The role of NTM within a region: Strengthening regional cooperation and deep integration for sustainable development

by

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**Aim:** to achieve a market and regulatory environment supportive of trade that avoids disruptions in the international trade of grain, oilseeds, pulses and derived products.
25 member associations, around 8000 businesses in over 80 countries

NAEGA, NCGA, NGFA, USGC, USW, CRA, USSEC

CGC

GAFTA

UGA

Geneva, Switzerland

COCERAL

Eastern Africa Grain Council

Associate member: RGU

CNFA, CNAGS, CGBA

GTA

Associate members: SOPA, SEA

APPAMEX
Associate member: ANIAME

CAPECO

CIARA-CEC

SACOTA
Features of the global grain trade

- Well developed and highly globalised
- Large, growing and increasingly complex
- Utilises sophisticated infrastructure and processes to provide safe, cost effective, reliable supply
- Moves product in high volumes with interchangeability of commodity, transportation, handling and infrastructure
- Constant improvement and innovation
Digitization of grain trade documents

**Examples:**
- Commodity Contracts – Multiple in-house systems
- Shipping Documents
  - Bills of Lading – Vessel Owner/Agent
  - Certificates Quality/Quantity
  - Certificate of Origin
  - Phytos – Govt. Dept.
- And list goes on.....

- Only a portion of this is captured electronically but there is a track record of successes and support.

- **Limitations are sometimes institutional (Banking, Shipping, Regulatory)** resulting in some reluctance to champion technology and support “paperless” transactions.
Benefits of electronic documentation

Importers

Early arrival of electronic paperwork
assisting rapid and uninterrupted discharge of
grain

Potential to reduce demurrage costs
Visibility of transactions to assist inventory
planning

Removal of the need to use Letters of
Indemnity to allow discharge of goods

Exporters

Savings:
Time – reduced end to end transaction time
Costs – reduced time means faster payment
Costs – reduced resources and effort to
supply original and any re-worked documents

Security & Risk:
Eliminates risk of loss of documents
Eliminates risk of fraud
Reduces risk of non payment
Improved quality & integrity of data

Efficiency:
No paper documents to process, manage,
track, send and archive
Reporting capability
What is an ePhyto?

NOT a paper certificate

NOT a scan of a paper certificate

Electronic equivalent of a paper phytosanitary certificate

Standardized XML schema (structure)
The ePhyto Solution

The IPPC ePhyto Solution aims at supporting the exchange of ePhytos between National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs).

The ePhyto Solution is designed to significantly improve security, border efficiency, and global coverage, making the movement of goods across borders safer, faster, and cheaper.
How does the ePhyto work?

**Example of ePhyto Process**

1. NPPO of the exporting country creates electronic certificate on generic system.
2. System places certificate in envelope.
3. Message delivered to hub.
4. Message stored at hub until delivered.
5. NPPO retrieves message or hub sends message to NPPO.
6. NPPO authenticated.
7. NPPO of the importing country reads certificate.
Status of ePhytos Worldwide

This map is updated on a monthly basis. Last update: August 2019
Global uptake of ePhyto (from August/September 2019 IPPC report)

Countries registered or in the testing environment: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, South Africa, Sri Lanka, UK, USA

Countries in full exchange mode: Argentina, Chile, Ghana, Netherlands, New Zealand, Samoa, USA
The ePhyto Solution and involvement of industry

• The ePhyto Industry Advisory Group (IAG) has been established to provide **practical guidance and advice** to the IPPC Secretariat on the design, development and deployment of an ePhyto Solution

• The IAG will also advise the IPPC Secretariat on the feasibility of the project and its ability to facilitate efficient and effective trade flows.
Industry Advisory Group: unique issues

Grain  shiploads, high logistic costs
Seeds  re-exports and long storage
Fruits  perishable goods
Wood  variation in origins and purposes, re-export
Potato  import restrictions
Flowers  perishable goods, limited use period
Communication is key: industry, NPPOs, governments

In order to plan for case studies, the grain trade needs to know **which countries are ready to send and receive ePhytos, and when**

Today, information about the “readiness” of countries is obtained from:

- National government contacts
- IPPC
- The IPPC “dashboard” (screenshot, left)

https://hub.ephysotexchange.org/AdminConsole/index.html?#nppolist
Communication is key: industry, NPPOs, governments

- IPPC education materials are useful and help to keep industry informed: Fact sheets, guides, PowerPoints, meeting reports

- Industry Advisory Group (IAG) is committed to mobilize the private sector to support as appropriate
Thank you

IGTC seeks partnership with governmental bodies and other international interest groups.

For-profit entities supporting IGTC are welcome to be identified as IGTC Corporate Stakeholders and help guide our work. Trade Associations and Councils working to support international trade of grains, oilseeds, pulses and other agri-bulks are welcome to apply for IGTC.

COCERAL is the EU Association member of IGTC.

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