



Experiences in making TBT Notifications in China

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Notification agencies in China

China WTO Notification and Enquiry
Bureau, MOFCOM

Responsible mainly for:

Issues in relation with WTO affairs and
notifications of China

TBT Enquiry Point

China WTO/TBT National Notification and Enquiry Center, AQSIQ

Responsible mainly for:

Issues in relation with TBT notification and enquiry in China

TBT Enquiry Point

Specific work undertaken:

- TBT notifications of China
- comments from other Members on China's TBT notifications
- TBT enquiries from home and abroad
- comments on other TBT notifications
- research work on key TBT issues
- popularization of TBT information
- maintenance of the China TBT-SPS website
- information exchange and international cooperation activities

Mechanism on Coordination among Government Departments

Inter-ministerial Coordination Conference on Technical Measures to Trade

Consisting of 18 ministries

Developed the document:

*Temporary guidance for the notification and enquiry
work on TBT issues*

The notification procedure

- The regulatory agency determines what and when to notify and fill out the notification forms
- Enquiry Point check the notification forms
- Notification Authority review the forms again
- Permanent Mission in Geneva submit the final version to WTO Secretariat

Work with regulatory agencies

Hold seminars

- to discuss the TBT principles
- to explain the requirements of filling in the notification form
- to exchange experiences on notification

Under what condition should a notification be made

- relevant international standard does not exist
- technical content is not in accordance with international standard
- may have significant effect on trade of other Members

When a notification should be made

- At an early appropriate stage, when a draft is available
- Before adoption (being approved by the government department)
- Amendments can still be made and comments can be taken into account

Which committee should a notification be submitted to

Objectives

Protect human or animal or plant life or health from risks arising from pest, diseases, additives, toxins, contaminants, etc.

Yes

SPS

No

Technical regulation or
Conformity assessment procedure

Yes

TBT

Is it an Urgent Notification?

When safety, health, environmental protection or national security problems arise or threaten to arise, upon adoption of new requirements Members shall:

- Notify the measure immediately to the WTO Secretariat, the products covered, the objective and rationale, and nature of urgent problem
- Provide copies of the measure upon request
- Allow reasonable time for Members to comment in writing without discrimination
- Publish or make available adopted measures
- Discuss comments & take them into account

With what format should notification be made

The format is set by the TBT Committee detailed instruction is in G/TBT/1/Rev.8 Section III

We made the Chinese and English bilingual version

How to fill in the notification form

Particular attention should be given to aspects such as:

- as complete as possible
- no item should be left blank
- Final date for comments

(60 days after distribution by the WTO Secretariat)

- Proposed date of adoption (90 days after distribution by the WTO Secretariat)
- Proposed date of entry into force (6 months after adoption)

Technical check for the forms

- Give a serial number for new notification
- Examine if each item of the Chinese form is filled out appropriately
- Consult with regulatory agency to make necessary modifications
- Review whether the Chinese form is translated accurately into English
- Confirm by regulatory agency of the final version
- Make a dossier (include the original and final form, the full text of the document and the record of the process)

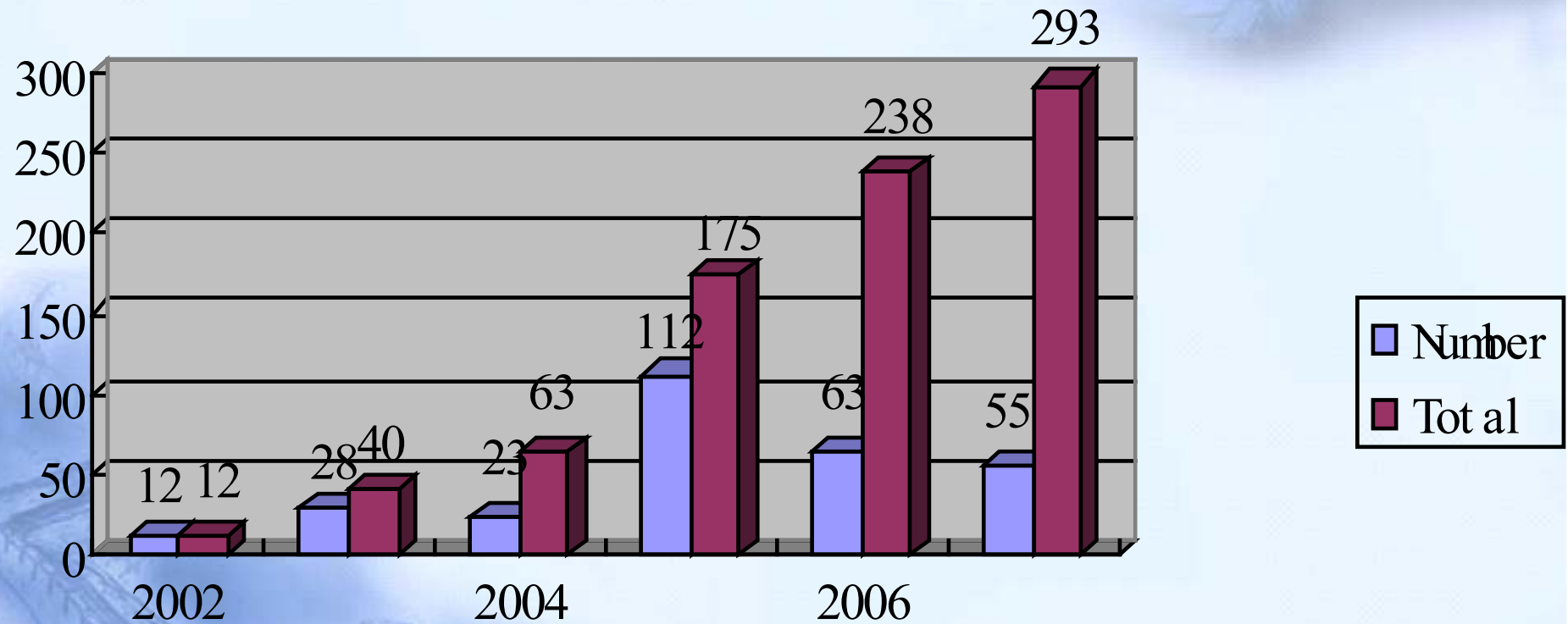
After notification circulated

- Upload the notification information on website: <http://www.tbt-sps.gov.cn>
- Upon request, provide the full text in PDF format
- Consult with regulatory agency to answer request for prolonging comment period

Deal with comments

- Receive comments from other WTO Members
- Translate into Chinese if possible, then pass to regulatory agency
- Regulatory agency prepare the reply in Chinese and English
- Review the translation version
- Submit the reply to relevant Member

TBT Notifications by China



Thank you

