CITES: Traceability for regulatory control
Characteristics of private sector traceability systems:

- Objective: Who, What, When, Where
- Highly automated environment
- Participation on a voluntary basis
- Business to Business transactions
- No Government agencies, regulators, borders

Database of events

Fisherman → Processor → Retailer

**Nixe Hering (04020500062953)**
Lot: APP300000
Date of manufacturing: 05.11.2013
Company: Norda Fisch Feinkost
Best before: 31.12.2017

**Hering RAW (04054739999674)**
Lot: L20131105
Catch: 05.11.2013
Area: Norwegian Sea
Category: Net
Shipname: Titanic
Harbour: Büsum
Traceability for CITES

CITES traceability involves regulatory control and government agencies

That raises a number of issues:

- **Objective**: Tracing for what?
- **Governance**: Who will operate the system and on what rules?
- **Funding**: Who will pay and why?
- **Small Stakeholders**: Integration or discrimination?
- **Tracing what**: Item, batch, mass balance,..
- **Standards**: Which standards and technology to use?

⇒ Need for a CITES Working Group on Traceability
Mandate from the Conference of Parties

CoP Decision 17.152 to 17.155 on traceability:

Establish a CITES Working Group on Traceability to

- Develop a definition of “traceability” for the CITES context
- Develop and recommend standards, guidelines and best practice for CITES traceability systems
- Ensure compatibility with CITES electronic permits and relevant international standards
- Encourage Parties to implement traceability systems that are standardized, complementary and mutually supportive
- Prepare a resolution on traceability if required

Work in progress or completed:

- ✔ Report of the Secretariat: SC69 Doc.42
- ✔ Web portal on traceability: https://cites.org/eng/prog/Cross-cutting_issues/traceability
- ✔ Consultancy of the UNCTAD Biotrade Initiative in support of the Working Group
- ❓ 1st meeting of the Working Group on Thursday, 30 Nov, 18:30 to 19:50 Room 5
UNCTAD Consultancy to support CITES traceability

Funded under the UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative and supported by the WG Chairs and the Secretariat

Contract awarded to Synthesa

Four discussion paper on main topics of the work programme

- Review of CITES traceability efforts
- Definition of traceability adapted to the CITES context
- Best practice for planning traceability systems
- Review of technical standards for traceability

Workflow and delivery

- Papers prepared with guidance by the Chairs and the Secretariat
- Presented and discussed with the WG
- Working Group on traceability to revise & further develop for SC and CoP
Thank you!

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