

NATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) MATTERS



By Mr SJ Manyuwa

Deputy Director: Sanitary and Phytosanitary Coordination

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Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Presentation outline

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- ▶ Institutional arrangement on food safety matters
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Introduction

Management of SPS matters is the shared responsibility between the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), the Department of Health (DoH) and the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS).



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Institutional arrangement on animal health matters

Management of animal health matters is the responsibility of Directorate: Animal Health at the DALRRD.

Directorate: Animal Health

- Administers the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No 35 of 1984) which provide for the control of animal diseases and parasites, for measures to promote animal health; and for matters connected therewith;
- Implementation of the national regulatory services and risk management systems for animal health;
- Establish and maintain animal health early-warning and mitigation systems; and
- Ensures compliance with international animal health obligations and responsibilities.



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Institutional arrangement on plant health matters

Management of plant health matters is the responsibility of Directorate: Plant Health at the DALRRD.

Directorate: Plant Health

- Administers the Agricultural Pests Act, 1983 (Act No 36 of 1983) which provide for measures by which agricultural pests may be prevented and combated; and for matters connected therewith;
- Contact point for the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of South Africa in terms of the International Plant Protection Convention;
- Provides an early warning system for quarantine pests and regulated non quarantine pests;
- Develops phytosanitary import and export protocols in collaboration with stakeholders; and
- Ensures compliance with international plant health obligations and responsibilities.



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Institutional arrangement on food safety matters

Management of food safety matters is **a shared responsibility** between the **DoH**, **DALRRD** (Directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance, and Directorate: Veterinary Public Health), and **NRCS** (an entity of the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition – Technical Infrastructure).

Department of Health

- The food control section within the department is responsible for ensuring the safety of food.
- Administers the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 54 of 1972 (Act No 54 of 1972) that intends to control the sale, manufacture and importation of foodstuffs, cosmetics and disinfectants; and to provide for incidental matters.



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Institutional arrangement on food safety matters

Responsibility of Directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance (DFSQA) at the DALRRD.

- **Administer Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990** (Act No. 119 of 1990) which provide for control over the sale and export of certain agricultural products, control over the sale of certain imported products and control over other related products and for matters connected therewith.
- ▶ The Act regulates:
 - ✓ Quality (local & export); and
 - ✓ Food Safety, e.g.: Pesticide residue (MRL's); Mycotoxins on Grains and Grain Products (i.e. Aflatoxin, etc); Salmonella on Rooibos; Physical hazards; Heavy metals (lead, etc.)



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Institutional arrangement on food safety matters

- ▶ **DFSQA also administers Liquor Products Act, 1989** (Act No 60 of 1989) which provide for control over the sale and production for sale of certain alcoholic products, the composition and properties of such products and the use of certain particulars in connection with the sale of such products; for the establishment of schemes; for control over the import and export of certain alcoholic products; and for matters connected therewith.
 - ✓ Liquor products regulated (local and export) include whiskey, brandy, grape based liquor, wine, spirits and spirit based liquor.

Responsibility of Directorate: Veterinary Public Health at DALRRD

- ▶ **Administers Meat Safety Act, 2000** (Act No 40 of 2000) which provide for measures to promote meat safety and the safety of animal products; to establish and maintain essential national standards in respect of abattoirs; to regulate the importation and exportation of meat; to establish meat safety schemes; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

Institutional arrangement on food safety matters

NRCS

- ▶ An entity of the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition.
- ▶ Its business unit of Foods and Associated Industries is responsible for compulsory standards regarding certain forms of meat and fish.
- ▶ They are competent authority for export of fishery products.



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Institutional arrangement – inspection

Responsibility of Directorate: Inspection Services at the DALRRD.

- ▶ Responsible for phytosanitary export inspections and certification, inspections at points of entry/exit, and local regulatory control;
- ▶ Quarantine related functions for both plants and animals; and
- ▶ On-farm verification in cases where there have been reports on non-compliance.



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Coordination, awareness and import authorisation

Responsibility of Directorate: Food Import and Export Standards at the DALRRD.

- ▶ Undertake promotions and awareness of cross cutting Biosecurity risk issues affecting the trade in agricultural products;
- ▶ Facilitate the strengthening of SPS capacity and coordination to improve compliance under the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of SPS Measures; and
- ▶ Facilitate the issuing of permits in terms of legislative mandates regulating plant health and animal health.



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So what is next?

- Speakers from the departments and directorates identified above will provide further details regarding their roles in the next sessions.



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Thank you

E-mail: JeremiahMA@Dalrrd.gov.za

Phone: 012-319 6095



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