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Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Controls over Imports

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UNCTAD
Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Controls over Imports\(^1\)

G.I. Johnson\(^2\) and A.U. Malik\(^3\)

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\(^1\) This report is the outcome of a study commissioned by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and undertaken by the authors during March-April 2006.

\(^2\) Greg I. Johnson, Horticulture 4 Development, PO Box 412 Jamison, ACT 2614, Australia. Email: greg.johnson@velocitynet.com.au, http://www.horticulture4development.com

\(^3\) Aman Ullah Malik, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan. Email: malikaman1@yahoo.com
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Effective sanitary and phytosanitary controls for imports are key pillars for maintaining national biosecurity. The Government of Pakistan (GoP) has a system of administration and control of imports which has been adapted to accommodate enhanced communication and transport systems and the liberalising trade environment. The Government of Pakistan is committed to compliance with the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) and has a program of legislation revision and enhancement of entry access/regulation, infrastructure and capacity building underway. This report examines the status of the current regulatory system in Pakistan and selected neighbouring countries, assesses strengths and weaknesses and makes recommendations for improvement and future action.

In promoting Pakistan exports, imports will also grow through:

- opening up trade under bilateral Free Trade Agreements,
- enhanced dialogue with other countries,
- strengthening Pakistan’s trade office presence abroad, and
- investment in infrastructure and capacity building in Pakistan.

These key initiatives affect both capacity requirements and the complexity of challenges and reinforce the urgency for strengthening import regulation.

Relevant legislative authority that governs SPS controls over imports to Pakistan

Pakistan does not have clearly defined Federal laws to regulate SPS control over imports.

Most current laws are available from the internet, and an excellent body of additional information is very accessible in electronic form. In terms of the overall system, Pakistan is broadly compliant with the requirements of SPS, but some laws are old and in need of revision/broadening. The revised laws should be more comprehensive, flexible and effective:

- Pakistan does not have laws to regulate genetically modified organism (GMO) crops; however, bio-safety guidelines have been developed.
- Pakistan does not have provisions for monitoring or regulating maximum residue limits (MRLs) in imported or domestic produce.

Roles and responsibilities of key Federal and Provincial Government Departments

Federal Agencies are responsible for most elements of import control. Legislation for Food Safety, however, is under the responsibility of the Provincial Governments.

Responsibilities are reasonably well defined, but implementation in practice can be limited by lack of resources and infrastructure, particularly at land borders. There is no system in place for contaminant testing of imports and, for some commodities; ‘condition of import’ specifications may not provide adequate SPS protection.
Other principal stakeholders

Other principal stakeholders include industry bodies, non-government organisations and the private sector. There are industry bodies to represent most key groups. Consultation processes are variable and more attention is needed in this area.

Import controls in neighbouring countries: Afghanistan, and Iran

Import Controls and legal frameworks in Pakistan are broadly similar level to those of Iran and the two countries have consulted and agreed on specific import/export protocols (e.g. citrus and mangoes to Iran).

Development of the legal frameworks, infrastructure and capacity for import controls by Afghanistan is much more basic, and produce entry from and through Afghanistan represent considerable biosecurity risk to Pakistan. FAO agencies are providing some generic guidelines for biosecurity risk management of imports to Afghanistan. Pakistan could potentially provide mutually beneficial assistance in legal frameworks and capacity building.

Relevant international conventions and agreements

Pakistan is a member/signatory to most key relevant agreements and an active contributor to some organisations. Capacity and resources limit full participation and progress in compliance with some agreements. Pakistan has not yet ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

Strengths and weaknesses of the Pakistan's current system for SPS control over imports

Strengths in SPS controls include:

Key elements of an effective legal framework and commitment to international obligations

- Pakistan has a commendable commitment to WTO and to upgrading legal and institutional frameworks.
- Pakistan is a signatory to most key relevant international and regional conventions and agreements.
- Current (and proposed) laws and ordinances cover many of the critical elements of import control and reflect key commitments to international conventions and agreements.

Systems for entry approval (Import permit/ Release Order) and regulation are in place and administered

- GoP maintains dialogue with all land border countries and key trading partners on matters relating to border security, biosecurity and import control.
- Regular trading partners are familiar with and generally satisfied with the components of the system and the time/costs involved in delivering imports.

Biosecurity: basic risk and compliance assessment (Quarantine certification) requirements are generally being met

- Global and regional security concerns have heightened GoP, international trading partner and donor agency attention to the improvement of port of entry
access and security, and priorities for immediate attention have been established.

GoP recognises the need for investment in training and capacity building

- Existing institutional frameworks, international agency support systems and the education sector provide a sound base for strengthening training and capacity building.

GoP has a commitment to enhancing stakeholder access to information

- Basic information on the system, relevant laws, import regulations and charges and clearance procedures are reasonably accessible. A web-based one-stop portal is needed.
- Internet connectivity and access to www is growing and mobile phone connectivity is high.

Weaknesses in SPS controls include

Overarching weaknesses

- Administrative systems and operational effectiveness.
- Mechanisms for motivating and rewarding staff.
- Coordination between different regulatory agencies.

Inadequate integration of the program of reform for laws (import/export)

- Action plans for compliance to international obligations are needed.
- Some key elements of legislation (e.g. food laws) are provincial laws.
- Implementation strategies are needed to progress from ‘law’ to enforced regulatory/inspection requirements.
- The pace of review, progression from review to revision, and passing of new laws can be slow.
- Stakeholder consultation particularly at an early stage needs strengthening. Currently it can be inadequate.
- Pakistan lacks the resources and capacity to fully implement all international obligations or to actively participate in international benchmark setting negotiations.

Systems for entry approval (Import permit/RO) and regulation have deficiencies

- With a long land border, with inhospitable terrain in some regions, and many traditional crossing points, it is difficult to control all import entry.
- Cross border smuggling is also a serious problem.
- Several road entry points operate limited hours.

Biosecurity: risk and compliance assessment (Quarantine certification) needs critical attention
• An old and weak regulatory framework leaves gaps that represent biosecurity risks.
• Inadequate infrastructural capacity and competence hampers effectiveness and full compliance with SPS.
• Staffing levels are inadequate and coverage of plant quarantine and seed certification not available at several entry points.
• The system is possibly too complex and slow to respond to emergent threats.
• Access to data on import risks by commodity and risk alerts is inadequate.
• Capacity and coverage of risk assessment and emergency action plans is inadequate.
• Staffing levels at entry points does not match relative inspection/clearance requirements for some entry points.

Training and capacity building is not co-ordinated and does not reach operational staff
• Basic training and access to refresher courses for plant quarantine, standards and food safety and seed certification are inadequate.
• Planning and curriculum development are needed to strengthen technical and tertiary training in all aspects of SPS/WTO.
• Capacity building amongst the farming and trading sectors is also needed.

Information is not accessible enough for stakeholders
• It is difficult for Pakistan importers and overseas exporters to obtain complete information on import requirements and processes.
• Quarantine and seed certification staff do not have adequate access to information needed to do their jobs effectively.

Recommendations

To progress SPS compliance for import controls, the following recommendations are made:

Recommendation 1. Strengthen focus on development and implementation of SPS compliance strategies and tactics, and target resources to areas of highest risk.

1.1. The WTO Unit of MINFAL in liaison with responsible Departments should continue to facilitate the review and revision of laws underpinning SPS compliance including food laws and quarantine laws.

1.2. Enhance training and capacity building in relevant government agencies and training institutions for risk assessment (MINFAL, Quarantine), policy
development (MINFAL, Commerce) and regulatory inspections and certification (Quarantine, Customs, Standards).

1.3. To ensure that SPS compliance and produce quality maintenance can be maintained during import reception, inspection and release, infrastructure development plans and resourcing strategies should be developed by the Ministries of Commerce and Finance.

1.4. MINFAL agencies should develop action plans for dealing with emergent problems in imports (such as pathogen outbreak, suspected contamination of consignments).

1.5. MINFAL and Customs should develop and institutionalise early warning systems for detecting and responding to outbreaks/threats.

1.6. The WTO Unit in MINFAL, the Ministry of Commerce and UNCTAD should organise stakeholder consultations to consider content and recommendations of this report and develop recommendations for draft policy and further action.

Recommendation 2. Enhance access to information about import/export regulations and SPS compliance requirements for relevant authorities, industry stakeholders and trading partners.

2.1. The Ministry of Commerce working with relevant Departments should continue to enhance access to information about import requirements and enhance inspection and clearance procedures.

2.2. MINFAL and responsible Departments should foster greater regional networking and knowledge sharing in risk assessment data access and evaluation.

2.3. MINFAL, the Ministry of Commerce and the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority should continue to foster regional dialogue and harmonization on GAP\(^4\) standards and consider utility of those being developed by ASEAN countries.

Recommendation 3. Develop and implement strategies and processes for enhancing and monitoring performance.

3.1. Performance targets should be built in to Agency operational plans and assessed annually by line Ministries and Ministry of Finance.

\(^4\) Good Agricultural Practice
3.2. GoP through MINFAL and the Ministry of Commerce should adopt a fair but reasonable approach in assessing risks and establishing import requirements (this means that import requirements should be no more stringent than local standards in practice).

3.3. The WTO Unit in MINFAL should continue to foster development of SPS expertise and competencies for standards and performance assessment in country.

3.4. The Ministry of Commerce and MINFAL should encourage links with the private sector and key trading partners to enhance awareness and compliance and continuous improvement of SPS related management of imports.

3.5. Quarantine Services should enhance capability for dealing with/reducing risk of quarantine detections (e.g. in-port fumigation of timber, grain etc where infestation/contamination detected).
I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

The World Trade Organization (WTO) functions as a global international negotiating table for rule based agreements which encourage the free flow of trade across borders, equal treatment between imported and domestically produced goods, and between imports from one country and imports from another. Some exceptions can however be made, including to “protect human, animal or plant life or health” and to comply with religious or cultural prohibitions.

Compliance with international standards facilitates international trade, not only by ensuring that the product is of the desired quality and safety, but also by enabling all countries to benefit from standards and conformity assessment. When imposing standards and conformity assessment procedures, it is necessary that certain rules and disciplines are followed so that the standards/regulations do not act as unreasonable barriers to trade. This aspect has been taken care of through the non-tariff agreements, which basically lay down the rules and disciplines with regard to standards.

Pakistan is modernizing its border and import control systems to move towards a risk based targeting and risk management strategy that incorporates more integrated import control strategies and the increased use of technology based information processing and inspection. The Government of Pakistan recognizes the need for a clear regulatory policy and an effective risk management framework. The Government also recognizes that it must formulate strategies and tactics to target resources to areas of highest risk, to enhance information access for relevant authorities and trading partners and develop the capacity to monitor performance.

One important WTO accord is the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement which covers safety and health aspects of trading food products. It permits members to impose such measures as are necessary for protection of human, animal and plant life or health. While encouraging adherence to international standards in respect of quality and safety management systems, it permits the imposition of stricter measures, provided they are based on scientific justification and other members have opportunity to comment on them. The SPS Agreement encourages members to establish formal systems of import control to ensure appropriate degree of protection for their citizens.

In addition to the SPS Agreement, a formal system of import control should be based upon:

- The Codex Alimentarius’ Guidelines for Food Import Controls Systems (http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/index_en.jsp)
- The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) (http://www.fao.org/legal/TREATIES/004t-e.htm)

This section quotes extensively from the Pakistan Trade and Transport Facilitation Project Terms of Reference for international and national consultants in agricultural standards to study Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Controls over imports in Pakistan.
All developed economies have installed strong import control systems for the food sector, such as the AQIS in Australia, CFIA in Canada, TAFPII in Japan, FSA in UK, and FDA in USA. These countries also maintain food export inspection systems.

To facilitate moves by Pakistan to modernise and strengthen its border and import control systems this report:

1. Inventories the relevant legislative authority that governs sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) controls over imports to Pakistan, highlighting any inconsistencies or deficiencies in the existing legislation and emphasising phytosanitary controls;

2. Identifies the roles and responsibilities of key Federal and provincial Government departments concerned with these imports;

3. Reviews the corresponding import controls in neighbouring countries: Afghanistan, and Iran.

4. Lists principal stakeholders, including the regulated parties as well as non-governmental organizations representing public health, animal welfare, environmental and consumer interests;

5. Lists relevant international conventions and agreements, noting Pakistan’s status in respect to acceding formally to such agreements and fulfilling the incumbent obligations in practice and

6. Enumerates the strengths and weaknesses of the existing system in Pakistan, citing those areas that are organised and managed effectively and those areas where improvements could be made.

The materials contained in this document have been drawn from a variety of sources, including documents collected from stakeholders in Pakistan, and the websites of the Government of Pakistan (GoP) and other Pakistan agencies, international agencies and Pakistan’s trading partners. Where possible, background documents or web addresses are linked or cited.
Preamble

The population of Pakistan ranks 9th in the world and the country has shown positive economic growth over the last decade (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Graph showing Pakistan’s GDP, imports and exports (1999-2004)
(Source: Federal Bureau of Statistics; State Bank of Pakistan)

Pakistan is a founding member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) (since inception, 1995), and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) (est. 1985 with Turkey and Iran). Since 1993, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan have also been members of ECO.

On 17 July 2003, Pakistan signed an Economic Cooperation Organization Trade Agreement (ECOTA), with other ECO member states establishing a mechanism to promote and sustain intra-regional trade and economic cooperation through mutually agreed concessions.

Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indian, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka are members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) (est. 1985) which aims to promote accelerated economic growth, and complement bilateral and multilateral relations among members. SAARC members have a preferential trade agreement, under which Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka have been designated as lesser developed countries. In addition, the contracting states set up the SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) in 1993, to promote and sustain mutual trade and the economic cooperation. In March 2006, the SAARC Secretariat issued a notification formally announcing the entry into force of the SAFTA Agreement effective from 1 January 2006. (http://www.commerce.gov.pk/SAFTA.asp).
Pakistan and Sri Lanka have signed an FTA framework (9 February 2005) which calls for reciprocal and gradual tariff elimination for imported goods with the exception of goods listed in the negative or sensitive list. Singapore has exchanged a draft FTA with Pakistan, which includes services and an investment protection clause.

Pakistan signed in 2003 a preferential trade agreement with China, and undertook similar initiatives with Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Laos, Thailand and Turkey. Under the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with China starting January 1, 2006, either country can initiate trade under an Early Harvest Program (EHP). The China agreement provides a major reduction in tariffs on certain items already identified by the two sides.

India and Pakistan are negotiating over increased bilateral trade, with Pakistan allowing duty free import of live animals, meat, garlic, onion, potatoes and tomatoes through the Attari Road Land Custom Station at the Wagha Border - an established route for import and export of goods from India. India has accorded Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan, but reciprocal status, to date, has not been granted to India. Trade links between the two countries will be enhanced with the completion of a fiber-optic link between Lahore and Amritsar, India.

The trading arrangements of Pakistan have been significantly reformed in recent years. State involvement has been significantly reduced (except for wheat) and the consumption subsidy on wheat will also be phased out eventually. Promotion of export led growth by GoP has led to the privatisation of cotton and rice exports and a number of export subsidies including those for fertilizer have been abolished. These initiatives should also enhance imports.

Currently tariffs can range from 0-25 % and are being reduced in a longer-term rationalisation. Levy surcharges on certain items (e.g., vegetable oils) are designed to protect domestic industry. (GAIN report PK 5013 attached as Appendix 2)

**Agriculture Imports: Status**

More than 900 different agricultural commodities, >765,000 tonnes worth over US$ 200 billion were imported by Pakistan in 2004 (Appendix 1). Seed and second hand machinery (for mining and agriculture) are also imported (Appendix 1), and should also be considered in relation to SPS risks. Figure 2 shows the relative value and quantities of agricultural commodity imports to Pakistan (PRAL, 2006) in the first quarter (01 Jan -17 March) of 2006. Table 1 shows some of the major imports in these categories for Pakistan 2000-2004, together with the major SPS risks x commodity group that require particular attention.
Figure 2. Share of agricultural commodities imported into Pakistan (2003-04)

A: Import quantity (tonnes)

B: Import value (US $)
Table 1. Selected major agricultural imports to Pakistan 2000-2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Group</th>
<th>Main risks</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Value US$ ’000</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beverages</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea and Mate</td>
<td>Contaminants</td>
<td>222,580</td>
<td>178,949</td>
<td>154,184</td>
<td>191,890</td>
<td>202,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grains and other durable produce</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Phytosanitary, contaminants</td>
<td>144,455</td>
<td>26,748</td>
<td>58,031</td>
<td>23,469</td>
<td>238,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Contaminants, phytosanitary</td>
<td>7,766</td>
<td>5,265</td>
<td>3,499</td>
<td>11,169</td>
<td>15,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil seeds</td>
<td>Phytosanitary, contaminants</td>
<td>116,623</td>
<td>121,294</td>
<td>186,000</td>
<td>234,797</td>
<td>231,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable oils (soft)</td>
<td>Contaminants</td>
<td>87,803</td>
<td>26,279</td>
<td>13,695</td>
<td>48,614</td>
<td>58,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable Oils (not soft)</td>
<td>Contaminants</td>
<td>326,520</td>
<td>342,679</td>
<td>487,897</td>
<td>628,768</td>
<td>654,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perishable produce</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>Phytosanitary, contaminants</td>
<td>142,716</td>
<td>135,267</td>
<td>195,036</td>
<td>84,586</td>
<td>102,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit/nuts</td>
<td>Phytosanitary, contaminants</td>
<td>64,326</td>
<td>50,503</td>
<td>49,311</td>
<td>41,090</td>
<td>50,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manufactured foods</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packaged dry goods, chilled</td>
<td>Contaminants, food borne pathogens</td>
<td>695,545</td>
<td>539,216</td>
<td>363,902</td>
<td>355,030</td>
<td>323,291</td>
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<tr>
<td>and frozen foods</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Livestock</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Live animals</td>
<td>Animal diseases</td>
<td>1,818</td>
<td>1,308</td>
<td>1,870</td>
<td>1,715</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seed</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed imports</td>
<td>Weed seed, seed-borne pathogens</td>
<td>21,912.8</td>
<td>14,487.7</td>
<td>30,287</td>
<td>23,271.7</td>
<td>43,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural machinery</strong></td>
<td>When second hand: Soil/weeds,</td>
<td>67,189</td>
<td>54,613</td>
<td>47,255</td>
<td>37,466</td>
<td>38,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>insects, pathogens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(FAOSTAT)

By both volume and value, Karachi, is the import hub and the main entry for agricultural produce (Figure 3) with Port Qasim, the major port, which, during the first quarter (1 Jan -17 Mar 2006) received 80% agricultural imports by quantity. Long-term arrival patterns are similar. A list of Customs declared international entry/exit points and Land Customs Stations is given (Table A 5.1, Appendix 5).
This document focuses on management of phytosanitary risks associated with imports. The risks posed to Pakistan by importation of agricultural commodities vary from commodity to commodity as well as amongst sources of origin. However, the healthy growth of the import trade, and the continuing growth of the agricultural sector in Pakistan implies that under current arrangements, the risks associated with most imports are generally managed adequately.
For plant produce, imports risks include: exotic pests, pathogens and weeds and contaminants, with specific risks varying with the commodity and the source of produce. Some globally recognised key risks are specified in the plant Quarantine Act and/or in the Import Control Orders/Pakistan Customs Tariff.

The import risk requirements for seed vary depending upon whether seed are already approved varieties, or new varieties. Assessment is made of phytosanitary risks and seed quality (germination) and suitability for cultivation in Pakistan. Phytosanitary risks associated with seed imports include contamination with exotic weeds, pathogens or pests and seed not being falsely labelled. Seed smuggling from China also poses a significant Phytosanitary risk (e.g. 100-200 of vegetable seeds packets at a time sold to small dealers in Peshawar).

For importation of agri-produce, seed and machinery at land borders, inspection avoidance and bribery represent additional risks. Introduction of weed seed and soil-borne pathogens in soil and debris adhering to road and rail traffic is also a risk.

### Basic Import Requirements

Under Pakistan’s current trade policy (http://www.commerce.gov.pk/tradepolicy.asp), the importer does not need to register for import purposes. However, the individual importer/company should be a member of a local (Pakistan) chamber of commerce and must have Sales Tax Number as well as National Tax Number (NTN). Information on procedures for obtaining these is contained at http://www.cbr.gov.pk.


### Import Procedures

In reviewing SPS controls over food imports to Pakistan it is useful to document the typical import procedure for agricultural commodities processed food, fresh food and seeds (See also Figures 4 and 5):

**Pre-arrival.** An importer first sources information on the specific import requirements for the commodity of interest and applies for an import permit from the respective department (e.g. Plant Quarantine, Animal Quarantine or Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department). They then arrange payment by letter of credit (LC) or other mode. Subject to satisfactory completion of arrangements with the exporter and transport providers, the imported goods arrive at the port of entry.

**Post-entry.** Processed packaged products are handled differently to fresh produce (Figure 4).

**Processed products:** Pakistan generally accepts that the import of processed, packaged food is an acceptable provided it complies with labelling and use-by date

**Fresh Products**: For fresh produce, a clearing agent is engaged by the importer to obtain a release order (RO). The application for the RO contains necessary documents including the (i) import permit, (ii) a goods declaration form, (iii) an invoice, (iv) an airway bill/ Bill of lading, (v) seed test/treatment reports (if relevant), (vi) an undertaking and certification as free of GMOs. Based on the information in the RO application, all necessary inspections, sampling and tests are undertaken (e.g. quarantine inspection, seed germination etc), reports prepared and approved and the RO application is either approved or rejected.

In the case of general agri-produce, the RO is issued by the Plant Protection (PP) Department to Customs. Subject to customs checks, any taxes are paid and the consignment released.

**Seeds**: For seeds, the procedure depends on whether the import is of an approved variety or a new variety. Seeds of approved varieties are subjected to seed purity and germination tests by the Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department (FSC&RD) and by Plant Quarantine for other phyto-aspects, the RO issued to Customs, routine customs checks made, taxes paid, and the consignment released or rejected. For new varieties, additional requirements, including 2 years of adaptability trials, are needed before approval can be granted for bulk import. A recent new ordinance requires a seed testing report from the respective country of origin of imported seed and this will add to the cost of imports. For new seed varieties a Descriptor letter is also required.

Figure 4 shows the import procedure for agricultural commodities, while Figure 5 shows the procedures and form requirements for a typical air shipment.
Figure 4. Import Procedure for Agricultural Commodities

Importer: Application for Import Permit (PP)

Arrange Payment: LC or Other mode

Arrival of Goods at Port

Fresh food/Seeds

Clearing Agent: Requests PP/FSC & RD for Supply of RO

Sampling/Tests

Fruit/vegetables/Grains etc

Processed Food

(FP department issues RO to AC customs—usually clearing agent get by hand)

Clearing agent: submit papers for appraisal

Custom checks

Taxes paid

Clearance

Application for RO includes:
Import Permit
Goods Declaration form
Invoice
Airway/Bill of lading
Seed test/treatment report
Undertaking *
GMO free certificate

Application for RO
includes:

New varieties
Already approved Cvs

RO issued for adoptability trials (2 years)
(with undertaking)

Routine custom checks/procedure

Taxes paid/Clearance

Trial/trial report received by SC&RD

Approved / Rejection

Seed Purity and Germination tests are performed

RO issued to AC custom

Routine custom checks

Taxes paid

Clearance / Rejection
Figure 5. Typical Customs Clearance Procedures for an air consignment.

1. Exporter
   - Issue Air Way Bill/ Bill of Lading to Exporter (10 copies, various dept)

2. Air Line/Shipping Agency
   - Clearing Agent gets DO on Payment
   - Issue PRAL number
   - Issue IGM number
   - Clearing Agent gets delivery order

3. Import Shed
   - The two Goods Declaration Forms must have same contents

4. PRAL
   - Custom

5. GHA
   - Clearing Agent submits the document to Deputy Superintendent Customs /scrutinizes-Mark it to Import Examiner
   - Clearing Agent opens carton/ packing as per advice of DSC
   - Examines as per Invoice & Packing list and other documents

6. Appraising Handling
   - Valuate and put the value (on bill of Entry)

7. Inspector Examiner
   - Inspector report to DS about Completion/ DS forward it

8. Appraising Officer
   - For further approval/Confirmation & Verification

9. Principal Appraiser

10. Assistant Collector (If needed)

11. Clearing Agent
   - Calculate Taxes & confirm with PRAL for verification/acceptance of taxes
   - Assigns the Custom cash number

12. Customs Clerk

13. Goods Arrival

14. CA fills and gets the print of GDF (PRAL software)
*An automated Custom clearance system, under Customs Administrative Reforms Programme “CARE” is being trialled. The new system has been designed to replace current manual and personalized systems, to bring improvements in cargo clearance processes and thus benefit industry.

Summary: General procedures for import clearance in Pakistan

i) Customs officials and respective department officials (Plant Quarantine, Animal Quarantine and (for seed) Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department) inspect imported products to ensure they conform to labelling and other import requirements.

ii) Imports of live animals or plants require necessary certification from the country of origin. After respective Department clearance and Customs checks, the goods are released on payment of taxes or import duty as per policy.

iii) English is the official language. All agencies will accept documents in English and will respond in English. Thus, there is no need to translate documents to Urdu or other local languages to expedite procedures.

iv) Goods generally can be cleared from Customs in between 24 h and a week depending on port of entry, if all papers are in order.

v) The system allows for appeal (at multiple levels) in case of a dispute or rejection of a product.
II. INVENTORY OF LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY FOR SPS CONTROLS

Agricultural commodities and manufactured food imports

Currently Pakistan does not have a clear set of Federal Food Laws for either domestic or imported foods. The Federal government is responsible for regulation of imports and the Provincial governments regulate food standards.

In regulating imported foods, the Pakistan Government generally applies Codex standards/guidelines. Pakistan’s Federal food import regulations are based on the premise that if a (manufactured) product is sold in the country of origin and thus meets that country’s food law requirements, Pakistan’s standards are met as well. Standards of some developed countries (e.g. US Food and Drug Administration Standards (US FDA)) are accepted with some products. For animal products, Halal certification is mandatory and certain meat types are banned. 6

The two key agencies involved in regulating food imports of plant origin7 are the Customs Department (link to detail: http://www.cbr.gov.pk) and Plant Quarantine (PQ), a Division of the Plant Protection Department (link to detail: http://www.plantprotection.gov.pk/quarantine.htm).

- Overarching functions of Customs Department inspections are to ensure that labelling and shelf-life requirements are met by imported foods, that entry of banned items is prevented, and that correct import tariffs are applied (as detailed under GoP Trade Policy 2005-2006 and the Pakistan Customs Tariff 2005-2006 (http://www.cbr.gov.pk/newcu/tariff/tariff_main.htm))

- The Plant Quarantine Division of the Plant Protection Department ensures that bulk commodity shipments and other agricultural produce meet phytosanitary requirements (as detailed under Food and Sanitary/Phytosanitary laws and relevant annotations as ‘conditions of import’ in the Pakistan Customs Tariff 2005-20068).

Shelf-life is a primary concern for processed foods. Federal import regulations specify that an imported food have at least 50 percent of original shelf-life at time of importation (previously 75%). Therefore labelling is required to show production and expiry dates on each saleable unit with at least 50 percent of original shelf-life remaining at time of import.6 Appendix 26 contains advice provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service to those with an interest in export of agricultural products to Pakistan. The information focuses primarily on requirements for processed products (which usually pose fewer sanitary/phytosanitary risks), and provides an overview on requirements that a major exporter (USA) considers most critical in accessing the Pakistan Market. The key issues covered are:

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7 This report focuses on plant product imports.
8 E.g. in the Pakistan Tariff 2005-06, the entry for mushroom of genus Agaricus states: “Certificate from Department of Plant Protection. Banned of not fit for human consumption. Banned if goods not free from haram. Banned from India.” Entries for nuts and fresh fruit list the requirement for an Aflatoxin report from Department of Plant Protection.”
**Banned products** - products banned in compliance with religious prohibitions or as luxury items or security risks.

**Labelling.** - Bar-coding alone not acceptable. *Dates of manufacture and expiration must be indicated. Importation in retail packaging enhances consumer confidence.* Labelling should indicate compliance with shelf-life, halal and suitability for human consumption requirements.

*Edible oils are imported on basis of landed weight and quality. Labelling requirements are strictly enforced. No exceptions are granted and Authorities have the power to reject or to destroy any cargo with improper labels.*

**Nutritional Labelling.** - No requirements for nutritional content to be listed on product labels, and no objection to specific ‘health claims’ on labels.

**Packaging and Container Requirements** - follow Codex rules with no explicit requirements in relation to environmental concerns (such as responsible/non-polluting disposal of packaging).

**Food Additive Regulations** - follow Codex rules for food additives, preservatives and vitamins. Regulations require labelling with percentage dye content and exporting country certification of additive/colour permitted use at the time of shipment.

**Pesticide and Other Contaminants** - follow Codex rules and guidelines on maximum residual limits (MRLs). There is no system in place to enforce MRLs in domestically produced foods but GoP plans to develop necessary facilities and technical capacity (http://www.dawn.com/2004/02/29/ebr7.htm). Occasionally authorities enact special requirements (e.g the 1999 dioxin problem in Belgium).

**Other Regulations and Requirements:**

i) Specification of terms and conditions of importation in the letter of credit.

ii) Approval of MINFAL departments (Animal, Plant Quarantine) for imports of plants and animals/produce.

iii) Clearance of MINFAL Livestock Division for import of livestock genetics.

**Registration** - no requirement to register most consumer foods. *Laboratory testing may be required for food products containing medicines. Bulk vegetable oils are the only products subject to random testing to ensure fitness for human consumption at time of arrival. If registration is required, the importer must file application with the Ministry of Health. The importer also must attach a letter from the manufacturer stating that he is the manufacturer’s sole agent.*

**Samples** - Product samples can be shipped via express mail or parcel post and must meet labelling and other requirements.

**Certificate of Origin** – required for all shipments, certification as Halal for animal products, may require other specific certificates based on worldwide alerts or other emergency situations. GoP alert the appropriate countries and trade organizations of any specific requirements. *Exporters should verify with their importers that all*
required certificates for customs and quarantine clearance have been obtained prior to shipment.

**Product Inspection.** - no system to monitor products at wholesale or retail levels. Under certain circumstances, district administrators may ban the sale of a product.

**Other Specific Standards** – Pakistan uses metric standards for weights and measurements. Other standards:

i) Codex rules regulate importation of vitamin-enriched products. Food products containing a genetically enhanced component (GMO) are not restricted.

ii) Fresh or frozen seafood may be imported in consumer packs or in bulk.

iii) Alcoholic beverage cannot be imported for commercial sale.

iv) Organic foods and health foods are not regulated. (More detail in Appendix 2)

**International Agreements and Pakistan Laws**

The import regulation system described in Figure 4 is designed to address key import regulatory issues under Pakistan’s obligations to the SPS Agreement, Codex Alimentarius’ Guidelines for Food Import Controls Systems, and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Similar arrangements are also in place to manage the import of animals and animal products in compliance with the International Animal Health Code of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE). Relevant Pakistan legislation is detailed here. For completeness, related issues such as regulation of labelling, copyright, trademarks, packaging are also covered, since these have relevance to both maintenance of food safety, biosecurity and animal health and produce trace-back, and also to consumer awareness and assurance.

The legislation process for relevant laws is detailed in Figure 6. Laws are framed and implemented under the oversight of the Law Division.

**The SPS agreement**

The Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement covers the safety and health aspects of the trading of food products. It permits members to impose such measures as are necessary for protection of human, animal and plant life or health. While encouraging adherence to international standards in respect of quality and safety management systems, it permits the imposition of stricter measures, provided they are based on scientific justification and other members have opportunity to comment on them. The SPS Agreement encourages members to establish formal systems of import control to ensure appropriate degree of protection for their citizens. Pakistan has been a signatory to the agreement since joining WTO in 1995.

In general, Pakistan bases its import control systems on:

- Codex Alimentarius’ Guidelines for Food Import Controls Systems
- International Animal Health Code of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) and the
- International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Key elements of these agreements are described under V (Pakistan and International Agreements).
**Figure 6.** Procedure for review, development, approval and implementation of laws covering regulation of imports

Law Division*: Ministry of Law Justice and Human Rights; MoPA: Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; AoP: Act of Parliament; FSC&RD: Fed. Seed Certif. & Reg. Dept.; PQ: Plant Quarantine; AQ: Animal Quarantine. *(The President & Governor (Province) can issue ordinance (interim Law) for a period of four & three months respectively.)*
CODEX Guidelines for Import Control Systems
The Codex guidelines for import control are consistent with the Codex Principles for Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification, and provide specific information about imported food control that is an adjunct to the Guidelines for the Design, Operation, Assessment and Accreditation of Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems.9

The principles and guidelines for food import and export certification systems are developed by the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS), and they recognise quality assurance through developing guidelines to help ensure that foods conform to essential requirements. Pakistan is a member of this committee.

The existing Codex standards relating to food import and export inspection and certification systems that have been endorsed and adopted into the international food code include standards on:

(i) Principles for food import and export inspection and certification
(ii) Guidelines for exchanging of information between countries on rejections of imported foods
(iii) Guidelines for designing, operating, assessing and accrediting food import and export inspection and certification systems
(iv) Guidelines for developing equivalence agreements regarding food import and export inspection and certification systems
(v) Guidelines for food import control systems
(vi) Guidelines for judging equivalence of sanitary measures associated with food inspection and certifications systems: and
(vii) Guidelines for exchanging information in food safety emergency situations

These eight standards articulate the key issues required in a comprehensive and effective food control system and they provide a useful framework for assessing strengths and weaknesses in Pakistan’s legislative framework.

Animal Health Codes of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

The recommendations in the Animal Health Codes are designed to prevent diseases in question from being introduced into an importing country, taking into account the nature of the commodity and the animal health status of the exporting country. Correctly applied, the recommendations should ensure that intended importations take place with an optimal level of animal health security, incorporating the latest scientific findings and available techniques. The recommendations in the Codes make reference only to the animal health situation in the exporting country, and assume that either the disease is not present in the importing country or is the subject of a control or eradication programme. Therefore, when determining its import measures, an importing country should do so in a way that is consistent with the principle of national treatment and the other provisions of the WTO SPS Agreement. An importing country is always free to authorise the importation of animals or animal products into its territory under conditions either more or less stringent than those recommended by the Codes, but this must be based on a scientific risk analysis and done in accordance with the country’s obligations under the SPS Agreement. (Edited text from Guide to the Use of the Aquatic Animal Health Code http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/fcode/A_00002.htm)

*International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)*

The IPPC is an international treaty to secure action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. It is governed by the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (ICPM) which adopts International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). The ICPM established the IPP as the forum for national reporting and exchange of more general information among the phytosanitary community. The IPPC Secretariat coordinates the activities of the Convention and is hosted by FAO. (Quoted from IPPC home page http://www.ippc.int/IPP/En/default.jsp)

*Pakistan Legislative frameworks relevant to the regulation of imports*

The International Portal on Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health facilitates trade in food and agriculture products and supports the implementation of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement by providing a single access point for authorized official international and national information across the sectors of food safety, animal and plant health. The site includes links to relevant legislation and full text of the following laws and ordinances in PDF format. Information from the site is attached as Appendix 3.

*General laws and orders covering imports*

*Customs Act 1969 and the Customs (Amendment) Ordinance XVI 1998*

The Customs Act, 1969 specifies that the Central Board of Revenue (as constituted under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1924) as the final authority for classifying items to be imported or exported. Generally however, Pakistan follows the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System published by the World Customs Organisation, Brussels.

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10 Harmonized System - The Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (or Harmonized System, HS) is a system for classifying goods in international trade, developed under the auspices of the Customs Cooperation Council. Beginning on January 1, 1989, the new HS numbers replaced previously adhered-to schedules in over 50 countries, including the United States.
The Act makes provision to ban imports that illegally use marks, labels, patents or descriptions to falsely or incorrectly convey quality or biosafety assurances through brand name reputation, quality standard, patents or manufacturing processes within the meaning of relevant legislation and ordinances (the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860, the Copyright Ordinance, 1962, the Patents Ordinance, 2000 and the Trade Marks Ordinance, 2001.

The Act provides power to prohibit or restrict importation and exportation of goods.- The Federal Government may, from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, prohibit or restrict the bringing into or taking out of Pakistan of any goods of specified description by air, sea or land. This clause provides scope to restrict importation on SPS biosecurity grounds.

The Act governs approval of loading and unloading places, and transhipment, and the routes by which alone goods, or any class of goods specified in the notification, may pass by land or inland waterways into or out of Pakistan, or to or from any land customs-station or to or from any land frontier – all critical elements of import and SPS security control.

The Act further states that agencies or persons managing or owning a customs-port, a customs-airport or a land customs-station should provide at its or his own cost adequate accommodation to customs staff for offices, examination of goods, detention and storage of goods and for other departmental requirements to be determined by the Collector of Customs and shall pay utility bills, rent and taxes in respect of such accommodation. This means that owners/managers of facilities where goods are received, inspected and cleared by customs can affect SPS biosecurity through the adequacy and upkeep of the physical integrity and security of entry point infrastructure for goods storage and for safe and productive work by personnel involved in clearance procedures.

The Act contains powers for customs agents to board conveyances (boats, planes etc) at points of entry for inspection purposes. This is a critical clause as it provides a legal basis for undertaking SPS related inspections for Customs agents (but not necessarily Quarantine officers).

The Act contains clauses governing goods in transit focussing on matters relating to payment of duty rather than maintenance of SPS biosecurity.

The Act conveys clauses covering record keeping, confidentiality and auditing. These are all critical issues in relation to SPS record keeping and trace back.

The Act also covers power to take samples of goods in the presence of the owner or his agent or where the Customs Computerized System is operational in the presence of the custodian of the goods, for examination or testing or for ascertaining value thereof or for any other necessary purpose. In the case of articles intended for consumption as food, the taking of samples may have been authorised by a general or special order of the Provincial Government. Under this clause the appropriate officer may also take samples for submission to/examination by specified officers of Government or local authorities. It is this clause that provides for sampling for SPS related testing and examination.
Customs Act 1976

A well-written Act which seems to cover most key issues of concern/relevance to SPS related roles of Customs.

**Deficiencies**

- Customs are empowered to enforce more than 100 regulations, Acts, Ordinances, International conventions including checks for compliance with Intellectual Property Rights (Trade mark, copy right etc) but there is no ready summary of all necessary checks and compliance requirements for use of potential importers.

**Inconsistencies**

- By comparison, the Plant Quarantine Act is much less comprehensive and it could be useful to enhance complementarity of provisions under the Customs and Quarantine laws.

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The Pakistan Customs Tariff 2005-2006
(http://www.cbr.gov.pk/newcu/tariff/tariff_main.htm)

The Pakistan Customs Tariff covers the rules and rates of customs duties applicable on imported goods. Rules include broad issues relating to specific SPC concerns for particular commodities.

*Import Policy Order 2005-2006 and the Imports and Exports (Control) Act of 1950 under the Ministry of Commerce*

These documents form the GoP Trade Policy - 2005-06.

The Import Policy Order covers the basis of imports, freely importable items, second hand and construction machinery and vehicle importation, temporary import, classification of goods under Pakistan Customs tariff and restricted and prohibited imports. Significantly the list of restricted items details the conditions under which many agricultural products can be imported and specify clearances required (e.g. an aflatoxin\(^\text{11}\) report for fruit, wheat etc subject to specifications notified by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MINFAL)). Appendix D of the Import Policy Order lists edible products. Appendix G of the Order lists items importable from India (including food items). The Imports and Exports (Control) Act covers powers to prohibit or restrict imports.

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\(^{11}\) Aflatoxins: These are naturally occurring mycotoxins produced under favourable conditions in natural products (such as peanuts, maize, dried fish etc) as metabolic products of fungi (such as *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus paraciticus*). Several mycotoxins are harmful to human and animals, acting as mutagens and carcinogens and can be 50 times more toxic than commonly used pesticides. In Belgium, the Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) in foodstuffs is 0, while in Switzerland, Germany and Denmark it is 4 ppb.
Import Policy Order 2005-2006 and the Imports and Exports (Control) Act of 1950

Deficiencies

Under Part A Import Policy Order, specification of conditions for several categories of import are inadequate for SPS purposes:

• Under Appendix B of the Order, Part 1. Health and Safety Requirements:
  – Chapter 1 should also include ‘livestock products’.
• For several categories of commodity (e.g. fresh and dried fruits), importation is subject to the production of an “aflatoxin report to the effect that the consignment is free from any pests/diseases”. This requirement is an error of fact in that aflatoxin is neither a pest nor disease. Rather, aflatoxins are a group of toxins produced by various fungi that can occur as contaminants in food products (particularly dried or semi-processed or mouldy produce). While aflatoxins are often the primary mycotoxin contaminants of concern for many commodities, other mycotoxins represent specific risks for many commodities (e.g. ochratoxin in coffee, patulin in apple juice). Pests/diseases are a separate category of potential concern in imports and should be covered separately when appropriate.
• For categories of commodity where “aflatoxin report” is required, the condition should be revised to:
  “Mycotoxin report indicating that the consignment does not contain levels exceeding CODEX MRLs of the mycotoxin(s) specified for the individual commodity by the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock.” A similar adjustment should be made to Conditions of import in the Pakistan Customs Tariff 2005-2006. For some categories (e.g. fruit), “importable subject to Phytosanitary requirements” should be added as an additional condition of entry.
• For any type of vehicle or machinery, particularly second hand items or non-new items being imported by users, the specification “freedom of soil and debris” should be added as a condition of import.

Inconsistencies

• The category “Fresh and dried fruits” should be expanded to “Fresh and dried fruit and vegetables”, as similar risks can occur with some vegetables.

National Tariff Commission Act, 1990 (VI of 1990)

This act provides for the establishment and functioning of the National Tariff Commission whose functions are to advise the Government on:

(i) tariff measures or other form of assistance for:
  (a) providing protection to the indigenous industry;
  (b) improving the competitiveness of the indigenous industry; or
  (c) promoting exports from Pakistan;
(ii) measures to counter dumping and other unfair measures adopted in respect of import and sale of foreign goods in Pakistan; and
(iii) any other matter relating to protection or assistance to the indigenous industry that the Federal Government may refer to the Commission.

Although primarily concerned with industry competition, under function (iii) of the commission and under the associated Safeguard Measures Ordinance 2002, potential impacts on domestic production of SPS factors associated with imports (such as an exotic pathogen) could be taken into account in setting import regulations.

12 * Repeated under section 76 of the Antidumping Duties Ordinance 2000)
Safeguard Measures Ordinance, 2002

Under this Ordinance, the Federal Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, apply a safeguard measure on an investigated product imported into Pakistan if the investigated product is being imported in such increased quantities, absolute or relative to domestic production, and under such conditions as to cause serious injury or threat of serious injury to domestic industry producing like or directly competitive products. While this Ordinance is primarily aimed at managing competitive impacts of imported products on domestic products, the definition of 'other factors' that could cause serious injury to a domestic industry as ‘deemed relevant by the (National Tariff) Commission’ could conceivably include SPS risk factors. To date however the Ordinance has been applied for regulation of industrial products.

Copyright and/or Trademark Laws

Copyright Ordinance 1962
(http://www.tic.org.pk/ipro/The%20Copyright%20Ordinance%201962.pdf)

The copyright office is under the Ministry of Education. A copyright on a registered design is initially granted for five years extendable for another ten years.

Patents Ordinance, 2000
(http://www.tic.org.pk/ipro/Patents%20Ordinance%202000%20-%20Memo.pdf)

The Patents Office, under the Ministry of Industries administers registration of patents and designs. Patents are granted for up to 16 years from the date of application and may generally be extended for another five years period and, under some circumstances, for an additional five years. Legal remedies, such as injunctions, are available in cases of patent infringement.

Trade Marks Ordinance, 2001
(http://www.tic.org.pk/ipro/Trade%20Marks%20Ordinance%202001.pdf)

Trademarks are registered under the Trademarks Act, 1940 and Trade Marks Ordinance 2001, through the Trademark Registry, under the Ministry of Commerce. Trademarks are registered for seven years from the date of application and the registration may be renewed for an additional fifteen years. There are no statute of limitations on trademarks and brand name registrations. The importer of a food product, in coordination with the manufacturer, may register the trademark(s) and brand(s).

The above frameworks cover importation of food and non-food items and have important functions in application of specific food law particularly in relation to

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13 Information in Italics précised from the GAIN report PK 5013.
regulatory clearance, clear labelling, maintenance of bio-security, animal health and food safety and maintenance of shelf life, consumer education and assurance and trace-back/management of import arrangements.

**Food Laws**

Pakistan’s main legislation governing food safety, food quality standards and labelling of food products is contained in provincial laws such as the *Pure Food Ordinance 1960* (PFO) and the *Cantonments Pure Food Act 1966*, the Federal *Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act 1996* and the *Pure Food Rules 1965*. (Reference Mazhar Siraj[14]). There is overlap however between the PFO and the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act for particular food standards (see http://www.un.org.pk/unido/proj-future.htm).

In addition to food laws the *Agricultural Pesticides Ordinance 1971* regulates the import, manufacture, formulation, sale, distribution, use and advertisement of pesticides. Agricultural Pesticide Rules were established under this ordinance in 1973 and Agricultural pesticide standardisation and registration was introduced with assistance from Provincial Agriculture Departments. These arrangements are relevant to the import of agricultural produce in-so-far as they list banned chemicals and indicate maximum residue limits for foods. *(Reference FAO 2005. Proceedings Asia Regional Workshop on the Implementation, monitoring and observance of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, Bangkok, 2005. FAO RAP Publication 2005/29 249pp.)*

*Punjab (or West Pakistan) Pure Food Ordinance 1960*  
(http://punjablaws.gov.pk/laws/121.html)

The Pure Foods Ordinance consolidated and amend the laws concerning preparation and sale of foods. It covers:

- licensing of the manufacture, storage and sale of food,
- use of food colours,
- certain hygiene standards
- import, preparation and sale of ‘unwholesome’ food,
- food poisoning,
- packaging of food,
- analysis of food, and
- penalties and procedures.

This law with certain amendments has been adopted by all provinces and some northern areas. It does not apply to cantonment areas as there is a separate law for the cantonments:

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There is no substantial difference between this law and the Pure Foods Ordinance. Recently, the Federal government increased specified punishment for adulterating food to 25 years in prison (much higher than that in the Pure Food Ordinance 1960).

Pakistan Hotels and Restaurant Act of 1976
The Pakistan Hotels and Restaurant Act of 1976 provides more specific law in relation to sale of food and beverages by hotels and restaurants and covers contamination, hygienic preparation and use of contaminated utensils. This law could also have particular relevance in relation to imported foods because of the requirements for and use of imported fruit and vegetables in hotel food facilities.

Future Food Laws
(http://www.dawn.com/2006/01/03/nat3.htm)

In early 2006, the Pakistan government announced plans to update the Pure Food Ordinance to meet international norms. Updating plans include accreditation of food testing laboratories, enhancing food inspection services and capacity. Proposed changes also include enhancement of food analysis procedures and expansion of the food ordinance coverage from 105 food items to include an additional 400 new products. In early January 2006, a meeting was convened at the National Institute of Health (NIH), Islamabad, to develop consensus on revisions to the ordinance through involvement of national, provincial and other stakeholders.

Once agreed and enacted, the revisions will accommodate modern innovations such as regulation of genetically engineered produce, the use of food irradiation, modified atmosphere packaging and enhance health and safety to consumers. It was proposed that the Codex standards will provide benchmarks for the revisions.

The West Pakistan Pure Food Ordinance of 1960 has not been revised since 1960 while the Pure Food Rules of 1965 have been frequently updated. The 2006 draft bill provides for federal government involvement in checking food quality without limiting the power of provincial governments. Definitions of several items are revised in the new Bill and the roles of authorities are clearly defined.  

Currently there are food laboratories in each Province, but they do not perform microbiological analyses. There is a need to upgrade personnel resources and equipment and ideally extend food lab capabilities to the district level.

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Deficiencies

- The Food Laws are Provincial and a federal law is needed with parallel enactment at Provincial level to enable implementation by appropriate federal and provincial agencies.
- The Food laws are primarily designed for processed and prepared foods but revisions should cover fresh produce where appropriate.
- At import, the Federal Customs Department (under Ministry of Finance) checks compliance with PFL standards, but this appears to be on the basis of requirements ‘fit for human consumption’ listed in the Pakistan Customs Tariff 2005-2006 and Health and Safety Requirements (such as an aflatoxin report for some commodities) listed in the Import Policy Order 2005-2006, as well as compliance with packaging, use by and permitted product requirements.

Inconsistencies

- The Pure Food Ordinance covers use of food colours, certain hygiene standards and import, preparation and sale of ‘unwholesome’ food but does not cover contamination by pesticides, mycotoxins, heavy metals or specified microorganisms.

Standards and Quality

Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act 1996
(http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/divisions/food-division/media/PSQCA.pdf)

The Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act 1996 under the Ministry of Science and Technology, although not a ‘food law’, provides for the establishment of the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority, the peak body for formulation of standards or adoption of international standards. It also has responsibilities for enforcement of standards throughout Pakistan with a mandate to inspect and test products and services, including food for quality, specification and characteristics during use and for import and export.

Covers:

- designing, measuring and testing instruments and test procedures
- inspection and testing of products and services for their quality, specification and characteristics, during use and for import and export purposes
- review of matters which may be necessary for quality improvement of products or processes
- preparation, implementation, co-ordination or arranging of the training programs on standardization, quality control testing and weights and measures for technical personnel from Pakistan and elsewhere
- establishing and authorizing inspection and testing centres and agencies
• providing for the quality labelling standards which shall specify ingredients, performance, specification, usage, methods and other relevant quality control matters

• grading the products when requested by manufacturers, or when-ever necessary for the purpose of quality improvement

• setting up the mode of inspection and the manner in which samples may be obtained

• examination of manufacturing plants for the designated products or processes for approval of marks of the Authority

• stop manufacture, storage and sale of such products which do not conform to the Pakistan or any other country’s standards recognized by the Authority

• inspection and taking of samples of any material or product for examination as to whether any article or process in relation to which any of Authority mark has been used conforms to the Pakistan standard or a standard of any other country recognized by the Authority or whether any of the Authority mark has been improperly used in relation to any article or process with or without licence or certificate

• specification of the manner and condition subject to which a license or certificate to use any of the Authority marks may be granted or renewed, suspended, cancelled or withdrawn

• granting, renewal, suspension, cancellation or withdrawal of a license or certificate for the use of any of the Authority marks

• levying of fees, for marking, grant or renewal of any license or certificate in relation to use of any of the Authority marks

• levying of fees for checking, inspection and testing of products for import, export or local consumption ;

• framing and publishing, amending, revising or withdrawal of the Pakistan Standards in relation to any article, product, process

• determination of Pakistan Standards for the measurement of length, weight, volume energy and materials

• collection, circulation of statistical and other information relating to standardization, quality control, metrology, applied research

• establishment, maintenance of libraries, museum, laboratories and accreditation of other laboratories for the purpose of furthering the practices of standardization, metrology and quality control

• communication with public and Governmental agencies on national and international levels, on matters connected with standardization and other activities of the Authority through circulars, books, public media or through seminars, symposia, workshops and printing and publishing such circulars and books

• securing recognition of the Pakistan Standards and confidence in Pakistani products abroad

• registration of inspection agencies

• coordination and cooperation with other national, regional and international organisations, associations, societies, institutions or councils, whether
incorporate or not, whose objects are wholly or in part similar to those of the Authority and
• constitution of committees for carrying out the schemes and programmes of the Authority.

The Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act 1937
(http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/divisions/food-division/media/Act1937.pdf)

The Act makes provisions for
• Fixing grade designation to indicate the quality of any schedule rules.
• Defining the quality indicated by every grade designation
• Specifying grade designation marks to represent, particular grade designation,
• Authorizing a person or a body of persons to grade produce
• Providing for the confiscation and disposal of produce marked otherwise than in accordance with the prescribed conditions with a grade designation mark
• Penalties for unauthorized marking with grade designation marks and counterfeiting grade standards marks.

Although intended for domestic marketing, this law and the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act 1996 make provisions under which SPS compliance of imported produce could be regulated particularly when it rendered produce ‘not fit for human consumption’.

The Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act 1996

Deficiencies
• The laws primarily have a domestic industry focus and while this is appropriate, provisions for inspection and regulation of ‘quality’ in imported produce as relevant to regulation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary risks.

Inconsistencies
• Possibly some overlap with provisions under provincial food laws.

Pesticides and Contaminants

Agricultural Pesticides Ordinance 1971
The Agricultural Pesticides Ordinance 1971

Deficiencies

- No provision for testing and regulating pesticide residues in domestic or imported produce.

Phytosanitary Law

Phytosanitary protection is regulated by

- the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department of MINFAL under the Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act 1976 and Plant Quarantine Rules 1967 with a new Act proposed for 2006,
- the Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department of MINFAL under the Seed Act 1976.

Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act, 1976
(http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/divisions/food-division/media/Act1967.pdf) and
Plant Quarantine Rules, 1967 (as enforced Under P.Q. Act, 1976)

The Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act 1976 and Plant Quarantine Rules 1976 are an update of earlier law in order to conform to recommendations of the FAO International Plant Protection Convention, 1951 and rules and regulation of other countries. The Plant Quarantine Act was designed to safeguard against destructive pests and diseases not known to occur in Pakistan.

The rules cover:

- Import of plant material
- Plant material for which a special permit is required
- Application for importation of plant material
- Notice of arrival by the importer
- Refusal and revocation of permits
- Foreign certificates of inspection
- Freedom of plant material from sand, soil or earth
- Packaging material
- Plant material imported by post
- Importation of insects and other animals, pests, plant disease and cultures for scientific purposes
- Jurisdiction authority of quarantine officers.

The Act also specifies some import restrictions (prohibitions of access from countries where certain quarantinable diseases have been recorded) for specific crops – potato, rubber, sugarcane, tobacco, citrus, coffee propagating material, banana, coconut, groundnut, maize, tea, Allium (onion family), soil and rooted plants, sunflower, cotton. An annex covers registration of commercial fumigators. Proformas are
provided for Import Permits confiscation/destruction of unapproved imports, release orders, anchorage permits, and phytosanitary/health certificates.

Seed Act -1976
http://www.grain.org/brl_files/SL_Pakistan_seed_act.pdf
http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/divisions/ContentInfo.jsp?DivID=10&cPath=91_97_359&ContentID=1027

The Seed Act is administered through the Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department (FSC&RD) of MINFAL. The law provides for the establishment and functioning of a National Seed Council, National Registration Agency and Provincial Seed Councils, the notification, regulation, certification and sale of seeds of notified varieties and species, the appointment of registered growers, seed analysts and inspectors, and the powers of the inspectors to enter and search property. This act provides the framework for regulation of entry of imported seed with specific requirements differing for approved and unapproved varieties or species.
Table 2. Analysis of coverage by Pakistan law of Codex Standards relating to food import. While the legal framework fails to clearly cover application of all standards, many of the issues are responsibilities of Government agencies. The Federal Department of Health is the contact point for CODEX.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codex standards relating to food import</th>
<th>Pure Food Ordinance and Cantonments Pure Food act</th>
<th>Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Act</th>
<th>Import Policy Order</th>
<th>Copyright, Trademark and Copyright law</th>
<th>Registration (Importers and Exporters) Order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) Food import and export inspection &amp; certification</td>
<td></td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Compliance checks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Exchanging of information between countries on rejections of imported foods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Designing, operating, assessing and accrediting food import and export inspection and certification systems</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv) Developing equivalence agreements regarding food import and export inspection and certification systems</td>
<td></td>
<td>Part</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v) Food import control systems</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vi) Judging equivalence of sanitary measures associated with food inspection and certifications systems: and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vii) Exchanging information in food safety emergency situations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(viii) Electronic certification as an Appendix to the Codex Guidelines for Generic Official Certificate Formats and the Production and Issuance of Certificates (CAC/GL 38-2001)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List of Field Offices/Seed Testing Laboratories of the FSC&RD:

* Punjab
1. Lahore*
2. Faisalabad
3. Sargodha
4. Sahiwal
5. Khanewal
6. Multan
7. R.Y. Khan

* NWFP
1. Peshawar*
2. D.I. Khan
3. Mingora
4. Gilgit

* Sindh
1. Hyderabad*
2. Sukkur
3. Sakrand
4. Karachi

* Baluchistan
1. Quetta
2. Dera Alah Yar (New)

Animal Quarantine and Fish Quality and Quarantine

SPS matters with respect to imports of animals and fish and animal/fish products are regulated under the following:

*Agriculture Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act, 1937*
This act provides authority and control for the grading and marketing of the agricultural produce. Animal products, dry fish, shellfish, and fishmeal are graded under the provision of this act.

*The Pakistan Animal Quarantine (Import and Export of Animal and Animal Products) Ordinance 1979*
This law provides for control of Import and Export of Animals and animal products and issue of health Certificate to regulate the trade and to prevent the introduction or spread of diseases.

*Federal Government vide Notification No.F.272/FDC/99 dated 6th April 1999, in exercise of the power conferred by Section-12 of Pakistan Animal Quarantine Ordinance exempted the export of fish and fishery products from all the provisions of it.*

(Quoted from MINFAL website)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant and Animal Quarantine Laws</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deficiencies</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current laws and regulations do not make specifications for macro-cleanliness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current regulations only specify an aflatoxin report for some products, but there a range of mycotoxin hazards, growing evidence of extreme health risks and increasing access to rapid detection methodologies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current regulations do not specify requirements for trace metal and pesticide residues contamination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inconsistencies</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The laws covering animals seem inadequate c.f. plant quarantine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Customs laws much more detailed c.f. quarantine laws.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. **Roles and Responsibilities of Key Government Departments**

The roles and responsibilities of key Ministries and Government Departments with respect to phytosanitary (SPS) control over imports to Pakistan can be considered under:

- Laws and international obligations,
- Biosecurity: risk and compliance assessment, impoundment and management of prohibited or infested/contaminated consignments,
- Approval and regulation: entry permission, fee administration and issuance of release orders and
- Training and capacity building
- Provision of information to stakeholders.

Table 3 lists responsible government agencies within this framework with additional information on relevant government agencies attached as Appendix 4.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key elements of import control</th>
<th>Primary responsibility</th>
<th>Secondary Responsibility</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laws and international obligations</td>
<td>WTO Unit focal point in MINFAL</td>
<td>Respective Ministries/Departments, WTO Units in provincial governments</td>
<td>Stakeholder consultation critical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval (Import permit/ RO) and regulation: entry permission, fee administration.</td>
<td>Ministry of Commerce; Customs Department (under Central Board of Revenue, Ministry of Finance)</td>
<td>respective Departments in MINFAL; Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Industry; Ministry of Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biosecurity: risk and compliance assessment (Quarantine certification)</td>
<td>Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Provincial health departments</td>
<td>Customs; Ministry of Environment</td>
<td>Current Food laws are implemented by provincial agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and capacity building</td>
<td>MINFAL and respective Departments</td>
<td>Ministry of Education (for University curricula)</td>
<td>WTO unit should be proactive in facilitating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information to stakeholders</td>
<td>Providing information (documents, phone, mail and web access) on: legislation, approval and regulation processes under their oversight or control should be a primary responsibility of departments as shown in Figure 3.</td>
<td>Pakistan Trade Offices under Ministry of Commerce</td>
<td>A one-stop website should be considered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>WTO unit should be proactive in facilitating and updating.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 7. Relationship of key agencies with a role in phyto-sanitary regulation

SPS

Quality Aspect (Export)

Agriculture Health

Plant Health

*Plant Quarantine/Protection Department (MINFAL)

*Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department

Animal Health

Animal Quarantine MINFAL

* Marine Fisheries Department (Certification Authority) MINFAL

Agri., Livestock Product Market & Grading. Authority (ALMA)

Direct from Food (Disease Related Aspects)

MOH

Provincial Department

Local Govt

Public Health

Zoonotic Aspects (communicable diseases)

Federal Animal Husbandry Commissioner (MINFAL)

* Plant Protection MINFAL
Table 4 summarises agency responsibilities in relation to compliance of Codex standards relating to imports.

**Table 4.** Agency responsibilities in relation to compliance of Codex standards relating to food imports.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codex standards relating to food imports</th>
<th>Agency with key responsibility</th>
<th>Agencies with secondary responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Food import and export inspection &amp; certification</td>
<td>Customs and MINFAL</td>
<td>Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Exchanging of information between countries on rejections of imported foods</td>
<td>Commerce</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Designing, operating, assessing and accrediting food import and export inspection and certification systems</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce</td>
<td>Science and Technology MINFAL, Health, Customs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Developing equivalence agreements regarding food import and export inspection and certification systems</td>
<td>Science and Technology, MINFAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Food import control systems</td>
<td>Customs, Ministry of Health</td>
<td>MINFAL, Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Judging equivalence of sanitary measures associated with food inspection and certifications systems: and</td>
<td>MINFAL</td>
<td>Science and Technology, Health, Customs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) Exchanging information in food safety emergency situations</td>
<td>Health, MINFAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IV. Import Controls in Neighbouring Countries

Afghanistan

Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry of Afghanistan, Kabul.
+93(02)2500315

In the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS), Agriculture and Rural Development, Health and Trade are considered components of Pillar III – Economic and Social Development- and the responsibilities of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food, the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Commerce respectively. The Government of Afghanistan has established a broad based consultation process for the ANDS and plans to have the Strategy developed by the end of 2006. While the agriculture component will probably focus on rural development, there will also need to be consideration of effective sanitary and phytosanitary regulatory systems both for biosecurity of local agriculture, and to enhance prospects of developing export markets.

At present the Ministry of Agriculture has no modern Phytosanitary rules, but there is the potential to develop a framework based on legislation more than 25 years old (key principles have not changed). Given the strong focus on development of effective and fair sanitary and phytosanitary systems in the global community, there should be ample scope to encourage development assistance support for this purpose in Afghanistan.

Regulation of Seed imports

In Afghanistan’s emergency situation, except for FAO’s program, little infrastructure of a formal seed sector remains in operation. Throughout most of Afghanistan, the informal seed sector is predominant. This consists essentially of farmers who produce seed for planting their own fields or for farmer-to-farmer exchange and/or sale. These local seed systems have continued operating in spite of the drought and hostilities that have taken place during the past 20 years.

The FAO have produced Guiding Principles Governing the Production, Distribution and Import of Seed and Planting Material (SPM) of Field Crops for Afghanistan http://www.fao.org/world/afghanistan/pubs_code_en.htm

FAO recommend that any development agency seed operation must be careful not to destroy these resilient systems that have helped the communities survive during these difficult years. However, these informal sector farmers often do not have sufficient training, resources or facilities to produce large volumes of high-quality seed. It is essential to provide them with the maximum support, equipment, stock seed, and training.

At present Afghanistan does not have a national policy for import requirements for seed and no law is in place. The FAO ‘guiding principles’ are a foundation for establishing law. Comments in italics indicate the utility of some ‘guiding principles’. The key recommendations suggest implementation similar to the manner in which Pakistan regulates seed entry through the Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department.
The Pakistan Seed Act only focuses on the regulatory agency establishment, with development and implementation of regulations in the hands of the Department.

- The FAO Afghanistan regulations note that seeds’ only value is in its quality, as measured by its life (germination and vigour), its physical purity (freedom from foreign matter), its trueness-to-type for variety/landrace and its superior agronomic use-related traits and consumer acceptability. The Pakistan Law also reflects such ideals but it is a philosophical statement rather than list of mandatory requirements. The guidelines could be more concise and focus on the issue of use of local cultivars and key quality and phytosanitary principles.

- All seed should be of high quality, and meet locally established standards. If imported, it should also meet export/import regulations. These requirements are looser than Pakistan regulations.

- Seed produced or supplied in an emergency situation, regardless of its source, should have the quality required by farmers. It should not distort the local seed systems and it should be aimed at building the foundation for a sustainable seed supply system in the future. National Seed Policy (NSP). Given the amount of seed delivered as development assistance it is commendable that some comment is made. But unfortunately this is a loose statement as “quality required by farmers” could be very variable.

- The first step in creating and maintaining an improved seed supply for farmers is to establish a formal, official government policy - a National Seed Policy. The NSP has the effect of law and reflects the Government's official approach to seed. The NSP sets out what Government will do, how it views seed supply, and how it will support seed development.

- The National Seed Law sets out the legal framework and regulations in which the country's seed industry operates. There must be an implementation agency and staff trained, equipped and funded adequately to serve both farmers and seed suppliers. This will require a network of facilities including Official Seed Testing Laboratories, to measure seed quality. This is a key statement as it provides scope for development of sanitary and phytosanitary guidelines.

- Seed Health Laboratories can be combined with Plant Quarantine programs. An efficient way to implement this might to combine Seed Law implementation, seed testing, and seed certification under the umbrella of one agency. This should be discussed in detail with the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH). This recommendation provides for links to Plant Quarantine.

- The guidelines aim to minimize harmful effects of seed introductions.

- Where it is necessary for agencies to supply seed directly to farmers, they must ensure that high quality seed is always provided. Quality includes seed of adapted varieties, which are physically pure (freedom from foreign materials), of good germination, and pest and disease-free. To assist in this, an official descriptive list of recommended varieties should be published and kept current. Seed should be treated with an appropriate fungicide before sowing. These principles reflect key elements of Pakistan’s Seed inspection services.

- All crops and varieties promoted for distribution and made available to Afghan farmers must have performed well in tests for adaptation and performance in Afghanistan for two years. Only in emergency situations should crops and varieties known to perform well in similar agro-ecologies and deemed most likely to perform well within Afghanistan be introduced without prior testing, and only after approval.
of the Government. *The adaptation trials are also required under Pakistan regulations.*

- Seed that meets all Seed Law requirements, both in the country of origin and in Afghanistan, should be imported. In an emergency situation, if such seed is not available, the seed must be of the best possible quality and its quality must be maintained until it reaches the farmer. *This suggests there is an Afghanistan Seed Law but it has not been sighted.*

- FAO Guidelines for Imported Quality Seed should be followed and the 'Quality Declared seed' standards (ANNEX II), of FAO, should be used as minimum seed and field standards. *This is a sound recommendation.*

- For wheat, the minimum standards are as specified QDS standards. (because of loose smut and bunt, it is highly recommended that seed is treated with an appropriate fungicide). *This is a good regulation to provide biosecurity and enhance crop emergence.*

**Comment**

It will be mutually beneficial if Pakistan can assist Afghanistan to develop and put in place an effective quarantine system (legal and regulatory frameworks, border security, customs and quarantine inspection and regulation). This would provide benefit to both countries and also enhance SPS scrutiny of the large volume of produce from central Asian states both now and in the future.

**Iran**

*Import regulation*

Under Iranian regulations, exportable and importable goods are classified into the following three categories:

1. Permissible goods: these goods do not require a license.
2. Conditional goods: exportation or importation of these goods is possible by license.
3. Prohibited goods: exportation or importation is forbidden under the sacred Islamic Shia and or by law.

Key elements of the Iranian regulations with respect to imports are listed here with comments in italics on features that differ from Pakistan law:

- Engaging in import/export businesses requires a commercial card which shall be issued by Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines and approved by the Ministry of Commerce. *(Pakistan Law requires similar membership but not Ministry approval.)*

- The criterion of determining the commercial nature of goods, as well as the manner of issuing, extending and cancellation of the commercial card shall be in accordance with an ordinance approved by the Council of Ministers.

- All concerned Ministries are required in advance of each year any proposals concerning the export and import conditions in respect of goods similar to those produced domestically, having taken into account the internal requirements and exigencies of the country. *(Implementation of Pakistan law through application of Pakistan Customs Tariff and specified conditions of entry which are revised annually seems to allow scope to adjust conditions of import for individual*
commodities. But there is no deadline enshrined in law as the case with the Iranian Law for concerned Ministries to advise of updates

• Iranian means of transport shall have priority to transport all goods imported into the country. However, the directive pertaining to the use of foreign means of transport whether sea, air, road and rail - way carriers shall be drawn up by the High Council for the Coordination of National Transportation, in conformity with the ordinance approved by the Council of Ministers. (Pakistan law does not specify the use of Pakistani transport even though such specification could potentially enable closer phytosanitary supervision in transit)

• The Government is required to allocate special premises for the provisional storage of goods needed to repair and equip the country's commercial marine and aircraft fleet. (There is no such provision in Pakistan law – this provision could enhance biosecurity.)

• Importers of various goods, whether governmental or shall not refer exclusively to the Ministry of Commerce, for licensing their imports and registration of their orders. The import license shall serve also as a clearance permit, and no separate permit shall be required. (Pakistan has a similar requirement for an import permit but the Pakistan Customs Release Order, which functions as a clearance document, is a separate document.)

• The Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Customs Administration are required to send to the Ministry of Commerce and other relevant organizations and Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines, at least once every three months, statistical statements concerning the letters of credit which have been opened and goods which have been cleared. (There is no provision in Pakistan Law requiring Customs or Pakistan Banks to provide data on letters of credit although Pakistan Customs probably does collect this information for the Ministry of Finance. This matter was discussed at a recent Pakistan National Trade and Transport Facilitation Conference (18 March 2006) in Karachi, attended by the chairman of CBR and representatives of the State Bank of Pakistan and other stakeholders. The participants agreed to meet further over options for linking State Bank details (figures) with those of Pakistan Customs.)

• The government is authorized to setup border marketplace in any of the frontier Zones as may be deemed beneficial, having taken into consideration such priorities as local potentiality, employment generation requirements and the expansion of commercial relation with the respective neighbouring country. (There is no such provision in Pakistan Law. Border marketplaces could pose additional sanitary and phytosanitary risks)

• The Ministry of Commerce shall be responsible for the orderly enforcement of this law the executive ordinance thereof. (The Pakistan Ministry of Commerce is responsible for the legislation but the Pakistan Customs Department is responsible for its enforcement.)

• The Iranian Act, composed of twenty-four Articles and twenty-five Notes, was enacted in the open sitting of the Islamic Consultative Assembly on Sunday 26 September 1993 and ratified by the Council of Guardians on 3 October 1993.

**Iranian regulatory capabilities**

Although a regulatory framework is an important component of managing sanitary and phytosanitary risks, it is difficult to implement safeguards in practice if local analytical capability is not available. Iran seems to have made more progress than Pakistan in some
areas, particularly in analysis of pesticide and mycotoxin residues, and in development of integrated systems for reducing food-borne problems in meat and seafood. While the focus of effort is in export development (for residue monitoring) and domestic market for seafood and livestock products, these capabilities both sensitize authorities and enhance capabilities for setting standards and monitoring them in imported goods. Iran has:

- Developed of maximum residue limits (MRL) for pesticides and mycotoxins in different products according to the codex norms, in preparation for establishing permanent national MRLs.
- Evaluated pesticide residues and preharvest withholding periods for crops and stored products.
- Introduced pesticide residue control in marketed agricultural products with an emphasis on vegetables and mycotoxin monitoring for pistachio.
- Developed national MRLs and withholding periods for registered pesticides in the country.
- Investigated pesticide levels in export commodities.
- Assessed heavy metal residues in refined edible oils and popular fish types from the Caspian Sea.
- Improved hygiene control at aquaculture centres, meat processing factories and animal feed plants.
- Facilities are designed and built under good manufacturing practice guidelines (GMP). HACCP systems (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) are required in processing and packaging establishments.
- Promotes quality assurance all along the supply chain from field to consumer with some supply chains complying with international standard EN45001.

In a 4-year plan, Iran plans to establish a reference laboratory in compliance with international standards (EN 45001), to regulate veterinary drug residues and other contaminants in animal products. In addition, a joint Iran-FAO project will focus on veterinary drug and pesticides residue management.
Iran Export - Import Regulations Act enacted 26 September, 1993
Islamic Republic of Iran, Ministry of Commerce, Foreign Trade Department

Key elements of difference between the Iranian law and the Pakistan Import Policy Order 2005-2006 and the Import and Exports (Control) Act 1950 are that more details to assist in implementation and annual updating are enshrined in the Iranian legislation. However some additional provisions could weaken rather than strengthen the Iranian law. Key differences are:

Provisions which potentially strengthen protection against sanitary and phytosanitary risks:
- Requiring concerned Iranian departments to advise of updates to regulations would strengthen attention to incorporating new SPS risks.

Provisions which potentially weaken protection against sanitary and phytosanitary risks:
- The border marketplaces allowed under Iranian law are potentially an additional biosecurity risk through the gathering of people and animals at border areas, produce and food flows across the border and additional risks of smuggling.
- Requiring issuance of a separate release order under Pakistan law (c.f. the combined import permit clearance document in Iranian law) allows greater scope for attention to border inspection and checking before allowing release. Conversely the Iranian system may be more streamlined.
- Having customs responsible for enforcement as Pakistan law could enhance security c.f. Iranian law.

Background documents on Afghanistan and Iran are attached as Appendix 7.
V. PAKISTAN AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

Pakistan is a signatory of the following regional and international treaties. Additional background information on regional and international conventions, agreements and organisations is attached as Appendix 8.

Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreements

SPS Enquiry Point:
Adviser and Director General:
Department of Plant Protection;
Jinnah Avenue, Malir Halt
Karachi, 751000, Pakistan
Telephone + (9221) 924 8612 / 924 8607
Fax + (9221) 921 86 73
Email: plant-q@khi.paknet.com.pk ; locust@khi.paknet.com.pk

Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)

Pakistan is an active member of the APPPC, which is headquartered in at FAO RAP in Bangkok. It is an important regional body for establishing regional agreements on SPS regulation. Pakistan was represented at the 24th session of the APPPC in September 2005. Planned activities include an expert regional consultation on Draft Regional Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (RSPM) in 2006, developing programs to link Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Good Agricultural Practice (GAP), research on GAP standards according to relevant needs of countries in the region and introducing HACCP (see below) to horticulture. The RSPM are intended to complement International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) developed and agreed under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Under APPC, several RSPM have been established including: Training requirements for plant quarantine inspectors, guidelines for development of heat disinfections treatments for fruit, requirements for establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for Tephritid fruit flies and guidelines for conformation of non-host status of fruit and vegetables for Tephritid fruit flies. Agreed plans for additional standards at 24th APPPC were Specific Standard on a group of pests (e.g. scales) (to be drafted by Australia) and Emergency Measures (to be drafted by China). Pakistan delegate to 24th APPC:

Dr Iftikhar Ahmad
Deputy Director General
Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC)
Institute of Plant and Environmental protection
National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC)
Park Road, Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: + 92-51 925 5043/925 5063
Fax: + 92-51 925 5034/925 5036
E-mail: iftahmad@gmail.com

Dr Iftikhar Ahmad of PARC is a member of the APPPC Standing Committee on IPM and chaired the IPM Standing Committee meeting at 24th APPC. The APPC is an important regional mechanism for developing operational guidelines for implementation of Phytosanitary measures.
CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity)
National focal point (date of last update: 2006-02-24):

Dr. Bashir Ahmed Wani  
Inspector General of Forests  
Ministry of the Environment  
Government of Pakistan  
CDA Block No. IV, Old Naval Headquarter  
Islamabad, Pakistan  
Tel: + 92-51 920 3726  
Fax: + 92-51 920 2211, +92-51 920 3871  
E-mail: fspoigf@isb.comsats.net.pk

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (Convention on Biological Diversity)  
As of April 2006, Pakistan was a signatory to the Protocol on June 4, 2001 but has not ratified the Protocol. National focal point (date of last update: 2005-03-24):

Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad  
Co-Project Manager  
Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development  
c/o: Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development  
Shaheed-e-Millat Secretariat, Blue Area IBD  
Islamabad, Pakistan  
Tel: + 92-51 920 2960, 291 563, 920 7954  
Fax: + 92-51 920 2211, +92-51 920 5693

(Date of last update: 2006-02-24)  
Dr. Bashir Ahmed Wani  
Inspector General of Forests  
Ministry of the Environment  
Government of Pakistan  
CDA Block No. IV, Old Naval Headquarter  
Islamabad, Pakistan.  
Tel: + 92-51 920 3726  
Fax: + 92-51 920 2211, +92-51 920 3871  
E-mail: fspoigf@isb.comsats.net.pk

CODEX Alimentarius  
http://www.codexalimentarius.net/

The area of most relevance of this convention in relation to imports is the setting of standards for commodities, codes of practice and maximum limits for additives, contaminants, pesticide residues and veterinary drugs. Pakistan generally follows CODEX guidelines for food import requirements.
FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)

Pakistan became a member of FAO on 7 September 1947. It is currently serving as a member of the Governing Council until 31st December 2008. It is also a member of the Commodity Problems Committee (to 2007), The Committee on Fisheries (to 2007), the Committee on Forestry (to 2007), the Committee on Agriculture (to 2007), and the Committee on Food Security (to 2007).

Summary of Pakistan’s participation in FAO committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAKISTAN</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Accession</td>
<td>7.9.1947</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<td>M. Saleem Khan (1993-97)</td>
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IPPCC (International Plant Protection Convention)

The IPPC 1997 was ratified by Pakistan in July 2003 and entered into force in 2005. The areas of most relevance of this convention in relation to imports are those concerned with guidelines for pest introduction and spread and the promotion of appropriate control measures by exporting countries and during post-entry quarantine treatment.

The guidelines on international standards for phytosanitary standards as recommended by IPPO are regularly considered by Pakistan and adopted according to capacity and National requirements.

National Plant Protection Office (NPPO)

Dr. Iqbal H. Pathan,
Deputy Director (Quarantine)
Department of Plant Protection
Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
Jinnah Avenue, Malir Halt, Karachi, Pakistan
Tel: +92-21 9248670 / 48612-15
Fax: +92-21 9248673
E-mail: plant-q@khi.paknet.com.pk
Alternative E-mail quarantine@plantprotection.gov.pk
http://www.plantprotection.gov.pk/
(Update: 19 January 2004)

International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides

Pakistan, as a member of FAO has adopted this Code. The area of most relevance for the Code of Conduct in relation to imports is in the setting of maximum residue limits and the monitoring of pesticide residues on imported product.

OIE (Office International des Epizooties)

The areas of most relevance in relation to imports are in the access to animal disease/threat status from importing countries and to maintain food safety standards in relation to animal products.

Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA)

APHCA was approved and established by FAO at the 60th Session of the FAO Council under article XIV of the FAO Constitution and became operational in December 1975.

Permanent Delegate

Dr. Muhammad Afzal
Animal Husbandry Commissioner and
Head, Animal Sciences Division
Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
Khalid Plaza, Blue Area
Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: +92-51 920 8779 / 920 5092
Fax: +92-51 920 2968 / 922 1357
E-mail: afz-parc@isb.paknet.com.pk
GMO’s (Genetically Modified Organisms)
Pakistan produced draft biosafety guidelines in January 2001 which underwent several reviews and revisions before being enacted in April 2005. The Ministry of the Environment (MoE) has formed a national biosafety expert committee for updating biosafety laws, handling living modified organisms (LMOs) and recommending measures for management, safe transfer and movement of LMOs. Pakistan is importing GM soybeans and soybean oil from the USA.

Biosafety guidelines

Biosafety Rules

A critical issue for these guidelines in relation to imports is policy on labelling particularly where imported ingredients could be again re-exported to countries which require labelling to indicate freedom from GMOs.

World Trade Organization (WTO)
http://www.wto.org/index.htm
Pakistan has been a WTO member since 1 January 1995. The second Trade Policy Review (TPR) of Pakistan was undertaken by the Trade Policy Review Body of the WTO on 23 and 25 of January 2002.

Chairpersons of Bodies established under the Trade Negotiations Committee-2006 who will serve until the next Session of the Ministerial Conference include Ambassador Manzoor Ahmad of Pakistan as Chair of the Special Session of the Council for TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights).

Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) (under WTO)
http://www.wto.org/English/tratop_e/tbt_e/tbt_e.htm

National Enquiry Points:
(a) Standardization and certification undertaken by the Pakistan Standards Institution:
   Pakistan Standards Institution
   39 Garden Road
   Saddar, Karachi 74400, Pakistan
   Tel: +92-21 77 29 527
   Fax: +92-21 77 28 124
(b) Technical regulations relating to food and health safety:
Ministry of Health, Social Welfare and Population Planning
Government of Pakistan
Secretariat Block 'C', Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: +92-51 820 930
Fax: +92-51 829 703

Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement
(under WTO)

The TRIPS Council administers the TRIPS Agreement. It consists of all WTO members. Pakistan has been a co-sponsor of papers under TRIPS including

IP/C/W/247/Rev.1 17 May 2001 and IP/C/W/204/Rev.1 Extension of the Protection of Geographical Indications for Wines and Spirits to Geographical Indications for Other Products

In response to a question at the TRIPS Council, Pakistan made the following response 09/06/2004 (IP/Q/PAK 1): Intellectual property rights in Pakistan were previously protected under three dedicated statutes in the areas of copyrights, trademarks and patents (also covering industrial designs) supplemented by common law provisions. Recently, extensive legislative changes have been undertaken in Pakistan to achieve compatibility of the intellectual property legal regime with the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, with the result that four new laws have been promulgated, dealing with patents, trademarks, industrial designs and layout designs of integrated circuits. Extensive amendments have been undertaken in the Copyright Ordinance, 1962. A law to provide protection to new plant varieties will shortly be promulgated.

Pakistan is a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization and a signatory to the Stockholm Act of the Berne Convention. Through recent legislative amendments, Pakistan's national IPR laws suitably reflect such provisions of WIPO-administered treaties as were incorporated in the TRIPS Agreement. These legislative changes have also responded to the demands of rapid technological advancements such as the administration of domain names, certification marks etc.

WHO (World Health Organization)
In contrast to the FAO site it was not possible to locate a summary of Pakistan’s participation on the WHO site.

Contact Information
The WHO Representative
PO Box 1013
Islamabad
National Park Road, Chak Shehzad
PIO@emro.who.int
http://www.emro.who.int

International Standards Organisation (ISO)
http://www.iso.org/iso/en/ISOOnline.frontpage

The plan involves:
- Involving developing country members in ISO governance and committees,
- Providing basic assistance to ISO members regarding generic information and to e-services,
- Encouraging participation in ISO’s technical work,
- Supplying targeted assistance and training and
- Involving regions international organisations and donor agencies – promoting regional co-operation and fostering partnership.

Member:
Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA)
Block #77, Pakistan Secretariat
PK-Karachi-74400
Tel: +92-21 920 6260
Fax: +92-21 920 6263
E-mail: psqcadg@super.net.pk
http://www.psqca.com.pk

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)
The FAO has produced guidelines for the implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points. In Pakistan, UNIDO has provided support for Strengthening Standards, Metrology, Testing and Quality (SMTQ) Infrastructure. At the 24th session of the APPPC in September 2005 agreed planned activities included research on Good Agricultural practice (GAP) standards (see below) according to relevant needs of countries in the region and introducing HACCP to horticulture.

Good Agricultural Practice (GAP)
In the Trade Policy 2005-2006 speech Pakistan’s Minister for Commerce noted that since exports of agriculture products to the EU will be facilitated by certification of EUREPGAP; it has been decided that a 50% subsidy on the cost of certification of EUREPGAP may also be allowed in addition to (subsidies for) the various other certifications like ISO 14000, HACCP Certification, WRAP Certification and ECO Labeling.

The development of infrastructure and capacity for implementation of HACCP and GAP guidelines is a priority for MINFAL, the Ministry of health and other agencies. A five-day international workshop on “Food safety standards for better export of fruit and vegetable products” was held at the Hotel Holiday Inn, Islamabad in December 2005. The workshop was organized by the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) in collaboration with Asian Productivity Organization (APO) Japan and National Productivity Organization (NPO) Pakistan.

In the National Quality Policy and Plan (2003) of the Pakistan National Accreditation Council, it was noted that a large number of certification bodies were operating in
Pakistan for certifying local companies and manufacturing units according to the requirements of the international standard including ISO 9001: 2000, ISO 14000, HACCP, SA 8000 etc. PNARC noted the need to keep some check on the activities of these companies and the validity of the certificates issued by them. For this purpose, accreditation of these companies with Pakistan National Accreditation Council (PNAC) was proposed with the possibility that Accreditation would become mandatory to ensure that the quality of the services offered was adequate. The plan also proposed to strengthen the Pakistan Standards and Quality Certifying Authority (PSQCA) so it not only disseminated information on standards but also provided technical expertise (services) for the promotion of standards and their use by industry.

Appendix 9 lists principal stakeholders who have an interest in GoP regulation of SPS risks in relation to imports.
VI. EXISTING SYSTEM OF PHYTOSANITARY CONTROLS OVER IMPORTS

For Pakistan, key challenges for 2006-2010 are to

- achieve high and sustained broad-based growth especially in rural areas,
- continue to reduce poverty,
- enhance access to essential social and economic services, and
- create employment and improving governance.

Globalisation, the commitments under the World Trade Organisation, and the growth of Security, Global Warming and Access to Energy Supplies, as well as Social changes at national and community levels will continue as key drivers of the world economy and the development of Pakistan.

As part of the national response to these factors, the GoP Poverty Reduction Strategy (2003) and investment support by development banks and international agencies emphasises four areas:

i) Accelerating economic growth while maintaining macroeconomic stability.
ii) Improving governance.
iii) Investing in human capital.
iv) Targeting the poor and the vulnerable.

As part of the continuing development of Pakistan’s economy, SPS regulation of imports has particular implications under (i) to (iii): Trade contributes to economic growth and enhancement of trade depends on continuing improvement of governance and investment in human capital. Benefit flows to the poor and vulnerable (iv) can come from progress made in the other areas, but in managing imports, there can be adverse impacts through effects on domestic industry profitability (competition and biosecurity threats) and employment and mismanagement or disposal of low quality (not for human consumption) imports. On the other hand a more dynamic economy fostered by healthy growth in imports can boost employment and enhancement of biosecurity of imports protects domestic cropping and the natural environment and reduces food safety and disease risks.

The Development Banks and other international agencies are working closely with GoP to enhance the development of Pakistan trading environment and the legislation, infrastructure and capacity for managing Sanitary and Phytosanitary risks. Key elements of investment in transport infrastructure will both enhance import flows and capacity to inspect produce and regulate biosecurity risks. It is essential, however, that agencies continue to direct development investment towards these areas to ensure that Pakistan is able to both manage biosecurity risks and meet international obligations.

For example, the Federal Minister for Commerce, Humayun Akhtar, indicated that US$10 billion was required to develop the National Trade Corridor (NTC) – to be established from Karachi to Torkhum. The action plan to implement the NTC program would be ready by 2007. The National Logistics Corporation (NLC) had been assigned the task to establish four Border Trade Stations (BTS) – Wagh (Pakistan-India border), Sust (Pakistan-China border), Torkhum (Pakistan-Afghanistan border) and Chamman...
The News Sunday March 19, 2006. The same project involves overhauling the complete logistic system (Procedures: legislation, regulation, administration, documents data; Services: shipping and port services, trucking, railways, handling, warehousing, customs, insurance, banking, freight forwarding; Infrastructure: ports, roads, rail, aviation/air transport/warehouses/dry-ports, and pipelines). It is essential that this type of investment be accompanied by development of infrastructure and capacity to maintain and enhance capabilities for sanitary and phytosanitary regulation of imports.

This study has summarised key elements of the legislative framework and organisational arrangements for sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regulation of imports. It has documented Pakistan’s participation in international and national bodies that are concerned with aspects of SPS regulation and international partnership. It has identified key national and provincial stakeholders in government, non-government agencies and the private sector and it has provided some information on the import regulation systems of Iran and Afghanistan.

Based on consideration of the information, documents and individual perspectives collected by or presented to the study team, this section details the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and makes recommendations for future action.

In terms of the overall system in Pakistan is broadly compliant with the requirements of SPS but some laws are old and in need of revision and broadening. Pakistan needs to improve its laws so that they are more comprehensive, more flexible and more effective. Pakistan does not have laws to regulate GMO crops; however, bio-safety guidelines have been developed. Pakistan does not have provisions for monitoring or regulating maximum residue limits (MRLs) in imported or domestic produce.

**Strengths**

*Laws and international obligations*

- Pakistan has a strong commitment to WTO and to upgrading legal and institutional frameworks.

  The GoP is engaged in several bilateral rounds of free trade negotiation and tariff reductions which will potentially result in more diverse range of imports (including more agriproduce) and this could increase risks of phytosanitary and food safety hazards.

- Pakistan is a signatory to the key relevant international and regional conventions and agreements

  These are detailed under TOR 5. As for many developing countries, Pakistan is hampered in capacity and funds for full participation in all fora. This means that the developing country perspective is not always heard or considered. Pakistan should continue to build international and regional networks that enhance opportunities to have its views heard and acted on.

- Laws to cover the key elements of import control and reflecting the key commitments of the conventions and agreements are in place
The current legislative framework and information on coverage of current laws and plans for upgrades are detailed in TOR 1. Key progress includes:

- According to WTO chief, the first reading of draft quarantine laws (Plants and Animal) has been completed. A consultant from World Trade Institute is being engaged for legal vetting of SPS laws.
- According to Dr Rifat Ayesha Anis, A/Chief, Nutrition Division and Focal point SPS at National Institute of Health, Islamabad, the Food Act 1960 has also been revised, and the draft Act has been forwarded to Ministry of Health.
- The Pure Food Rules have been revised by the Punjab Government, while for other provinces and at Federal level, revisions are yet to be made.

**Systems for entry approval (Import permit/ RO) and regulation**

- Entry points by road, rail air and sea are designated and control points established and in operation. *ADB is providing support for some of this work.*
- Border control and surveillance are in place.
- GoP maintains dialogue with all land border countries and key trading partners on matters relating to border security, biosecurity and import control. *Continuing enhancement of regional alliances will strengthen dialogue.*
- Regular trading partners are familiar with and generally satisfied with the components of the system and the time/costs involved in delivering imports. *Key trading partners can be involved more in enhancement of processes for SPS regulation.*

**Biosecurity: risk and compliance assessment (Quarantine certification)**

- The key institutional structures are in place.
- There is a cadre of professional and support staff to implement the functions of the import control system. ToT processes can be used to extend impacts of investments in capacity building.
- Pakistan has strong trading relationships and is an established market/reliable customer for key import commodities. Within this commodity group/supplier base, the Pakistan Quarantine services have reasonable knowledge with the risks for main commodity imports x source.
- Global and regional security concerns have heightened GoP, international trading partner and donor agency attention to the improvement of port of entry access and security.
  - Investment in infrastructure and capacity building for port access and operation will in the medium term enhance opportunities of GoP and agencies to fulfil SPS requirements through enhanced port security, enhanced infrastructure and capacity for goods inspection, enhanced communication regarding import flows and import risks.
  - The expansion in the number of access points into Afghanistan has increased pressure on facilities and personnel.
  - Parallel focussed support is needed for development of SPS related infrastructure and capacity.
Training and capacity building

- Existing institutional frameworks, international agency support systems and the education sector provide a sound base for strengthening training and capacity building. The planned National Trade Corridor (NTC) - to be established from Karachi to Torkhum will have spillover effects in infrastructure and capacity building for SPS compliance checking.

Information to stakeholders

- Basic information on the system, relevant laws, import regulations and charges and clearance procedures are reasonably accessible.
- Internet connectivity and access to www is growing
- Mobile phone connectivity is high

Weaknesses

There are overarching weaknesses in:

- Administrative systems and operational effectiveness. This reflects a combination of outmoded systems, institutional hierarchies and administration processes, inadequacies in financial management systems in government and the private sector and aging workforces with inadequate skills bases and access to technology.
- Mechanisms for motivating and rewarding staff. Personnel at all levels are affected by poor work conditions, inadequate access to facilities, technology and training and poor incentives and career structures.
- Coordination between different regulatory agencies. Over-hierarchical systems and a lack of agreed protocols for inter-agency negotiations can delay the introduction of emergent import restrictions. For example, Customs do not recognise that a Release Order (Phytosanitary) is needed from the Plant Quarantine Department for imported chick peas from Iran. Although Plant Quarantine has written a number of times to Customs, this requirement has not been acknowledged or incorporated into the Pakistan Customs Tariff conditions of import.

Laws and international obligations

- Some key elements of legislation (e.g. food laws) are provincial laws.
- The pace of review and progressing from review to revision to passing of new laws can be slow.
- Stakeholder consultation particularly at an early stage needs strengthening. Currently, it can be inadequate.
- Implementation strategies are needed to progress from ‘law’ to enforced regulatory/inspection requirements.
- Pakistan lacks the resources and capacity to fully implement all international obligations or to actively participate in international benchmark setting negotiations.
  - Harmonisation. In a paper submitted to WTO, India has pointed out that the SPS agreement does not define in precise terms when a standard should be
considered as an “international standard”. Thus a standard adopted by the standardizing bodies is deemed to be an “international standard”, even if only a few countries participated in THE technical work to develop the standard and it has been adopted by consensus of a slender margin of approval.

- India also noted that developing countries were under-represented at technical committee meetings, and even when present, were unable to effectively participate due to inadequate background research or briefings needed for technical submissions.

- India went on to propose that it may be more appropriate to harmonise standards on a regional basis to reflect similarities in risk factors and capabilities for compliance.

- Transparency. In the paper to WTO, India also raised problems in compliance with the transparency requirements of SPS. In notifying members of obligations with respect to implementation of SPS, the member should provide details of risk assessments and the factors underpinning determination of the level of SPS protection. As well, the enquiry/appeal process had deficiencies. India also considered a period of grace was needed for suppliers to adapt to new import requirements. (Bakhshi, 2005)

**Systems for entry approval (Import permit/RO) and regulation**

- With a long land border with inhospitable terrain in some regions and many traditional crossing points it is difficult to control all import entry.
- Cross border smuggling is also a serious problem.
- Several road entry points operate limited hours

**Biosecurity: risk and compliance assessment (Quarantine certification)**

- An old and weak regulatory framework leaves gaps that represent biosecurity risks.
- Inadequate infrastructural capacity and competence hampers effectiveness and full compliance with SPS.
- Staffing levels are inadequate and coverage of plant quarantine and seed certification not available at several entry points.
- The system is possibly too complex and slow to respond to emergent threats.
- Access to data on import risks by commodity and risk alerts is in adequate. Data sharing within the region and with trading partners would enhance synergies of effort.
- Capacity and coverage of risk assessment and emergency action plans is inadequate. Response plans are needed for all major threats to crops, livestock, human health and the environment. Some are needed at both National and regional levels. For example, bird flu outbreaks and alerts have highlighted the need to strengthen preparedness and streamline responses.
- Staffing levels at entry points does not match relative inspection/clearance requirements for some entry points.
Training and capacity building

- Basic training and access to refresher courses for plant quarantine, standards, food safety and seed certification are inadequate. Several donors are providing infrastructure and capacity building support for elements of import control systems (e.g. the Chinese Government support for the Plant Quarantine facilities in Karachi). The National Logistics Corporation (NLC) is to oversee establishment of four Border Trade Stations (BTS) - Wagah (Pakistan-India border), Sust (Pakistan-China border), Torkhum (Pakistan-Afghanistan border) and Chamman (Pakistan-Afghanistan border)


- Training and promotion of HACCP and GAP approaches need to be boosted and further institutionalised.

Information to stakeholders

- It is difficult for overseas exporters to obtain complete information on import requirements and processes.
- Quarantine and seed certification staff do not have adequate access to information needed to do their jobs effectively.

Strengths and Weaknesses of Key Areas

In terms of the key agencies involved in the regulation of imports more specific comments on strengths and weaknesses can be made.

Customs

Strengths

- Presence at each declared entry/exit point
- Have a code of conduct
- Regular and updated documentation
- Online reporting

Weaknesses

- Training and capacity building and access to SPS regulatory information is inadequate.

Special modules should be developed to provide refresher training of custom staff (Inspectors + Deputy Superintendent), (Superintendents + Deputy Collectors) for periodic training/updates. Such modules should comprise the requirements of plant and animal quarantine, health and the environment and also be accessible on-line. A training panel overseeing development of the modules should comprise respective departmental representatives.

- Mechanisms for incorporating new Phytosanitary requirements into the Custom Tariff conditions of import are inadequate.
Trade Policy

Strengths

- A revised policy was released in 2005. GoP, Development banks and International Agencies are committed to ongoing reforms.
- Import orders do specify some key SPS risk factors in conditions of import.

Weaknesses

- The long land borders and security concerns (particularly on Pakistan-Afghanistan border make trade regulation more difficult.
- Institutional lethargy and lack of resources can slow pace of trade liberalisation.

Plant Quarantine and Seed Certification

Strengths

- Plant Quarantine law does specifically mention some of the critical quarantine risks.
- Plans and development initiatives to boost infrastructure are in progress.
- Pakistan is active in APPPC.

Weaknesses

Quarantine Inspection

- Facilities and capacity for quarantine inspection are poor.
  - Upgrading of quarantine facilities is in progress in Karachi, Lahore and Multan. Departmental post-entry quarantine facilities also need to be developed.
  - Detection of bacterial and viral diseases is the weakest area in the plant quarantine analytical side. Emphasis should be on enhancement of PCR based testing.
  - Designation of a separate inspection authority or the mooted NAPHIS could enhance focus and capability.
- Current labelling requirements do not optimise inspection processes. The category of seed should be declared.
- National disease standards for seed borne diseases have not been implemented.
  - There has been recent Asia Pacific dialogue on the development of an agreed list of seed-borne pathogens which involved Pakistan.

Pest risk Analysis

- Current lists of quarantine pests and diseases are incomplete and in need of updating; access to the existing information was limited.

Capitalising more on Pakistan’s membership of CABI and wider access to the CABI compendia would improve PRA capability as would more formal training. Local surveys are needed to confirm key problems on agricultural commodities and livestock and to update pest lists. Formal training in methods and equipping for pest surveys are required. A rolling plan and resources for country wide/provincial surveys for weed, insect, pests are needed.
Capacity building and methodologies

- There is a critical lack of expertise in mycology and seed pathology.
- Expertise and capacity for the use of molecular and serological techniques is inadequate.
- A national plan and clear system for training inspection and technical/professional staff was needed.
- Biosafety laboratories are required.

(Source: Bhutta, 2005, and discussions with Quarantine personnel)

Food Safety

Contaminants in imported produce is an area of increasing concern for many countries, with enhanced knowledge of risks associated with natural fungal toxins in (particularly) poorly dried foods, and heightened global concerns over the emergence of highly virulent human and animal pathogens as contaminants on food.

Some crops specific examples of contaminant issues (de Zoysa, 2005) include:
- Pepper: Excessive mould + E. coli
- Cocoa bean: Internal mould + Salmonella + E coli
- Coffee: Mould + Salmonella
- Cloves: Excessive impurities and stems up to 2% detected.
- Nutmeg: Excessive moisture-mould development.
- Areca nut: Internal mould development
- Cinnamon: Excessive moisture presence due to insufficient drying during processing.

Strengths

- The Food Laws are in process of revision.

Weaknesses

- It was difficult to assess Pakistan’s involvement in WHO
- Current laws and regulations do not make specifications for macro-cleanliness. For example the US Spice Trade Association (ASTA), and EU Spice Trade Association (EAS) have fixed a limit of 1% extra matter and 2% foreign matter in spices, while reserving the rights to specify quality and sanitary standards if necessary.
- Current regulations do not specify microbial load limits. Limits for E. coli, Salmonella, yeast, mould and other contaminants would provide some benchmarks for analysis.
- Current regulations only specify an aflatoxin report for some products, but there a range of mycotoxin hazards, growing evidence of extreme health risks and increasing access to rapid detection methodologies.

Aflatoxins (one of a number of recognised mycotoxins) are a major health hazard. They are toxic metabolites of Aspergillus flavus, Aspergillus paraciticus and other fungi. Many countries have set limit of 1-2ppb for a range of mycotoxins. Pakistan could specify testing requirements that match Codex standards for most risk categories (e.g. dried fruits, maize, and groundnuts).

- Current regulations do not specify requirements for trace metal and pesticide residues contamination.
Pakistan could specify requirements in line with Codex limits for key commodities.

**Animal and Fish Health**

**Strengths**

- Laws and basic implementation structure is in place

**Weaknesses**

- The bird flu outbreaks have placed extreme strains on animal health services

Table 5 provides a summary assessment of strengths and weaknesses of Pakistan’s arrangements for meeting SPS compliance based on the information presented in this report.

**Table 5.** Summary of Strengths and Weaknesses of key areas in meeting SPS compliance (***** = Strong * = Weak)

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<th>Information access</th>
<th>Policy formulation</th>
<th>Inspection services</th>
<th>Analytical services</th>
<th>Regulatory compliance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Food Safety</td>
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CONCLUSIONS

In seeking to modernize its border and import control systems, and move toward risk based targeting and risk management strategies that incorporate more integrated import control systems and the increased use of technology based information, processing and inspection, the Government of Pakistan recognizes the need for clear regulatory policy and an effective risk management framework. The Government also recognizes that it must formulate strategies and tactics to target resources to areas of highest risk, to enhance information access for relevant authorities and trading partners and develop the capacity to monitor performance.

In reviewing the legal and regulatory frameworks and the on-ground infrastructure and capacity for achieving these objectives it is clear that progress has been made. Pakistan’s ongoing review and revision of legal frameworks and regulations, investment in infrastructure and capacity building for border control and inspection and improvements in information access, particularly over the internet, will further progress compliance with SPS.

Recommendations for Action

To further progress SPS compliance with respect to imports the following recommendations are made:

**Recommendation 1. Strengthen focus on development and implementation of strategies and tactics to target resources to areas of highest risk.**

The WTO Unit of MINFAL in liaison with responsible Departments should continue to facilitate the review and revision of laws underpinning SPS compliance including food laws and quarantine laws.

The WTO Unit in MINFAL should draw on this report to develop a summary document on the current status of law relevant to SPS control of imports and work with appropriate partners to develop and implement a review timetable ranked by urgency.

1.1 Enhance training and capacity building in relevant government agencies and training institutions for risk assessment (MINFAL, Quarantine), policy development (MINFAL, Commerce) and regulatory inspections and certification (Quarantine, Customs, Standards).

Specific suggestions include training and capacity building in pest risk analysis and development of reference collections of pests and pathogens including the use of digital records. An immediate challenge/starting point for Pakistan at the specific commodity level is to revise SPS requirements for key imports to levels that afford a similar level of protection as some recent export compliance requirements while accommodating some traditional/low risk cross border trade (such as pomegranate from Afghanistan). This
could be achieved through an ongoing program of commodity specific bilateral agreements. For example:

- Fruit fly disinfestation protocols and other pest control measures as required for citrus to China could be mirrored in any fruit import specifications (such as mangoes from the Philippines) but take account of lower risks for some commodity/origins (such as pomegranate from Afghanistan).
- Maximum residue level requirements of pesticides and contaminants on onions to Sri Lanka could be mirrored in requirements for spices from Sri Lanka.

The proposed National Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (NAPHIS) could enhance efficiency and reactivity of the Pakistan regulatory system and sharpen mechanisms for regional and international liaison and negotiation. Under such a structure a ‘Biosecurity Unit’ and a ‘Food Quality & Safety Unit (FQSU)’ could improve integration of plant and animal quarantine, with enhanced attention to food quality/safety checks under FQSU.

1.2 To ensure that SPS compliance and produce quality maintenance can be maintained during import reception, inspection and release, infrastructure development plans and resourcing strategies should be developed by the Ministries of Commerce and Finance.

The plans should take into account (and could capitalise upon) GoP plans for upgrading of point-of-entry infrastructure.

Infrastructure and training for HACCP and GAP certification and the development of local training/programs should continue to be boosted.

1.3 MINFAL agencies should develop action plans for dealing with emergent problems in imports (such as pathogen outbreak, suspected contamination of consignments).

1.4 MINFAL and Customs should develop and institutionalise early warning systems for detecting and responding to outbreaks/threats.

Pakistan could draw on and modify existing action plans from other countries to develop critical plans. In Australia, the Office of the Chief Plant Protection Officer within the Federal Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) and Plant Health Australia are involved in the development of action plans for exotic pest outbreaks in consultation with appropriate industry bodies for specific industries (such as the Australian Mango Industry Association for the mango industry). There are similar bodies covering animal industries.

1.5 The WTO Unit in MINFAL, the Ministry of Commerce and UNCTAD should organise stakeholder consultations to consider content and recommendations of this report and develop recommendations for draft policy and further action.

In advance of the stakeholder consultation a desk study should be made to collate current and planned support on SPS compliance initiatives and capacity building in or for Pakistan.
Recommendation 2. Enhance information access for relevant authorities and trading partners.

2.1 The Ministry of Commerce working with relevant Departments should continue to enhance access to information about import requirements and enhance inspection and clearance procedures.

The WTO office in MINFAL could in consultation with Customs, Trade and Quarantine agencies and other stakeholders develop a one window web-portal covering:

- Import/export procedures
- Certification
- Lab accreditation
- Genetic profiling to detect bio-piracy
- Lab support systems
- Law enforcement
- A strategic plan profiling
  - Laws review and amendments
  - Clearance procedure reviews
  - Related quarantine infrastructural support plans
- A feedback desk.

2.2 MINFAL and responsible Departments should foster greater regional networking and knowledge sharing in risk assessment data access and evaluation.

Enhancement of information access is a two-way process. In addition to improving the accessibility of its own procedures, GoP should proactively foster networking and information sharing amongst key trading partners and neighbouring countries. Agreements on ‘risk alerts’ concerning commodity/X detections could also be useful.

2.3 MINFAL, the Ministry of Commerce and the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority should continue to foster regional dialogue and harmonization on GAP standards and consider utility of those being developed by ASEAN countries.

Under support from the Australian Agency for International Development ASEAN-Australia Economic Development Program (AAECP), an on-going program of activities with ASEAN countries has focussed on enhancing trade and commerce in agricultural commodities. Current components include one on the development of ASEAN Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) standards covering quality and food safety for horticultural produce. The approach emphasises feasibility in practice and could be emulated for South Asia.

Recommendation 3. Develop and implement strategies and processes for enhancing and monitoring performance.
3.1. Performance targets should be built in to Agency operational plans and assessed annually by line Ministries and Ministry of Finance.

Agencies could consider a rolling audit plan to review and boost performance of different agency functions over a 5-year period. Audit committees should have some independent stakeholder representation.

3.2. GoP through MINFAL and the Ministry of Commerce should adopt a fair but reasonable approach in assessing risks and establishing import requirements (this means that import requirements should be no more stringent than local standards in practice).

3.3. The WTO Unit in MINFAL should continue to foster development of SPS expertise and competencies for standards and performance assessment in country.

The Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority should be mandated for capacity building and performance assessment in standards development and monitoring.

3.4. The Ministry of Commerce and MINFAL should encourage links with the private sector and key trading partners to enhance awareness and compliance and continuous improvement of SPS related management of imports.

3.5. Quarantine Services should enhance capability for dealing with/reducing risk of quarantine detections (e.g. in-port fumigation of timber, grain etc where infestation/contamination detected).

Recommendations for follow-up activities

Key themes for ongoing support under the ASEAN-Australia economic co-operation program (AAECP) provide a good framework for defining support priorities for Pakistan under the second phase of the Trade and Transport Facilitation Project. The AAECP Program aims to promote sustainable economic and social development within the region, and supports projects which aim to:

- Strengthening economic integration
- Enhancing trade competitiveness.

The AAECP is a six-year, US$33 million program run in partnership with the ASEAN Secretariat.

The following initial activities are recommended as a follow-up to the study on *Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Controls over Imports*

(a) A desk study, supplemented by selected meetings in Pakistan, be undertaken to identify current and pipeline national and regional initiatives which address any of the priority areas listed below (Table 6). (Recommendation 1.6)

(allowing time of one international and one national consultant 3 weeks each spread over 2 months, local and international travel) $50,000

(b) A 2 week review of legal framework for SPS compliance. (Recommendation 1.1)
(allowing time of one international and one national SPS law expert 2 weeks working with MINFAL WTO unit and Pakistan law centre spread over 2 months, local and international travel) $40,000

(c) A 3-4 day workshop convened in Islamabad to seek stakeholder consideration of the findings of this report and the desk study, to develop recommendations for future action by GoP and donors. (Recommendation 1.6)
(allowing time of one international and one national consultant 3 weeks (2x5 d for planning, 5 d for workshop, 5 d for follow-up), 1 support staff 1x2 weeks, 5 regional or international experts for workshop (5x10 d), workshop organisation and facilitation (venue hire, travel etc). $200,000

(d) Subsequent development of a priority plan for phase 2 of the Trade and Transport Facilitation project. (Recommendation 1.6)
(allowing time for one international and one National co-ordinator 2x3 weeks, plus selected experts for activity definition in priority selected areas 5x2 weeks) $200,000
Table 6. Priority areas for Phase 2 of the Trade and Transport Facilitation Project (R=recommendation number from “Recommendations for Action”)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal and Business Systems and Customs</td>
<td>Enhanced Customs Capacity Building Project (R1.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Infrastructure for E-Commerce</td>
<td>Standards and Conformity Assessment Project (R 2.3, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fostering Private Sector Competitiveness &amp; SME Sector Development (R 3.4)</td>
<td>1. CODEX and Food Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.1 Quality Assurance Systems for Fruit and Vegetables (R 1.3, 3.3, 3.4)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.2 Strengthening Capability in Risk Assessment in Support of Food Safety (R 1.2, 1.3)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.3 Enhancement of contaminant regulation and monitoring (R1.2, 3.5)</td>
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<td>2. Plant Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.1 Strengthening Plant Health Capacity (R 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 3.2, )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.2 Enhancement of pest surveying and pest documentation systems (R 1.2)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Animal Health</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.1 Quality Assurance and Safety of Fish and Fishery Products Handling, Processing and Packaging (R 1.3)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.2 Strengthening Animal Health Management and Quarantine (R 1.2, 1.4, 1.5)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Information services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4.1 Pakistan Portal for Trade and Transport (R 2.1)</td>
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<td>4.2 Foster regional dialogue (R 2.2, 2.3, 3.1)</td>
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<td>4.3 Enhance capacity of the farming and business communities to understand SPS compliance issues (R 3.4).</td>
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors thank Will Keenan, Chief Technical Adviser, UNCTAD Trade & Transport Facilitation, Islamabad, Pakistan for his advice and encouragement in undertaking this study. We also thank the numerous stakeholders who have been responsible for preparing and publishing the information and views reported here. Special thanks to those stakeholders who met with Dr Malik or responded to queries in the course of the study and the Dr Wendy Morgan who alerted GIJ to the need for an international consultant for this project. The key persons/institutions contacted are attached as Appendix 10.
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APPENDIX 1. PAKISTAN IMPORT DATA

Agricultural Imports of Pakistan (by commodity group and country)

Pakistan is a developing country and generally fulfils most of its agricultural requirements. However it also imports the commodities, at times of shortage, and the commodities which are not being produced in the country as well as which help increasing its output of agriculture sector. Table A1.1 shows Agricultural import values of different commodities over five years (FAO, 2005). Figure A1.1 shows the trends in import of different commodity groups.

Figure. A. 1.1: Trends in import of major Agricultural commodity groups

![Trends in import of major Agricultural commodity groups](image)

Table A1.1 indicates that this is typical of the long term trend.

The Import data recorded by the Custom department (Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited-PRAL), during the first quarter of the year 2006 indicates that the total value spent on the import of agricultural commodities was 203.98 million US $. The major agricultural import groups include the Fats and Oils, followed by the Cereals, Vegetables (fresh and processed) and Vegetable seeds, Condiments, Oil crops, Fruits, and others.

Table A1.1 indicates that this is typical of the long term trend.
Table A1.1  Pakistan’s Agricultural Imports (1999-2004)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Val (1000US $)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Plant Products</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cereals</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Bread</td>
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<td>Broad Beans, Dry</td>
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<td>Lettuce</td>
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<td>Watermelons</td>
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| **Fruits Fresh** |     |      |      |      |      |      |
| Oranges          | 0   | 0    | 0    | 10   | 0    | 1    |
| Tang, Mand. Clement, Satsma | 0   | 2    | 0    | 0    | 7    |      |
| Lemons and Limes | 16  | 0    | 2    | 0    | 5    |      |
| Grapefruit and Pomelos | 12  | 5    | 3    | 0    | 0    |      |
| Apples           | 675 | 1,317| 513  | 418  | 688  | 736  |
| Grapes           | 3,240 | 5,381 | 4,991 | 4,975 | 6,394 | 5,128 |
| Raisins          | 795 | 994  | 1,113| 1,100| 1,006| 1,342|
| Pears            | 0   | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 1    |
| Quinces           | 2   | 3    | 4    | 5    | 0    | 0    |
| Apricots         | 428 | 557  | 408  | 363  | 673  | 627  |
| Dates            | 5,402 | 5,212 | 5,912 | 6,162 | 3,201 | 9,500 |
| Cherries         | 6   | 46   | 6    | 26   | 7    | 0    |
| Peaches and Nectarine | 0   | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Plums            | 0   | 0    | 0    | 0    | 6    | 5    |
| Plums, Dried (Prune) | 90  | 224  | 199  | 174  | 207  | 118  |
| Strawberries     | 23  | 7    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 10   |
| Pineapples       | 4   | 0    | 2    | 0    | 13   | 32   |
| Cashew Nuts      | 70  | 42   | 44   | 56   | 52   |      |
| Almonds          | 837 | 1,759| 2,198| 1,601| 2,188| 1,565|
| Walnuts          | 59  | 46   | 14   | 18   | 7    | 19   |
| Pistachios       | 97  | 759  | 485  | 620  | 1,291| 2,190|
| Hazelnuts        | 33  | 14   | 15   | 32   | 0    | 20   |
| Areca Nuts (Betel)| 38,679 | 36,412 | 25,015 | 25,142 | 16,120 | 118  |
| Almonds Shelled  | 304 | 177  | 65   | 64   | 703  | 4,287|
| Coconuts         | 1,217 | 1,988 | 2,568 | 2,243 | 1,777 | 2,138|
| Fig              |     | 15   | 0    | 11   | 43   |      |
| Fruit Fresh      | 877 | 1,344| 750  | 1,089| 1,455| 1,682|
| **Sub Total**    | 52,796 | 56,318 | 44,320 | 44,086 | 35,815 | 29,614 |

<p>| <strong>Fruits Prep./Dried</strong> |     |      |      |      |      |      |
| Dry Apricots         | 131 | 187  | 37   | 25   | 15   | 26   |
| Fig, Dried           | 64  | 32   | 2    | 21   | 0    | 0    |
| Pineapples, Canned   | 1,283 | 1,965 | 1,379 | 1,137 | 1,794 | 1,848|
| Coconuts, Dessicated | 2,808 | 3,111 | 2,163 | 2,773 | 3,683 | 3,338|
| Copra               | 9,821 | 8,375 | 7,991 | 8,848 | 11,845 | 13,366|</p>
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<th>3,430</th>
<th>3,833</th>
<th>2,321</th>
<th>2,505</th>
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<td>491</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>4,477</td>
<td>6,054</td>
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<td>364</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>629</td>
<td>829</td>
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<td>18297</td>
<td>14950</td>
<td>16440</td>
<td>22443</td>
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**ANIMAL PRODUCTS**

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| Total | 27,550 | 24,520 | 33,412 | 31,376 | 28,148 | 35,215 |

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<td>Ghee (From Cow Milk)</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skim Milk of Cows</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole Milk, Condensed</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterm, Curdl, Acid. Milk</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yogurt Concentr. Or Not</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole Milk, Evaporated</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>1,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Whole Cow Milk</td>
<td>21,617</td>
<td>12,383</td>
<td>4,363</td>
<td>5,113</td>
<td>3,416</td>
<td>1,734</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry Skim Cow Milk</td>
<td>7,161</td>
<td>2,220</td>
<td>767</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry Whey</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>1,008</td>
<td>2,292</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese (Whole Cow Milk)</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>735</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>588</td>
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<tr>
<td>Processed Cheese</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>308</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prod. of Nat. Milk Constit.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Cream and Edible Ice</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>245</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margarine + Shortening</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>138</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub Total</strong></td>
<td>31052</td>
<td>16819</td>
<td>7370</td>
<td>8252</td>
<td>12892</td>
<td>11181</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fats, Oils &amp; Waxes</th>
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<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Oils and Fats</td>
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<td>89</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oils Boiled etc</td>
<td>2,251</td>
<td>2,378</td>
<td>874</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>8,056</td>
<td>299</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oils Hydrogenated</td>
<td>4,983</td>
<td>3,997</td>
<td>8,638</td>
<td>8,920</td>
<td>6,113</td>
<td>19,111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fatty Acids Oils 431.31</td>
<td>15,447</td>
<td>27,005</td>
<td>18,018</td>
<td>25,024</td>
<td>28,398</td>
<td>22,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crude Organic Materls 29</td>
<td>36,663</td>
<td>38,419</td>
<td>34,063</td>
<td>34,111</td>
<td>37,778</td>
<td>36,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spermaceti 431.41</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waxes Veg 431.43</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub Total</strong></td>
<td>59518</td>
<td>72020</td>
<td>61975</td>
<td>68914</td>
<td>81229</td>
<td>78590</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trends in the first quarter of 2006 (below) were similar to long term patterns (Table A1.1):  

Fats and oils account for a very large volume of the imports of Pakistan, worth US $144.29 million. The largest exporter of fats and oils to Pakistan is Indonesia (65.42 %) followed by Malaysia (26.29 %) and USA (3.16 %).

Cereals stand second after fats and oils. Pakistan spent US $18.27 million on cereals imports, of which 49.27 % was from the Russian Federation, 39.69 % from Australia and 5.20 % from Egypt.

Vegetables and vegetable seeds is the third biggest category among the imports of Pakistan. Pakistan spent US $13.38 million on vegetables and vegetable seeds, Australia sharing maximum (37.26 %), followed by Myanmar (21.64 %) and India (14.06 %). Other countries with significant export to Pakistan are China and Canada.

The fourth biggest group among the agricultural imports of Pakistan is beverage crops and condiments. Pakistan consumed a total of US $12.66 millions worth of imported Condiments, of which 63.10 % were imported from Kenya, 6.82 % Wagah (Rwanda) and 5.89 % from China.

Oily/oil seed crops are next to condiments in the agricultural import groups of Pakistan. Pakistan spent US $ 10.996 millions for the import of Oil seed crops. Canada supplied 58.72 %, followed by India (16.40 %) and Sri Lanka (6.21 %).

Next to oily crops was fruit. Pakistan spent 2.3 millions US $ on the importation of fruits. Indonesia shared 29.94 % of the value, followed by Iran (26.40 %) and USA (21.51 %).

Gums stand at seventh position in contribution in the imports of Pakistan with a total value of US $0.957 millions, from United Kingdom, Tanzania and India sharing 29.21 %, 10.34 % and 10.24 %, respectively.

Trees, import valued US$ 740,479, hold eighth position among the agricultural imports. India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka, with 48.08 %, 30.54 % and 11.65 % shares, were the major contributors.

Starches and flours contain the second last (ninth) position among the agricultural import groups of Pakistan with the import value of US $284,343. The biggest supplier of Starches and Flours is the Netherlands (51.84 %) followed by Denmark and Germany with 18.67 % and 10.82 % share respectively.
Flowers and bulbs are at the last (10th) in list of Agricultural imports with the total import values of US $51,360. The top most supplier is Thailand (39.89 %), followed by Taiwan (30.20 %) and the Netherlands with (14.88 %).

In summary, Indonesia was the biggest supplier of Agricultural commodities during the first quarter, with 47.01 % share, followed by Malaysia and Australia, with 18.63 % and 6.95 % share respectively of the total values of agricultural Imports of Pakistan during the first quarter of 2006.
### Table A 1.2
Summary of Import Statement from Iran (Feb. 05 to Feb. 06)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. NO.</th>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Entry Point (Quetta)</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Source: Custom House, Quetta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NLC Dry Port</td>
<td>Railway Dry Port</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Qty (Kg)</td>
<td>Value (Rs)</td>
<td>Qty (Kg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Almond</td>
<td>3069731</td>
<td>233225691</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Anar Dana</td>
<td>1608291</td>
<td>14885942</td>
<td>280789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chick Peas</td>
<td>31662411</td>
<td>575483567</td>
<td>1559518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Corriander seeds</td>
<td>7428620</td>
<td>47206574</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cumin seeds</td>
<td>15636</td>
<td>114842</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>9906363</td>
<td>74407284</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Fennel</td>
<td>20451</td>
<td>135603</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pista</td>
<td>3592870</td>
<td>130993356</td>
<td>9849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Raisin</td>
<td>4964852</td>
<td>40275892</td>
<td>39708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Aalu Bokhara</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>19640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6226925</td>
<td>1116728751</td>
<td>1909504</td>
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</table>

Comments: The agriculture imports (Feb 05-Feb 06) from Iran (land route) were US$ 19.0 millions. The major imported commodities were Chick peas, Almond and Pista (Pistachio nut).
Table A 1.3: Imports from Afghanistan (Land route, Feb. 2005 to Feb. 2006)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. NO.</th>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Qty (Kg) Chaman</th>
<th>Value (Rs) Chaman</th>
<th>Qty (Kg) Torkham</th>
<th>Value (Rs) Torkham</th>
<th>Qty (Kg) Total</th>
<th>Value (Rs) Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Abjidh</td>
<td>2026019</td>
<td>4049243</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2026019</td>
<td>4049243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aalu Bokhara</td>
<td>6052653</td>
<td>11944822</td>
<td>18963</td>
<td>172999</td>
<td>6071616</td>
<td>12116921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Almond</td>
<td>117838872</td>
<td>231150234</td>
<td>326137</td>
<td>3429660</td>
<td>118165009</td>
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<td>Anar Dana</td>
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<td>1966722</td>
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<td>983361</td>
<td>1966722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Apples</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>551550</td>
<td>54782076</td>
<td>5515530</td>
<td>54782076</td>
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<td>Apricots</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>47029407</td>
<td>6179136</td>
<td>47029407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Carrot</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>174175</td>
<td>50308</td>
<td>174175</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>85163929</td>
<td>166770650</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Coriander</td>
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<td>7203513</td>
<td>1835</td>
<td>180711</td>
<td>3082593</td>
<td>7384224</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>779723110</td>
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<td>779723110</td>
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<td>3763051</td>
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<td>Grapes</td>
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<td>25368945</td>
<td>206569499</td>
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<td>Ground Nuts</td>
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<td>1810641</td>
<td>879814</td>
<td>1810641</td>
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<td>9997</td>
<td>1400</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Insecticide Seed</td>
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<td>15000</td>
<td>120000</td>
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<td>1666272</td>
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<td>20113752</td>
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<td>15135666</td>
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<td>Raisin</td>
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<td>955616</td>
<td>48370489</td>
<td>9503786</td>
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<td>*Raw Cotton</td>
<td>290580528</td>
<td>58161056</td>
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<td>6232475</td>
<td>291642851</td>
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<td>Raw Wool</td>
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<td>71450693</td>
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<td>4000166</td>
<td>1044765</td>
<td>4000166</td>
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<td>194498</td>
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<td>238778</td>
<td>1816044</td>
<td>61795552</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** | **15052,10392** | **21645,80895** | **46572477** | **468941260** | **216245314** | **2635522155**

Source: Custom Station Torkham (Torkham) and Custom House, Quetta (Chaman)

**Comments:** The agriculture imports (Feb 05-Feb 06) from Afghanistan (land route) were US$ 43.89 millions. The import through Torkham entry point (no proper structure of Quarantine at this border) is almost twice that through Chaman. Highlighted values are the major imported commodities. * Raw cotton is from Central Asian States
Table A 1.4  Import from India (Wagah border: July 2005- Feb. 06)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weight (Kgs)</th>
<th>Value (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Garlic</td>
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<td>764,069.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Potato</td>
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<td>3,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tomato</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Meat</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Live Animal</td>
<td>748 Nos</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,508,431</strong></td>
<td><strong>150,8431</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Custom Post, Wagah

**Comments:** The import from India through Wagah started during 2005. Garlic and Tomato were the main import, while other commodities are expected to be included/increase overtime.
Table A 1.5. Imported Seed data (2001-05)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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(Source: Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department, 2006)
APPENDIX 2. USDA FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE GAIN REPORT

GLOBAL AGRICULTURE INFORMATION NETWORK

GAIN Report - PK5013

Pakistan Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards FAIRS: 2005 Annual Report 2005

Approved by:
Howard Anderson, Agricultural Attatché, U.S. Emb assy, Islamabad

Prepared by:
Mohammad Shafiq Ur Rehman, Agricultural Specialist US. Embassy, Islamabad.

Report Highlights:
Pakistan does not have a set of clearly defined federal laws - either for domestic or imported foods. Pakistan adheres to the Harmonized Coding System to classify imported goods. Food Labeling and packaging requirements are enforced. Pakistan is progressing in the field of Agricultural Biotechnology. Biosafety guidelines and rules were enacted in April 2005 and a national policy and action plan is being prepared. There are no biotechnology related trade barriers between U.S. and Pakistan.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Annual Report
Islamabad [PK1]
[PK]
Introduction

Pakistan is the world’s ninth most populous nation. A relatively sustained economic recovery over the past several years has increased levels of imports, and despite Pakistan’s less-than-transparent trade regime it remains a major importer of U.S. vegetable oil, cotton, and wheat, and a major and expanding market for U.S. food products. Pakistan is a member of the World Trade Organization and is also a party to two agreements seeking to promote regional trade liberalization: the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), whose members also include Turkey and Iran among others; and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), whose members include India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Sri Lanka has recently signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Pakistan and a list of goods that can be exchanged between these two countries is now available. Singapore has exchanged a draft FTA with Pakistan, which includes services and contains an investment protection clause. Pakistan had a first round of talks with Indonesia in October 2004 that led to an agreement to enhance trade relations, and is expected to lead eventually to an FTA. Negotiations are also underway to conclude an FTA with Bangladesh. China has recently signed a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with Pakistan, under which either country can initiate trade under an Early Harvest Program (EHP) beginning on January 1, 2006. The China agreement would provide a major reduction in tariffs on certain items already identified by the two sides. Negotiations for an FTA with China are in progress: a first round of talks was held during mid August 2005, and it has recently been announced the agreement would become operational in three phases beginning in January 2006. India and Pakistan are working towards increasing bilateral trade. Pakistan has allowed duty free import of live animals, meat, garlic, onion, potatoes and tomatoes through Attari Road Land Custom Station at the Wagah Border - an established route for import and export of goods from India. India has accorded MFN status to Pakistan, but reciprocal status, to date, has not been granted to India. Trade links between the two countries will be enhanced with the anticipated completion of a fiber-optic link between Lahore and Amritsar, India.

Pakistan has made significant reforms to its trade regime in recent years. Except for strategic commodities, particularly wheat, state involvement in trading has been greatly reduced and the Government of Pakistan (GOP) has agreed to eventually phase out the consumption subsidy on wheat. The government’s policy to promote export-led growth has led to privatization of rice and cotton exports and the elimination of a number of export subsidies, including fertilizer. Tariffs range from 0 - 25 percent and are subject to further reductions as a part of the longterm plan to rationalize the duty structure. The GOP levies surcharges on certain items (e.g., vegetable oils) to protect domestic industry.

Revenue collection remains problematic in Pakistan in general. As a result, the GOP continues to finds it effective to collect sales and income taxes on imports upon arrival. Although these are domestic taxes, the difficulty of collecting taxes from domestic sources makes these taxes tantamount to placing a differential tax on imports.

Pakistan is progressing in the field of Agricultural Biotechnology, which it views as being critical to addressing food security in the face of burgeoning population. Biosafety guidelines and rules were enacted in April 2005 and the preparation of national policy and action plan is in process. GM soybeans and soybean oil are currently imported to Pakistan. GM corn seed and cottonseed imports my find a market in the light of a recently established Biosafety Protocol. There are no biotechnology related trade barriers between U.S. and Pakistan and trade should continue without hindrance into the foreseeable future.
The government maintains a “negative” list of commodities, including food items such as pork and liquor, and their by-products, which are banned for religious reasons.

Section I: Food Laws

Pakistan does not have a set of clearly defined federal food laws–either for domestic or imported foods. Essentially, the federal government regulates imports and the provincial governments regulate food standards. Domestic food laws are based on the Pure Food Law (PFL) of 1963, which has not been revised since enacted. Food standards are maintained in the light of the PFL and are administered by provincial Health Departments. At time of import, the federal Customs Department will check the PFL standards to determine whether an imported item qualifies. If the item is not defined in the PFL standards, the Pakistan Standard Institute (PSI) will be consulted. PSI standards are revised every five years. To ensure that an imported product meets provincial health requirements, the exporter and/or his agent should contact provincial Health Departments to verify that the product meets the requirements of the Pure Food Laws or the Pakistan Standard Institute (see Annex I).

In general, Pakistan’s federal food import regulations are based on the premise that if a product is sold in the country of origin, Pakistani standards are met as well. The federal government generally applies Codex standards and guidelines in its regulation of imported food products. U.S. Food and Drug Administration standards also are used with certain products. For animal products, "Halal" certification (slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law) is required.

The Customs Department and Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) are the two main agencies involved in regulating food imports. The Customs Department's primary function is to ensure that imported foods meet Pakistan's labeling and shelf-life requirements, are not on the list of banned items and are assessed the appropriate import tariff. PPQ's function is to ensure that bulk commodities and live animal shipments meet phytosanitary requirements.

The federal government’s primary concern regarding imported food is shelf life. Federal import regulations require that an imported food product have at least 50 percent of its original shelf life remaining at time of importation. To ensure shelf life requirements are met, correct labeling is of critical importance. Each retail pack must have the production and expiration dates printed on the label. In addition to shelf life and labeling, certain products are banned for religious reasons. The importation of food products containing pork or pork products is prohibited. Commercial import of alcoholic beverages, as well as products containing alcohol, is also prohibited. Meat and dairy products may be imported if certified to be "Halal."

Pakistan controls certain imports through a "negative list." The negative list is comprised of (a) items banned for religious, security or luxury consumption reasons; (b) capital and consumer goods banned to protect the domestic industry; and (c) intermediate goods used to produce protected goods. Pakistan also maintains a "restricted list" of items that may be imported only by certain parties (i.e., the government or other specified users) or under certain arrangements (such as imports against credit). Other than the listed above, there are no federal restrictions on the importation of consumer foods. U.S. exporters have had problems with requirements due to the use of bar-code labels, which do not have printed dates of manufacture and expiration. As a result, U.S. suppliers using bar-coded labels alone will incur the extra cost of printing new labels or of affixing stickers with the printed production and expiration dates on each retail pack.

Since Pakistani consumers have confidence in the quality of foods imported in the
manufacturers own packaging, most foods are imported in consumer-ready packs. Refined vegetable oil is the one major exception; it generally is imported in bulk and re-packed locally.

Section II: Labeling Requirements

A. General Requirements
1. Imported food products, including ingredients, must have at least 50 percent of their original shelf life remaining at the time of importation, calculated from the date of filing the "Import General Manifest" (IGM), in accordance with the Customs Act 1969.
2. Packages or containers also must indicate:
   a. The date of manufacture and date of expiration,
   b. That the contents are free from pork and pork products,
   c. That the contents are fit for human consumption and that any animal product was obtained from an animal slaughtered according to "Halal" requirements,
   d. That imports of edible oils be on the basis of landed weight and landed quality, and
   e. That packing may not contain any word or inscription of a religious connotation or any obscene picture that may offend the religious feeling of any sect, class or group in Pakistan.
3. The production and expiration dates must be printed in English, using either words and/or numbers.
4. Standard U.S. bar-code labels alone are generally not acceptable as they lack printed production and expiration dates, as required by law.
5. Stickers, which contain the required printed dates of manufacture and expiration, should be affixed to the standard U.S. labels prior to shipment.
6. Products for institutional sale are governed by the same regulations as products for direct retail sale. However, certain institutions may request additional information on the label to identify it as their product.
7. Samples are governed by the same regulations as products for direct retail sale.
8. The coded "best before use date" is not considered to be an acceptable expiration date. In the past, several cargoes containing items without printed production and/or expiration dates were held by Customs until stickers, with production and expiration dates certified by the Pakistani High Commission in the United States, could be affixed to each individual item.
9. Pakistan does not have any special or additional requirements based on the country of origin for any food product. In the event there is a worldwide alert for a product from a particular origin, Pakistan will notify the appropriate country and trade organizations of any changes in its import requirements.
10. Authorities are very strict regarding label requirements and do not grant exceptions. Instead, they are authorized to reject or to destroy any cargo with improper labels.

B. Requirements Specific to Nutritional Labeling
Pakistan does not require nutritional content to be listed on product labels but generally accepts U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations as guidelines. The Pakistan Standard Institute regularly updates its guidelines, based on Codex and FDA revisions.
1. Nutritional labels are not required but can be included at the option of the supplier.
2. The standard U.S. nutritional fact panel is acceptable, if it conforms to FDA regulations.
3. There are no regulatory restrictions on the importation of products with nutrient or nutritional claims. Pakistani authorities consider claims largely as promotional tools and thus far, do not require them to be based on scientific evidence.
4. There are no regulatory restrictions on the importation of products with implied claims. Here again, authorities consider these claims to be promotional tools and do not require them to be verified by scientific evidence.
5. Authorities generally have no objection to the importation of products with specific health claims. However, if a product claims to be a source of vitamins or minerals, it must be registered with the Ministry of Health prior to arrival, jointly in the name of importer and manufacturer.

Section III: Packaging and Container Requirements
Pakistan generally follows Codex rules for packaging requirements. Generally, if packaging material is acceptable in the exporting country, it is acceptable in Pakistan. Pakistan does not have any packaging requirements related to environmental concerns, such as waste disposal or recycling. The following information must be placed (in a durable and legible manner) on all packages in the consignment or container:
- The name of the product,
- The name and address of the manufacturer;
- The net contents,
- The date of manufacture and date of expiration,
- The percentage of dye contents, and
- The normal storage stability.

Section IV: Food Additive Regulations
Pakistan generally follows Codex rules for food additives and preservatives. The Ministry of Commerce updates its list of importable food additives based on guidance received from Codex. Pakistan also follows Codex standards regarding vitamins in food products. The Ministry of Commerce regulates the importation of food coloring. These regulations are reviewed and updated annually. The importation of food coloring or foods containing artificial colors is subject to the following conditions:

a) The importer must obtain a certificate from the concerned agency of the government of the exporting country. The certificate shall accompany each consignment and shall state that the food additives/colors are in use in the country of origin at the time of shipment or are registered for use in that country.
b) The exporter’s invoice must show the percentage of dye contents in the product.
U.S. exporters may obtain the list of importable additives from the Ministry of Commerce through the FAS/Islamabad office. These lists are in English and are updated annually.

Annex II contains a list of importable food colors.

Section V: Pesticide and Other Contaminants
Pakistan generally follows Codex rules and guidelines on maximum residual limits (MRLs) of pesticides and other contaminations in foodstuff. Custom officials enforce these rules according to Codex defined limits for imported foods. However, Pakistan does not have a system to enforce the MRLs of pesticides and other contaminations in domestically produced foods. Occasionally, authorities enact special requirements, as occurred following the dioxin problem in Belgium in 1999, when Pakistan required a dioxin-free certificate on products originating from Belgium.

Section VI: Other Regulations and Requirements
The importer shall ensure that:
1. Importation is in accordance with regulations and the item(s) are not on the negative list.
2. The terms and conditions of importation are specified in the letter of credit.
3. Imports of plants and animals have the necessary approval of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.
4. Imports of livestock genetics have the necessary clearance of the Livestock Division of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Registration: There is no requirement to register most consumer foods. However, laboratory testing may be required for food products containing medicines. Bulk vegetable oils are the only products subject to random testing to ensure fitness for human consumption at time of arrival. If registration is required, the importer must file application with the Ministry of Health. The importer also must attach a letter from the manufacturer stating that he is the manufacturer’s sole agent. This letter is required because the product will be registered jointly in the names of the manufacturer and the importer for an initial period of one year, which is extendable. The importer also must submit: a registration fee, a sample of the product in the various packaging to be marketed, a complete product history and other required papers. Registration can take 3 months to a year to complete.

Samples: Product samples can be shipped via express mail or parcel post. If a sample meets labeling and other requirements, it will be released after the applicable tariffs and taxes are paid. Free samples are assessed duty based on freight costs. Specific requirements for sample shipments may be obtained from the Ministry of Commerce (see Annex I).

Certificate of Origin: The exporter must provide a certificate of origin for all shipments. For animal products, the exporter also must certify that the product is “Halal.” Pakistan may require other specific certificates based on worldwide alerts or other emergency situations. In such instances, the Government of Pakistan will alert the appropriate countries and trade organizations of these requirements. Exporters should verify with their importers that all required certificates for customs and quarantine clearance have been obtained prior to shipment. There is no system to monitor products at wholesale or retail levels. Under certain circumstances, district administrators, in cooperation with food inspectors, may inspect outlets and, based on their finding, may ban the sale of a product.

Section VII: Other Specific Standards
Pakistan generally follows the European standards for weights and measurements. U.S. weights and measures are acceptable. Other standards applied by product include:
1. Codex rules to regulate importation of vitamin-enriched products.
2. Food products containing a genetically enhanced component (GMO) are not restricted.
3. Fresh or frozen seafood may be imported in consumer packs or in bulk, provided the sale of the same product is permitted in the country of origin.
4. Live animals must provide a quarantine certificate from the relevant authority in the country of origin, which contains all the information required for quarantine clearance.
5. Alcoholic beverage may not be imported for commercial sale. Importation of alcohol for other than commercial sale requires approval of the Ministry of Commerce.
6. Organic foods and health foods are not regulated. However, exporters may use FDA and Codex rules as a general guideline.
7. Product samples and free samples must follow the same regulations as commercially imported items.

Section VIII: Copyright and/or Trademark Laws
Pakistan is committed to World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements and is moving to comply with WTO agreements on intellectual property rights, trademarks and patent rights. Pakistan has enacted laws and is in the process of formulating the sub-
ordinate legislation to enforce these laws. Pakistan is also a member of the Universal Copyright and Bern Conventions. The copyright office is under the Ministry of Education. A copyright on a registered design is initially granted for five years extendable for another ten years. The Patents Office, under the Ministry of Industries administers registration of patents and designs. Patents are granted for up to 16 years from the date of application and may generally be extended for another five years period and, under some circumstances, for an additional five years. Legal remedies, such as injunctions, are available in cases of patent infringement. Trademarks are registered under the Trademarks Act, 1940, through the Trademark Registry, under the Ministry of Commerce. Trademarks are registered for seven years from the date of application and the registration may be renewed for an additional fifteen years. There are no statute of limitations on trademarks and brand name registrations. The importer of a food product, in coordination with the manufacturer, may register the trade mark(s) and brand(s).

Section IX: Import Procedures
All importers must register with the Export Promotion Bureau and are required to be registered as an importer under the Registration (Importers and Exporters) Order of 1993.

a. Customs officials and Plant Protection and Quarantine officials, to ensure they conform to labeling and other import requirements must inspect imported products. Imports of live animals or plants require necessary certification from the country of origin. After Customs and PPQ issue their respective clearance reports, the goods are released on payment of import duty.
b. English is the official language. All agencies will accept documents in English and will respond in English. Thus, there is no need to translate documents to Urdu or other local languages to expedite procedures.
c. Goods generally can be cleared from Customs in less than a week, if all papers are in order.
d. The system allows for appeal (at multiple levels) in case of a dispute or rejection of a product.

Section X: Post Contact
If you have questions or comments regarding this report or need assistance exporting to Pakistan, please contact the Foreign Agricultural Service’s office in Islamabad at the following Mailing Address:
Agricultural Attaché
AMEMB-Islamabad
Unit 62200, Box 16
APO AE 09812-2200
Local Address: Agricultural Attaché
U.S. Embassy
Diplomatic Enclave
Ramna 5
Islamabad, Pakistan
Phone: (92-51) 208-2276
FAX: (92-51) 227-8142
E-mail: agislamabad@usda.gov

For more information on exporting U.S. agricultural products, please visit the Foreign Agricultural Service’s home page at: http://www.fas.usda.gov
Annex I: Main Regulatory Agencies

Secretary
Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "B" Tel # (92-51) 920-3307
Islamabad, Pakistan Fax # (92-51) 922-1246

Secretary
Ministry of Commerce
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "A" Tel # (92-51) 920-1816
Islamabad, Pakistan Fax # (92-51) 920-3104

Secretary
Ministry of Industries
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "A" Tel # (92-51) 921-1709
Islamabad, Pakistan Fax # (92-51) 920-7748

Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "Q" Tel # (92-51) 922-4956
Islamabad, Pakistan Fax # (92-51) 921-8062

Chairman
Central Board of Revenue
CBR House Tel # (92-51) 920-1938
Islamabad, Pakistan Fax # (92-51) 920-5308
chairman@cbr.gov.pk

Collector of Customs
Pakistan Custom House Tel # (92-21) 921-4170
Karachi, Pakistan Fax # (92-21) 921-4134

Chairman
Export Promotion Bureau
Finance and Trade Center Tel # (92-21) 920-6462
Shara-e- Faisal, Karachi, Pakistan Fax # (92-21) 920-6461
chairmanepb@yahoo.com

Pakistan Standard Institute
Food and Agricultural Division Tel # (92-21) 920-5997
Karachi, Pakistan Fax # (92-21) 920-5928

Governor/Director
State Bank of Pakistan
Central Directorate
I.I. Chundrigar Road Tel # (92-21) 921-244-748
Karachi, Pakistan Fax # (92-21)
Email: Ishrat.Hussain@sbp.org.pk
Annex II: List of Food Colors and Food Color Lakes
S. NO. Common Color Name
1. Curcumin
2. Riboflavin
3. Riboflavin-S-phosphate
4. Tartrazine
5. Quinoline yellow
6. Sunset yellow FCF and orange yellow S
7. Cochineal, carminic acid, carmines
8. Azorubine, carmoisine
9. Amaranth
10. Ponceau 4R, cochineal Red A
11. Erythrosine
12. Red 2G
13. Allura Red AC
14. Patent Blue V
15. Indigotine, Indigo carmine
16. Brilliant blue FCS
17. Chlorophylls and Chlorophyllins
18. Copper complexes of chlorophylls and chlorophyllins
19. Green S
20. Plain caramel
21. Caustic sulphate caramel
22. Ammonia caramel
23. Sulphite ammonia caramel
24. Brilliant Black BN, Black PN
25. Vegetable carbon
26. Brown FK
27. Brown HT
28. Mixed carotenes
29. Beta carotene
30. Annatto, bixin, Norbixin
31. Paprika extract, capranthin
32. Lycopene
33. Beta-apo-8 carotenal (C 30)
34. Ethyl ester of beta-apo-8-carotenic acid (C 30)
35. Lutein
36. Canthaxanthin
37. Beetroot Red, Betanin
38. Anthocyanins
39. Calcium carbonate
40. Titanium Dioxide
41. Iron oxide and hydroxide
42. Aluminium
43. Silver
44. Gold
45. Litholrubine BK
Note: The above list is not all conclusive.
APPENDIX 3 PAKISTAN LAWS AND ORDINANCES RELEVANT TO REGULATION OF IMPORTS UNDER THE SPS AGREEMENT

Federal Acts and ordinances relevant to regulation of imports under SPS are listed in Table A 3.1.

Table A3.1  Pakistan Federal Acts and Ordinances

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<th>Placement</th>
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<td>29-D</td>
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<td>1971-95</td>
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<td>16-B</td>
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<td>2001</td>
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<td>16-B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
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<td>2001</td>
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<td>Customs Rules &amp; Notifications</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>29-A</td>
</tr>
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<td>The Customs Act 1969</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>29-A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Customs Rules &amp; Notifications</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>29-D</td>
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<td>Customs Rules &amp; Notifications</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>29-D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>The Sales Tax Act</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>29-D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>The Customs Act 1969</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>29-D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International Portal on Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health

http://www.ipfsaph.org/En/default.jsp

The International Portal on Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health facilitates trade in food and agriculture products and supports the implementation of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement by providing a single access point for authorized official international and national information across the sectors of food safety, animal and plant health.

The site includes links to relevant legislation and full text of the following laws and ordinances in PDF format:

Sind Shrimps (Control) Order, 1976. 01 Nov 1976
The Order deals, inter alia, with the following: shrimps handling on vessels; sale and transportation of shrimps; payment of price of shrimps; duty of fishermen's co-operative society; handling and processing (8); packing of shrimps; shipment of shrimp...

Pakistan Fish Inspection and Quality Control Act (No. XXXV of 1997). 01 Dec 1997
The aim of this Act is to regulate the quality and promote the export of fish and fishery products from Pakistan. Matters dealt with by the Act include: Registration of fish processing plants (3); Registration of fish exporters (4); Constitution and...

Pakistan Plant Quarantine Rules, 1967. 01 Jan 1976
Rules to restrict the importation and exportation of plants or plant material, animals or birds for purposes of preventing the spread of plant pests and diseases or the introduction of noxious weeds. Rules 3 to 28 deal with import, Rules 29 to 33 deal...

Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act, 1976. 01 Jan 1976
An Act to give effect to provisions of the FAO International Plant Protection Convention. The 11 Sections carry the following titles: Short title, extent and commencement (1); Definitions (2); Power to prohibit or regulate import of certain articles...

The Agricultural Pesticides Rules of 1973 are amended by adding rule 11 A on the licensing of dealers and vendors of pesticides. Further amendments concern the forms Nos. 12, 13 and 14 regarding the application for the registration as a dealer or a v...

Ordinance No. XII of 1979: Agricultural Pesticides (Amendment) Ordinance, 1979. 01 Jan 1979
Minor amendments inserting the words "by the same manufacturer" after the word "brand" in Section 5, Sub-section 4, clause (b). (2 Sections).

Seed Act 1976. 01 Jan 1976
The Federal Government shall establish a National Seed Council. This Council shall have various functions relative to the policy and administration of seed quality control. Also a Federal Seed Certification Agency shall be established as soon as possible http://www.ipfsaph.org/servlet/BinaryDownloaderServlet?filename=../kopool_data/FAOLEX_0/unknown_pak16066.pdf

The 43 Rules are divided into 12 Parts: Preliminary (I); Registration (II); Import (III); Manufacture, Formulation or Sale (IV); Packing and Labelling (V); Storage and Use (VI); Agricultural Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee (VII); Pesticide Lab.

The 30 Sections of the Ordinance are divided into 4 Chapters: Introductory (I); Import, Manufacture, Formulation, sale, Distribution and Use of Pesticides (II); The Agriculture Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee, etc. (III); Miscellaneous (IV). Pr...
APPENDIX 4. PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WITH RESPONSIBILITIES IN REGULATION OF IMPORTS

Finance Department
Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "Q"
Islamabad, Pakistan,
Tel: +92-51 922 4956,
Fax: +92-51 921 8062

Chairman
Central Board of Revenue
CBR House
Islamabad, Pakistan,
Tel: +92-51 920 1938
Fax: +92-51 920 5308
chairman@cbr.gov.pk
http://www.cbr.gov.pk/

Collector of Customs
Pakistan Custom House,
Karachi,
Tel: +92-21 921 4170
Fax: +92-21 921 4134

The Department of Customs is under Central Board of Revenue (CBR), which is a division of Ministry of Finance. The Department has a primary responsibility for implementing any law related to entry or exit of goods across Pakistan’s international borders, under the Custom Act 1968. In addition to this Act, Customs are also empowered to enforce more than 100 regulations, Acts, Ordinances, International conventions including checks for compliance with Intellectual Property Rights (Trade mark, copy right etc).

They administer the Pakistan Customs Schedule which lists conditions of import including phytosanitary matters for commodities. The main roles are:

- Import/export Policy implementation
- Revenue collection
- Trade facilitation and Enforcement
- Anti-smuggling

Customs has a fairly comprehensive website that has documents on a range of topics of relevance to import regulation including:

- Customs Valuation Information System (CVIS )
- Customs Act , 1969 (Amended up to June 2005)
- Import General Manifest ( IGM )
- Electronic Filing
- Help Line for Goods Declarations (GD) which has completion instructions for the Goods Declaration form.
- Customs General & Standing Orders
- HS Codes/Customs Tariff Codes
- Guide Custom Values for Duty & Taxes For GATT Codes
- Trade Policy (Import & Export Policy 2005-2006)
- Customs Clearing Agent Licensing, which includes forms for application for licensing as a Customs Clearing Agent.
- Customs Tariff 2005-2006
- International Customs
- Electronic Assessment System (EASY)
- List of Customs Warehouses
- Customs Downloads
- Automated Clearance Procedure (ACP) - Importers, who meet the criteria prescribed in Standing Order no. 07/2004 (which may be changed or modified from time to time), can apply for eligibility of the ACP which was put into effect from 17th May, 2004. Under Standing Order No. 07/2004, the system aims to process the customs declarations made at the time of import by notified eligible importers, on the Goods Declaration (GD) form, using the Custom House computer and thus speed up clearance. However, about 10% of such declarations maybe checked in detail randomly in order to ensure their authenticity. In case any discrepancies prejudicial to government revenue or import policy are found in random checking or Post Clearance Audit etc, severe penal action would be initiated against the Importer as well as the Custom House Agent in accordance with Customs Act, 1969. The ACP is not available for banned/restricted items as per current Import Trade & Procedures Orders.

- Customs Administrative Reforms (CARE) and
- Shipping Agent Licensing.

Figure A 4.1: Map: Declared Entry/Exit Points and Customs Land Stations

Name of City Districts; *: New (Non Operative; A: Airport; L: Land/Customs Land station; S: Sea Port; (Digit shows numbers).

Figure A4.1 (above) shows entry and exit points and Customs Land stations at which Customs operates.
Customs Posts

Figure A 4.2 shows typical administration arrangements for one entry point – Torkham on the Pakistan-Afghan Border. This illustrates the complexity of the administrative structure for administration and decision making. More decision making should be devolved to the inspector with referral to the next level only on an ‘as needs’ basis for non-routine decisions.

Figure A 4.2  A typical Organogram of Customs operations: Torkham, Pak-Afghan Border.
Poverty Reduction Strategy Policy Secretariat

Abdul Wajid Rana
Joint Secretary (External Finance-IFR and Policy)
Head of the PRSP Secretariat
Finance Division
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad
E-mail: awrana@isb.comsats.net.pk

Ministry of Commerce

Secretary
Ministry of Commerce
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "A"
Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: +92-51 920 1816
Fax: +92-51 920 3104
http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/ministries/index.jsp?MinID=1&cPath=1

The Ministry of Commerce oversees policy and legislation in relation to the development of trade. It is playing a key role in the development of Free trade Agreements and administers under the Import and Exports (control) Act 1950, the Import Policy Order 2005-2006, which specifies health and safety requirements for imports based on advice and regulations of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Ministry of Health.

Export Promotion Bureau

Chairman
Export Promotion Bureau
Finance and Trade Centre Tel # (92-21) 920-6462
Shara-e- Faisal, Karachi, Pakistan Fax # (92-21) 920-6461
chairmanepb@yahoo.com
http://www.epb.gov.pk/epb/index.jsp

The Export Promotion Bureau promotes exports by participating in trade fairs / exhibitions and sponsoring delegations of Pakistani Exporters and exploring new markets and introducing new commodities.
Contact: Mr. Ajaz Ali, Director (Admin)
Address: Finance & Trade Centre Building, 4th & 5th Floor, Shara-e-Faisal, P.O. Box No. 1293, Karachi.
Tel: +92-21 920 2718
Fax: +92-21 920 2713.

Trading Corporation of Pakistan

The TCP undertakes import and export of a variety of goods to stabilize prices of consumer goods in the local market in compliance with Federal Cabinet decisions.

Contact: Mr. Ziauddin Ahmed,
General Manager
Address: Export Marketing & Co-ordination Division, 4th & 5th Floor, Finance & Trade Centre, Shareea Faisal, P.O. Box No. 1244, Karachi.
Tel: +92-21 920 2947 - 49
Fax: +92-21 920 2722 & 920 2731
E-mail: tcp@digicom.net.pk
http://www.tcp.gov.pk/
The TCP was incorporated in July 1967, registered under companies Act 1913 (now the Companies Ordinance 1984). It is fully owned by the Federal Government and works under the Ministry of Commerce. The principal activity is to engage in trading on behalf of the Government of Pakistan.

Objectives

- Act as counterpart of state trading organizations in the socialist countries for import items assigned to TCP under import policy.
- Achieve economy of scales by handling bulk transactions; secure advantages of freight and postharvest handling expenses and prevent leakage of foreign exchange through leakage of through such malpractices as under and over invoicing.
- Stabilize market conditions and neutralize effect of high market prices resulting from unwarranted escalation by private importer and ipso facto, act as a check on disparity between import price and scarcity prices.

In January 1995, TCP was assigned the following new roles by federal cabinet:

- Imports: Import of essential commodities in emergent conditions as in the past; import of soybean oil (PL-480 programs and CC credit); import of palm oil from Malaysia under Malaysian credit; import of industrial raw materials and utilization of credit facilities.
- The TCP has also been given a role in export including under credit lines given by the Government; export to non-traditional markets; to undertake and develop export of fresh fruit and vegetables and minerals. Since 2002, the TCP has also been given the role of inspecting brown and white rice exported to the European Union.
- The TCP under Government advice purchases local commodities e.g lint cotton, sugars etc; importing and re-exporting as per requirement, to help stabilize prices

The TCP has been nominated as nodal point for dissemination of information relating to bulk purchases between SAARC countries.

Import Procedure and Quality Control

- In order to keep strategic reserves, the respective Ministry advises TCP to purchase a commodity as per specification provided (e.g. Appendix 6 shows the specifications for wheat).
- An open international tender is given with detailed specifications.
- After a tender is accepted, the TCP appoints a pre-shipment inspection agency (PSI) from its panel (addresses of selected reference given in Appendix 6), the cost of which is born by the seller.
- The seller shall on receipt of L/C from TCP, offers to the TCP’s nominated PSI, the stocks as per shipment schedule prior to shipment/dispatch and also shall ensure PSI’s accessibility to the stocks for inspection, sampling, testing etc.
- The PSI shall draw required number of representative samples jointly with the sellers and other attending agencies, in accordance with international trade practices, prior to loading of cargo tendered by the seller for shipment/dispatch.
- The results of the tests shall be deemed to be final at load port/dispatch station and shall be binding on both the buyer and seller.
- The offered commodity will be rejected if it does not meet any of the specification or characteristics.
- The PSI shall allow sailing/dispatch after proper air tight sealing of the cover of the holds/batches of the vessel/wagon/trucks (as per case).
- TCP can also maintain a post entry quality check if it is needed.

The National Tariff Commission

National Tariff Commission
State Life Building No. 5
Jinnah Avenue
P.O Box 1689
Postal Code 44000
Islamabad
Telephone +92 - 51 - 9202031
Fax Number: +92 - 51 - 9221205
www.ntc.gov.pk
E-mail Address: ntc@ntc.gov.pk
The National Tariff Commission is an autonomous agency of the Ministry of Commerce that conducts studies, make reports and give recommendations to the Federal Government on tariff protection to domestic industries. The Commission was established in 1990 under the National Tariff Commission Act 1990. Functions of the Commission are to advise the Government on tariff measures or other forms of assistance for:

a) providing protection to the indigenous industry;

b) improving the competitiveness of the indigenous industry; and

c) promoting exports from Pakistan

In addition to above functions, the Commission has been assisting and advising the Government from time to time on various aspects of

- international trade negotiations
- trade policy, investment policy and fiscal policy; and
- pre-budget and post-budget exercises to rationalize tariff structure.

Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MINFAL)

Secretary
Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "B"
Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: +92-51 920 3307
Fax: +92-51 922 1246

WTO Unit MINFAL

Dr. Syed Wajid H. Pirzada
Chief W.T.O, Ministry of Food, Agriculture & Livestock
WTO Unit, 38-W, Khalid Plaza, 3rd Floor,
Jinnah Avenue, Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: +92-51 920 6470 -9206471
Fax: +92-51 920 6472
E-mail: wajidpirzada_rootspakistan@yahoo.com
wajidpeer@yahoo.com

“The WTO Unit in MINFAL started on September 2005, to meet increasing demand for information related to WTO Agricultural matters & analyses of the issues and participation in international trade negotiations & disputes on one hand and to inform domestic policy on change management under WTO food & agriculture regime. The WTO Unit MINFAL thus besides informing MINFAL, also supports WTO related work of Ministry of Commerce (MOC), through economic, legal and technical analysis, on issues relating to trade in food & agriculture.” (Quoted from WTO Unit Quarterly Report)

The MINFAL WTO Unit (Figure A 4.3) has been assigned following key tasks:

- Undertake analyses and provide technical support for the on-going WTO mandated negotiations on agriculture,
- Analysis and provision of technical support for the on-going WTO mandated negotiations on agriculture,
- Analysis of the implications of the WTO negotiations on Pakistan’s production, trade, income, food security etc.,
- Monitor the implementation of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture (AOA), including activities of other WTO Members,
- Promote Understanding, and help interpret emerging WTO rules relevant to agriculture & food sector,
- Prepare notifications on various parts of the agriculture Agreements (e.g. AMS and Green Box expenditures, SPS notifications etc),
- Promote awareness and help expand the over-all knowledge base of stakeholders,
- Review and identify legislative changes in the context of SPS management.
Figure A 4.3  WTO Unit Organogram.

Plant Protection Department

Department of Plant Protection
Government of Pakistan
Jinnah Avenue - Malir Halt,
Karachi
Tel # (92-021)-9248612-4; Fax # (92-021)-9248673
Email  info@plantprotection.gov.pk
http://www.plantprotection.gov.pk/

The Department of Plant Protection (DPP) operates within the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MINFAL). The overarching objective of the Department is to increase yields per hectare by protecting crops from damage by of insects, diseases and weeds. The structure of DPP is shown in Figure A 4.4. Divisions include:

- **Pesticide registration** for:
  1. Registration of pesticides under the Agricultural Pesticides Ordinance, 1971.
  2. Regulation of import, manufacture, formulation, refilling/repacking, sale, use & advertisement of pesticides.
  3. Convening meetings of the Agricultural Pesticides Technical Advisory Committee & Sub-committees.
  4. Coordination with Federal and Provincial Governments, Private Sector and International Organizations.
  5. Quality check of pesticides.

- **Planning and development** for:
  1. Preparation, execution and monitoring of Development Projects,
  2. Inventory Management through maintenance of a database on pesticides,
  3. Assessment of the crops and pest situations,
  4. Coordination with Provincial Governments, Private Sector and International Organizations on all plant protection matters, and
  5. Regular reporting of the activities/achievements of the Department to the concerned quarters.

- **Plant Quarantine** for: enforcement of Plant Quarantine Act and PQ Rules. Objectives include:
  1. Preventing introduction, establishment and spread of harmful exotic plant pests/diseases in Pakistan.
  2. Ensuring pest and disease free export of plant and plant material.
3. Inspection, treatment and certification of plants and plant products at land, air and sea routes, both for import and export.

- **Federal Pesticide Testing and Reference Laboratory (FPTRL):**

  http://www.plantprotection.gov.pk/tech_fed.htm

The FPTRL provides updates and important documents regarding plant quarantine measures on the web link of the department. Functions:

1- There are eight labs in the Pakistan which are equipped with the facilities of testing samples for:
   
   (a) Registration
   (b) Appeal against analysis reports of the Provincial Government Labs.
   (c) Quality Control / Import
   (d) Officially purchased chemicals

2- Training to provincial chemists

**Pesticides Testing Laboratories (Notified)**

1- Federal Pesticides Testing & Reference Laboratory, Department of Plant Protection, Karachi.
2- Pesticides Testing Laboratory, Department of Agriculture, Lahore.
3- Pesticides Testing Laboratory, Rice Research Institute, Kala Shah Kaku
4- Pesticides Testing Laboratory, Plant Protection Institute, Faisalabad.
5- Pesticides Testing Laboratory, Department of Agriculture, Multan.
6- Pesticides Testing Laboratory, Agricultural Research Institute, Hyderabad.
7- Pesticides Testing Laboratory, Department of Agriculture, Rohri.
8- Pesticides Testing Laboratory, Agricultural Research Institute, Tarnab.

**Number of Quality Control Inspectors (Officers of BPS-17 and above)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Department of Plant Protection</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>74</td>
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<td>N.W.F.P.</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure A 4.4: ORGANIZATIONAL CHART: Plant Protection Department (MINFAL)

Plant Protection Adviser/Director General

Operational Manager
Aerial Wing

Dy .Director
Locust

Dy .Director
Quarantine

Dy .Director
Registration

Dy .Director
P& D

Dy .Director
Accounts

Dy .Director
Administrativ

Karachi (HQ)
Entomologist (1)
Plant pathologist (2)

OUT POSTS

Sindh
Balochistan
Federal/FANA
NWFP/FATA
Punjab

Karachi Airport
Port Qasim
Islamabad
Entomologist (1)
Gilgit
Plant Path (1)

Sialkot
Faisalabad

Karachi Seaport
Ouetta
Chaman
Peshawar
Entomologist (1)
Lahore
Entomologist (1)
Plant Path (1)

(MINFAL: Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock)
As a special initiative for SPS management, a feasibility study for a ‘National Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services’ (NAPHIS) has been led by the WTO unit in MINFAL with funding of Rs 611.782 million over five years. The various components involved are shown in Figure A 4.5. The project is aimed at contributing through effective SPS management toward trade development by removing agricultural and public health related technical barriers to trade, and by developing necessary quality infrastructure for trade development, resulting in better access to international markets. A number of laboratories will be upgraded and three pesticide residue analysis laboratories will be established at Kalashah Kaku, Lahore, Faisalabad, and Multan.

There are many reservations about the success of this new set up. The legal basis for its establishment has to be framed and considerable goodwill (and political support) will be required to bring together services currently scattered across several departments.
Figure A 4.5  Proposed Organogram of National Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (NAPHIS)

National Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (NAPHIS)
Secretary MINFAL as Chairman

- Seed Health FSC&D
  Director General
  Plant Quarantine PPD
  Director General

- National Veterinary Lab
  Director General
  Animal Quarantine Animal Health
  Director General

- Fisheries Department Lab MFD
  Managing Director/Director General
  Agriculture and Livestock Marketing
  Chief Advisor

- GQTLs Islamabad & Karachi
  Programme Incharge, SSO

MINFAL: Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
FSC&D: Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department
PPD: Plant Protection Department
NARC: National Agriculture Research Council
MFD: Marine Fisheries Department
GQTLs: Grain Quality Testing Laboratories
SSO: Senior Scientific Officer
Seed certification. Until 1995, seed clearance was the responsibility of the MINFAL Plant Protection Department (PPD). Since then, the Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department has only provided seed testing, while disease risk assessment is the responsibility of the Plant Quarantine Department (PQD). The PPD has a larger responsibility for local seed certification systems. There are > 540 seed companies in Pakistan, four being multinational, and four in the public sector. In view of the specific nature of seed borne transmission risks this responsibility should lie with a Federal seed certification agency.

For seed testing of imported consignments of seed, assessment must be completed in 12 days, however, assessment of routine samples is usually completed within seven days. Post entry trials of vegetable seed (to assess adaptability) are conducted in coordination between Ayub Agricultural Research Institute (AARI) and Provincial Agricultural Research Departments, while assessment of seed lines of all other crops are conducted under supervision of the National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC). Currently, varietal characterization is undertaken by the department (FCS&RD), while performance results (yield and disease susceptibility etc) are reported by collaborating departments. For approved cultivars, the Release Order is provided subject to a satisfactory result of the germination test and compliance with ‘truth and labelling’ requirements.

Problems in Seed certification:
- Once the seed is given to an importer with undertaking, it is usually sold without waiting for the report. For registration, characterization is needed under current law but it is not being done currently, and there could be a need to start it through the FCS&RD Department.
- Multinational seed companies which could potentially supply cultivars useful to Pakistan are not investing due to the absence of Plant Breeders Rights law (PBR). Currently the summary of the legislation is with Law Division, and the situation is expected to change, once the law is approved. However, like many other laws, if Plant Breeders’ Rights are not enforced, there will be less access to seed of multinationals, and Pakistan would continue to import more and more seeds of less useful varieties.

Agricultural and Livestock Products Marketing and Grading Department

Agricultural and Livestock Marketing Advisor (ALMA)
Block 6-A, 2nd Floor
F-7 Markaz, Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: +92-51 216 700/214063
Fax: +92-51 214 063

The Agricultural and Livestock Products Marketing and Grading Department operates under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and marketing) Act, which was approved in 1937. This department is more often known by the abbreviation of ALMA, which is actually Agriculture and Livestock Marketing Advisor, who heads this department. The department has two wings (a). Grading: Fruit and vegetables and Livestock (wool, eggs, casings, hides etc) (b) Marketing: recording market prices etc for both agricultural and livestock products. The Department undertakes grading at the time of export and issues quality certificate under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937. Currently the department is only involved in certification of agricultural commodities for export purposes. For the formulation of National Grade Standards and Specifications of quality, the Department conducts field and laboratory research. (Quoted from MINFAL website).

The Federal Agricultural and Livestock Products Marketing and Grading Department also advises the Federal Government in the marketing of agricultural and livestock commodities, maintains liaison with
international marketing organisations and arranges courses in grading techniques and laboratory testing of animal wool, animal hair, animal casing, oil cakes and solvent extracted meal, fish meal, dry and shell fish, lamb skin, eggs, animal bones, citrus fruits, potato, chillies, onion, guava, mangoes and green fresh vegetables etc. (Quoted from TelMedPAk Agriculture)

Animal Quarantine

There was very little web-based information on how Pakistan manages Animal related SPS issues with regard to imports and exports.

National Focal Point

Dr. Muhammad Afzal
Animal Husbandry Commissioner and
Head, Animal Sciences Division
Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
Khalid Plaza, Blue Area
Islamabad Pakistan
Tel: + 92-51 920 8779 / 920 5092
Fax: + 92-51 920 2968 / 922 1357
e-mail: afz-parc@isb.paknet.com.pk

Marine Fisheries Department

The Marine Fisheries Department gave good coverage of legislation and how the laws affected regulation of fish imports.

Commodore Syed Qamar Raza,
Director General
Marine Fisheries Department, Government of Pakistan, West wharf, Fish Harbour,
Karachi, Pakistan.
Tel: + (92-21) 2312923, 2316535-8 Fax: + (92-21) 2316539
E-mail: dgmfd@hotmail.co

The Marine Fisheries Department has responsibilities mostly concerned with the domestic industry.

- Exploitation and management of fisheries and other living resources in the exclusive economic zone of Pakistan,
- To conduct exploratory fishing surveys and biological research on various aspects of fisheries,
- Study of occurrence, life history and distribution of commercially important fish species,
- Management and improvement fishing fleet,
- Introduction of newer fishing techniques and improvement of traditional methods,
- Training of fishermen in various disciplines including modern fishing techniques, engine maintenance, fish processing and quality control,
- Liaison with various national and international agencies,
- Collection, analysis, interpretation and publication of fisheries statistical data,
- Advice to federal and provincial governments in matters relating to fisheries,
- Provide quality control service for export and domestic consumption of fish,
- Provide technical assistance and promotion of fish processing industry,
The Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA)

Mr. Abdul Ghaffar Soomro
Director General
Pakistan Standards & Quality Control Authority (PSQCA)
Block No.77, Pakistan Secretariat, Karachi-74400 (Pakistan)
Tel: +92-21 920 6260
Fax: +92-21 920 6263
Email: psqcadg@super.net.pk
http://www.psqca.com.pk

The Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) is under the Ministry of Science and Technology. The PSQCA:

- Establishes standards and promotes adoption of Pakistan Standard Specifications, the Certification Marks Scheme and co-ordinates the efforts of industry and consumers for the improvement of standards and the manufacture of quality products.
- Tests and assesses industrial raw materials and finished products to establish their quality, grade and specification and conformance to national or international standards and provides consultancy services to industry to implement quality improvement.
- Works on standardisation, analytical methods and procedures in metallurgy.
- Inspects and tests products and services for their quality specifications and characteristics during use and at import or export.
- Oversees licenses or certification to the Pakistan Standard (PS) Mark.
- Encourages and implements Quality and Environmental Management Systems i.e. International Standards organisation (ISO):9001-2000 and ISO: 14000 and assists local industry to obtain certification for these systems.
- Co-ordinates and co-operates with other national, regional and international organisations, associations, institutions or councils with objectives similar to PSQCA.

Under current regulations, 45 items including Biscuits, banaspati (vegetable ghee), edible oil, drinking water are listed for compulsory testing. The items imported through the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (Oil palm, sugar, wheat, jute bags etc) are tested by PSQCA. Copy of Act (http://www.psqca.com.pk/PSQCA Act/PSQCA Act VI 1996.pdf).

PSQCA standards are harmonized. The standards are not static, but change over time, which is not the case with any other regulatory statutory body. For example, the Pure Food Laws have not been revised since 1961.

PSQCA WTO Enquiry Point

PSQCA National Enquiry Point for WTO provides the following services on TBT related issues on Standards & Technical Regulations:

- Notifies the WTO on the Technical Regulations enforced in Pakistan in relations to imports in Pakistan.
- Disseminates TBT Notifications on Regulations enforced in foreign countries among the local trade community.

Pakistan National Accreditation Council (PNAC)

Engr. Abdul Rashid
Director General
Pakistan National Accreditation Council,
Ministry of Science & Technology,
4th Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex,
Agha Khan Road, Sector F-5/1,
Islamabad, Pakistan.
Tel: + 92-51 920 6044
Fax: + 92-51920 9510
Email: Rashid@pnac.org.pk
The Pakistan National Accreditation Council (PNAC) is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Science and Technology as the national apex agency to accredit conformity assessment bodies (CAB) such as laboratories and certification bodies. The accreditation services of PNAC were launched during 2001.

PNAC provides an internationally recognized accreditation service and also promotes a quality culture, which ultimately benefits consumers, producers, regulators and other stakeholders. PNAC represents Pakistan in the following regional and international fora:

- International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)
- International Accreditation Forum (IAF)
- Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC)
- Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC)

Main activities of PNAC:
- Accreditation of testing and calibration labs in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025, Quality and Environmental Management System Certifiers in accordance with ISO Guides 62 and 66, respectively.
- Formulation and Implementation of the National Quality Policy and Plan
- Awareness raising and training in the field of quality.

Accreditation is necessary to:
- Reduce Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).
- Improve quality of products and services.
- Build confidence of consumers, importers & exporters.
- Broaden the export base of the country.

(Quoted from PNAC site)

Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB) work in accordance with the relevant ISO guides/standards and under accreditation by PNAC are authorized to issue certificates in the applicable disciplines using PNAC’s logo. This will ensure validity of the certificates and enhance credibility of the CABs as reliable certifying agencies.

Ministry of Health

The Director General for Health,
Ministry of Health, Social Welfare and Population Planning,
Government of Pakistan, Secretariat Block C,
Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: + 92-51 82 09 30.

Contact Type: Codex contact point

The Pure Food Law (PFL) of 1963 is the basis of domestic food law in Pakistan, but it hasn’t been revised since enacted. Plans to review it were announced in January 2006.

Food standards reflect the PFL and are administered by Provincial Health Departments. At import, the Federal Customs Department (under Ministry of Finance) checks compliance with PFL standards but this appears to be on the basis of requirements ‘fit for human consumption’ listed in the Pakistan Customs Tariff 2005-2006 and health and Safety Requirements (such as an aflatoxin report for some commodities) listed in the Import Policy Order 2005-2006, as well as compliance with packaging, use by and permitted product requirements. Where the PFL standards do not cover the food type, the Pakistan Standards Institute (PSI) (under the Ministry of Science and Technology) will be consulted. Exporters and or their agent need to liaise with Provincial Health Departments to confirm products proposed for import meet PFL or PSI requirements.
The EPA is not currently involved in regulation of imports of agricultural produce. However, Pakistan faces international pressure for opening up its market for genetically modified (GMO) crops and the EPA plays a key role in addressing this issue.

At present, Pakistan does not allow GMO seed imports. Now that Pakistan has developed Biosafety guidelines, there is a framework under which such imports could be monitored and regulated. In considering policy on the import of GMOs, food security assurance is a key issue. GMO seed are being resisted not only because of the use of terminator genes that effectively prevent ‘farmer seed saving’, but because of multinational patenting that will impact on the commercial industry. In working through these issues Pakistan recognises the benefits that the technological advances of GMOs deliver (e.g. pest control) and wants to ensure that local capacity is built so GMOs can be developed locally under national patents.

In furthering development of national capacity for GMO development and regulation, a ‘National Biosafety Centre’ project has been approved (see website) with emphasis on developing rules, policies, and impact assessment processes for GMOs.

Ministry of Industry

Secretary
Ministry of Industries
Government of Pakistan
Pak. Secretariat, Block "A"
Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: +92-51 921-1709
Fax: +92-51 920-7748

Pakistan Standard Institute
Food and Agricultural Division
Karachi, Pakistan
Tel: +92-21 920 5997
Fax: +92-21 920 5928
APPENDIX 5. DECLARED ENTRY/EXIT POINTS (LAND, SEA AND AIR) AND CUSTOMS LAND STATIONS

Comments on the status of Declared Entry Points (Land, Sea and Air)

Currently, there are 33 Customs declared International entry points and Customs Land Stations in the country, comprising of land, sea and air routes (Table A 5. 1). Out of these points, 28 (land: 18, air: 7, sea: 2 points) are functional. Remaining entry points are either used as per need are will be made functional in near future.

The relevant quarantine departments need to consider recent additions of entry points, and review the existing infrastructure and facilities. A New National Quarantine strategy needs to be developed in accordance with the current status of Declared Entry Points.

Main Entry Routes: The major agricultural imports both by air as well as by sea are at Karachi. However, there is an increasing volume of imports from Afghanistan through Torkham and Chaman (Pak-Afghan border), Taftan (Pak-Iran border) and Sust (Pak-China border).

![Figure A5.1](image)

**Figure A5.1** Sea (a) and air (b) route in Karachi remain the major entry points
Table A 5.1: List of Declared Entry/Exit Points and Customs Land Stations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Territory</th>
<th>Land</th>
<th>Entry Route</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal/</td>
<td>Sust (Pak-China)</td>
<td>Faisalabad International Air Port, Faisalabad</td>
<td>02</td>
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<tr>
<td>FANA</td>
<td>Dry port, Islamabad</td>
<td>Islamabad International Air Port, Lahore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>Attari, Wagah, Lahore (Pak-India)</td>
<td>Allama Iqbal International Air Port, Lahore</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mughalpura, Railway Dry Port, Lahore</td>
<td>Islamabad International Air Port, Rawalpindi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NLC Dry Port, Lahore</td>
<td>Multan International Airport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dry Port, Faisalabad</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dry Port, Sambrial, Sialkot</td>
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<td>Dry Port, Multan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>Dry Port, Hyderabad</td>
<td>Quaid-i-Azam International Air Port, Karachi</td>
<td>4+1*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Kokhrapar (Pak-India), Dist. Larkana</td>
<td>Karachi Port Trust</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Port Qasim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NWFP/</td>
<td>Torkham (Pak-Afghan), Peshawar</td>
<td>Peshawar International Air Port</td>
<td>05</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tull City (Pak-Afghan), Khurram Agency, Dist. Kohat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angoor Adda (Pak-Afghan), Dist. Waziristan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td>Chaman (Pak-Afghan)</td>
<td>Quetta International Air Port</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Taftan ( Pak-Iran) : NLC Dry Port, Quetta</td>
<td>*Gawadar</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Taftan ( Pak-Iran) : Railway Dry Port, Quetta</td>
<td>Pasni</td>
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<td>Cheedgi, Punjgoor (Pak-Iran)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mand, Turbat (Pak-Iran)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Gaznali (Pak-Afghan), Dist. Noshki</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Border Point 250 (Pak-Iran), Dist. Kech</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Qamar Din Kerey (Pak-Iran), Dist. Zhob</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18+4*=22</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>28+5*=33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FANA: Federal Administered Northern Area; FATA: Federal Administered Tribal Area; NLC: National Logistic Corporation
*: New Non-Operative
Comments on the status of Plant Quarantine

In 1986, there were around 1100 staff in Plant Protection/Quarantine, which has been reduced over time and is now just over 500 (520-530), out of which 50% seats are vacant due to retirements/abandoned positions etc.

**Sind**

Plant Protection/Quarantine head Office is at Karachi. With the technical and financial assistance of Chinese Govt, the department has developed a new central quarantine lab. According to some importers, during public holidays sometimes no quarantine staff are available, and consignment release is delayed. Similarly sometimes access to original documents (by exporter) is delayed and clearance would be expedited if faxed or electronic copies were accepted.

In case of any delay at port, the shipping company charges additional costs. Plug in charges vary but usually the charge is around Rs 3000/8 hours. One day mean Rs 9000/- per container.

**Punjab**

At Lahore, the Plant Quarantine (PQ) staff consists of one Entomologist, and three Assistant Entomologists. These personnel are required to service six entry points (Wagha: 1, Railway dry port: 1; NLC dry port: 1, Air port: Cargo + Passenger: 2, Sialkot Dry port). Likewise, Faisalabad has two entry points (Dry port: 1, air port: 1) with two staff (Assistant Entomologists and a Field Assistant). An almost similar situation exists at other entry/exit points in the Punjab. ‘Sust’ is the Pak-China entry point, which is partly closed during winter. Vegetable seed smuggling through this route has been highlighted by the seed merchants in Peshawar.

**North Western Frontier Province/FATA**

Currently there are five Customs Declared entry Points, with one Entomologist and two inspectors of Plant quarantine to attend. Since 1947, the only point of plant quarantine representation in the province has been Peshawar, which has remained as an ‘out post’. This ‘outpost’ has not yet attained the status of an office with proper lab facilities.

The main entry/exit point is Torkham (Pakistan-Afghan border), located 65km from Peshawar (PQ outpost). Due to limited resources with the Quarantine staff, Release orders / phytosanitary certificates are issued near the city, and there is no PQ staff present at entry/exit points. The current service is inadequate due to the lack of staff, facilities and transport. Although, some equipment has now been given to this ‘outpost’, a proper lab structure with support staff is yet to be established.

The agricultural commodities are not only being imported from Afghanistan, but also through Afghanistan from other Central Asian states. There is an urgent need to develop and improve PQ services at Torkham and Peshawar. In addition, Pakistan also needs to help develop the quarantine system in Afghanistan that will in turn benefit Pakistan.

**Balochistan**

At the office of Plant Protection Quetta, there is one Deputy Director, and three junior staff. The Deputy Director is responsible for the clearance of goods from Taftan (Pakistan-Iran border) at three points (NLC dry port and the Railway dry port, air port). At Chaman (Pak-Afghan border), in Balochistan, there is one Asst. Entomologist, along with a daily paid labourer. Apart from these, there are 4-6 additional entry points, which will be functional in due course, and the department needs to increase the staff and facilities to attend these points. Like NWFP, there is a need to develop a proper quarantine lab. According to local seed dealers, there were some cases of seed smuggling in smaller lots (bags).
Suggestions

- Each point of entry/exit should be status of an outpost, whereas the regional offices given status of an office.
- The offices should have internet and online reporting system.
- Pest Risk Analysis needs to be done at regional level for at least our main crop and potential imported crops.
- Manuals with standard procedures for various quarantine tests (Aflatoxins, pesticide residues etc) are needed.
- The provincial set up needs major development, with one central laboratory at each provincial headquarters (HQ), and working laboratories with basic facilities and staff at each point of entry. To introduce such a system, about 100 staff would be needed in both the Punjab and Sindh, while 50 staff would be needed for both NWFP and Balochistan. In total, a Plant Quarantine service staffed by 900 personnel would be required to provide coverage for 24 hours in three shifts (300X 3 shifts of 8 hours) at the current entry points.

Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department (FSC&RD)

Although maximum import of seed is through Karachi, the staff and facilities in Karachi office are limited. There is a team of four technical staff with one lab assistant. All are located in one office-cum-lab in the building of Plant Protection Department.

There have been complaints that the FSC&RD do not accept seed certificates given by overseas companies. However, according to the technical staff of FSC&RD Karachi, the seed of certain key crops like maize, sunflower and sorghum need to be tested again, as during transportation by sea, seeds can deteriorate and lose germinability, resulting from the conditions with high humidity.

Currently, the department is providing seed testing facilities to seed importers without cost, whereas similar tests by Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) cost Rs 3000 (Rs 1000/sample each for germination, purity, vigour etc). The Department needs to review its subsidization policy of testing to ensure inspection services can be maintained and improved in future.

Currently, there is no Research and Development work in the department, no training wing, and the labs are not fully equipped, and are not accredited. There is also need of better documentation systems in the department,
Comments on Customs /Land route Entry /Exit Points

Pakistan-Afghanistan Border

In the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) /FATA, there are five declared entry points. Since the Pakistan-Afghan border is porous, and according to an estimate given by local people, there are 80-258 entry points, at which people cross the borders and exchange goods.

At Torkham about 85% consignments are for export, while 15% are for import (source-Deputy Collector Torkham). The working hours at Torkham are from 8 am to sunset. The current facility was developed originally for handling of 20 containers daily, and now there are about 400 consignments /day crossing the border, causing enormous problems. An up-grading plan has been prepared, however the main limitation is the availability of land, which require the involvement of the Provincial Government or a directive from the Federal Government.

(Figure A5.3 (left) a trailer is carrying goods from Afghanistan to Pakistan.),

Figure A 5.4. The Pakistan-Afghan border at Turkhum: goods trailers lining up for customs clearance

Problems:

• Lack of knowledge and expertise in customs staff

At Torkham, more than 50% of staff is over 45 years of age. Since 1992, there has been no new inductions apart from the senior positions e.g. Deputy collectors etc, whereas most of the inspection/document verification work is carried out by personnel who have never been to any refresher courses in their life.

• Lack of coordination in different departments

Torkham is about 65 km from Peshawar city, and there is no plant quarantine staff on site. If Customs personnel at Torkham hold a consignment for phyto-sanitary inspection/Release order, this only causes delays. Plant Quarantine staff has their own limitations (under staff, lack of resources for mobility etc).

Pakistan-Iran border: Taftan

Taftan is the main entry point from Iran, located around 750 Km from Quetta, Balochistan. A Pakistan/Iran passenger train service operates fortnightly and a goods train service operates ‘as per need’, and is more frequent. There is a railway dry port at the ‘Quetta railway station’ while a National Logistic Corporation (NLC) dry port also provides services for imported items arriving in containers by road. Apart from this, dozens of buses are involved in passenger services between Pakistan and Iran. Goods reaching at railway Dry port or at NLC dry port are routinely cleared within 24 hours. However, fresh produce is cleared as early as possible.

There is a Custom post at Taftan, but no plant quarantine personnel. The buses are checked at Taftan, while railway trains and containers are processed at Quetta.

Chickpeas are the main agricultural import from Iran. Pakistan quarantine staff insists that a departmental certificate/Release order is needed, but local Customs authorities do not accept their arguments and at present, chickpeas are being released without any certificate. (Pers. communication, with PQ staff and one major importer of chick peas).
Pakistan-India Border: Wagha

The Wagha (Pak-India border) started operation from July 2005. A flag ceremony is held daily (5.00 pm) has become a major tourist attraction. However, since there is a single gate, sometime the ceremony is an obstruction for goods transports. There is a proposal to build a separate trade gate in future.

Figure A 5.5 The daily flag ceremony at the Wagha border.
## APPENDIX 6. SPECIFICATIONS FOR IMPORTED WHEAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr #</th>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Soft white or Medium hard white wheat of ----- year-----crop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Test weight</td>
<td>78 kg/ HI Min. (75 Kg/HI Min. for Australia/Canada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Shrunken, broken and shrivelled kernels, heat and sprout damaged grains</td>
<td>5% Max. (including heat and sprout damaged grains)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Moisture content</td>
<td>12% Max (14.5 % for Canada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Foreign matter</td>
<td>1% Max. (Inorganic not exceeding 0.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Wet gluten (whole meal flour)</td>
<td>21% Min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dockage total deductible</td>
<td>0.5% Max. (1.5% Max. for Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Protein (Whole meal flour)</td>
<td>10% Min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Falling Number (Whole meal flour)</td>
<td>250 per sec. Min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Colour</td>
<td>Original colour, shape and texture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 11   | Mycotoxins | Aflatoxins: less than 30 ppb  
Orchratoxine: less than 25 ppb  
Zearaleneone: less than 200 ppb  
Vomitoxin: less than 2ppm  
Deoxynivalenol: less than 1000ppb |
| 12   | Human consumption | Used for eating purpose in the country of origin/fit for human consumption |
| 13   | Quarantine | Should meet quarantine requirements as per IPPC standards |
| 14   | Dioxin | Free |
| 15   | Live insects | Free from live insects and their larvae |
| 16   | *GMO | Not genetically modified |
| 17   | Heavy metals | Within WHO permissible standards |
| 18   | Pesticides | Within Codex Alimentarius limits |
| 19   | Special requirement | i. Free from *Tilletia indica* based on lab tests at load port  
ii. Free from rodent residues  
iii. Free from poisonous seeds  
iv. Substantially free from ergot, smut, fungus, eurygaster and striga weeds  
v. Crop of -----year---------  
vi. Fumigated with phosphene at or immediately prior to loading  
at rate of 3 g of phosphene active ingredient per cubic meter  
volume of wheat grain, or as prescribed under law of country  
of origin, recirculated and dust-retained  
vii. Radioactivity within WHO permissible limits |

*A certification from a Government agency or a Government authorized agency stating that:  
There are no transgenic wheat varieties for sale or in commercial production in (Name of country) at that time.

### B. Mode of Testing
1. Test weight: AACC method 55-10  
2. Protein: Calculated at Zero moisture basis formula: Protein= Total nitrogen x 5.7  
3. Falling Number: Calculated at 14% moisture level basis. AACC method 56-81 B, 1992.  
4. Wet Gluten: Calculated at 12% moisture level basis. AACC Method 38-12
References: Pre-shipment Inspection Companies (PSI)

1. M/s Bhombal and Company (Pvt) Ltd. Old Ralli Building, Talpur Road, Karachi. Mr Saeed Bombal: Tel: + (92 21) -2417093, 2417315; Fax: + (92 21)-2417004, Mobile: 0300-2298881

2. M/s Gercan Private Ltd. 5 Motiwal Archade 3rd floor, Tariq road, Block-2 PECHS Karachi. Capt. Syed Shahid Rizvi: Tel: + (92 21)-4548593, Fax: + (92 21)-45548594, Mobile: 0320-4245515

3. M/s Inspectorate Corporation Int (Pvt) Ltd. 4-Q, Gulberg-II, Lahore. Mr Adil H. Mehkary: Tel: + (92 42) -5876358, Fax: + (92 42) -5760663; Mobile: 0300-8400759.
APPENDIX 7. REGULATION OF IMPORTS OF NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Appendix 7 (a)

Information on regulation of imports to Afghanistan


Guiding Principles Governing the Production, Distribution and Import of Seed and Planting Material (SPM) of Field Crops for Afghanistan

Seeds' only value is in its quality, as measured by its life (germination and vigor), its physical purity (freedom from foreign matter), its trueness-to-type for variety/landrace and its superior agronomic use-related traits and consumer acceptability.

All seed should be of high quality, and meet locally established standards. If imported, it should also meet export/import regulations.

Seed produced or supplied in an emergency situation, regardless of its source, should have the quality required by farmers. It should not distort the local seed systems and it should be aimed at building the foundation for a sustainable seed supply system in the future. National Seed Policy (NSP).

The first step in creating and maintaining an improved seed supply for farmers is to establish a formal, official government policy - a National Seed Policy. The NSP has the effect of law and reflects the Government's official approach to seed. The NSP sets out what Government will do, how it views seed supply, and how it will support seed development.

A NSP is the first step in creating an economic environment in which government programs and private sector agencies will be willing to invest their money and efforts in seed. A seed program is a long-term investment. No one is willing to make a long-term investment unless they can be sure of economic, political and operating stability that will permit them to recover and make a profit from their investment.

A good NSP creates the framework and establishes the overall guiding principle on which a country's seed industry is based and encourages the development of the essential infrastructure, institutions, operating procedures, and standards of performance.

The National Seed Law sets out the legal framework and regulations in which the country's seed industry operates. There must be an implementation agency and staff trained, equipped and funded adequately to serve both farmers and seed suppliers. This will require a network of facilities including Official Seed Testing Laboratories, to measure seed quality.

Seed Health Laboratories can be combined with Plant Quarantine programs. An efficient way to implement this might to combine Seed Law implementation, seed testing, and seed certification under the umbrella of one agency. This should be discussed in detail with the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH).

The main purpose of the NSP is to ensure that farmers receive good seed of established standards, national interests are protected, and investors in the seed industry are rewarded for their investment, management and technical skills, and the risks they take.
Definition of "Guiding Principles"

Guiding principles provide a practical operating guide and common cooperative approach that is followed by all to help maximize effectiveness and ensure maximum benefit for the majority of farmers in Afghanistan. For seed supply, this involves identifying, emphasizing and implementing those aspects-technical, operational, managerial, marketing, business, ethical, etc that ensure that farmers receive the best possible seed.

Why "Guiding Principles"?

Many assistance agencies (national, international, bilateral, multilateral, FAO, ICARDA, NGOs, etc., hereinafter referred to as AGENCIES) are trying conscientiously to help Afghanistan rebuild and develop its agricultural sector. There is a need to establish guidelines and common procedures to (1) help AGENCIES maximize benefit to Afghanistan from investments made, (2) maintain trust and respect of the Afghan people, and (3) minimize confusion, harmful effects, and wasteful duplication.

This is particularly important for seed and planting materials, since these could be subject to deterioration and abuse, and could introduce other problems.

These Guiding Principles are intended to be reviewed, revised, and improved as further experience is gained from seed activities.

Effects on "Informal" and "Formal" Seed Sectors

In Afghanistan's emergency situation, except for FAO's program, little infrastructure of a formal seed sector remains in operation. Throughout most of Afghanistan, the informal seed sector is predominant. This consists essentially of farmers who produce seed for planting their own fields or for farmer-to-farmer exchange and/or sale. These local seed systems have continued operating in spite of the drought and hostilities that have taken place during the past 20 years.

Any seed operation must be careful not to destroy these resilient systems that have helped the communities survive during these difficult years. However, these informal sector farmers often do not have sufficient training, resources or facilities to produce large volumes of high-quality seed. It is essential to provide them with the maximum support, equipment, stock seed, and training.

Code of Conduct: Guiding Principles Agency Coordination

1. A Coordinating Committee for Seed Sector Development (CCSSD) should be established under the umbrella of the MAAH, to be chaired by the Deputy Minister. This committee will consist of voting members who are representatives of departments and institutions concerned with seed, including research, seed production, plant protection, extension; and farmer seed producers, farmer representatives, and others as the need arises. FAO will coordinate the non-voting advisory participation of the International organizations. ACBAR will do the same in respect to the NGOs.

2. The Committee will meet at least four times a year and keep all stakeholders fully informed of activities, developments, norms and methodologies.

3. All AGENCIES involved in seed issues shall abide by the agreed and established guidelines.

Seed Provision Activities

4. AGENCIES involved in seed issues should focus their activities on developing the management and planning skills of local people, in order to assist them to become self-sustaining and handle successful seed operations/enterprises on their own. AGENCY efforts should be planned so as to leave viable local operations in place.

5. AGENCIES should focus on:
   · Developing a cost-effective and sustainable seed supply system
· Organizing sources of stock seed
· Promoting the use of adapted varieties
· Training farmers to be seed producers
· Training in equipment maintenance
· Training managers at different levels of operation
· Organizing and equipping seed processing facilities
· Organizing local sources of supply
· Assist in the organization of seed marketing, including timely delivery

These activities and guiding operations will assist in developing an ultimately profitable and self-sustaining local seed industry. They ensure a good "informal" seed sector, which should ultimately move toward a "formal" sector. Different AGENCIES will be responsible for different aspects of the above.

6. A functioning credit system existed in the past. It is essential that such a system be re-established as fast as possible. Without such a system, development of a sustainable seed sector will not be possible. It is strongly recommended that the Afghan Government assume responsibility for this.

7. To the extent possible, seed of locally adapted cultivars should be produced within Afghanistan. This:
   · ensures that varieties are adapted
   · demonstrates to local seed growers the procedures required
   · demonstrates to farmers the cropping value of the seed
   · helps develop local agro-industries
   · maximizes benefits to target areas
   · contributes to the in situ maintenance of useful genetic resources for food and agriculture

8. Where it is necessary for AGENCIES to supply seed directly to farmers, they must ensure that high quality seed is always provided. Quality includes seed of adapted varieties, which are physically pure (freedom from foreign materials), of good germination, and pest and disease-free. To assist in this, an official descriptive list of recommended varieties should be published and kept current. Seed should be treated with an appropriate fungicide before sowing.

9. AGENCIES should not provide seed to farmers free of charge. Seed should be sold or exchanged at a price above the local grain price. This price must be approved by the CCSSD.

Crops and Varieties/Landraces

10. All crops and varieties promoted for distribution and made available to Afghan farmers must have performed well in tests for adaptation and performance in Afghanistan for two years. Only in emergency situations should crops and varieties known to perform well in similar agro-ecologies and deemed most likely to perform well within Afghanistan be introduced without prior testing, and only after due consultation with the CCSSD and approval of the Government.

11. Many varieties have been tested in Afghanistan. The CCSSD should make all information on variety tests, and likely sources of seed, available to all stakeholders.

Seed Import

Seed that meets all Seed Law requirements, both in the country of origin and in Afghanistan, should be imported. In an emergency situation, if such seed is not available, the seed must be of the best possible quality and its quality must be maintained until it reaches the farmer.

12. FAO Guidelines for Imported Quality Seed should be followed.

Quality Standards

13. The 'Quality Declared seed' standards (ANNEX II), of FAO, should be used as minimum seed and field standards.
14. For wheat, the minimum standards are as specified QDS standards, with the exception that additional specific standards for rye and wild oats are set as follows:

**Field Standards**
Rye: max 0.5 %
Wild oats: max 0.1%
Loose smut, bunt: max %
(because of loose smut and bunt, it is highly recommended that seed is treated with an appropriate fungicide)

**Seed Standards**
Wild oats: max 0.1%
Rye: max 0.5%

15. QDS Standards for other crops, if required, may be developed by the CSSD.
Appendix 7 (b)

Information on regulation of imports to Iran.


Export - Import Regulations Act Enacted 26 September, 1993
(04.07.1372)

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
FOREIGN TRADE DEPARTMENT

SET BY: PUBLIC RELATIONS OF MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

Article 1

Regulations in respect of the exportation and importation of goods and the delivery of related services to all exporters and importers and also to those that the application of the law requires their naming, shall be governed by this law, and all laws which are inconsistent with it, are hereby annulled.

Article 2

Exportable and importable goods are classified into the following three categories:
1. Permissible goods: with the observance of these goods shall not require a license.
2. Conditional goods: the exportation or importation of these goods is possible by obtaining a license.
3. Prohibited goods: the exportation or importation of these goods (purchase, sale or consumption) is forbidden under the sacred Islamic Shia and or by law.

Note 1:
The Government may, with the observance of the relevant laws and depending on the prevailing exigencies and circumstances, prohibit the exportation or importation of certain goods.

Note 2:
The types and specifications of goods falling under any one of the aforesaid three categories shall be set forth by an ordinance to be drawn up by the Ministry of Commerce and approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 3

Engaging in the business of exportation and importation of goods for commercial purposes requires a commercial card which shall be issued by Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines and approved by the Ministry of Commerce.

Note 1:
The criterion of determining the commercial nature of goods, as well as the manner of issuing, extending and cancellation of the commercial card shall be in accordance with an ordinance approved by the Council of Ministers.

Note 2:
Any dispute which may arise between the applicant of a commercial card and Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines shall be referred to the Ministry of Commerce for consideration and final decision.
Note 3:
Co-operatives of frontier Zone inhabitants; Iranian marines; hawkers; and workers residing abroad and holding employment records issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, shall be exempted from obtaining commercial card.

Article 4
Prior to the end of each year, the ministry of Commerce, in consultation with the respective organizations and with the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines, shall prepare the general modifications which are to be made to the executive ordinance of this law and to the schedules annexed to the export-import regulations, for the subsequent year as well as specific modifications made in the course of the current year, while incorporating therein the acquired rights, and shall promulgate them for the public knowledge, after the approval of the Council of Ministers.

Note 1
All circular letters and directives to the relevant executing organizations concerning the exportation and importation of goods, shall be communicated exclusively through the Ministry of Commerce.

Article 5
All productive ministries are required to forward to the Ministry of Commerce, not later than the 4th of February (15th of Bahman) of each year, their proposals for the following year concerning the export and import conditions in respect of goods similar to those produced domestically, having taken into account the produced domestically, having taken into account the internal requirements and exigencies of the country.

Note 1:
Other relevant organizations and the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines may send in to the Ministry of Commerce, not later than the 4th of February (15th of Bahman) of each year, their proposals in respect of the relevant items, having taken into account the internal requirements and exigencies of the country.

Article 6
Iranian means of transport shall have priority to transport all goods imported into the country. However, the directive pertaining to the use of foreign means of transport whether sea, air, road and railway carriers shall be drawn up by the High Council for the Coordination of National Transportation, in conformity with the ordinance approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 7
The Government is required to allocate special premises for the provisional storage of goods needed to repair and equip the country's commercial marine and aircraft fleet.

Note 1:
The transit of goods falling under this article from one port of entry to another shall be permissible, with the observance of transit regulations.

Note 2:
Such goods shall be exempted from customs duties, commercial benefit tax and any other charges.

Note 3:
Those parts of requirements of the aforesaid fleet which can be supplied by domestic sources within the country, shall be exempted from any obligation and export licensing.
Article 8
Importers of various goods, whether governmental or shall not refer exclusively to the Ministry of Commerce, for licensing their imports and registration of their orders.

Note 1:
The import license shall serve also as a clearance permit, and no separate permit shall be required.

Note 2:
Households inhabiting in the frontier Zones or their co-operatives, mariners, hawkers and vessel crews importing goods for their personal consumption shall be excluded from the provisions of this Article.

Article 9
The Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Customs Administration are required to send to the Ministry of Commerce and other relevant organizations and Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines, at least once every three months, statistical statements concerning the letters of credit which have been opened and goods which have been cleared.

Article 10
The government is required to specify the following matters in the executive ordinance concerning border trade exchanges:

1. Localities or the depth of border tracts, residents of which are authorized to engage in border trade business.

2. Types and quantities of goods which may be exported or imported by households, residing in border regions or their co-operative, authorized Iranian workers employed abroad, hawkers residing in frontier Zones, mariners and crew members of vessels commuting between the shores of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other countries.

3. The requirements to be met by the aforesaid persons or groups.


Note 1:
Goods imported by households residing in frontier Zones or their co-operatives, and by vessel crew members for their own personal consumption shall be exempted from 30 percent up to a maximum of 100 percent of customs duties and commercial benefit tax in the case of public provisions, and up to a maximum of 50 percent of customs duties and commercial benefit tax in the case of home appliances, by the approval of the Council of Ministers.

Note 2:
Iranian workers and nationals permissibly employed abroad may import industrial machinery, tools and primary materials needed in the country, within the quantitative thresholds, and taking advantage of such percentage exemptions from commercial benefit tax as may be jointly set by the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the relevant industrial ministry, and approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 11
The government is authorized to setup border marketplace in any of the frontier Zones as may be deemed beneficial, having taken into consideration such priorities as local potentiality, employment generation requirements and the expansion of commercial relation with the respective neighboring country.

Article 12
The pre-exportation entry of materials and goods as temporary admission, to be incorporated in the production, finishing, processing and packaging of export goods are exempted from all import duties, except those designated as expenses or fees, provided that valid security or promissory note be deposited with the Customs Administration.
Note 1:
If the goods which are made of the imported materials and goods under this Article, are not exported within a prescribed period of time, it shall be the duty of the Customs Administration to prosecute the importer, in order to recover the government's rights.

Note 2:
Goods subject to this Article are exempted from licenses set forth in the schedules annexed to the Export - Import Regulation.

Note 3:
The importer shall not be necessarily bound to export per se, rather the relevant export certificate issued by the Customs Administration shall be sufficient to relieve the obligation.

Article 13
All exported goods (except crude oil and downstream products there of which are subject to special regulations) shall be exempted from any obligation or foreign exchange repatriation bond.

Article 14
The sum "difference" collected by the Organization for Consumer and Producer Protection and all funds, except those designated as expenditures and fees, collected by the Customs Administration in respect of any foreign goods, materials, components and parts pirated in the manufacture, finishing, processing and packaging of exporter in accordance with a directive set forth in the ordinance.

Note 1:
If any dispute arises between the exporter and the Customs Administration, the matter shall be referred to a committee composed of representatives from the ministry of Commerce, the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines, the relevant ministry, the Customs Administration of Iran and the Export Promotion Centre, for Final decision.

Note 2:
It shall be the duty of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance to open a [treasury] account in the names of the Organization for Consumer and Producer Protection and the Customs Administration of Iran, from which to finance payments herein provided for. The Ministry shall refund the payments herein referred to, against presentation, by the exporter, of export certificate or the receipt issued by the Organization for Consumer and Producer Protection, after the confirmation of the aforesaid authorities.

Note 3:
Funds paid in respect of outright customs clearance of materials and goods, which have been imported for use in the manufacture of export goods, shall be refundable after the exportation of the product, at rates ruling at the time of exportation.

Note 4:
If goods incorporated in the manufacture of export products are locally produced by using imported materials, only the funds collected in respect of the imported materials shall be refundable.

Note 5:
If locally produced goods are sold to organizations and persons who enjoy exemption in respect of importation of similar foreign goods, the payments made on the import of goods, materials, components and parts shall be refundable to the producer, in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

Article 15
In order to simplify the calculation of collectable funds in respect of any imported goods, the Ministries of Commerce and Economic Affairs and Finance, having regard to the protection of domestic production, are bound to consolidate into a unified heading called "Commercial Benefit", such collectable levies as commercial benefit tax; the "difference" payable to the Organization for
Consumer and Producer Protection; order registration fee; monopoly right dues; municipal dues; local municipal dues (Co-operation); Red Crescent dues; asphalt dues; airport taxes; port charges; health dues; etc., except sums collectable under customs duties, charges and fees, in respect of each tariff line, at reasonable rates, and to communicate it to the Customs Administration for collection.

**Article 16**

The manner, in which import prices are to be examined for order registration purpose, shall be laid down in an executive ordinance to be approved by the Council of Ministers.

**Article 17**

In addition to personal effects, an incoming passenger may bring in goods free of customs duties and commercial benefit tax up to such ceiling as may be approved by the Council of Ministers. The clearance of goods falling under this Article shall be permissible, provided that they are of non-commercial nature.

Note 1:
The list of goods accompanying incoming passengers shall be prepared and promulgated by Ministry of Commerce.

Note 2:
The provision of this Article shall be applicable also to passengers arriving in Free Trade Zones:

Note 3:
In addition to personal effects, an outgoing passenger (whether Iranian or foreign national) may take domestic manufactures and products without any restriction, provided, however, that they are not intended for commercial purposes. Outgoing Passengers may also take foreign goods up to the ad valorem threshold specified under this Article.

**Article 18**

The imposition and collection, by provincial and local authorities, of any dues in respect of any export goods and items are prohibited and the perpetrators shall be pursued for legal offense.

**Article 19**

The government may allocate funds in the annual budgets for the encouragement of export. Such funds shall be dispensed to exporters to enable them to benefit from financial facilities, on the recommendation of the Ministry of Commerce and approval of the Council of Ministers.

**Article 20**

As of the beginning of the year 1373 (21 March 1994), the government shall be required to collect from importers in non-governmental sectors who import goods for commercial purposes, an additional levy of 1 percent of the total customs duties and commercial benefit tax as an "especial charge", in respect of any imported goods. Funds collected thereby shall be credited to the country's general revenue account. Each year 100 percent of funds so credited to the general revenue account shall be included in the annual budget law and allocated to the relevant executive organizations, with the approval of the council of Ministers, to be used for the encouragement and expansion of non-oil exports, commissioning of the Export Guarantee Fund, organizing business training and promotional programs, in accordance with executive ordinance of this law.

**Article 21**

In order to support domestic products and to formulate the country's trade policy, the Council of Ministers, having regard to the interests of consumers, shall draw up the legislative bill on customs duties in respect of any imported goods, and on the amendment of Article 37 of the Customs Affairs Law, and shall submit them, within two months from the approval date of this law, to the Islamic Consultative Assembly for approval.

**Article 22**
In order to safeguard the Iranian carpet industry and to provide an appropriate ground for its protection on the world markets, the Ministry of Commerce is required to prevent, as of the beginning of the year 1374 (21 March 1995), carpets of over 30 knot count from being exported without an identification card. As of the above mentioned date, the Chambers of Commerce, Industries and Mines shall be required, upon the request of the exporter, to issue identification card as a mandatory requirement, and prior to the said date as an encouragement.

Article 23
It shall be the duty of the Ministry of Commerce to draw up the executive ordinance of this law within one month from the date of its communication, and to have it approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 24
The Ministry of Commerce shall be responsible for the orderly enforcement of this law and the executive ordinance thereof. The above Act, composed of twenty-four Articles and twenty-five Notes, was enacted in the open sitting of the Islamic Consultative Assembly on Sunday 26 September 1993 (4th of Meher, 1372) and ratified by the Council of Guardians on 3 October 1993 (11th of Mehr 1372).
APPENDIX 8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

International Portal on Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health

http://www.ipfsaph.org/En/default.jsp

The International Portal on Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health facilitates trade in food and agriculture products and supports the implementation of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement by providing a single access point for authorized official international and national information across the sectors of food safety, animal and plant health.

Under the entry for Pakistan, the site includes links to relevant legislation and full text of the following laws and ordinances in PDF format:

Sind Shrimps (Control) Order, 1976. 01 Nov 1976
The Order deals, inter alia, with the following: shrimps handling on vessels; sale and transportation of shrimps; payment of price of shrimps; duty of fishermen's co-operative society; handling and processing (8); packing of shrimps; shipment of shrimps...

Pakistan Fish Inspection and Quality Control Act (No. XXXV of 1997). 01 Dec 1997
The aim of this Act is to regulate the quality and promote the export of fish and fishery products from Pakistan. Matters dealt with by the Act include: Registration of fish processing plants (3); Registration of fish exporters (4); Constitution and...

Pakistan Plant Quarantine Rules, 1967. 01 Jan 1976
Rules to restrict the importation and exportation of plants or plant material, animals or birds for purposes of preventing the spread of plant pests and diseases or the introduction of noxious weeds. Rules 3 to 28 deal with import, Rules 29 to 33 dea...

Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act, 1976. 01 Jan 1976
An Act to give effect to provisions of the FAO International Plant Protection Convention. The 11 Sections carry the following titles: Short title, extent and commencement (1); Definitions (2); Power to prohibit or regulate import of certain articles...

The Agricultural Pesticides Rules of 1973 are amended by adding rule 11 A on the licensing of dealers and vendors of pesticides. Further amendments concern the forms Nos. 12, 13 and 14 regarding the application for the registration as a dealer or a v...

Ordinance No. XII of 1979: Agricultural Pesticides (Amendment) Ordinance, 1979. 01 Jan 1979
Minor amendments inserting the words "by the same manufacturer" after the word "brand" in Section 5, Sub-section 4, clause (b). (2 Sections).

Seed Act 1976. 01 Jan 1976
The Federal Government shall establish a National Seed Council. This Council shall have various functions relative to the policy and administration of seed quality control. Also a Federal Seed Certification Agency shall be established as soon as possible

The 43 Rules are divided into 12 Parts: Preliminary (I); Registration (II); Import (III); Manufacture, Formulation or Sale (IV); Packing and Labelling (V); Storage and Use (VI); Agricultural Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee (VII); Pesticide Lab.
Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) Agreement

Among many other concerns, sanitary and phytosanitary measures were one of the areas addressed by the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, which resulted in the creation of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in 1995. The Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization contains a number of trade agreements in its annexes, including the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement). The Agreement on Agriculture deals mainly with issues of market access, domestic support, and export subsidies for agricultural products. The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) covers technical regulations not covered by the SPS Agreement. The SPS Agreement has a two-fold objective. It aims to both:

✓ Recognise the sovereign right of Members to provide the level of health protection they deem appropriate; and
✓ Ensure that SPS measures do not represent unnecessary, arbitrary, scientifically unjustifiable, or disguised restrictions on international trade.

Indeed, the SPS Agreement allows countries to set their own food safety and animal and plant health standards. At the same time, however, the SPS Agreement requires that such regulations be based on science, that they be applied only to the extent necessary to protect health, and that they not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between countries where identical or similar conditions prevail.

In order to achieve its objective, the SPS Agreement encourages Members to use international standards, guidelines and recommendations where they exist. Members may adopt SPS measures which result in higher levels of health protection — or measures for health concerns for which international standards do not exist — provided that they are scientifically justified.

SPS Enquiry Point:
Adviser and Director General:
Department of Plant Protection;
Jinnah Avenue, Malir Halt
Karachi, 751000 Pakistan
Telephone + (9221) 924 8612 / 924 8607
Fax + (9221) 921 86 73
Email: plant-q@khi.paknet.com.pk ; locust@khi.paknet.com.pk

Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)

The Plant Protection Agreement for the Asia and Pacific Region (formerly the Plant Protection Agreement for South-East Asia and Pacific Region) was approved by the 23rd Session of the FAO Council in November 1955 and entered into force on 2 July 1956. Amendments to this Agreement are:

i) Article I(a) approved by the 49th Session of the FAO Council in November 1967;
ii) Title of the Agreement and the name of the Committee approved by the 75th Session of the FAO Council in 1979;
iii) Article I(a) of the Agreement approved by the 84th Session of the FAO Council in November 1983;
iv) Articles II, III, IV and XIV concerning financial obligations approved by the 84th Session of the FAO Council in November 1983;
v) FAO Council approved, in November 1999, two sets of amendments to the Agreement designed to bring the Agreement into line with the New Revised Text of the International
Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), as well as with modern requirements for plant protection and to strengthen the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission. The Council agreed that such amendments did not involve new obligations for the Contracting Governments and, therefore, pursuant to Article IX.4 of the Agreement, will come into force with respect to all Contracting Governments as from the thirtieth day after acceptance by two-thirds of Members.

CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity)

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Signed by 150 government leaders at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the Convention on Biological Diversity is dedicated to promoting sustainable development. Conceived as a practical tool for translating the principles of Agenda 21 into reality, the Convention recognizes that biological diversity is about more than plants, animals and microorganisms and their ecosystems – it is about people and our need for food security, medicines, fresh air and water, shelter, and a clean and healthy environment in which to live. http://www.biodiv.org/default.shtml

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (Convention on Biological diversity)

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (Convention on Biological diversity)

In accordance with the precautionary approach contained in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the objective of this Protocol is to contribute to ensuring an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health, and specifically focusing on transboundary movements. http://www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity was adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on 29 January 2000. The Protocol entered into force on 11 September 2003, ninety days after receipt of the 50th instrument of ratification (Article 37).

CODEX Alimentarius www.codexalimentarius.net/

Codex Alimentarius

The Codex Alimentarius, or the food code, is the global reference point for consumers, food producers and processors, national food control agencies and the international food trade. The code enables all countries to collaborate in formulating and harmonizing food standards and ensuring their global implementation. It also allows collaboration in the development of codes governing hygienic processing practices and recommendations relating to compliance with those standards.

The significance of the food code for consumer health protection was underscored in 1985 by the United Nations Resolution 39/248, whereby guidelines were adopted for use in the elaboration and reinforcement of consumer protection policies. The guidelines advise that “Governments should take into account the need of all consumers for food security and should support and, as far as possible, adopt standards from the ... Codex Alimentarius” of FAO and the World Health Organization.

The Codex Alimentarius has relevance to the international food trade through the advantages of having universally uniform food standards for the protection of consumers. The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and the
Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) both encourage the international harmonization of food standards. A product of the Uruguay Round of multinational trade negotiations, the SPS Agreement cites Codex standards, guidelines and recommendations as the preferred international measures for facilitating international trade in food. As such, Codex standards have become the benchmarks against which national food measures and regulations are evaluated within the legal parameters of the Uruguay Round Agreements.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (created in 1963 by FAO and WHO) develops food standards, guidelines and related texts such as codes of practice under the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Program. The main purposes of this Program are to protect consumers and ensure fair trade practices, and to promote coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations. The Codex Alimentarius Commission sets standards for commodities, codes of practice and maximum limits for additives, contaminants, pesticides residues and veterinary drugs, which are prepared by specialized committees and task forces.


FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations leads international efforts to defeat hunger. Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy. FAO is also a source of knowledge and information. We help developing countries and countries in transition modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and ensure good nutrition for all. Since our founding in 1945, we have focused special attention on developing rural areas, home to 70 percent of the world's poor and hungry people. FAO's activities comprise four main areas:

- Putting information within reach.
- Sharing policy expertise.
- Providing a meeting place for nations.
- Bringing knowledge to the field.

IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention)

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an international treaty whose purpose is to secure a common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. The Convention extends to the protection of natural flora and plant products. It also includes both direct and indirect damage by pests, thus including weeds. The provisions extend to cover conveyances, containers, storage places, soil and other objects or material capable of harboring plant pests. National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) and Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) work together to help contracting parties meet their IPPC obligations. http://www.ippc.int/IPP/En/default.jsp

International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides

International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides

The International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides is the
worldwide guidance document on pesticide management for all public and private entities engaged in, or associated with, the distribution and use of pesticides. It was adopted for the first time in 1985 by the Twenty-fifth Session of the FAO Conference. The Code is designed to provide standards of conduct and to serve as a point of reference in relation to sound pesticide management practices, in particular for government authorities and the pesticide industry.

Following the adoption of the Rotterdam Convention in 1998 and in view of the changing international policy framework, as well as the persistence of certain pesticide management problems, particularly in developing countries, in 1999 FAO initiated the update and revision process of the Code. The Code was revised in 2002 and the changes were adopted by all FAO members and well as some non-government organizations and pesticide industry associations.


OIE (Office International des Epizooties)

The International office of Epizootics (OIE) is an intergovernmental organization (created by the International Agreement of 25 January 1924), signed by 28 countries. In December 2003, the OIE totaled 165 Member Countries. OIE seeks to
guarantee the transparency of animal disease status world-wide
collect, analyze and disseminate veterinary scientific information
provide expertise and promote international solidarity for the control of animal diseases
Guarantee the sanitary safety of world trade by developing sanitary rules for international trade in animals and animal products.

Major Objectives of OIE:
To ensure transparency in the global animal disease and zoonosis situation
To collect, analyze and disseminate scientific veterinary information.
To provide expertise and encourage international solidarity in the control of animal diseases.
Within its mandate under the WTO SPS Agreement, to safeguard world trade by publishing health standards for international trade in animals and animal products.
To improve the legal framework and resources of national Veterinary Services.
To provide a better guarantee of the safety of food of animal origin and to promote animal welfare through a science-based approach.

WTO (World Trade Organization)  http://www.wto.org/index.htm

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world’s trading nations and ratified in their parliaments. The goal is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business.

Functions:
- Administering WTO trade agreements
- Forum for trade negotiations
- Handling trade disputes
- Monitoring national trade policies
- Technical assistance and training for developing countries
- Cooperation with other international organizations
Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) http://www.wto.org/English/tratop_e/tbt_e/tbt_e.htm

Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade 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.

Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement

Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement

The TRIPS Agreement is Annex 1C of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, signed in Marrakesh, Morocco on 15 April 1994.

Types of intellectual property

The areas covered by the TRIPS Agreement:

- Copyright and related rights
- Trademarks, including service marks
- Geographical indications
- Industrial designs
- Patents
- Layout-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits
- Undisclosed information, including trade secrets

WHO (World Health Organization)

WHO (World Health Organization)

The World Health Organization is the United Nations specialized agency for health. It was established on 7 April 1948. WHO's objective, as set out in its Constitution, is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Print (HACCP) is a system approach within the food industry or food chain to ensure product safety. HACCP involves a systematic study of food products and their ingredients, handling, storage, packaging and distribution and finally consumers' use. HACCP identifies specific hazards, and preventive measures that minimize risks through the identification of control points and establishment of measurable safe operating limits. It is solely a food safety programme, which consists of seven principles (activities) that specifically address three basic objectives viz hazard assessment, risk
Principles and objectives of HACCP:

1. Hazard analysis
2. Hazard evaluation
3. To identify critical control points
4. Risk Management
5. To establish critical limits
6. To establish monitoring indicators
7. To establish corrective action
8. To establish verification procedures
9. Documentation Control
10. To establish effective record keeping

HACCP was developed in the early 1970s by the Pillsbury Company in the USA as a means of providing assurance about safety of food that was to be used in the US space program.

Initially, HACCP was used to control microbial risks in food, and in this way it became the basis for the control of food safety. It has been used in the processing of Low-Acid Canned Food (LACF) for a number of years. It was not until the 1980s that a number of regulatory authorities developed an interest in HACCP as a tool for use in food safety. New and stricter legislation based on the HACCP approach was introduced in major fish markets, notably the USA and EU, to secure safer fish and fishery products. Furthermore, the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) gave it international importance through the development of guidelines for HACCP application. (Quoted from Dr. Amadou Tall Director INFOPECHE: Intergovernmental Organization for Marketing Information and Cooperation Services for Fishery Products in Africa.)

Good Agricultural Practice (GAP)

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) aim at meeting consumer needs for products that are of high quality, safe and produced in an environmentally and socially responsible way. To enable farmers to participate in this expanding market, the FAO Crop and grassland Services (AGPC) monitors development of GAP protocols and helps disseminate GAP technologies.

AGPC has prepared a manual on Integrated Production and Protection (IPP) Crop Management, with specific IPP guidelines for various crops. A simple "IPP card system" is being developed for use in Farmer Field Schools, while IPP practices for greenhouse crops are being disseminated in the Near East/North Africa and planned for southeast Europe.

Explore on-farm is a methodology prepared by AGPC for sustainable productivity of cereal-based systems through better understanding of the crop and local environment, improved management of cropping systems and sustainable yield, and greater diversification.

What is GAP16?

FAO defines four pillars of Good Agricultural Practices that apply to all scales of farming:

- Efficient production of sufficient, safe and high quality food and non-food products;
- Sustainable use of natural resources;
- Viability of farming enterprises and contribution to sustainable livelihoods;
- Responsiveness to the cultural and social demands of society.

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...GAPs are a prerequisite for a food chain approach to food safety and quality which includes Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), Good Hygiene Practices (GHPs), and the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) system. ...The concept of good agricultural practices should serve as a reference tool for deciding, at each step in the production process, on practices that are sustainable as well as safe.

So, why GAP?
...Governments, international agencies and NGOs promote the use by farmers of sustainable agricultural methods such as integrated pest management, integrated nutrient management or conservation agriculture to help mitigate environmental and societal risks in a range of farming systems, and contribute to food security and sustainable livelihoods. The food processing and retailing industries use the concept of GAP in developing codes of practice and criteria contributing mainly to food quality and safety, consumer satisfaction and profit. With the emerging consumer demand for sustainably produced and wholesome food and other products, this trend may create incentives for the adoption of good practices by farmers, opening new domestic and export market opportunities, provided farmers have the capacity to respond.

...FAO has experienced for several years a rapidly growing demand for assistance from its member countries on GAP. FAO has a unique range of technical expertise relating to GAP: not only on food safety and quality, and regulatory requirements of Codex Alimentarius and the International Plant Protection Convention, but also on IPM and Integrated Nutrient Management, sustainable use of natural resources and biodiversity, environmental impacts of agriculture, and value chains analysis and marketing. FAO experts from different disciplines have begun to work together on GAP as a priority area for interdisciplinary action. In the past few years, regional or country activities, workshops or studies on GAP for non-food crops, grain, fruit, vegetables and livestock products have been implemented by FAO in Burkina Faso, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

What are main areas for FAO’s GAP work?
In line with guidance provided by FAO member countries at FAO’s Committee on Agriculture in 2003 and 2005, FAO’s GAP work focuses on three main areas:

1. Providing global, independent information on GAP, including through a GAP website and GAP database and analytical inventories on existing GAP standards, their benefits, constraints and costs of implementation, and regulatory requirements.
2. Defining scientifically-based global principles of GAP, based on FAO’s long standing experience in food and agriculture.
3. Providing policy and technical assistance to developing countries, helping them review or define their GAP programmes, understand policy trade-offs and potential benefits. FAO also has an important facilitating role to play in helping public and private stakeholders identify win-win situations for GAP implementation in specific food chains.

International Standards Organisation (ISO)

http://www.iso.org/iso/en/ISOOnline.frontpage

International Standards Organisation (ISO)

- ISO is the world’s leading developer of International Standards.
- ISO standards specify the requirements for state-of-the-art products, services, processes, materials and systems, and for good conformity assessment, managerial and organizational practice.
- ISO standards are designed to be implemented worldwide.
- ISO standards contribute to making the development, manufacturing and supply of products and services more efficient, safer and cleaner. They make trade between countries easier and fairer. They provide governments with a technical base for health, safety and environmental legislation. They aid in transferring technology to developing countries. ISO standards also serve to safeguard consumers, and users in general, of products and services - as well as to make their lives simpler.
ISO standards and their use/compliance by suppliers of imports and agencies involved in SPS risk assessment provide a sound base for risk assessment and approval systems. Their use provide a measure of assurance to traders and government agencies that products and services comply with particular standards (including SPS risk factors and assessment methods) as assessed by independent accredited agencies.
APPENDIX 9. PRINCIPAL STAKEHOLDERS

Development Banks

Asian Development Bank
The ADB Country Strategy and Program Focus Areas for Pakistan for 2006-2008 emphasise the following:

- Good governance
- Agriculture and rural development
- Infrastructure development
- Inclusive social development

While all program areas, through enhancement of legislative frameworks, capacity building, poverty reduction and education, will enhance the development of the Pakistan trading environment, the support most relevant to import regulation is the investment in highways and rural roads as this investment is enhancing the feasibility and viability of trade.

World Bank
The World Bank's Pakistan strategy is to support implementation of the Government of Pakistan’s own Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and to provide financing and technical assistance for both economic and human development. The strategy is built around three main themes which correspond to the pillars of the PRSP. (Quoted from World Bank site)

- Sustaining high and broad based growth, and improving competitiveness
  The Bank program will support legal and regulatory reforms to improve the business environment along with investments in water, power, transport, and other infrastructure sectors.

- Improving Governance
  The Bank is assisting the government’s efforts in this area by supporting reforms in public financial management and procurement; restructuring of the tax administration bureaucracy; support for civil service reforms; and assistance to local and municipal governments to improve their capacity for delivering public services.

- Improving lives and protecting the vulnerable
  The World Bank also supports Pakistan’s efforts to improve access to, and quality of, public services in education, health, electricity, water supply, and sanitation, with an emphasis on addressing gender disparities. At the same time the Bank is assisting in efforts to reduce vulnerability and poverty through effective safety nets and targeted programs to reach the poor.

Federal Government Agencies

Ministry of Finance
  - Central Board of Revenue (Customs)

Ministry of Commerce
  - Export Promotion Bureau
  - Trading Corporation of Pakistan
  - National Tariff Commission

Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock
  - WTO Unit
  - Plant Protection Department
  - Federal Seed Certification Department
  - Agricultural and Livestock Products Marketing and Grading Department
  - Federal Animal Husbandry Commissioner
  - Marine Fisheries Department
  - Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
Ministry of Health
  – National Institute of Health/Nutrition Division
  – Federal Public Analyst
Ministry of Science and Technology
  – Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority
Ministry of Industry
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Environment
  – Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency
Academic/Research Institutions
  – Universities
  – Research Institutions

Provincial Government Agencies
Provincial Government Agencies (within each respective Province) with responsibilities for regulation of imports include:
  Ministry Agriculture
    – WTO Unit
    – Plant Protection Department
  Ministry of Health
    – Govt. Public Analysts/Labs
  Academic/Research Institutions
    – Universities
    – Research Institutions

Private Sector Stakeholders
  Fruit and Vegetable Associations
  Seed Companies/Associations
  Processed Food Importers/Traders
  Fertilizer Companies/Importers
  Insecticide/Pesticide Importers/Traders
  Individual Importers/companies
  Consumers Associations
  Custom/Clearing Agents
  NGOs (Agriculture, Health, Environment)

List of selected stakeholders

Institutions / Research Centres (Agriculture/Food/Public Health)
  University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Punjab.
    Tel: +92-41 920 0161-70. www.uaf.edu.pk
  University of Arid Agriculture Rawalpindi, Punjab
  Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, Faisalabad, Punjab
    Tel: +92-41 654359, 651371. www.nationalpak.com
  University of Karachi, Sindh.
    Tel: +92-21 924 3131-42, http://www.ku.edu.pk/
  Agriculture University, Tando Jam, Sindh.
  NWFP University of Agriculture, Peshawar
  National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad
    Tel: +92-51 925 5012.http://www.nationalpak.com
National Institute of Health, Chak Shehzad, Islamabad.
Tel: + (92 51) 925 511-4, edoffice@apollo.net.pk

Govt Public Analysts/ Laboratory
Dr. Anjaj Ali, Scientific Officer/Federal Public Analyst
Nutrition Division, NIH Islamabad
Tel: +92-51 925 5079

Mr. M.A. Bari, Government Public Analyst,
303-A, New Muslim Town, Lahore

Dr Abdul Khaliq Jatoi, Incharge Govt Public Analyst
Sukkar at Rohri.
Tel: +92-71 565 1683

Dr Sarfraz Alam, Govt. Public Analyst
Western Bypass, Brewery Road, Quetta
Tel: +92-81 285 4921

Mr. Haq Nawaz Bangash, Government Public Analyst Food Laboratory
Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar

Associations/Corporations (Agriculture)
All Pakistan Fruit & Vegetable Exporters Importers & Merchants Association
8/2 New Onion & Potatoes Market, University Road, Karachi
Tel: + 92-21 493 7132/493 7125, Fax: +92-21 493 7126

Federation of Veterinary Association of Pakistan
148-A, Ali Block, New Garder Town, Lahore

Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI)

Industrial Information Network
http://www.iin.com.pk
- The Industrial Information Network (IIN) is a unique combination of information and B2B portal
designed specifically to cater to the online trading and information needs of businesses from
various industrial sectors in Pakistan. It is a joint venture of the Ministry of Information
Technology & Telecommunication (MoITT) and the Ministry of Industries & Production &
Special Initiatives (MOIP&SI), with SMEDA as the executing agency and UNIDO as the
technical consultant.

Livestock Farmers Association of Pakistan
House, I. I. Chundrigar Road, Karachi
Tel: +92-21 241 7186

Pakistan Crop Protection Association
1050-XEX Bilal Street, Chowk Rashidabad, Khanewal Road, Multan
Tel: +92-61 522 737

Pakistan Dairy Association
11/19-B, Link Shami Road, Lahore
Tel: +92-42 665 0653, 370 006, Fax: +92-42 665 0653, 370 006

Live-Stock Farmers Association of Pakistan
Karachi House, I. I. Chundrigar Road, Karachi
Tel: +92-21 241 7186-88, Fax: +92-21 241 7184

Pakistan Agricultural Pesticides Assn
909-910, Park Avenue, P.E.C.H.S. Block 6, Shahrah-E-Faisal, Karachi
Tel: +92-21 454 1562, Fax: +92-21 454 6131
Pakistan Beverage Manufacturers' Assn
M-318, Model Town Extension, Lahore
Tel: +92-42 516 7316/256 9801-5, Fax: +92-42 516 730 6021 / 256 3119

Pakistan Agricultural Machinery & Implements Manf. Association
c/o Seth Muhd Tufail Foundry Ltd.
Sumundri Road, Faisalabad, Tel: +92-41 714 517/41938, Fax: +92-41 722 721
Email: iqra@fsd.comsats.net.pk

Pakistan Agricultural Machinery and Implements Manf. Assoc
621-26, Nazar Bagh, G. T. Road Peshawar
Tel: +92-91 211 835, Fax: +92-91 216 723

Pakistan Feed Professionals Association (PFPA)
http://www.iufost.org

Pakistan Flour Mills Association
Room No.101/102, Latif Plaza, 1st Floor, 103-Ferozepur Road, Lahore

Pakistan Dairy Association (PDA)
11/19-B, Link Shami Road, Lahore Cantt-54810
Tel: +92-42 668 0041/6850653, Fax: 042-6682042
http://www.cpp.org.pk/DBEstablishment/estb_2.shtml

Pakistan Sugar Mills Association
Rashid Plaza, Jinnah Ave, Islamabad. Tel: + (92 51) 270525/823971, Fax: 051-274153,
email: psma@centre.sdnpk.undp.org

Pakistan Vanaspati Manufacturer's Assn
House No. 5-B, F-7/3, College Road, Islamabad
Tel : +92-51 274 358, Fax: 051-272529
http://pakdairy@yahoo.com

Pakistan Poultry Association
sarosh_2001@yahoo.com

Punjab Seed Corporation
4-Lytton Road, Lahore
Tel: +92-42 7232101-4, Fax: 7314548
http://www.nationalpak.com

Seed Companies Association of Pakistan (SCAP)
c/o Pioneer Pakistan Seeds Pvt. Ltd., 14-L, Model Town Extension, Lahore
Tel: + 92-42 5164978, Fax: +92-42-5166458

Pakistan Society of Seed Technologists (PAKSSET)
c/o Director General, FSCRD, Mauve Area, G-9/4, Islamabad-44000
Tel: +92-51 444 9117, Fax: +92-51-9260234
E-mail: syed99isb@paknet.com.pk

All Sindh Private Seed Companies Organization (ASPSCO)
Kamal Khan Market, Nasirpur Road, Tando, Allahyar, District Hyderabad
Tel: +92-94 2331-891622

Seed Growing & Marketing Association of Pakistan
2 Mini Stadium, Sheikhupura Road, Gujranwala
Tel: +92-431 223 408 / 218894, Fax: +92-431 218 343
E-mail: rachna@gjr.paknet.com.pk

Trading Corporation of Pakistan
Finance and Trade Centre, 54/5th Floor, Sharah-e-Faisal, Karachi-74400
Tel: +92-21 920 2964, Fax: +92-21 920 2595
E-mail: tcp@digicom.net.pk
NGOs

Agriculture

The Horticultural Foundation of Pakistan
18, Street-19, F-6/2, Islamabad, Pakistan.
Tel: +92-51-2820767, 92-51-2256871; Fax: +92-51-2852203
Email: sajidaw@hotmail.com; ramzan@comsats.net.pk

Basic Urban Rural Services & Training – BURST
haider@haider.com

Chenab Welfare Trust – CWT
chenab_trust@hotmail.com

Consumers Association of Pakistan – Consumers
cap@net-ngo.com

Indus Resource Centre – IRC
http://www.irc.pakistan.com, karachi@irc-pakistan.com; srdpsindh@hotmail.com

Institute of Policy Studies – IPS
http://www.ips.org.pk, info@ips.org.pk

Khidmat Foundation (Pakistan & AJ&K) – KF
http://www.khidmat.org,

Mango Growers Association (Zahid Hussain Gardesi, President)
Al-Murtaza, 12 B, S. M. Kaswar Gardesi Road, Multan.
Cell; +92-300 636 2003

National Rural Support Program: www.nrsporg.pk

NARC International
http://narc_international.org, narc_ali@yahoo.com

National Social Organization – NSO:
www.nsopak.cjb.net, nsopak2003@yahoo.com

National Rural Support Programme - NRSP : gmnrsp@isb.comsats.net.pk

Organic Agriculture and rural development Foundation – OARDF
http://www.oardf.com

Sindh rural development programme – SRDP
http://www.angelfire.com,

Health

Agha Khan Health Services, Pakistan - AKHSP
akhspho@cyber.net.pk

Baltistan Health & Education Foundation - BHEF
http://www.baltistanwomenhospital.org

Citizens Welfare Association - CWA
cwa_pk@hotmail.com

Council of Human Shelter - COHSH
http://www.cohsh.org, email: info@cohsh.org

Edhi Foudation: www.edhfoundation.com

FOREHEAD Foundation Pakistan - FOREHEAD
http://foreheadpk.cjb.net

Unicef, Pakistan. www.unicef.org/pakistan
Environment
IUCN, G-6/3, Street# 87, H# 26, Islamabad
Tel: +92-51 920 8590, Fax: +92-51 227 0688
E-mail: aman.butt@isb.iucnp.org

EcoWatch: http://www.ecowatchpk.org, info@ecowatchpk.org

Pakistan Foundation for the Advancement of Engineering and Technology - PFAET
http://www.pfaet.com

Sustainable Development Policy Institute – SDPI
http://www.sdpi.org, main@sdpi.org

WWF-Pakistan
P.O. Box 5180, Ferozepur Road, Lahore.
Tel: +92-42 588 2069, Fax: +92-42 586 2358
ahabib@wwf.org.pk
**APPENDIX 10 A. ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED**

(March April 2006).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name and address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>International</strong></td>
<td>Mike Holtzhausen</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Manager : NPPIS, SAAFQIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture Republic of South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S. African Agricultural Food, Quarantine and Inspection Services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Private BagX258, PRETORIA, 0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harvest House, Room 207, 30 Hamilton Street, ARCADIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel: (012)3196100, Fax: (012)3196350, Mobile: 0827877788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:mikeh@nda.agrica.za">mikeh@nda.agrica.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eng. Khaled Moin Al Hosni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Head of Plant Quarantine Department, U.A.E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abu Dhabi: Tel: +97-12 6662781, Fax: +97-12 665 4787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dubai: Tel: +97-14 2026738, Fax: +97-14 294 5994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mobile: (+97-150 634 5667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P.O.Box: 3393 Ajman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:khaledmhod565@hotmail.com">khaledmhod565@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aisha Ibrahim Eide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food Control Section, Health Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office Tel: +97-14 2064265, Office Fax: +97-14 2231905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Home Tel: +97-14 2215555, Home Fax: +97-14 2246666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box: 67 Dubai U.A.E. Telex: 45688 Baladya EM,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@dm.gov.ae">info@dm.gov.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.dm.gov.ae">www.dm.gov.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jean-Francois VAYSSIERES Ph.D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biologist Entomologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>08 B.P. 0932 Tri Postal, Cotonou, Republic of Benin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office: (229)21350188, Fax: (229) 21350556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CIRAD-IITA Mango Fruit Fly Coordination Unit for West Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centre de Cooperation Internationale en Recherche,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agronomique pour le Developpement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-mail : <a href="mailto:j.vayssieres@cgiar.org">j.vayssieres@cgiar.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Web : <a href="http://www.iita.org">www.iita.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shahzad Alam Khan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Communication and Information Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>World Health Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Institute of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chalk Shahzad, Islamabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel: +92-51 925 5075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Central Board of Revenue/Customs</strong></td>
<td>Mr. Amir Rashid Shaikh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secretary International Custom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CBR, Islamabad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel: +92-51 920 5134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Faiz Chadhrar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Add Collector (Appr.I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Custom House,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keemari, Karachi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abdul Waheed Marwat  
D.C. Customs  
Custom House, University Road,  
Peshawar.  
Tel: +92-924 210 896; Off Tel: 921-6059-64, 921 6056

Zammurad Khan  
Deputy Superintendent Custom  
Torkham (Pak-Afghan Border)  
Peshawar.  
Tel: +92-924 304 196

Mumtaz Ali Koso  
Deputy Collector  
Custom House,  
Quetta  
Tel: +92-81 920 1829

Superintendent  
Custom Check post Wagah  
Lahore  
Tel: + 92-42 658 1050

Mr Khalique-ur-Rehman  
Duty Officer  
Sialkot Dry Port (Rawalpindi camp).  
Tel: +92-51-5593899; Cell: +92-321-5370059

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MINFAL)

Dr. Muhammad Aslam Gill  
Commissioner (Minor Crops)  
Govt. of Pakistan  
Ministry of Food, Agriculture & Livestock  
B-Block, Pak Secretariat  
Islamabad.  
Off. Tel: +92-51 920 1779, +92-51 920 7695  
Fax: +92-51 8210616  
E-mail: aslamgill@hotmail.com

Dr. Syed Wajid H. Pirzada  
Chief W.T.O  
Ministry of Food, Agriculture & Livestock  
Tel: +92-51 920 6470 / 920 6471  
Fax: +92-51 920 6472  
WTO UNIT, 38-W, Khalid Plaza, 3rd Floor,  
Jinnah Avenue, Islamabad  
E-mail: wajidpirzada_rootspakistan@yahoo.com  
wajidpeer@yahoo.com

Sikandar Shah  
Project Director  
Agriculture and livestock Products, Marketing and Grading  
Department, Govt. of Pakistan  
79-E, Al-Rehman Chamber, 1st Floor, Blue Area, Islamabad.  
Tel Off: +92-51 920 7609  
Fax Off: +92-51 921 4063  
E-mail: dalpng@apollo.net.pk  
sikandarshh@yahoo.com
| Ministry of Commerce | Muhammad Ashraf Khan  
Senior Joint Secretary (Imports)  
Ministry of Commerce,  
Government of Pakistan,  
Islamabad.  
Tel: +92-51 920 6411  
Mr Qasim Muhammad Niaz  
Joint Secretary (WTO)  
Ministry of Commerce,  
Government of Pakistan,  
Islamabad.  
Tel: +92-51 920 2107 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Ministry of Environment | Owais Noman Kundi  
Section Officer  
Ministry of Environment, Govt. of Pakistan  
G-6, Block# IV, CDA Old Navel Headquarters,  
Opp. Lal Masjid, Melody Civic Center, Markaz,  
Islamabad.  
Tel: +92-51 920 4491  
Fax: +92-51 920 2211  
Javed Ali Khan,  
Director (PEPC),  
Ministry of Environment,  
Islamabad. |
| Ministry of Health | Dr. Agha Mahboob Ahmad  
Assistant Director General Health  
Ministry of Health  
Government of Pakistan  
Islamabad  
Tel: + 92-51-9205982  
E-mail: aghamahmoob@yahoo.com  
Dr. Riffat Aysha Anis  
A/Chief  
Nutrition Division, National Institute of Health (NIH), Islamabad.  
Tel: +92-51-9255079  
Dr. Amjad Ali  
Scientific Officer/Federal Public Analyst  
Nutrition Division, NIH Islamabad  
Tel: +92-51-9255079 |
| Ministry of Science and Technology | Dr. Muhammad Akbar Anjum  
Scientific Secretary  
Pakistan Council for Science and Technology  
Shahrah-e-Jamhuriat, G-5/2, Islamabad-44000.  
Tel Off: +92-51-9203971 Direct  
+92-51-9205157, 9204860 Ext. 204  
Fax: +92-51-9205095, 9205171 |
| Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights | Mr Iftikhar-un-Nabbi  
SO (Drafting and Legislation)  
S-Block, Pak Secretariate  
Islamabad  
Tel Off: +92-51-9203465 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Quarantine/Plant Protection</th>
<th>Mr Allah Rakha Assi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Advisor and Director General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel: +92 21-9248607; Fax: +92-21-9248673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Allah_rakha@hotmail.com">Allah_rakha@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Iqbal H. Pathan,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Director (Quarantine)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Plant Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jinnah Avenue, Malir Halt,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karachi, Pakistan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: (+92) 21 9248670 / 48612-15; Fax (+92) 21 9248673</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail  <a href="mailto:quarantine@plantprotection.gov.pk">quarantine@plantprotection.gov.pk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.plantprotection.gov.pk/">http://www.plantprotection.gov.pk/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Zafar Ali</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director Technical (Plant Protection)</td>
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<td>Department of Plant Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Amin Ullah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entomologists &amp;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>In charge, Central Plant Quarantine Lab.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINFAL, Karachi</td>
<td>Tel: +92-21 924 8612/321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Sharfun-Nihar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Pathologist (Mycologist)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. Plant Protection,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINFAL, Karachi</td>
<td>+92-021-924 8612/321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mushtaq@72yahoo.com">mushtaq@72yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manzoor Ahmad Nashwani,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entomologist,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Plant Protection,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamrod Road, Peshawar.</td>
<td>Tel: +92-91-921 6650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:mamashwani@yahoo.com">mamashwani@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Safdar Ali</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Plant Protection,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Infantry Road, Mian Mir,</td>
<td>Tel: +92-42 681 8430/ 0333 457 6145</td>
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<td>Mr Azam Khan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Plant Protection,</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINFAL, Brevety Road, Quetta</td>
<td>Tel: +92-81 920 1065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muhammad Hussain Nasar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Pathologist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture Research Institute</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directorate of Agricultural Research, Sariab Road Quetta.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: +92-81 921 1146</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department.** | Dr. A. Rauf Bhutta  
Deputy Director (Hqrs)/Seed Inspector  
Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department,  
Ministry of Food, Agriculture & Livestock  
G-9/4, Mauve Area,  
Islamabad, Pakistan.  
Off. Tel: +92-51 926 1543  
Fax: +92-51 926 0243  
E-mail: dbhutta04@yahoo.com  
Chaudhary Liaqat Ali  
Regional Director  
Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department,  
4- Lyton Road, Lahore.  
Tel: +92-42 921 2576  
Muhammad Nusrat Ullah Khan  
Seed Certification Officer  
FSC&RD,  
Karachi  
Building of Department of plant Protection, Jinnah Avenue,  
Karachi  
Tel: +92-320 202 4669 |
| --- | --- |
| **Agriculture and Livestock Product Marketing and Grading Department** | Mr Farooq Majeed  
Suprintendent  
DALPMG office,  
Quetta  
Tel: +92-81 921 1109 |
| **Animal Quarantine** | Dr Muhammad Saleem  
Director  
Animal quarantine department  
Near Nursery, ABC Neelam Ghar  
Karachi  
Tel: +92-21-455 2679, 439 2793 |
| **Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority** | Muhammad Iqbal Qureshi  
Director Quality Control Centre  
Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority, Ministry of Science and Technology  
Barrack # 77, Near MP Hostel, Saddar,  
Karachi.  
Tel: +92-21 920 4785  
Fax: +92-21 920 4784  
Muhammad Rauf Khan Kirmani  
Director Standards Development Centre, Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority, Ministry of Science and Technology,  
Mubarak, Building, Near Jehangir Park Saddar,  
Karachi.  
Tel: +92-21 921 5057 |
| **Provincial Agriculture Dept** | Dr. Noor Muhammad  
Chief W.T.O Cell  
Govt. of The Punjab, Agriculture Department.  
21-Davis Road,  
Lahore  
Tel: +92-42 920 3501  
Fax: +92-42 920 3504, Mobile: +92-334 401 0282  
E-mail: wtocell-agri@hotmail.com |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entity</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PARC/NARC                                  | Syed Asim Rehan Kazmi  
Director  
Coastal Agriculture Research Station,  
Coordination/ Liaison Office, PARC Sindh.  
Jinnah Avenue, Malir Halt,  
Karachi-75210, Pakistan.  
Off Tel: +92-21 924 8621, 9248916  
Fax: +92-21 924 8632  
E-mail: coordparc@pk.net coordparc@pk.netsolir.com  
Mr Mubarak Ahmad  
Director PARC Karachi University Campus,  
Grain Storage Research Institute and Testing lab  
Karachi  
+92-21 924 3188 |
| Trading Corporation of Pakistan            | Mr A. Saleem Chohan  
General Manager (Admin)/CSD/F&A)  
Trading Corporation of Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd.  
4th Floor, Finance and Trade Centre (FTC), Shahrah-e-Quaid-e-Azam, Karachi  
Tel: +92-21-9202988; Fax:9202722  
E-mail:fcp@digicom.net.pk  
Ziauddin Ahmad  
General Manger  
Trading Corporation of Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd.  
4th Floor, Finance and Trade Centre (FTC), Shahrah-e-Quaid-e-Azam, Karachi  
Tel: +92-21-9202964; Fax:9202722  
E-mail:fcp@digicom.net.pk |
| NTTFC                                      | Javed Mansoor.  
Executive Secretary  
National Trade & Transport Facilitation Committee.  
NTTFC Secretariat, B-2, Federation House, ST-28, Block-5, Shahra-e-Firdousi, Main Clifton, Karachi-75600.  
Direct Tel: +92-21 582 2871  
PABX: +92-21 587 3691,93,94, Ext: 212.  
Fax: : +92-21-582 1814  
E-mail: nttfc@cyber.net.pk  
:www.nttfc.org |
| Vegetable Seed Importers | Azhar Siddiq  
Proprietor  
Ch.Muhammad Siddiq & Sons  
Importer, Exporter, Seed, Growers & Seed Merchants  
P-167, New Grain Market, Dijkot Road,  
Faisalabad, Pakistan  
Tel: +92-41 612 232, Mob: +92-300 866 2681; Fax: +92-41 614 175  
E-mail: siddiq01@fsd.paknet.com.pk  
Web: http://siddiqseeds.hotusa.org  

Muhammad Hayat  
Baghban Agro Services, New Grain Market Ghur Mondi,  
Peshawar. Tel: +92-300-5748039  

Haji Muhammad Saeed Akhter  
Managing Director  
Ch. Khair Din & Sons, Importers and Exporters of Vegetable Seeds.  
Sheikhupura Road, Near Mini Stadium, Gujranwala, Pakistan  
Tel: +92-55 423 8300-400; Mob: +92-300 874 0083  
Fax: +92-55 421 8777  
E-mail: info@ckdseeds.com;  ckdseeds@brain.net.pk  
Web: www.ckdseeds.com  

Haji Fazal Raheem  
Fazal Raheem Agro Services  
Importer of Seeds & Pesticides  
New Sabzi Maondi, Mingora,  
Sawat  
Tel: +92-946 814 370; Mob: +92-300 337 2823; Fax:+92-946 711472  

Sher Ali  
Director  
Sher Ali & Brothers,  
Importer, Seed Growers & Seed Merchants.  
3-New Grain Market,  
Peshawar, Pakistan.  
Tel: +92-91 255 0840, 2553291  
Mobile: +92-300 959 3763; Fax: +92-92 259 0309  
E-mail: tseeds4@yahoo.com;  tseeds4@hotmail.com  

Mr Nazer Jan  
Proprieter, New Zarghoon Zarai Markaz & Seed centre  
Shop #82, Purani Sabzi Mondi, Serki Road,  
Quetta.  
Tel: +92-81 440 314  

| Fruit & Vegetables Importers/commission agents | Haji Muhammad Ayub Muhammad Nasir  
Fresh Fruit Commission Agents & General Order Suppliers  
Shop 4L 10/3, 10/4, 15/3, 15/4,  
New Fruit Market Super Highway, Karachi.  
Tel: +92-21-638 0337  
Mobile: +92-333 233 7693  

Ch. Binyamin Yousuf  
Director Marketing  
Muhammad Din Muhammad Sharif & Co.  
Importers Exporters & Commission Agent.  
Office: 1058, P.I.B. Colony  
Karachi. Pakistan.  
Market : Shops 1 to 16, Subzi Mandi, Super highway, Karachi  
Tel: +92-21 687 1333, 687 122 |
Fax: +92-21 493 3649
Mobile: 92-333-2272987
E-mail: mds649@hotmail.com

Haji Nazar Muhammad
Insaf Fruit Company
Fruits Commission Agent & General Order Suppliers
Shop no.257, Plot no. 65/64, New Fruit Market, Hazar Gangi, Quetta.
Tel: +92-81-460142-440996-447831
Mobile: 0333-7803029

Saeed Hussain
Aisha Enterprises
F.A. International Importers & Exporters
C-18, Shah Faisal Town, Malir Halt, Karachi
Ph. Off: +92-21-2443200, 2435289
Fax: +92-21-2439025
Mobile: 0300-8277125
E-mail: pakhali@cyber.net.pk

Haji Kabul Khan,
Gulbahar Chowk,
Fruit Market/ Kablo Mandi,
G. T. Road, Peshawar.
Tel: +92-91-26263, (After 2 ‘O clock 2558039)

Ch Nasib Ullah
Commission Agent
Fruit & Vegetable Market, Hazargangi, Quetta
Tel: +92-81-3003868985

Haji Nauik Muhammad.
Ahmad Traders, Dry Fruit Merchant
Shop no. 9-10, Tolla Ram Road, Quetta.
Tel: +92-81-844163
Mobile: 0300-3841721

Ch Muhammad Din
Muhammad Sharif Amratsri
Potato, Onion Importers Exporters & Commission Agent.
Subzi Mandi, Super Highway, Karachi.
Tel: +92-21-6871222, 6871333

Clearing/Forwarding Agents

Mr Talat,
Pak Afghan Clearing Agent, Wagha,
Lahore. +92-42-7662350, 7662450

Syed Kalim Abbas Sherazi
President
Custom Clearing Agent Group, NWFP, Peshawar
Tel: +92-91-214267, Mob: +92-300-8595288; Fax: +92-91-2590182
Email: ssas_20@hotmail.com; ssas_20@yahoo.com
Lahore: Tel: +92-42-6369348, 6363656,; Fax: +92-42-6363655

Nadir Ali S. Madhani
Olympic Agencies
International Freight Forwarders
Customs Clearing, Forwarding, Shipping & Cargo Handling Agents.
4/12, Arkay Square (Extn) Shahrah-e-Liaquat,
Karachi-74000, Pakistan  
Ph. Off: +92-21-2420979, 2425332  
Fax : +92-21-2425341  
E-mail : olympic@cyber.net.pk

Haji Fojan  
National Enterprises, International Freight Forwarders  
Importers Exporters & Custom Clearing Agents  
Room no. 3, National Plaza, Choharmal Road Corner, Jinnah Road, Quetta.  
Tel: +92-81-2820672-2838603, Fax:+92-81-2837153  
E-mail: national@qta.paknet.com.pk

| NGOs-Environment | Aman Butt  
|:-----------------| Manager Accounts, IUCN  
The World Conservation Union  
G-6/3, Street# 87, H# 26, IUCN,  
Islamabad, Pakistan.  
Ph : +92-51-2270686, 2270687; Fax : +92-51-2270688  
E-mail : aman.butt@isb.iucnp.org  
Mr Abdul Tawab  
Admin Officer WWF  
60-Bazar Road, G-6/4  
Islamabd  
Ph : +92-51-282-9456 |
## Appendix 10 B

Additional references of Organisations and individuals relevant to Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Controls over Imports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name and address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Board of Revenue/Customs</td>
<td>Mr Ahmad Dildar&lt;br&gt;Customs Collectorate&lt;br&gt;Rawalpindi&lt;br&gt;Tel: +92-51-4848075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Commerce</td>
<td>Syed Irtiqa Ahmed Zaidi&lt;br&gt;Economic Consultant&lt;br&gt;Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad.&lt;br&gt;Tel: Off: +92-51 920 1796&lt;br&gt;Fax: +92-51 9216263&lt;br&gt;E-mail: <a href="mailto:irtiqazaidi@gmail.com">irtiqazaidi@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
<td>Zia ul Islam,&lt;br&gt;Director, Pakistan EPA,&lt;br&gt;House # 311 F 11/3, Margala Road, Islamabad.&lt;br&gt;Tel: +92-51 926 7622&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Zia ul Islam,&lt;br&gt;Director, Pakistan EPA,&lt;br&gt;House # 311 F 11/3, Margala Road, Islamabad.&lt;br&gt;Tel: +92-51 926 7622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department.</td>
<td>Dr Akhlaq Hussain&lt;br&gt;Director General&lt;br&gt;FSC&amp;RD&lt;br&gt;Mauve Area G 9/4, Islamabad&lt;br&gt;Tel: +92-51 926 0126&lt;br&gt;Fax: +92-52 926 0234&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Ilham-ud-Din&lt;br&gt;Deputy Director, Federal Seed Certification &amp; Registration Department, Ministry of Food, Agriculture &amp; Livestock&lt;br&gt;Benevolent Fund building, Hall # 608&lt;br&gt;5th Floor,&lt;br&gt;Peshawar Cantt.&lt;br&gt;Tel: +92-91 921 3010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority</td>
<td>Eng. Abdul Hayee Tunio&lt;br&gt;D. Director (Agri. &amp; Food) Standards Development Centre&lt;br&gt;Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Centre Quality Control Authority. Ministry of Science and Technology,&lt;br&gt;Mubarak, Building, Near Jehangir Park Saddar, Karachi.&lt;br&gt;Tel:+92-21 921 5057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAL</td>
<td>Abdul Sami Saggu&lt;br&gt;General Manager (PRAL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Fruit & Vegetables Importers/commission agents**                                      | Haji Saeed Akhter  
Ch. Khair Din & Sons,  
Shiekhupura Road,  
Gujranwala.  
Tel: +92-554 218 300; +92-300 874 0083  
Haji Sher Ali Bangulzai  
General Secretary  
National Fruit & Vegetable Commission Agent Association  
(Regd.) Quetta, Balochistan  
Tel. Off: +92-81 460 644  
Mobile: +92-300 382 7270 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| **Clearing/Forwarding Agents**                                                       | Mr Nawaz Ali,  
International Trading Agency,  
Lahore.  
Tel: +92-42 766 2415, 03004510913 |
| **NGOs-Environment**                                                                 | Dr Aurangzeb  
IUCN  
G-6/3, Street# 87, H# 26,  
Islamabad  
Tel: +92-51 920 8590  
Fax: +92-51 227 0688  
E-mail : aman.butt@isb.iucnp.org  
Mr Ali Hassan Habib  
Head Office  
WWF-Pakistan  
P.O. Box 5180  
Ferozepur Road,  
Lahore.  
Tel: 92-042 588 2069, 586 2360, 586 9429  
Fax:92- 042 586 2358  
wwf@lhr.comsats.net.pk  
ahabib@wwf.org.pk  
Dr Ghulam Akbar  
Islamabad Regional Office  
WWF-Pakistan  
House 60, Bazar Road  
Sector G-6/4, Islamabad.  
Tel: 92-051 282 9456, 282 4684, 282 4669  
Fax: 92-051 282 0469  
amwwfisd@apollo.net.pk  
akbarwwf@yahoo.com  
LEAD Pakistan  
LEAD House  
F-7 Markaz, Islamabad, 44000  
Tel: +92-51 265 1511  
Fax: +92-51 265 1512  
Email: main@lead.org.pk  
Web: http://www.lead.org.pk |
| Universities/Research Institute | Professor Dr Khushi Muhammad  
University of Veterinary Sciences  
Lahore  
Tel: +92-0333 425 0708  
Dr Dil Mohammad  
Principal Law College  
Punjab University,  
Lahore  
Tel: +92-42 923 1161, 923 1275  
Dr Farman Ali  
Department of Plant Protection  
NWFP Agricultural University  
Peshawar  
Tel: +92-091 921 6572-79  
www.aup.edu.pk  
Pakistan Forest Research Institute  
Peshawar  
http://www.tcdc.gov.pk/pak_forest-psh/ |