



Overview of Appendix 1 to ISPM 12

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Appendix 1 - Purpose and Scope

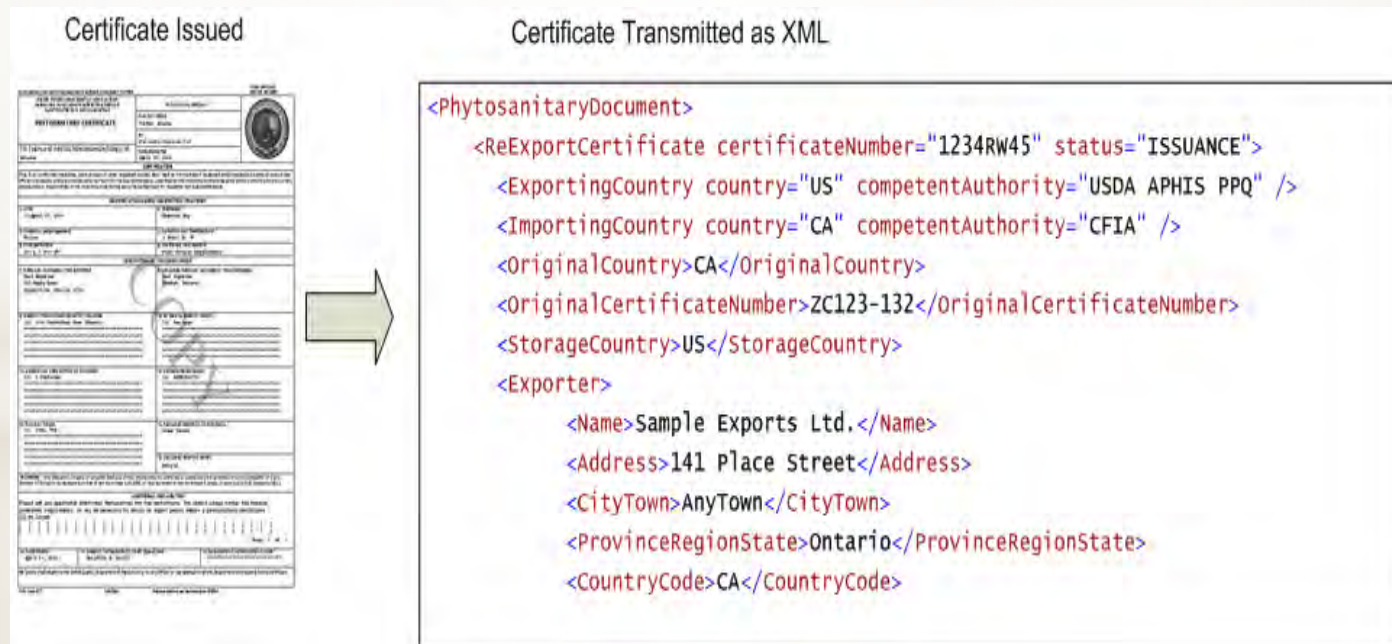
- Appendix 1 to ISPM 12 is a document that describes the format and the contents of electronic phytosanitary certificates (ePhytos) and their exchange between NPPOs
- Appendix 1 is a critical component to develop and ensure harmonization in the use of ePhyto



Whether the certificate arrives on paper or through ePhtyo it is essentially the same message. All of the requirements in ISPM 12 also apply to electronic phytosanitary certificates.

Format of the message

XML or Extensible Markup Language is a standard format for organizing and describing data.



Structure of the Message

- The XML message structure is based on the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) XML schema
- UN/CEFACT is an organization that creates international Electronic Data Interchange standards for electronic trade documents in XML format

Content of the message

- Countries are encouraged to use standardized (harmonized) terms, codes and text
- Free text should be kept to a minimum

Security

- NPPOs are responsible for the security of their national information technology (IT) system used for generating electronic phytosanitary certificates
- During transmission, the data should be encrypted



Re-exports

1. When both the certificate for export and the certificate for re-export are in electronic form, the original should be attached electronically
2. When the original certificate for export is in paper form and the certificate for re-export is in electronic form, a scan of the original certificate for export (in PDF or other non-editable format) should be attached
3. When the original certificate for export is in electronic form and the certificate for re-export is in paper form, the electronic certificate for export should be printed and validated by the NPPO of the country of re-export by stamping, dating and countersigning

Management of Electronic Phytosanitary Certificates Issued by NPPOs

The Appendix includes mechanisms to cope with

1. Retrieval issues
2. Alteration and replacement
3. Cancellations
4. Certified copies

Final Thoughts

Appendix 1 provides standards for ePhyto exchange ensuring NPPOs will develop systems and mechanisms that can be applied with all countries

We are hoping to achieve consistency. The use of ISPM 12 helps move us towards that goal

Many of the items touched on will be covered in detail later today



DISCUSSION

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