

**NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION BODY
2018 AND 2019 ACTION PLAN**

I. Expert Group on Agriculture and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Chair: Milanka Davidović, Head of Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management:

Proposed actions:

- 1) **Shorten import procedures for agricultural produce and food products, in particular perishable goods:**
 - a) Clearly define a desirable time limit for completing import procedures for perishable goods;
 - b) Develop a list of perishable goods demanding urgent clearance;
 - c) To reduce waiting times, allow random selection of authorized laboratories located in a closer radius that able to perform all required analyses of goods for clearance purposes;
 - d) Ensure effective electronic communications between laboratories and inspection services for sampling and submission of results;
 - e) Align working hours of customs bodies and inspection services at busiest border crossings for agricultural produce and food products;
 - f) Recognition of examination results provided by accredited laboratories in EU member states and other countries as mandated by appropriate international treaties.

- 2) **Establish an effective risk assessment system for all inspection services** (sanitary, phytosanitary, and veterinary inspectorates) to reduce barriers and facilitate imports and exports by companies following good business practices, goods that comply with conformity requirements, and well-developed internal quality control mechanisms.

- 3) **Clarify powers of inspection bodies** (especially those that report to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management) with respect to import of food products in the context of any changes to the appropriate legislation.