



Brussels, 28.01.2016

**AGENDA OF THE EU PREPARATORY MEETING ON 17 FEBRUARY 2016  
FOR THE WTO SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY COMMITTEE OF MARCH 2016**

The meeting will prepare the 65<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS Committee) that will take place at the Centre William Rappard, Geneva on **16-17 March 2016**. The meeting will be preceded by an informal meeting on private standards during the morning of 15 March.

At the preparatory meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> February, the European Commission (COM) intends to discuss with Member States (MS) the main points of the agenda of the next SPS Committee. At this stage, only the preliminary agenda of the Committee is available. The final agenda will be circulated by the WTO Secretariat on 4 March 2016.

**I. ISSUES RELATED TO THE MARCH 2016 SPS COMMITTEE (AS LISTED IN THE WTO PROPOSED AGENDA)**

- Information on relevant activities
- Specific trade concerns
- Operation of transparency provisions
- Implementation of special and differential treatment
- Equivalence
- Pest- and disease-free areas
- Technical assistance and cooperation
- Review of the operation and implementation of the SPS Agreement

**a. Fourth review**

- Monitoring of the use of international standards
- Concerns with private and commercial standards
- Observers

**II. SPS- MARKET ACCESS ISSUES**

- Main developments
- Information on resolution or progress made on market access issues
- Exchange of information on other market access issues

**III. PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**