



Electronic certification and the IPPC

IPPC Secretariat

FAO

Rome





Background

Share some thoughts on electronic certification

Structure

- IPPC position
- benefits and risks
- implementation
- future course

Concentrating on challenges

Bias for developing country needs



Position on electronic certification

IPPC: currently no position

EWG

- ✓ work programme but no funding

CPM

- ✓ interested
- ✓ no consensus
- ✓ CPM 5 (2010)



What is electronic certification?

No common understanding

- ✓ continuum to printed certificates
- ✓ sometimes handwritten
- ✓ sometimes online
- ✓ to exchange of messages between secure websites

Need advocacy

- ✓ process
- ✓ implications
- ✓ who is involved?

Benefits

Reduce costs

Improve use of resources

Increase efficiency

**Reduce fraud / secure
system**

Improve planning





Risks

Imbalance

Infrastructure

- hardware
- connectivity

Maintenance

- hardware
- programming

Resources

- financial
- human

Security

- increasingly insecure?



When?

Agreement that it is needed

- trading countries
- timing

Implementation:

- developed c = now!
- developing c = future

Bilateral

Variable

- systems
- processes
- success
- sustainability



Challenges

XML standard

IT infrastructure

IT programming capacity

Unsustainable

- taking resources away from other essential services

Not a national priority

- many other higher capacity building needs first



National priorities

National capacity building strategy & priorities

Electronic certification

- pushed by trading partner and aid
- industry

Results

- national system often does not have a solid foundation
- reduced resources for other activities initially
- dependency on partner



Requests

Pragmatic

- part of a national system with appropriate capacity
- desktop or web based i.e. not mainframe
- open source
- locally supportable

DB for inspectors and signatures = 1st priority



IPPC and certification now

Report of 2005 WG but no budget to follow up

ISPM 12 revision

CPM 5 (2009) discussion

Bilateral development



Possible future role of IPPC and certification

“Guarantor” of interoperability

- XML “standard” based on UN-CEFACT guidelines

Should IPPC run a system (like Galileo)?

Facilitating discussion with developed-developing countries

Providing guidance to contracting parties



IPPC Secretariat

AGPP – FAO

**Viale delle Terme di Caracalla,
00153 Rome, Italy.**

Tel: +39-06-5705-4812

Fax: +39-06-5705-4819

E-mail: IPPC@fao.org