

#### Purpose

 Share Canada's experiences with notifying regulations containing elements under both the WTO SPS and TBT Agreements

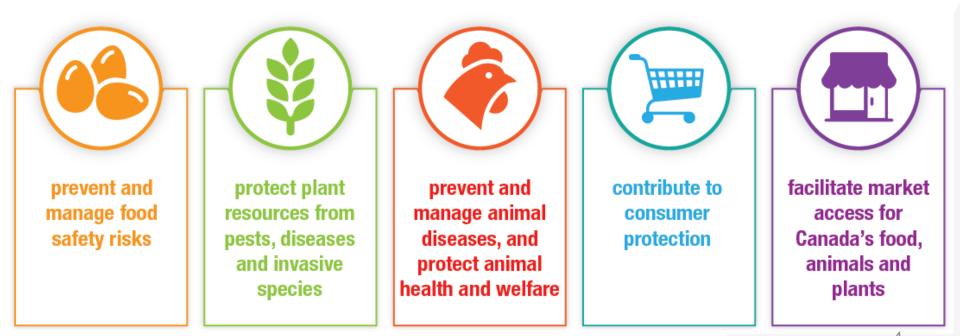
 Highlight Canada's experience handling other Member's notifications of regulations containing elements under both the WTO SPS and TBT Agreements

### Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point

- Provides a single window for the delivery of Canadian transparency requirements under:
  - WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and the
  - WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade
  - Canada's preferential free trade agreements
- Works together with Canadian regulators to identify issues that require notification and develop WTO notifications

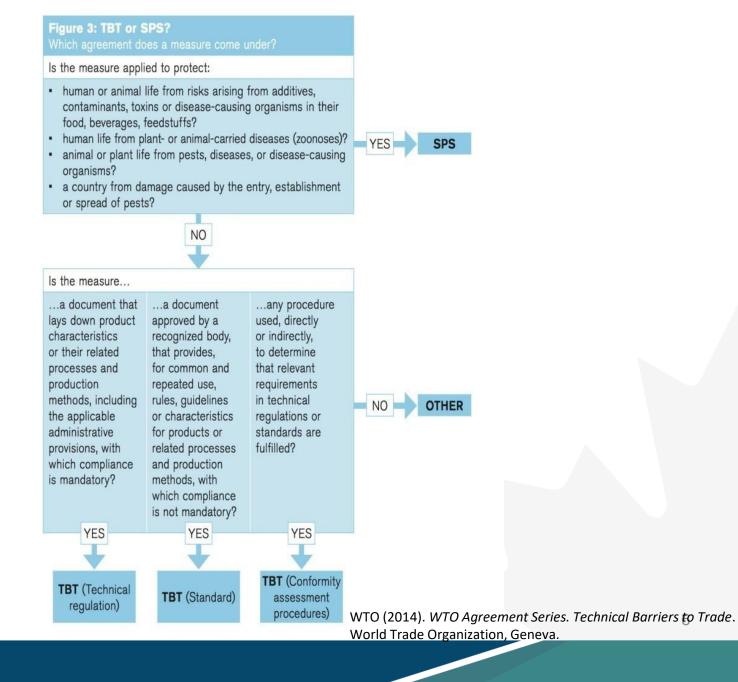
# The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

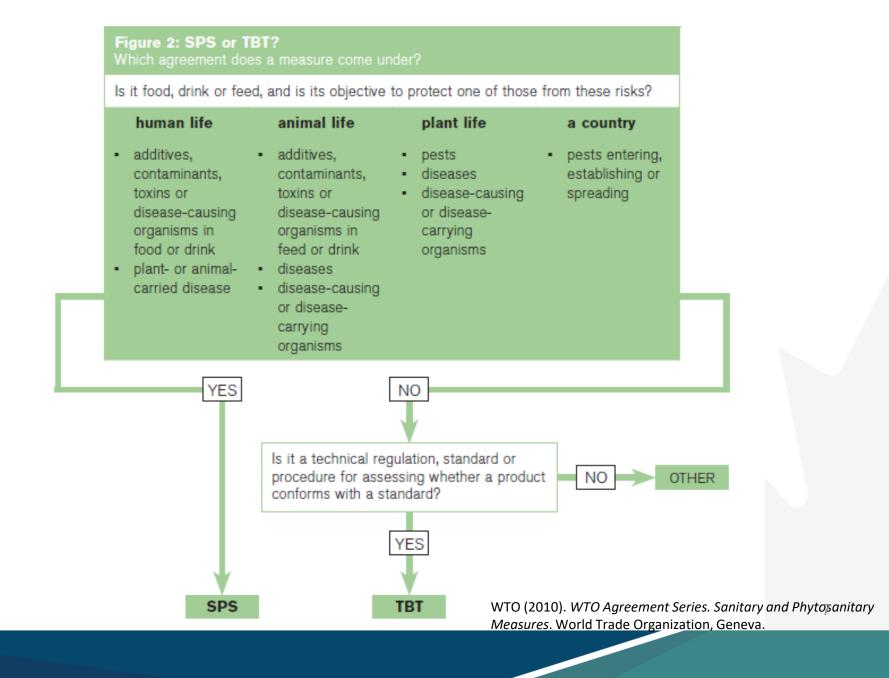
#### The CFIA develops regulations and delivers inspection and other services to:



# Considerations when Notifying Regulations

- Canada's regulations are comprehensive in nature
- The CFIA's regulations fall into three categories:
  - Food: food safety and consumer protection
  - Plant: plant health, protection, and technical requirements
  - Animal: animal health, protection and technical requirements
- When determining to notify a proposed regulation, the CFIA assesses whether elements in the regulation falls under the SPS Agreement or the TBT Agreement.





#### Example: Notification of the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations

- The Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR) replaced 14 sets of regulations to modernize Canada's food safety system by focusing on prevention through more rigorous risk management and increasing the focus on traceability.
- The SFCR applies to:
  - imported, exported, or inter-provincially traded food for human consumption; and
  - food animals from which meat products to be imported, exported or inter-provincially traded may be derived.

### Example: Notification of the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations

- Illustrative summary list of elements within the SFCR:
  - Preventive controls
  - Traceability
  - Recognition of Foreign Systems
  - Packaging
  - Labelling
  - Grades and Grade names
  - Organic products
- For more information on SFCR please visit: inspection.gc.ca/safefood

# Example: Notification of the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations

SPS Committee	TBT Committee	Comment
G/SPS/N/CAN/700 (8 July 2013)	G/TBT/N/CAN/394 (19 July 2013)	Discussion paper
G/SPS/N/CAN/700/Rev.1 (5 June 2014)	G/TBT/N/CAN/394/Rev.1 (6 June 2014)	Proposed regulations
G/SPS/N/CAN/700/Rev.1/Add.1 ( <b>15 July 2014</b> )	G/TBT/N/CAN/394/Rev.1/Add.1 ( <b>15 July 2014</b> )	Extension of comment period
G/SPS/N/CAN/938 (2 June 2015)	G/TBT/N/CAN/448 (2 June 2015)	Discussion paper
G/SPS/N/CAN/938/Add.1 (9 July 2015)	G/TBT/N/CAN/448/Add.1 (9 July 2015)	Extension of comment period
G/SPS/N/CAN/700/Rev.2 (24 January 2017)	G/TBT/N/CAN/394/Rev.2 (25 January 2017)	Revised proposed regulations
G/SPS/N/CAN/700/Rev.2/Add.1 (14 June 2018)	G/TBT/N/CAN/394/Rev.2/Add.1 (15 June 2018)	Final publication

### Handling of other Member Notifications

 Canada regularly monitors the SPS and TBT notifications of Members to review proposed regulatory changes.

 Many Members have regulations specific to food, plants, and animal commodities that contain elements under both the SPS and TBT Agreements.

#### **Best Practice**

 Indicate in the notification if the regulation has been notified to another Committee.

 For example in the Description of Content Section: "This regulation has been notified under the TBT Agreement (G/TBT/N/) and SPS Agreement (G/SPS/N/)".

#### Conclusion

- Regulations can include both food safety and plant and animal life and health requirements and technical requirements.
- Regulation are assessed as to whether elements falls under the WTO SPS Agreement or the TBT Agreement, and notified accordingly.
- A practice for Members to consider is to indicate in the notification if the regulation has been notified to another Committee.

#### Questions?

https://www.international.gc.ca/trade-agreementsaccords-commerciaux/wtoomc/enquiry.aspx?lang=eng

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