

- **Food:** New food-related discussions involved organic products as well as apples. Concerns included the limitation of entry points for apples into India (already discussed in other WTO committees) and an EU decision to withdraw “equivalence” recognition of Indian organic products (already discussed in the [SPS Committee](#)). “Equivalence” refers to governments recognizing other countries’ measures as acceptable even if they are different from their own, so long as an equivalent level of protection is provided. With respect to India’s decision to limit the entry of apples to the port of Nhava Sheva, some delegations argued that this would increase delays and create additional costs for producers and exporters. India stated that this measure was neither a technical regulation, standard nor conformity assessment procedure, and therefore did not fall within the scope of application of the TBT Agreement. Regarding the EU decision to no longer recognize equivalence of India’s organic products, India was of the view that this measure was overly burdensome for producers and would

hinder trade with the EU. The EU in turn argued that India had not satisfied provisions contained in the bilateral agreement which recognized such equivalence.