



SPS Agreement and ISPM 15

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SPS Measures

Definition - Annex A

A measure taken to protect:

Human or
animal health

from

risks arising from additives,
contaminants, toxins or disease
organisms in food, drink, feedstuff

Human life

from

plant- or animal-carried diseases

Animal or
plant life

from

pests, diseases, disease-causing
organisms

Territory of
Member

from

other damage caused by entry,
establishment or spread of pests

SPS Measures - **Example**

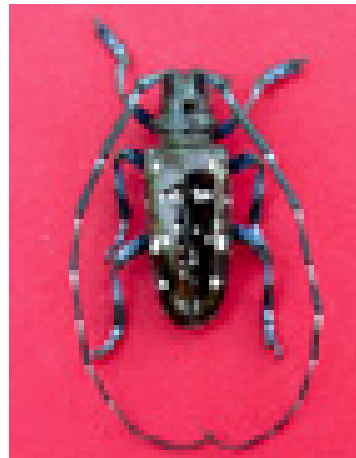
A measure taken to protect:

Animal or
plant life

from

pests, diseases, disease-causing
organisms

measure to
prevent
introduction
of asian long horn
beetle



What is the purpose of the SPS Agreement?



recognizing
right to protect
human, animal,
plant life or
health

avoiding
unnecessary
barriers to trade

SPS Agreement - Coverage

Article 2.1

“Members **have the right** to take sanitary and phytosanitary measures **necessary** for the protection of human, animal or plant life or health, provided that such measures are **not inconsistent** with the provisions of this Agreement”

Key Provisions of the SPS Agreement

1. Non-discrimination

2. Scientific justification

- harmonization
- risk assessment
- consistency
- least trade-restrictiveness

3. Equivalence

4. Regionalization

5. Transparency

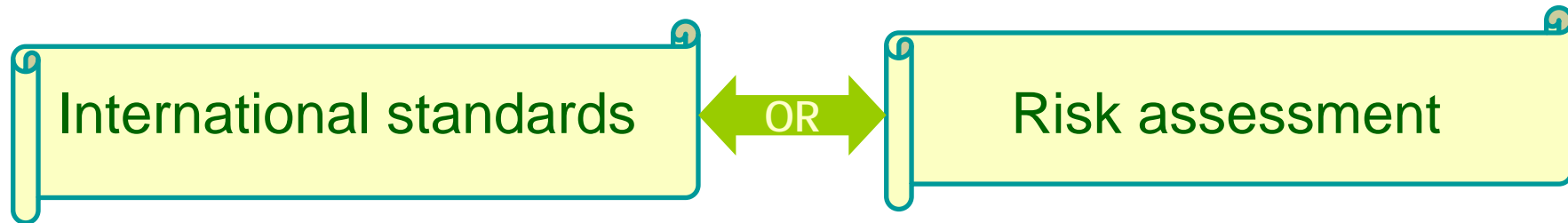
6. Technical assistance/special treatment

7. Control, inspection and approval procedures



Scientific justification

Measures must be based on



Standard-setting organizations



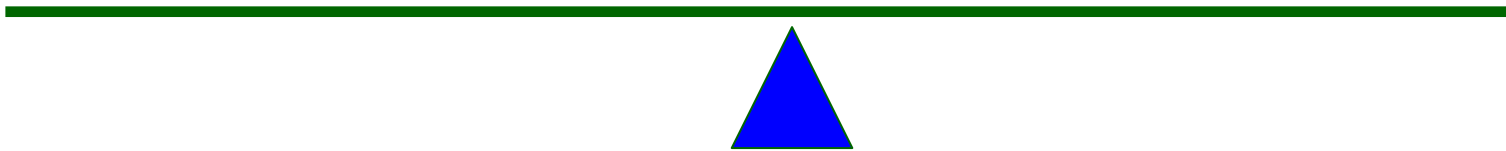
Codex = Joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission
OIE = World Organization for Animal Health
IPPC = International Plant Protection Convention (FAO)

Harmonization

International
standard

=

National
SPS measure

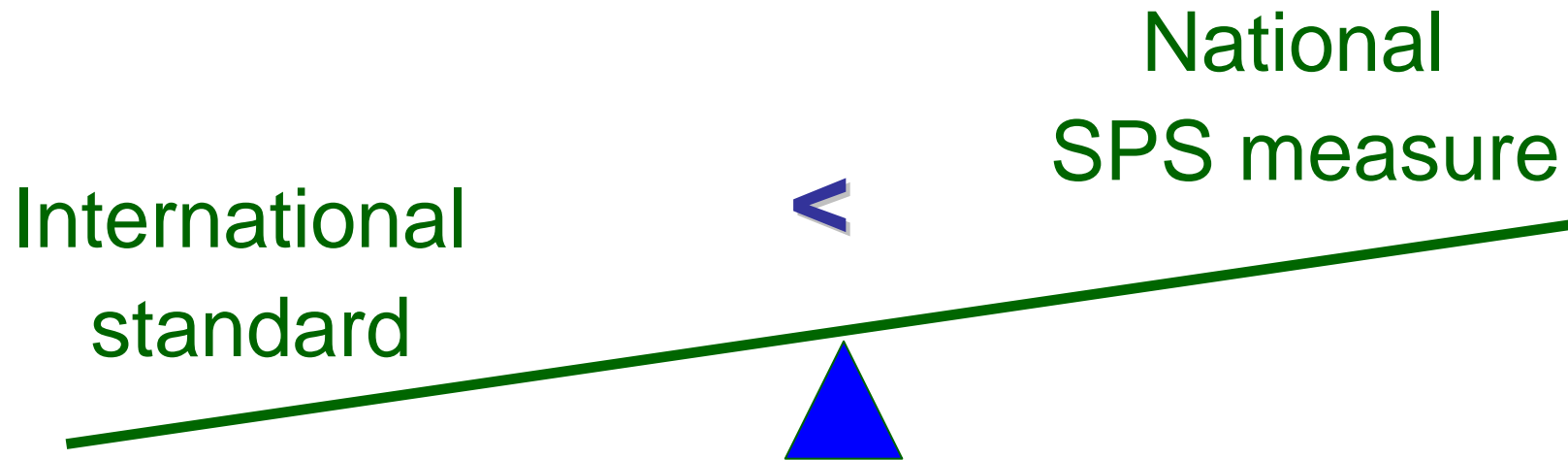


Conformity



Consistency

Harmonization



**Scientific justification OR
as consequence of
appropriate level of protection**



The SPS Committee

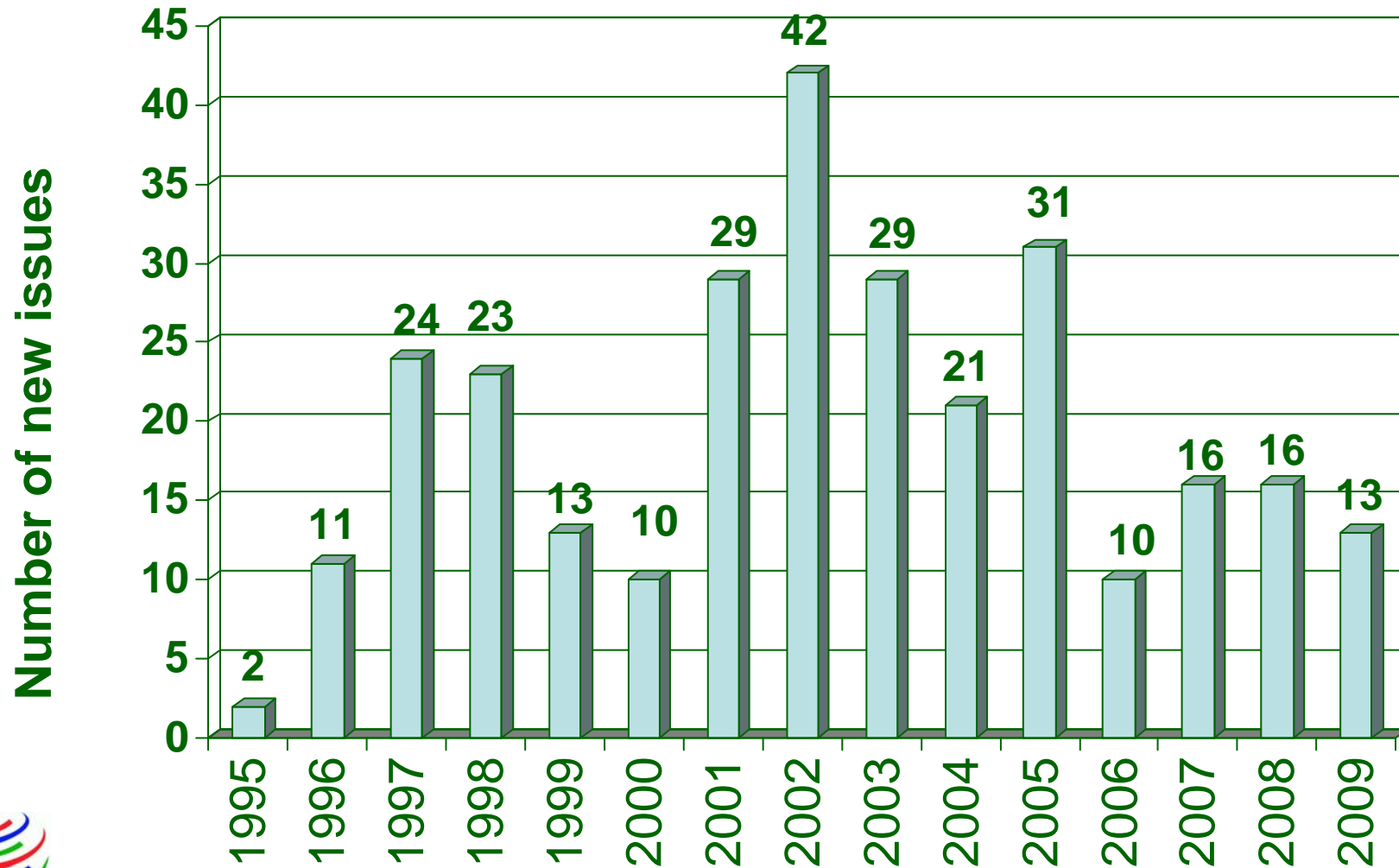
3 regular meetings per year - Geneva

- Implementation of SPS Agreement
- **Specific Trade concerns**
- Potential trade impacts
- Co-operation with technical organizations

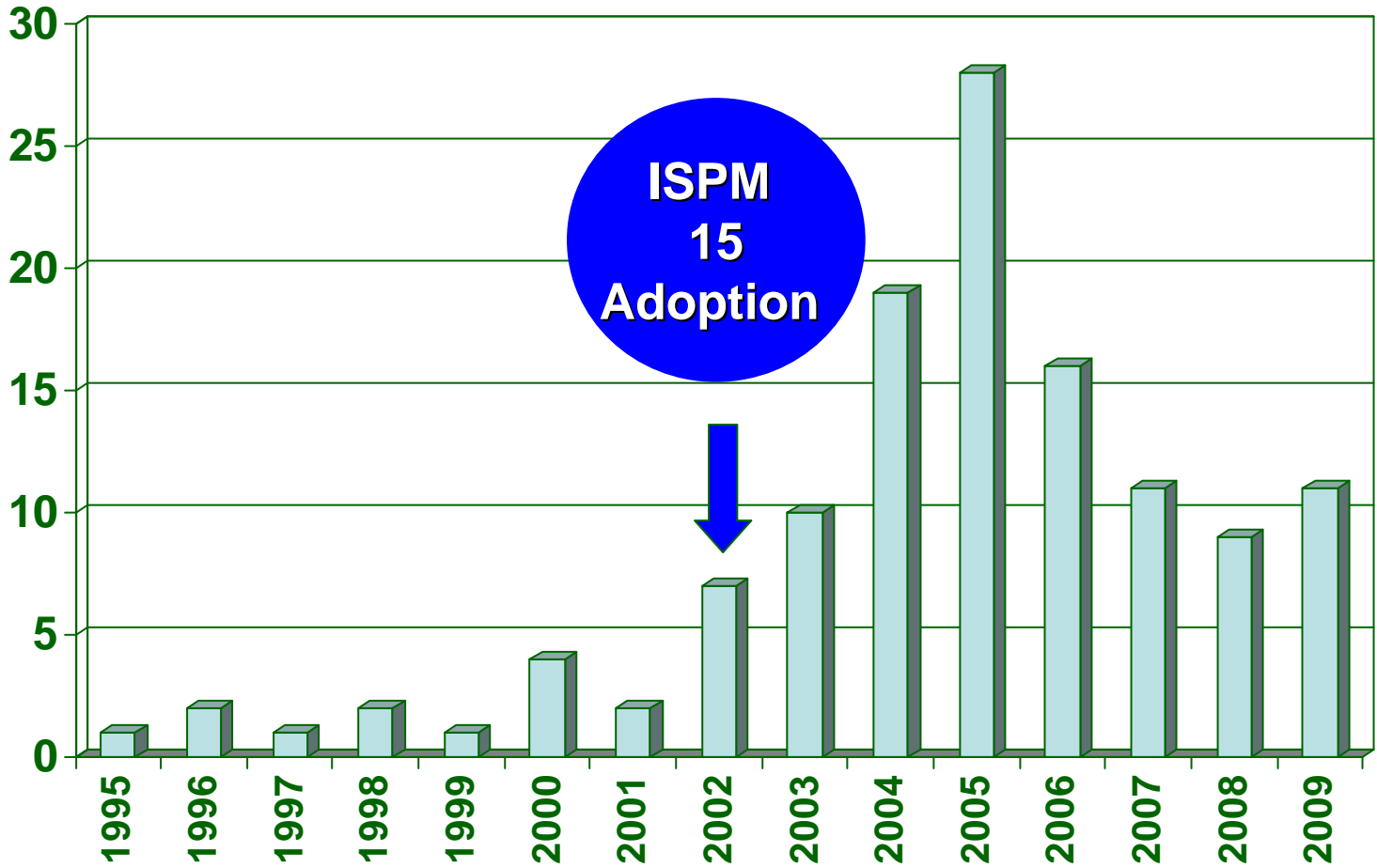


Specific Trade Concerns (1995-2009)

290 Total



Number of annual notifications on wood packaging material



Notifications related to wood packaging material (1995-2009)

Region	# notifications	%
Asia-Pacific	44	31
Africa	3	2
North America	11	8
Latin America and the Caribbean	64	45
Europe and central Asia	16	11
Middle East	3	2
TOTAL (1995-2009)	141	



STCs on ISPM 15



Member maintaining measure	Member raising issue	Summary of concern
China	EU (2002,2003)	Deviation from ISPM 15
EU	Canada & US (2004, 2005, 2006)	Deviation from ISPM 15 (debarking)
Certain Members	Chile and Uruguay (2003, 2004)	Need for time to adapt methods to meet ISPM 15 requirements
US	Argentina (2003, resolved 2006)	Time needed to adapt methods to meet ISPM 15 requirements

