

Response of the Competent Authorities of Bangladesh to the recommendations of Report ref. DG(SANCO) 2013-6815 MR of an audit carried out from 30 January to 07 February 2013 in order to evaluate the system of official controls for export of plants to the European Union.

No.	Recommendations	Action taken by the Competent Authority
1	Staff performing export inspections of plants and plant produce intended for export to the EU are technically qualified, in line with Article 2(1)(i) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC.	An effort has been initiated under the program 'Special program for exportable citrus and vegetables' and 'Strengthening phytosanitary capacity in Bangladesh' to make technically competent the staff performing export inspections of plants and plant produce intended for export to the EU are technically qualified, in line with Article 2(1)(i) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC. There are provisions of training for Quarantine officials for phytosanitary inspections, PRA, operating laboratory equipment etc which will help staff technically qualified. In country training for staff has already been started and outside country training will be started in the next financial year (2013-14).
2	Laboratory technical capacity is available for testing quarantine harmful organisms hosting plants and plant products exported to the EU, in particular citrus diseases, in accordance with points 2.2 and 3.4 of ISPM 7	Under the project 'Strengthening phytosanitary capacity in Bangladesh' there is a provision for procurement of laboratory equipment for testing quarantine harmful organisms hosting plants and plant products exported to the EU, in particular citrus diseases, in accordance with points 2.2 and 3.4 of ISPM 7. The procurement of laboratory equipments will start in the next financial year (2013-14).
3	There are adequate facilities and equipments to enable appropriate inspections to be carried out for regulated plant produce exported to the EU, in line with the relevant additional requirements listed in Annex IV, Part A, Section 1 to Council Directive 2000/29/EC and Section 3.4 of ISPM 7 and Section 1.4 of ISPM 23. This is an outstanding recommendation since 2010.	Efforts were taken by the project 'Strengthening phytosanitary capacity in Bangladesh' to create adequate facilities and procure equipment to enable appropriate inspections to be carried out for regulated plant produce exported to the EU, in line with the relevant additional requirements listed in Annex IV, Part A, Section 1 to Council Directive 2000/29/EC and Section 3.4 of ISPM 7 and Section 1.4 of ISPM 23.
4	Action taken following internal interceptions, in order to review the effectiveness of the export system in accordance with the point 6 of ISPM 7.	Necessary step has been taken to address the internal interceptions in order to review the effectiveness of the export system in accordance with the point 6 of ISPM 7.

