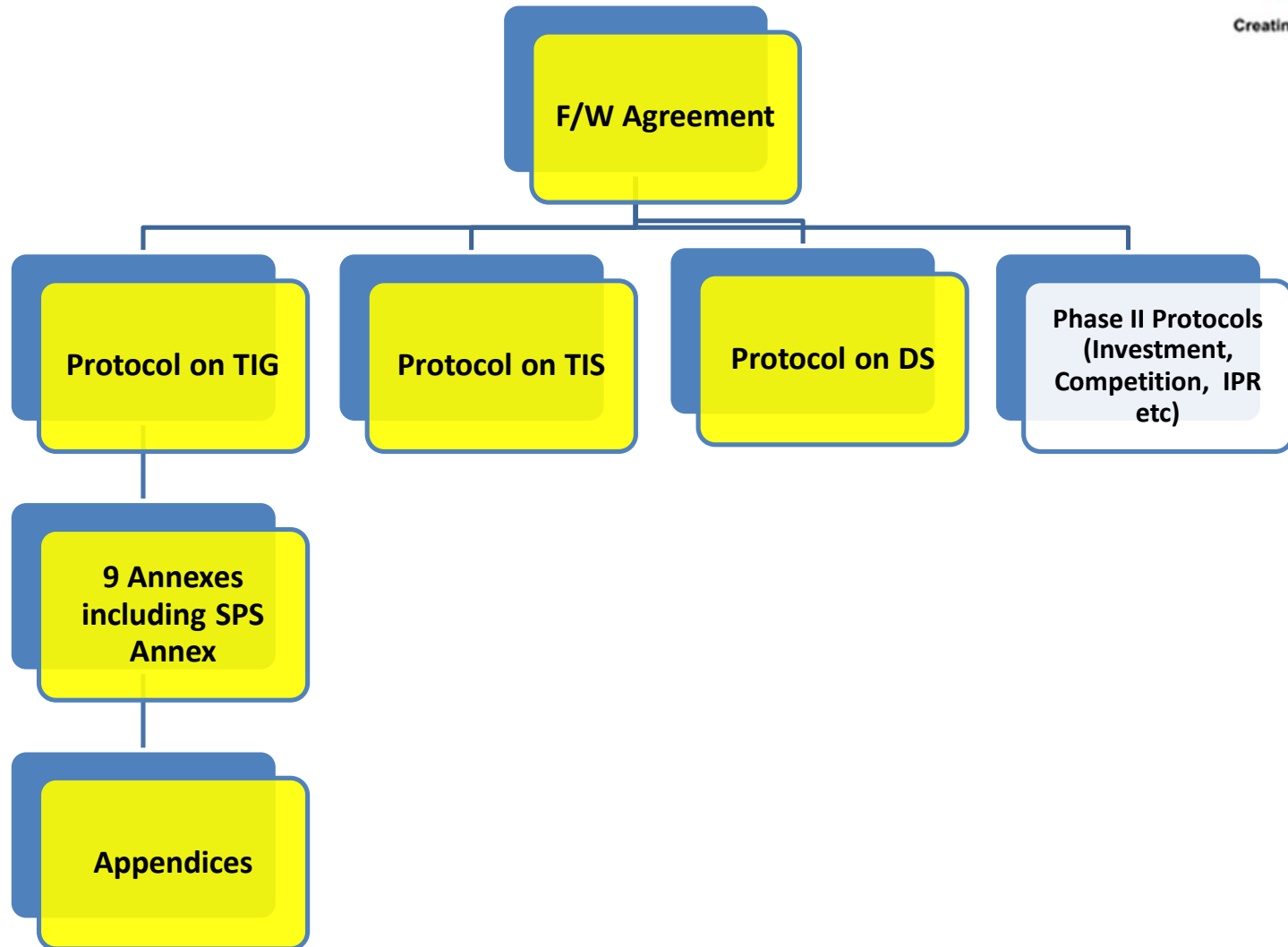


Update on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)



**Dr. Oswald Chinyamakobvu;
IPPC Regional Workshop, VIRTUAL
8 -11 September 2020**

AfCFTA Agreement Structure



Key Milestones Dates

Milestone	Date
Start of Negotiations	February 2016
Signature	21 March 2018
Entry into force	30 May 2019
Operationalisation	7 July 2019
Secretariat Establishment	17 August 2020
Start of Trading	1 January 2021

Signing and Ratification of the Agreement



- 54 out of 55 countries have signed the AfCFTA Agreement;
- 28 out of 54 countries have ratified the agreement (for operationalisation 22 ratifications were required);
- Trading under the AfCFTA to start on 1 January 2021.

Outstanding issues in Phase 1 Negotiations



Trade in goods:

- Tariff liberalisation/development of schedules of tariff concessions;
- Finalisation of negotiations on Rules of Origin (RoO);

Outstanding issues in Phase 1 Negotiations.... cont'd-1



- **Trade in Goods:**
 - Development of Guidelines for Infant Industries;
 - Development of Regulations for Special Economic Arrangements or Zones.

Outstanding issues in Phase 1 Negotiations... cont'd-2



- **Trade in Services:**

- to develop the guidelines for negotiating the schedules of specific commitments;
- to develop the schedules of specific commitments;
- to develop regulatory frameworks in all services sectors;
- to carry out regulatory assessments.

Update on AfCFTA Developments: Phase 2 Negotiations

- **Phase 2 negotiations are on:**
 - ❖ Investment
 - ❖ Competition Policy, and
 - ❖ Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Annexes to the Protocol on Trade in Goods



- *Schedules of Tariff Concessions; (to be completed by January 2021)*
- *Rules of Origin;*
- Customs Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance;
- Trade Facilitation;
- Non Tariff Barriers;
- Technical Barriers to Trade;
- **Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures;**
- Transit; and,
- Trade Remedies.

Implementation

- In accordance with Article 31 of the Protocol on Trade in Goods, thematic Sub-Committees to oversee implementation of the provisions of these Annexes will be established.

Important Complementary Instruments



The AfCFTA market is made more attractive with the:

- Launch of the Single African Air Transport Market in January 2018 by the African Union Summit; and,
- Opening for signature of the Protocol on Free Movement of People, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment.

Protocol on Trade in Goods

Annex 7: SPS Measures

Article	Title
1	Definitions
2	Purpose and Scope
3	Guiding Principle
4	Objectives
5	Assessment of Risk to Determine Appropriate Level of Sanitary or Phytosanitary Protection
6	Adaptation to Regional Conditions, Including Pest- or Disease-Free Areas and Areas of Low Pest or Disease Prevalence
7	Equivalence
8	Harmonisation
9	Audit and Verification

Protocol on Trade in Goods

Annex 7: SPS Measures

Article	Title
10	Import or Export Inspections and Fees
11	Transparency
12	Technical consultations
13	Emergency SPS measures
14	Cooperation and Technical Assistance
15	Establishment and Functions of the Sub-Committee for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
16	Dispute Settlement
17	Review and Amendment

Key Provisions of the SPS Measures Annex

- Article 3 - Guiding Principle:

In the preparation, adoption, and application of SPS measures, State Parties shall be guided by the provisions of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

Key Provisions of the SPS Measures Annex... cont'd

- The **Objectives** of this Annex are to:
 - (a) facilitate trade while safeguarding human, animal or plant life or health in the territory of State Parties;
 - (b) enhance cooperation and **transparency** in the development and implementation of SPS measures to ensure that they do not become unjustifiable barriers to trade; and
 - (c) enhance technical capacity of State Parties for the implementation and monitoring of SPS measures while encouraging the use of **international standards** in the elimination of barriers to trade.

SPS Measures Sub-Committee

key functions

..... promote cooperation between the State Parties on SPS issues under discussion in multilateral fora, including the WTO SPS Committee, the CAC, the OIE and the IPPC, as appropriate;

SPS Stocktaking Exercise

- Information requested in line with provisions of Annex 7;
- Responses solicited from respondents directly;
- Approximately 70% response rate.

Response

Notification Authority	Food Safety	Animal Health	Plant Protection
40	40	41	42

Countries responded 43
Fully completed 38
Coverage Rate 69,1%

Methodology



Category	Notification Authority	Food Safety	Animal Health	Plant Health
scores				
Well developed	26 -32	12 – 14	12 -14	12 - 14
Reasonably developed	19 -25	8 - 11	8 - 11	8 - 11
Limited to partially developed	12 -18	4 - 7	4 - 7	4 - 7
Non or very limited developed	0 – 11	0 - 3	0 - 3	0 – 3

Plant Health

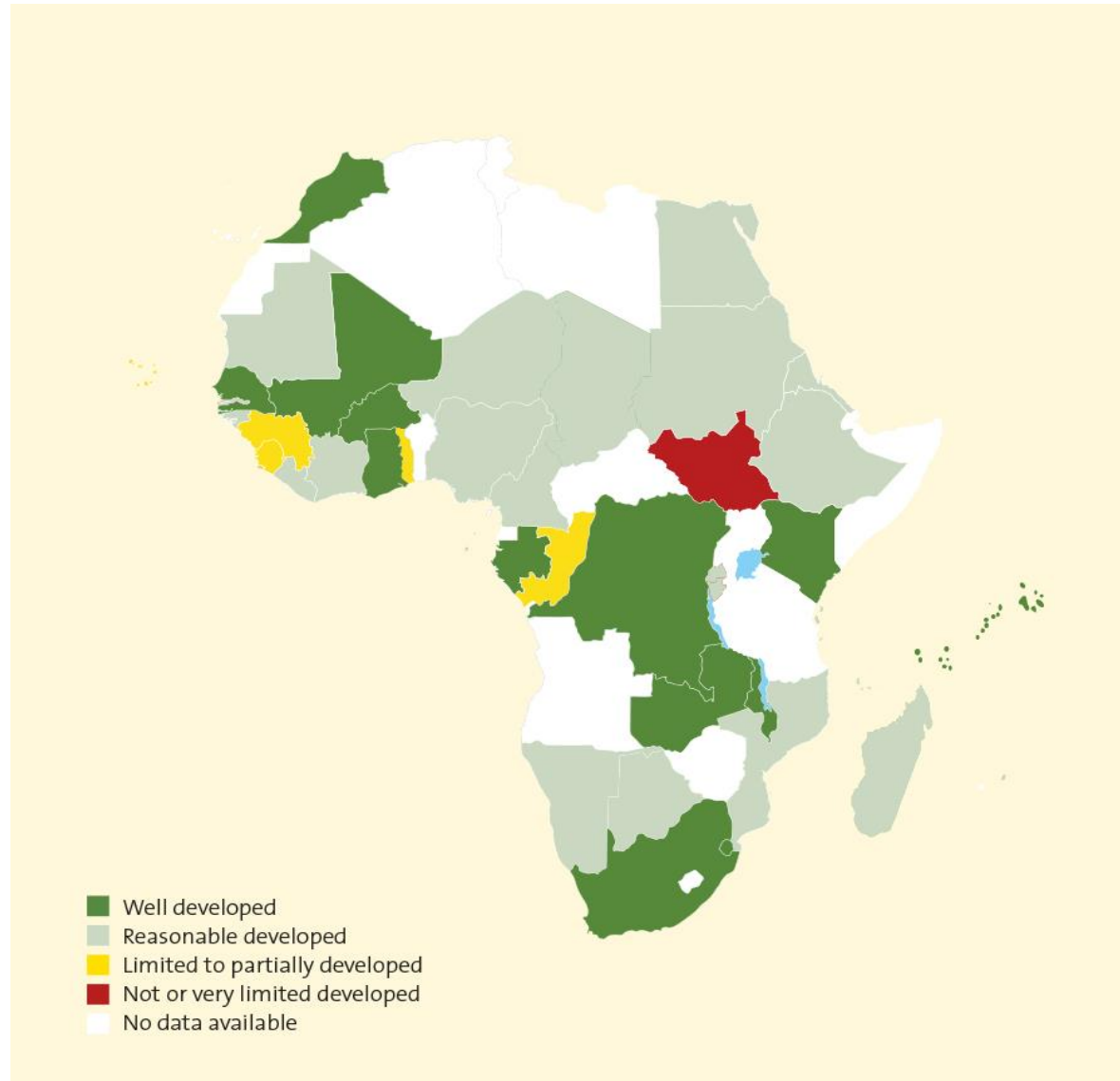


CATEGORY	CRITERIA
1 Well developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Capacity to conduct Risk Assessment on plant health for setting or updating SPS measures (Availability of institution undertaking risk assessment, availability of human, financial and material capacity to undertake risk assessment and risk assessment reports) • Full capacity regarding harmonization (i.e. Participation in the work of IPCC, available national coordination mechanism for participation in IPCC work) • National measures are based on international standards, guidelines or recommendations and other national measures supported by scientific justification
2 Reasonable developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonable capacity to conduct Risk Assessment on animal health for setting or updating SPS measures (Availability of institution undertaking risk assessment, availability of human, financial and material capacity to undertake risk assessment and risk assessment reports) • Reasonable capacity regarding harmonization (i.e. Participation in the work of IPCC, available national coordination mechanism for participation in IPCC work) • National measures are based on international standards, guidelines or recommendations and other national measures supported by scientific justification
3 Limited to partially developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited capacity to conduct Risk Assessment on animal health for setting or updating SPS measures (Availability of institution undertaking risk assessment, limited availability of human, financial and material capacity to undertake risk assessment and risk assessment reports) • Limited capacity regarding harmonization (i.e. limited participation in the work of IPCC, national coordination mechanism for participation in IPCC work under development) • National measures are based on international standards, guidelines or recommendations and other national measures supported by scientific justification
4 Not or very limited developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No or very limited capacity to conduct Risk Assessment on animal health for setting or updating SPS measures (no institution undertaking risk assessment, limited or no availability of human, financial and material capacity to undertake risk assessment and risk assessment reports) • No or very limited capacity regarding harmonization (i.e. limited participation in the work of IPCC, no national coordination mechanism for participation in IPCC work under development) • National measures are based on international standards, guidelines or recommendations, other national measures not supported by scientific justification

Plant Health

CATEGORY	COUNTRY
1	Burkina Faso, Dem. Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia
2	Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sudan,
3	Capo Verde, Congo Brazzaville, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Togo
4	South Sudan

Plant Health



Overall Summary-1



NO	COUNTRY	Notific. Auth.	Food Safety	Animal Health	Plant Health	overall SPS status
1	Algeria					
2	Angola					
3	Benin					
4	Botswana					
5	Burkina Faso					
6	Burundi					
7	Cameroon					
8	Capo Verde					
9	Central Republic of Africa					
10	Chad					
11	Comoros					
12	Congo Brazzaville					
13	Cote d'Ivoire					
14	Dem. Republic of Congo					
15	Djibouti					
16	Egypt					
17	Equatorial Guinea					
18	Eritrea					
19	Eswatini					
20	Ethiopia					
21	Gabon					
22	Gambia					
23	Ghana					
24	Guinea					
25	Guinea-Bissau					
26	Kenya					
27	Lesotho					
28	Liberia					
29	Libya					

Overall Summary - 2



NO	COUNTRY	Notific. Auth.	Food Safety	Animal Health	Plant Health	overall SPS status
30	Madagascar					
31	Malawi					
32	Mali					
33	Mauritania					
34	Mauritius					
35	Morocco					
36	Mozambique					
37	Namibia					
38	Niger					
39	Nigeria					
40	Rwanda					
41	Sahrawi Republic					
42	Sao Tome and Principe					
43	Senegal					
44	Seychelles					
45	Sierra Leone					
46	Somalia Republic					
47	South Africa					
48	South Sudan					
49	Sudan					
50	Tanzania					
51	Togo					
52	Tunisia					
53	Uganda					
54	Zambia					
55	Zimbabwe					

Overall SPS Status Summary

