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## Russian Federation

### Trade Policy Monitoring

### Changes in Russia's Inspection and Customs Systems

### 2005

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**Report Highlights:**

Government officials provided additional details and perspective on changes in Russia's sanitary and phytosanitary inspection regime and customs services at the second annual "Agricultural and Food Market 2005" conference.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Moscow [RS1]  
[RS]

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## Executive Summary

Russia's sanitary and phytosanitary inspection services are undergoing structural changes that could affect trade. The head of the Veterinary Directorate of Russia's Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (VPSS), Dr. Ivan Rozhdestvenskiy, updated participants about the Service's status during his remarks at the second annual "Agricultural and Food Market 2005" conference. Additionally, Dr. Zoya Kireshina of the Federal Customs Service informed participants about changes in customs regulations and grain inspection procedures. For further background, please see GAIN reports RS5017 and RS4066.

### Dr. Rozhdestvenskiy's Comments

According to Dr. Rozhdestvenskiy, 75 territorial surveillance offices will be formed during VPSS reorganization, and the process of liquidating the former offices and transforming the new Service is well underway. As part of this process, Russia's legal and regulatory systems need to be adjusted, including finalizing amendments to federal laws on veterinary control, seed reproduction, quarantine, and food quality and safety. Later, Dr. Rozhdestvenskiy commented that the integration of State Grain Inspection Service (SGI) into the VPSS is still under consideration, but only after a special GOR resolution is finalized can the new regulatory documents allowing the integration of the SGI into the VPSS be discussed.

### Ms. Kireshina's Comments

#### Federal Customs Service

Ms. Zoya Kireshina of the Federal Customs Service commented that her organization has already concluded an agreement with the Ministry of Health and Social Development's Federal Service for Protection of Consumers Rights and Well-Being (RosPotrebNadzor) and Federal Service for Surveillance for Health and Social Development (RosZdravNadzor) on the timely exchange of information on certification of shipments between government offices. Similar agreements are under consideration with the VPSS and several other agencies.

#### Grain Inspection

Regarding grain inspection certificates, Dr. Kireshina remarked that these documents are still required by Customs per article 7 of the Federal Law on Grain. If these documents are not submitted to Customs, the cargo can be cleared "conditionally." However, the timeframe for "conditional clearance" is limited to 45 days.