
- 3. Good Offices by the Chair of the SPS Committee
- 4. WTO Dispute Settlement System





Bilateral and/or Regional Efforts

Suggested Actions:

- Contact Enquiry Point
- Informal discussions on the margins of the SPS/ TBT Committee meetings
- Request information through diplomatic channels







• SPS Article 5.8

"an explanation of the reasons for such SPS measure may be requested and shall be provided by the Member maintaining the measure."

• TBT Article 2.5

"... shall, upon the request of another Member, explain the justification of the technical regulation..."





Ways to Address SPS Trade Concerns

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What is a Specific Trade Concern?

A specific trade complaint raised by Members in the SPS/TBT Committee in relation to SPS/TBT measures maintained by other Member(s).

(whether draft measures or measures currently in force)

 All Members can raise a specific complaint about SPS/TBT measures imposed by other Members in the SPS/TBT Committee.





SPS/TBT Committee – STCs

Suggested Actions:

- Consult previous Specific Trade Concerns (STCs)
- Communicate intention to raise an STC

At least 11 calendar days before the meeting

- In writing
- Inform the other Member concerned

