



CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY AGENCY

RPPO Report

42nd NAPPO Annual Meeting **22-25 October 2018**

*CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD
SAFETY AGENCY (CAHFSA)*



OVERVIEW

Background



Programme of work



Highlights



Emerging issues and Challenges



1. Background CARICOM

- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is a grouping of **twenty countries**:





Background



15 MEMBER STATES: Antigua and Barbuda. Barbados. Belize. Dominica. Grenada. Guyana. Haiti. Jamaica. Montserrat. Saint Lucia. St Kitts and Nevis. St Vincent and the Grenadines. Suriname. Trinidad and Tobago.

5 ASSOCIATE MS: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands





- The region is home approximately 16 million citizens, 60% of whom are under the age of 30,
- From the main ethnic groups of Indigenous Peoples, Africans, Indians, Europeans, Chinese, Portuguese and Javanese.



Languages

- English, Dutch, French and variations of these, as well as African and Asian expressions
- **Official Language is English**
- French and Dutch as official language
- Spanish as working language
- **Caribbean Community (English)**
- Communauté Caribéenne (French)
- Caribische Gemeenschap (Dutch)
- *Comunidad del Caribe* (Spanish)



Background CAHFSA

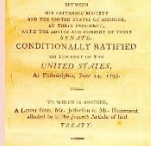
Mandate CAHFSA was established to perform a coordinating and organizing role in the **establishment of an effective and efficient regional sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regime** and to execute SPS actions and activities that can be more effectively and efficiently **executed through a regional mechanism.**

*Within this framework, the Agency was to **replace the defunct Caribbean Plant Protection Commission***

Recognized as the 10th Regional Plant Protection Organization during CPM-13



Background 4_ Legal Instruments



Revised Treaty of Chagaramas (Articles 57 and 74).



Revised Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA): **February 25, 2011;**

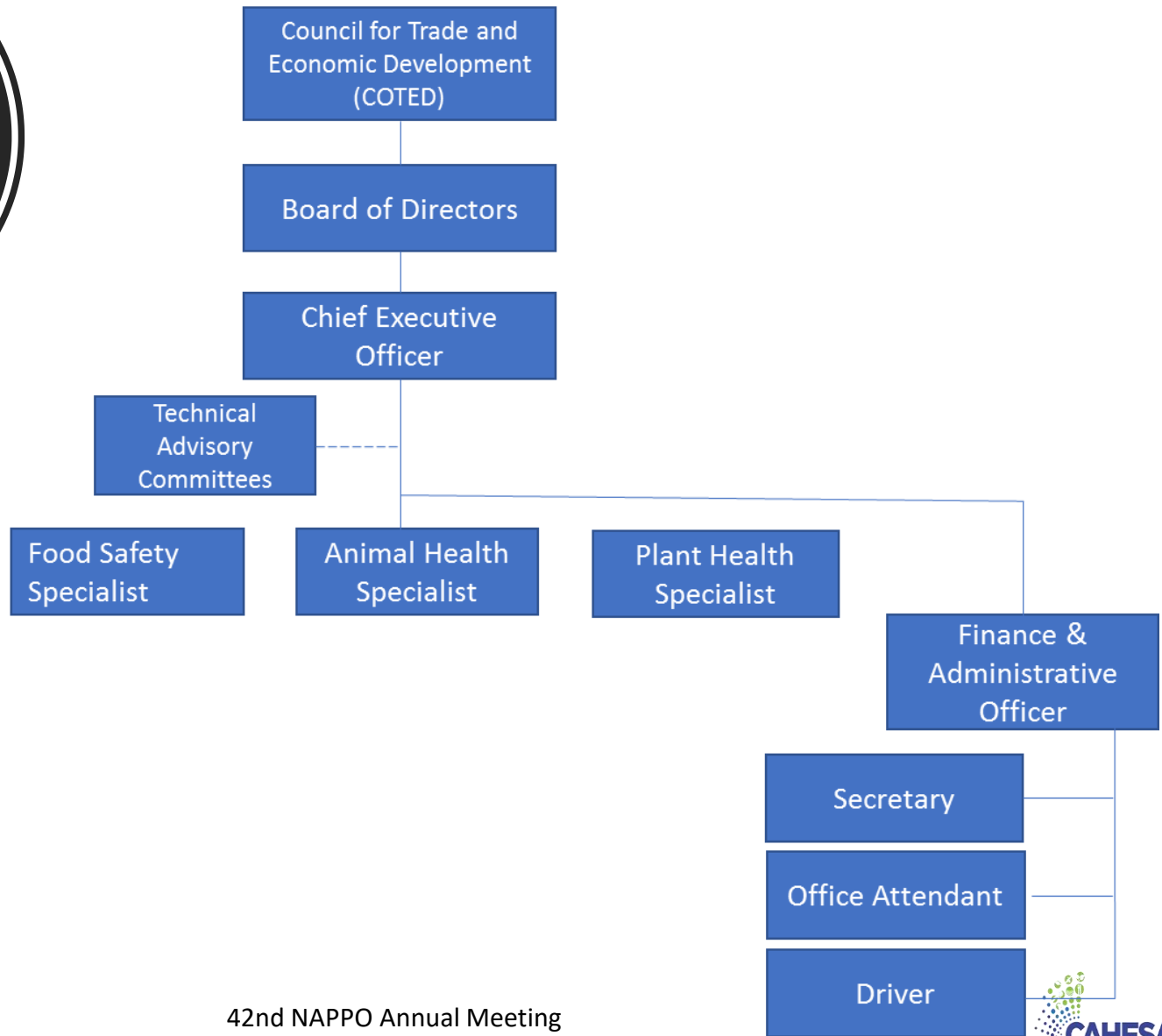


Original Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency: **March 12: 2010**



CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY AGENCY

Organizational Structure



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Thematic Areas

Research and Human Resource
Development

Climate Change and Natural Resources
Management

Business Development

Agricultural Health and Food Safety



THREE MAIN AREAS



ANIMAL HEALTH



FOOD SAFETY



PLANT HEALTH



MAIN AREAS OF FOCUS





Highlights

Two Plant Health Guidelines have been completed and three Animal Health protocols are in the developmental stage.

A draft specification for cassava flour has been developed and is in the final stage of the regional adoption process

Coordinated regional risk assessment for the trade in animal products and now six Member States have received approval from COTED to export pork and poultry products to regional markets



Highlights

- **Development of Web based data bases for dissemination of SPS related information**
 - List of pesticides registered by CARICOM Member States
 - Risk analyses completed
 - Regionally regulated pests
 - Regional trade issues,
 - Import and export requirements of the Member States
 - Food safety, animal and plant health practitioners in the region



Highlights

Regional collaboration

- FAO (Projects through LOA)
- Caribbean Plant Health Directors Forum
- Coordinating Group of Pesticide Control Boards



Highlights

International Cooperation

- Commission on Phytosanitary Measure /TC-RPPO
- Observer to
 - Codex Alimentarius Commission
 - World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
 - WTO-SPS Committee



Highlights

International Cooperation

- International Atomic Energy Agency
 - Technical cooperation programmes
 - Regional projects
 - Practical arrangement

5. Major Challenge

Lack of Economies of Scale

The Caribbean Region comprises small developing and least developed countries with populations as small as 5000 persons.

*In most cases the agricultural sector is very small (approx. 0.1% GDP) and **dimension of the sector cannot justify or support the level of investment necessary for a effective phytosanitary system.***

Very limited resources are channeled into other areas.



Opportunities



- *Caribbean is also a very intimate community. Many islands are close together, some with free movement of people.*
- *This provides an opportunity to regionalize some phytosanitary services.*
- *Opportunity to engage each other on a regional level to offset constraints faced domestically.*



Opportunities

- *Very Good neighbours and an entire “village” willing to provide assistance*





Thank
You

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