

# Integrating National Documentation Relevant to the SPS Agreement into IPFSAPH

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## A practical guide



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## Note

This document is a draft version. Please note there might be changes to the appearance and content of the final version.

This document will also undergo copy-editing before finalisation.

## Contact IPFSAPH

Email: [IPFSAPH-Helpdesk@fao.org](mailto:IPFSAPH-Helpdesk@fao.org)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN  
Room B-729bis  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome  
Italy

## Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	3
Background to IPFSAPH .....	4
1. What are some of the key benefits of providing national SPS relevant documentation?.....	4
2. How can national documentation be included in the Portal?.....	6
2.1 Option A - Existing official national website(s) with SPS relevant information exists, but without metadata applied .....	6
2.2 Option B - Existing official national website(s) with SPS relevant information exists, with metadata applied .....	9
2.3 Option C - No official national website exists, but SPS relevant information is available to be uploaded directly into the Portal .....	13
3. Can IPFSAPH's data be accessed to feed national portals?.....	25
4. Glossary .....	26
5. Annexes - Metadata Reference Tables .....	27

## Background to IPFSAPH

The international food and agricultural trading environment is both complex and continually evolving. Rapid access to a wide range of official information such as legislation, notifications, regulations, scientific evaluations, standards and other supporting information is essential to ensure informed policy decisions, and to both prepare and comply with relevant international and national regulations or measures.

Since 2003 the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has led an interagency initiative with the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Codex Alimentarius, the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and other international bodies to develop and maintain an international internet-based information system – the International Portal on Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health (IPFSAPH) – which includes:

“...science-based information and data and/or decisions and guidelines of an intergovernmental nature, as well as any *national official data and information* on food safety, animal and plant health.”<sup>1</sup>

The fundamental purpose of IPFSAPH is to facilitate trade in food and agricultural products and support the implementation of the WTO’s [Sanitary and Phytosanitary \(SPS\) Agreement](#). The Portal achieves this by allowing users to search for current standards, regulations and other official materials relevant to the SPS Agreement, across the sectors of food safety, animal and plant health from a single access point: [www.ipfsaph.org](http://www.ipfsaph.org).

To date (December 2007) the Portal contains information from over 45 separate sources, totalling nearly 35,000 records. Data is constantly monitored and updated regularly, and new datasets are added as they become available.

### 1. What are some of the key benefits of providing national SPS relevant documentation?

Both exporting and importing countries stand to benefit from making national standards, guidelines, regulations and other official information accessible through the Portal and, conversely, by being able to access official information from trading partners.

Increased transparency and easy access to import standards and procedures should help reduce the effort and expense required to monitor and control trade at national points of entry. Access to official standards and related information of exporting countries helps improve the ability to determine which shipments most require inspection, and which are more likely to meet national import standards.

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<sup>1</sup> Report of the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Agriculture, FAO, Rome, April 2003. Emphasis added.

Furthermore, by ensuring up-to-date national information is made available through the Portal, countries are able to demonstrate both good governance and adherence to WTO transparency obligations to their trading partners, helping to build relationships based on mutual trust and confidence. Through this kind of information sharing mechanism key trading partners clearly understand the measures a government is taking to address SPS issues and meet its obligations, and can act accordingly.

An additional useful benefit of integrating national SPS related information into the Portal is that the process of identifying materials for inclusion effectively entails a 'gap analysis', and hitherto unnoticed or unforeseen issues in a country's regulatory framework may well be highlighted, such as:

- Overlaps in which agency is responsible for which sector;
- A lack of clear coordination between national agencies as to who is responsible for publishing SPS related information;
- Whether core documents and texts are up-to-date and accurate;
- Highlighting insufficient capacity within responsible authorities to address SPS issues (e.g. Ministry of Agriculture or Rural Affairs; Ministry of Health; Standards Bureau; Biosecurity agency(ies); institutions engaged in risk analysis etc.).

Furthermore, this process links well with FAO's recently developed methodology on assessing biosecurity capacity needs. FAO's new Biosecurity Toolkit<sup>2</sup> sets out guidance to develop and implement national biosecurity frameworks, comprising:

- Biosecurity Principles and Components (Part 1): provides a broad introduction to biosecurity, and discusses the characteristics, requirements and benefits of a more harmonized approach.
- Guide to Assess Biosecurity Capacity (Part 2): outlines a guided process to assess capacity needs across the entire biosecurity arena.
- An Overview and Framework Manual for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (Part 3): presents a framework to structure and guide the application of risk analysis (encompassing risk assessment, risk management and risk communication) in biosecurity.

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<sup>2</sup> To be published in English, French and Spanish in January 2008.

## 2. How can national documentation be included in the Portal?

Countries can actively participate by making their own guidelines, legislation, regulations, standards or other official information available to the Portal.

All information provided to the Portal needs to be 'described' in a uniform manner (i.e. tagged with the appropriate keywords) to both improve searchability and ensure that accurate comparison of information deriving from various sources is possible within the IPFSAPH system.

There are essentially three options through which national SPS relevant information can be made available to the Portal:

### Option A

Existing official national website(s) with SPS relevant information exists, but without metadata applied

### Option B

Existing official national website(s) with SPS relevant information exists, with metadata applied

### Option C

No official national website exists, but SPS relevant information is available to be uploaded directly into the Portal

### 2.1 Option A - Existing official national website(s) with SPS relevant information exists, but without metadata applied

In situations where responsible national authorities have already taken action to publicise national SPS related information on the Internet, via one or more national websites, it could be useful to make this information available through the Portal. However, in this scenario, the website(s) in question has not been created using any metadata information.<sup>3</sup>

Until the website and associated pages have had IPFSAPH defined metadata included they cannot be correctly indexed and cross-referenced by the Portal. Therefore, in order to ensure the information is suitable for publication through the Portal the responsible national authority needs to add IPFSAPH defined metadata to the website, according to IPFSAPH's four main information 'views'<sup>4</sup>:

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<sup>3</sup> Metadata is, quite simply, data about data. In the case of IPFSAPH, metadata includes information on commodity, cross-sectoral issue, information type, information source and country. Please refer to the Glossary for a fuller definition of this term, and IPFSAPH's information 'views', as well as the Annex containing IPFSAPH's Metadata Reference Tables.

<sup>4</sup> Refer to the Glossary for a definition of these 'views'.

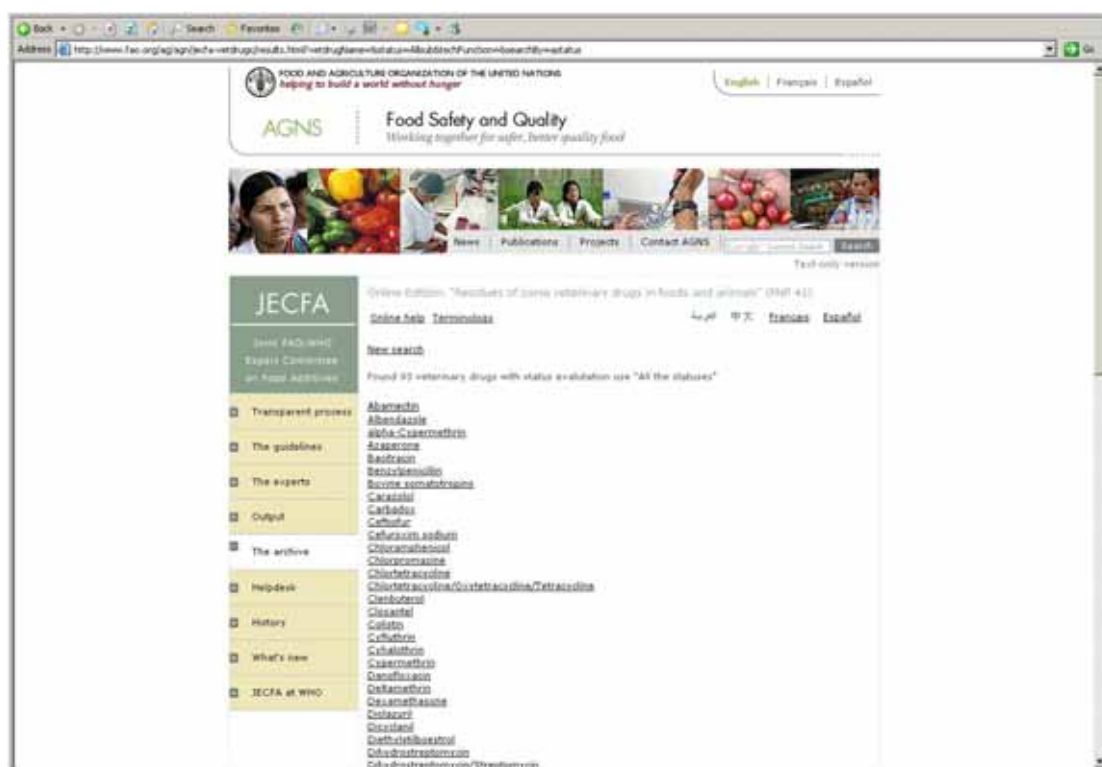
- Commodity
- Country
- Cross-sectoral issue
- Information type

Once this process is complete, URL(s) of the appropriate website/web pages should be sent to the Portal so that they can be queried by IPFSAPH at regular intervals to extract information for upload into the Portal. This process is sometimes known as ‘**screen scraping**’ or ‘HTML scraping’.

Screen scraping is a technique by which a computer programme extracts data from the display output of another programme. The key element that distinguishes screen scraping from regular parsing (i.e. Option B, below) is that the output being ‘scraped’ was originally intended for final display to a human user rather than as input to another programme, and is therefore usually neither documented nor structured for convenient parsing. Screen scraping often involves ignoring binary data (e.g. images or multimedia data) and formatting elements that would obscure the essential, desired textual data. An example for the purposes of illustration is outlined below.

*Screenshot A1:*

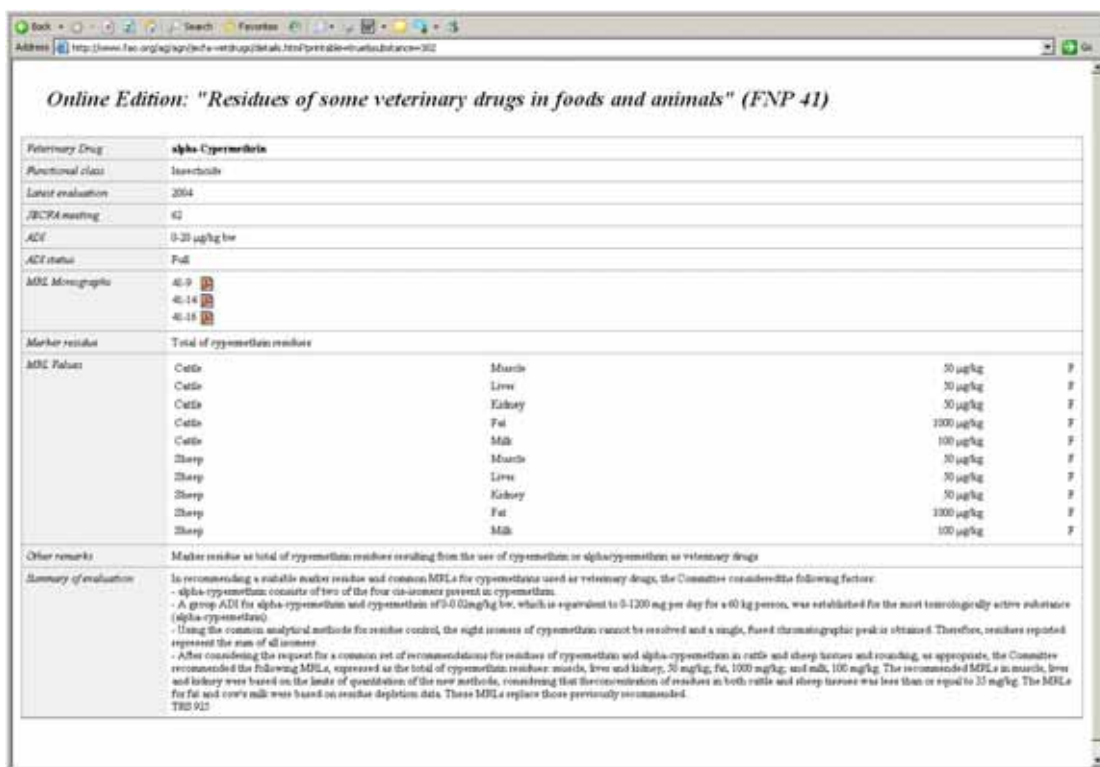
Sample SPS relevant veterinary drug residue information as it appears on the publicly accessible Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) website.



Next, the individual webpage links that appear on this page (i.e. each veterinary drug residue) are queried by the Portal to display the printer friendly HTML output.

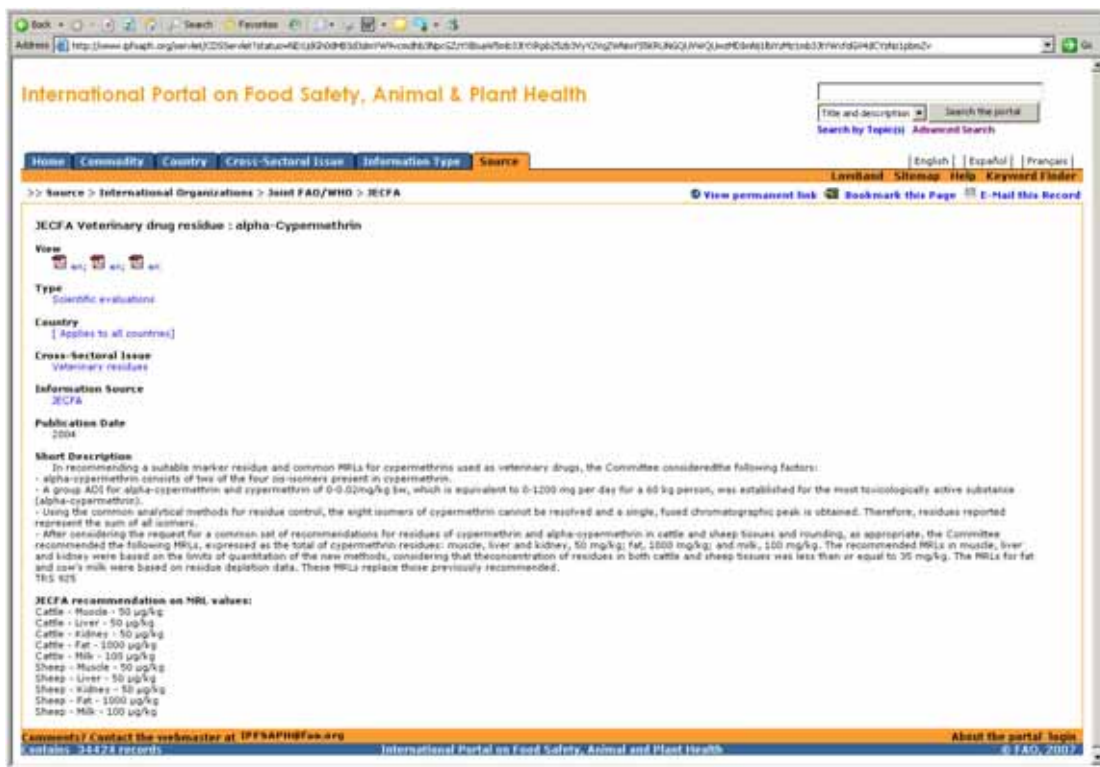
**Screenshot A2:**

From the HTML output view below, the textual information required is ‘scraped’, mapped to the Portal’s metadata keywords and converted into an information record for the Portal.



**Screenshot A3:**

Sample record, as displayed by the Portal.





## 2.2 Option B - Existing official national website(s) with SPS relevant information exists, with metadata applied

In this case, a country has already created one or more official websites with relevant national SPS material. In addition, all relevant information on the website(s) has already been tagged with metadata keywords.

This scenario probably indicates that an underlying database (or databases) containing SPS related information has already been established and is being maintained. Nonetheless, it is unlikely that the metadata used at the national level is *exactly* the same as the IPFSAPH defined metadata.

Therefore, so that the national source information can be correctly indexed and cross-referenced by the Portal, the responsible national authority needs to **map its metadata** to the Portal's metadata.

Mapping essentially means matching one system's Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) reference to another system's URI reference. For example, as the screenshot below indicates the IPFSAPH reference 'Invasive-Alien-Species' would, for example, be mapped to its WTO equivalent 'Invasive Species'.<sup>5</sup>

Portal URI	WTO SPS URI - ENGLISH	WTO SPS URI - FRENCH	WTO SPS URI - SPANISH
1. Invasive	Alienness	Aliénation	Alienación
2. Invasive impact	Adaptation	Adaptation	Adaptación
3. Invasive	Animal disease	Maladies des animaux	Enfermedades animales
4. Animal dead	Animal feed	Aliments pour animaux	Alimentación animal
5. Invasive impact	Animal health	Santé des animaux	Salud animal
6. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
7. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
8. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
9. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
10. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
11. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
12. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
13. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
14. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
15. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
16. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
17. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
18. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
19. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
20. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
21. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
22. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
23. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
24. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
25. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
26. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
27. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
28. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
29. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
30. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
31. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
32. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
33. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
34. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
35. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
36. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
37. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
38. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
39. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
40. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
41. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
42. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
43. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
44. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
45. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
46. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
47. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
48. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales
49. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar animal
50. Invasive impact	Animal welfare	Bien-être des animaux	Bienestar de los animales

<sup>5</sup> Please also refer to the Annex containing IPFSAPH's Metadata Reference Tables, included at the end of this guide.

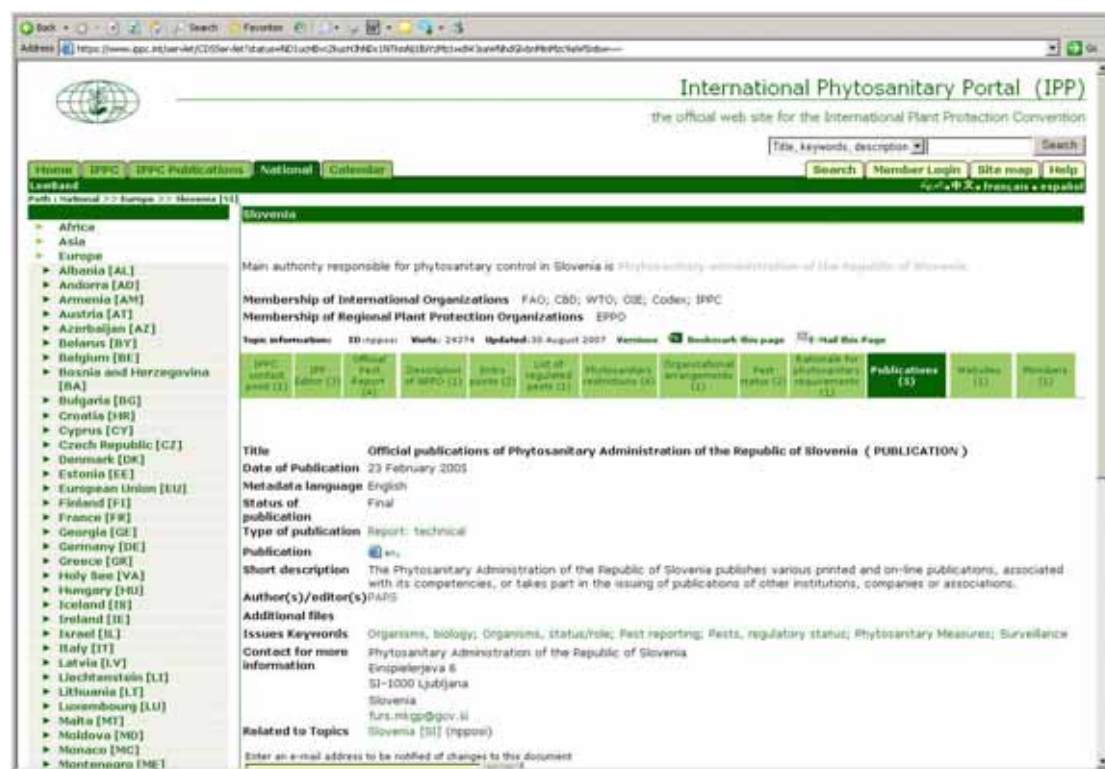
Once this process is complete, the Portal can be provided with a HTTP-based URL (containing certain predefined search parameters) which is then queried by IPFSAPH at regular intervals to extract the SPS relevant data for upload into the Portal.

Ideally, requesting this HTTP-based URL will return query results exported in XML format so that the Portal can easily integrate the data into its underlying, XML-based, data management system. This is also known as a 'Web Service' arrangement, which can be defined as a software system designed to support interoperable machine to machine interaction over a network.<sup>6</sup> Screenshots on the following pages provide an overview of how this works.

Naturally, completion of this mapping process, and creation of an HTTP-based URL query, requires the involvement of a programmer/developer and testing between systems. However, this is, technically, a relatively straightforward process, and expert assistance and guidance can be provided by the Portal Secretariat at all stages.

**Screenshot B1:**

Sample SPS relevant contact information as it appears on the publicly accessible International Phytosanitary Portal.



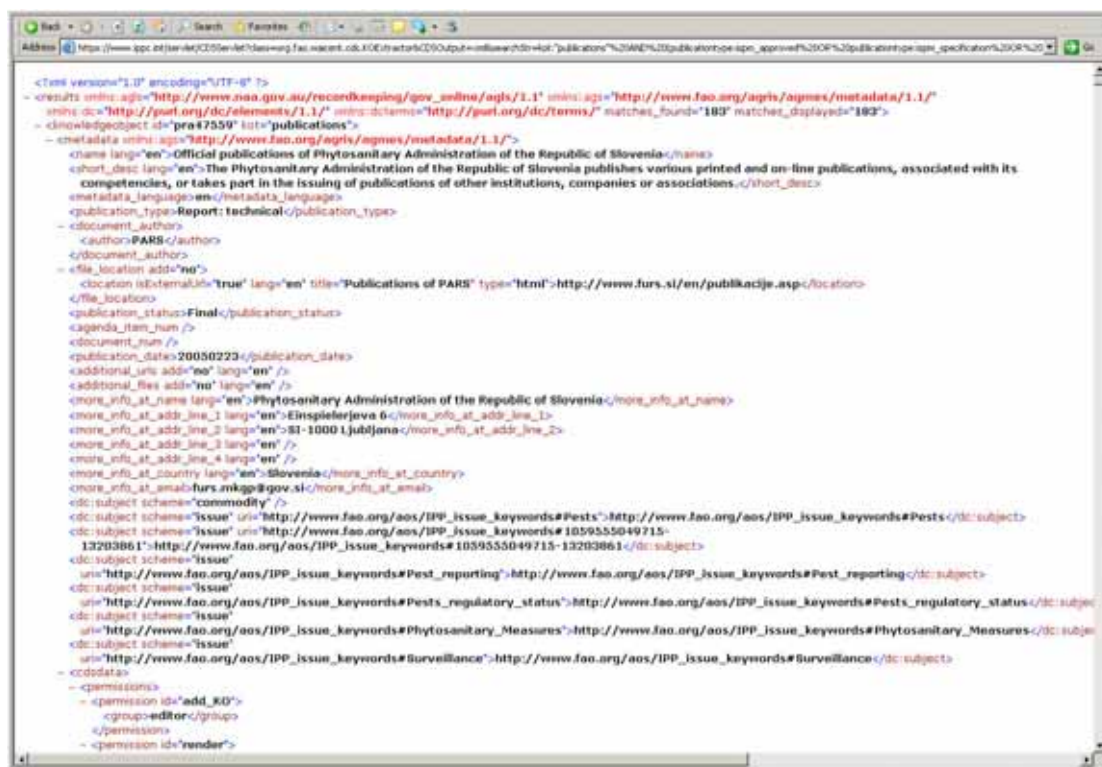
<sup>6</sup> Web Services communicate with one another via messages in a format known as [XML](#). XML (Extensible Mark-up Language), like HTML, is a descendent of Standard Generalized Mark-up Language (SGML). HTML focuses on the way information is to be *presented*. XML, on the other hand, focuses on *the structure of the information*, without regard to presentation issues. This is one reason why XML is well suited to exchanging information between automated systems. Web services exchange XML messages with one another, typically using either HTTP or SMTP (e-mail) to transport the messages. The Simple Object Access Protocol ([SOAP](#)) is a further specification of how to use XML to enable web services to communicate with one another. A SOAP message is simply an XML message that follows a few additional rules, most of which deal with how the elements of the message are encoded, and how the elements of the message are encoded, and how the message as a whole is addressed.

**Screenshot B2:**

The sample SPS relevant information displayed above in Screenshot B1 would be extracted from the International Phytosanitary Portal as an XML output by applying the following HTTP-based search string and parameters (which would obviously be written by a programmer/developer):

[https://www.ippc.int/servlet/CDSServlet?class=org.fao.waicent.cds.KOExtractor&CDSOutput=xml&searchStr=kot:"publications"%20AND%20\(publicationtype:ispm\\_approved%20OR%20publicationtype:ispm\\_specification%20OR%20publicationtype:report\\_technical%20OR%20\(publicationtype:report\\_meeting%20AND%20\(name:icpm%20OR%20name:cpm\)\)%20OR%20\(under:37959%20AND%20kot:publications\)\)%20AND%20NOT%20\(id:wto\\*%20OR%20id:13694%20OR%20id:46703%20OR%20id:44939%20OR%20id:44023%20OR%20id:44083%20OR%20id:88587%20OR%20id:78323%20OR%20id:87283%20OR%20id:87311%20OR%20id:89759%20OR%20id:41914%20OR%20id:100063%20OR%20id:34682%20OR%20id:40413%20OR%20id:40735%20OR%20id:41329%20OR%20id:41409%20OR%20id:41417%20OR%20id:41422%20OR%20id:43419%20OR%20id:46447%20OR%20id:52603%20OR%20id:70015%20OR%20id:71451%20OR%20id:90879%20OR%20id:96675%20OR%20id:96687%20OR%20id:96699%20OR%20id:96711%20OR%20id:96723%20OR%20id:96735%20OR%20id:97967%20OR%20id:98471%20OR%20id:98483%20OR%20id:98507%20OR%20id:98747%20OR%20id:88995%20OR%20id:86827%20OR%20id:87075%20OR%20id:89999%20OR%20id:89007%20OR%20id:95019%20OR%20id:91271%20OR%20id:88619%20OR%20id:28602\)](https://www.ippc.int/servlet/CDSServlet?class=org.fao.waicent.cds.KOExtractor&CDSOutput=xml&searchStr=kot:)

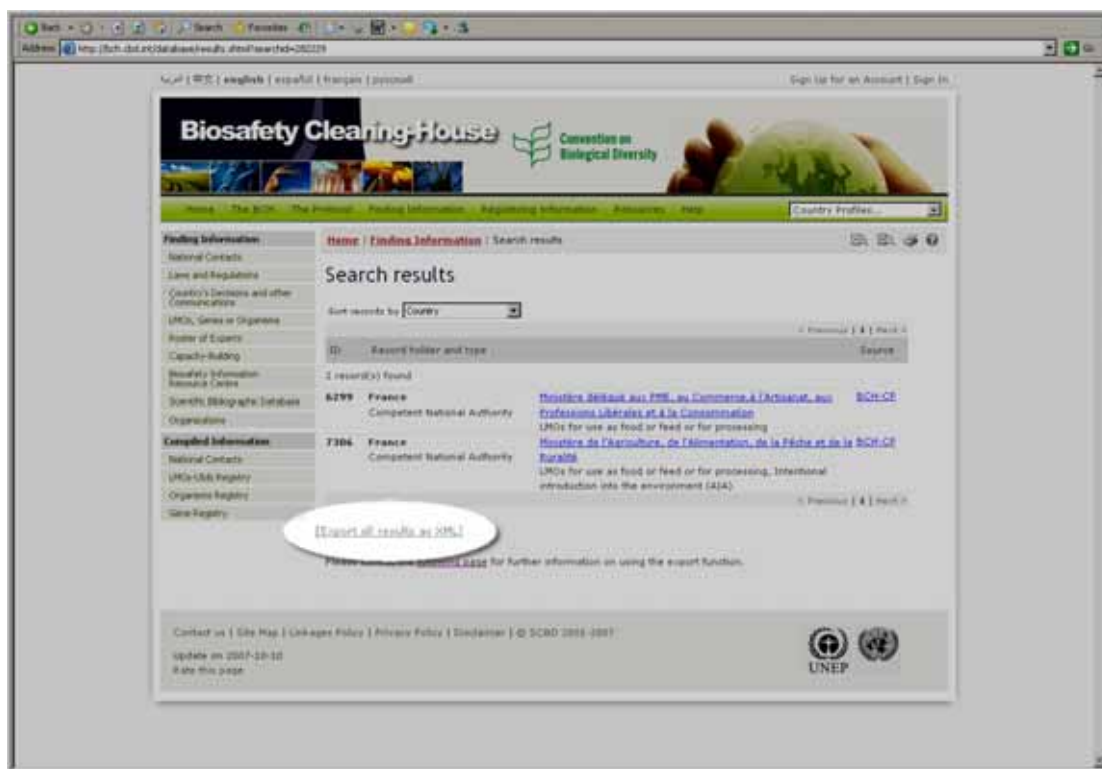
...and the results of the above query are then displayed as XML:



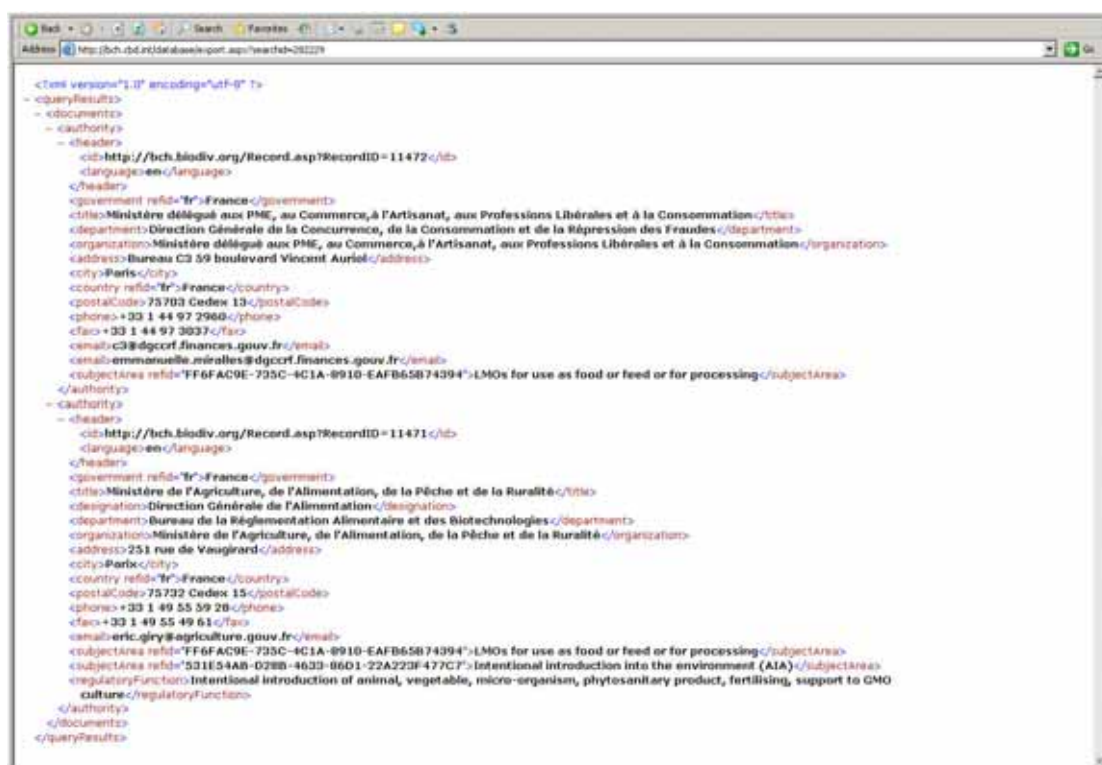
**Screenshot B3:**

A more advanced Web Services solution entails the creation of an XML output export function *directly* from a search page that is accessible to all users. This kind of interoperability function is provided by the Biosafety Clearing House (www.bch.cbd.int), as illustrated in the following two screenshots.

Location of the XML export function on a search results page:



A sample XML document containing the results of the sample search above:



## 2.3 Option C - No official national website exists, but SPS relevant information is available to be uploaded directly into the Portal

In this scenario, a country has no official websites containing relevant national SPS material. However, documentation and information exists, and the responsible national authority(ies) would still like to maintain and provide information to the Portal.

This can be achieved by requesting logon access as a nationally based user from the Portal Secretariat. The authorised user will then be able to load content, record by record, using an online data entry form specifically designed for this purpose, tagging each record with IPFSAPH metadata keywords. Once the data entry process is complete, each record is submitted to the Portal for validation and subsequent publication. The following pages contain detailed step-by-step instructions for manually adding SPS related information items to the Portal.

Any information items (Formal Texts, Organizations or Contacts) added to the Portal by registered users are displayed as being from a particular “**source**”. This is assigned by IPFSAPH when a user account is created and forms part of an authorised user’s profile. Accordingly, all the information added is considered the official position of the country/organization represented, making that country or organization liable for any information added using that login. FAO and the IPFSAPH team will not edit, add, or delete any information uploaded under an assigned “source”, and are thus not liable for information listed under these sources.

Please note that there are a number of factors concerning the nature and quality of content that should be remembered before submission:

- **Coverage:** all records should be relevant to food safety, animal or plant health, aquaculture or forestry, Furthermore, they should be directly, or indirectly, relevant to international trade.
- **Accuracy:** information submitted by the “source” is assumed to be accurate and correct. All links within the Portal are checked using an internal link checker. If a link does not work, the individual who submitted the record will be contacted for correction.
- **Currency:** given the nature of the content of the Portal, information must be the most up-to-date available. Updating and regular maintenance is critical.
- **Language:** record information must be submitted in English, French or Spanish. Furthermore, even though the full text can be made available in the original language, it will achieve greater exposure if the full text, or at least a short description, is made available in English, French or Spanish.
- **Freely available:** all links submitted should open without the requirement for registration or fees, and should be downloadable without copyright restrictions.

### *Step C1:*

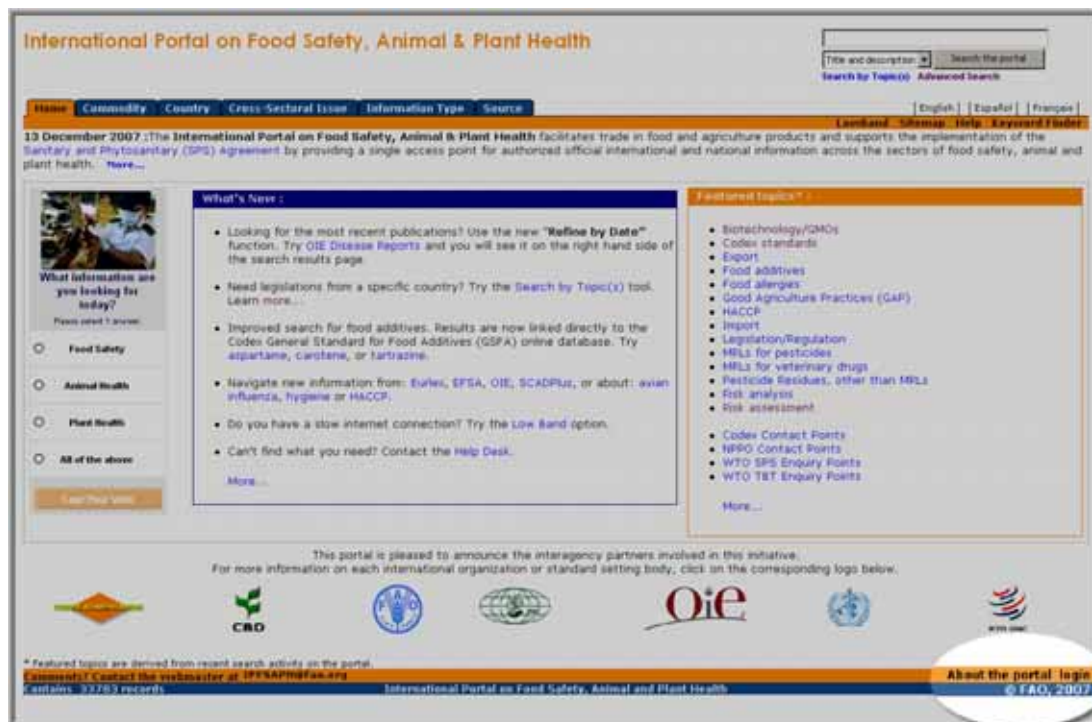
Request creation of a User Account from IPFSAPH by emailing [IPFSAPH@fao.org](mailto:IPFSAPH@fao.org), specifying your name, the international organization, Government or regional body you represent. Once your account has been created the IPFSAPH team will email you your ‘User name’ and ‘Password’.

**Step C2:**

Browse to [www.ipfsaph.org](http://www.ipfsaph.org).

**Step C3:**

In the lower right hand corner of any page on the site click **'login'** on the IPFSAPH home page.



**Step C4:**

Enter you assigned 'User name' and 'Password', and click 'OK'.



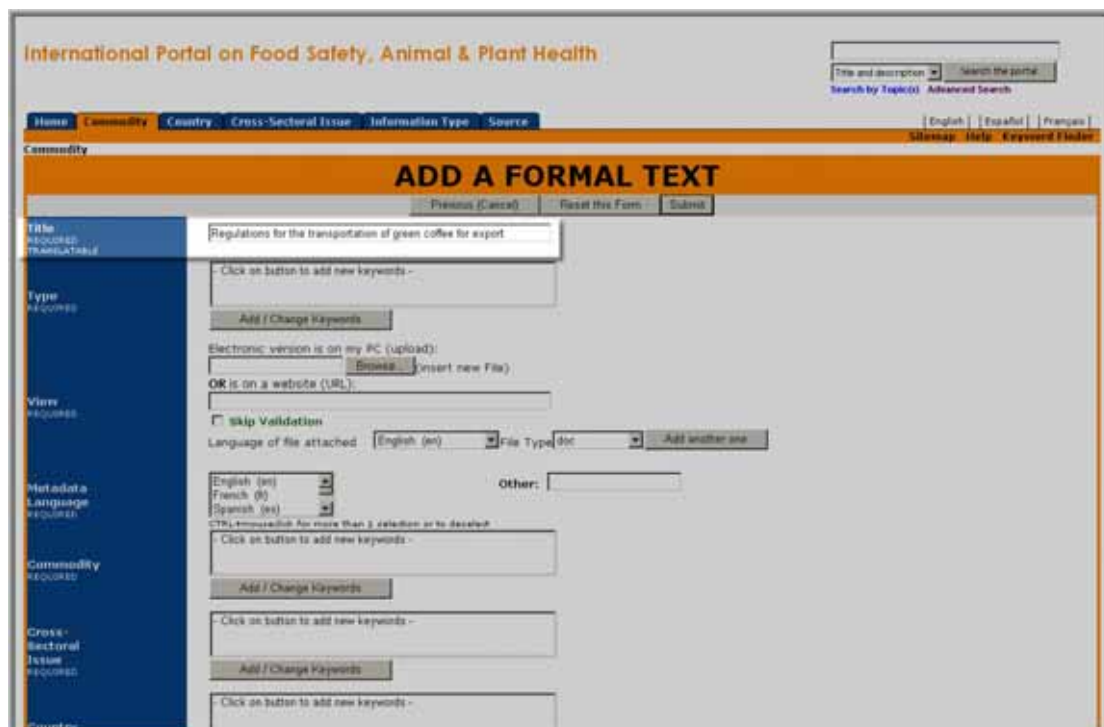
**Step C5:**

From the upper right corner of the screen, from the drop-down menu select the type of information to be added (usually 'formal texts'). Click on '+add' once the desired information type is displayed.



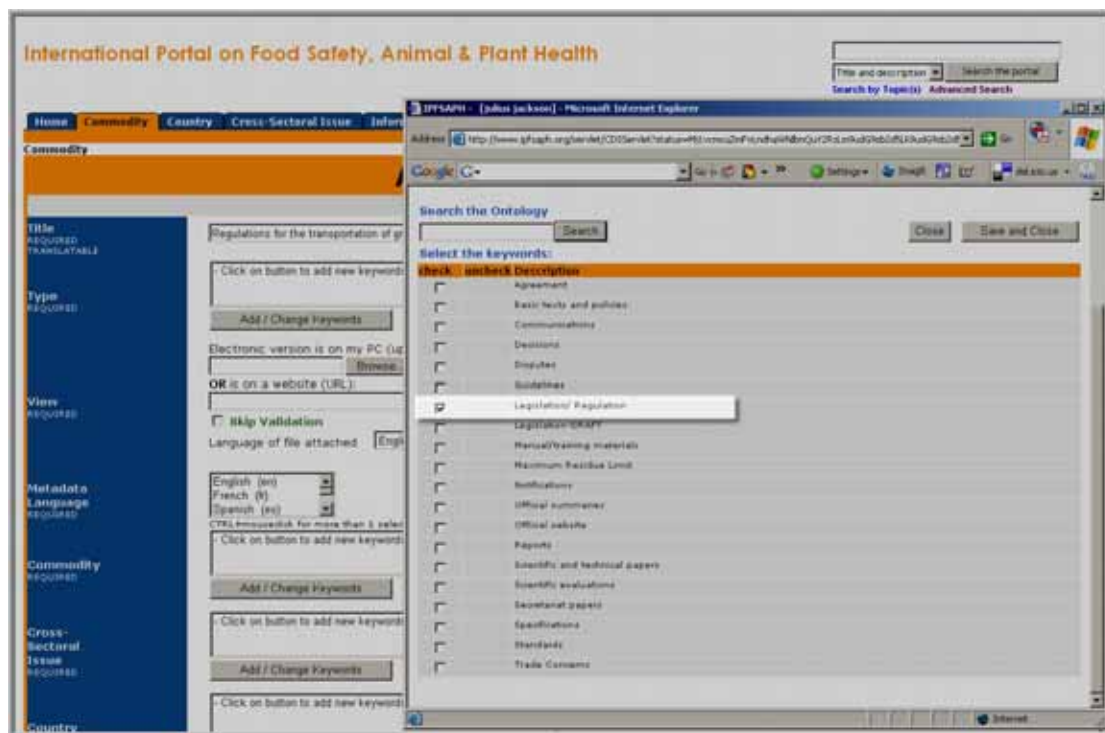
**Step C6 - Required field - 'Title':**

Once in the data entry form, enter the full document 'Title' in the field provided. This field will display in the description of each information record as well as in the search results.



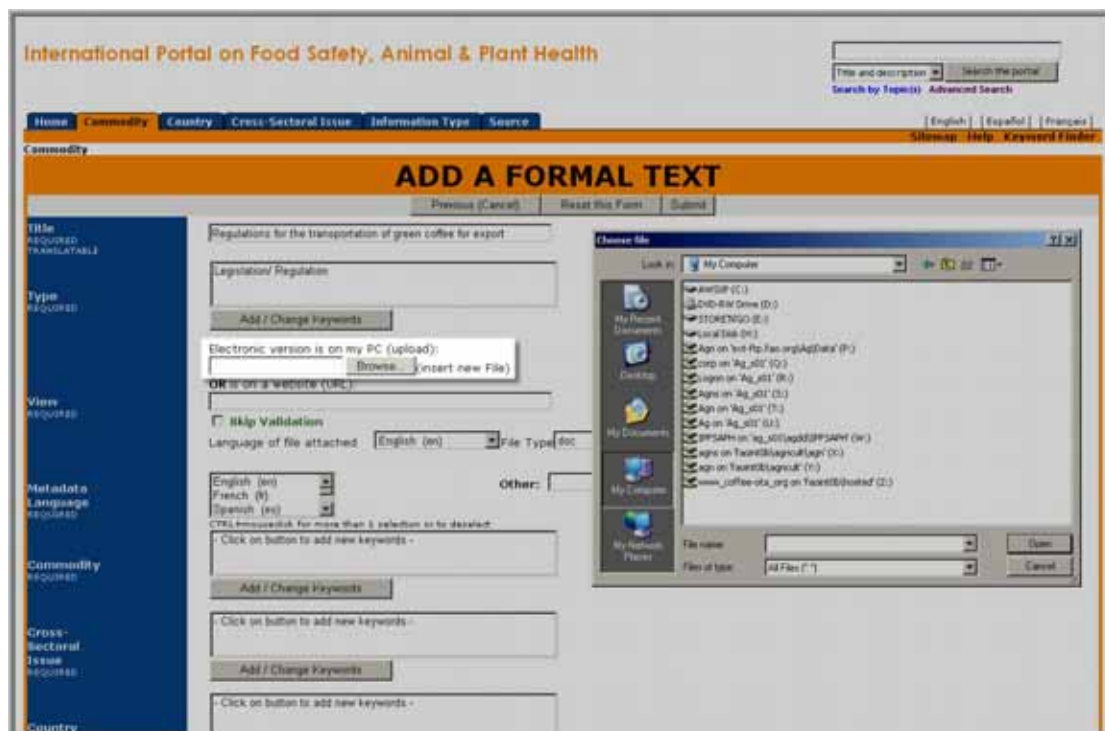
**Step C7 - Required field - 'Type':**

**'Type':** Click the **'Add keywords'** button to open a new window with a list of possible information types<sup>7</sup>. Click **'Save and Close'** once selection is complete.



**Step C8 - Required field - 'View':**

**'View':** To manually upload a document click on **'Browse'** to open a new **'Choose file'** window. Select the file to be uploaded from your PC, memory stick etc.



<sup>7</sup> Note: these include measures in force as well as *draft* legislation. A definition of each Type (and all other keywords used in the Portal) is available by using the 'Keyword Finder'.



**Step C9 - Required field - 'View':**

**'View':** To upload a document already available on the Internet, paste the URL in the field **'OR is on a website (URL)'**. The validity of URLs is automatically checked by the Portal - if you are certain the link is valid you can skip this step by checking the **'Skip Validation'** box.

The screenshot shows the 'ADD A FORMAL TEXT' form. The 'View' field is highlighted with a white box, containing the URL: <http://www.unbs.go.ug/standards3.php?standardid=233&typed=65>. The 'Skip Validation' checkbox is checked. The form also includes fields for Title, Type, Metadata Language, Commodity, Cross-Sectoral Issue, and Country, along with buttons for 'Add / Change Keywords' and 'Add another one'.

**Step C10 - Required field - 'View':**

**'View':** Indicate the language of the file attached and the document file type (.doc, .pdf, .html, .xls etc.) using the drop down menus. If the document is available in multiple file formats or multiple languages simply click the **'Add another one'** button and repeat steps C7, C8 and C9 as appropriate.

The screenshot shows the 'ADD A FORMAL TEXT' form with the 'File Type' dropdown menu open. The options listed are: doc, pdf, xls, mp3/y/yghf, ppt, zip, and other. The 'Add another one' button is visible next to the dropdown. The form also includes fields for Title, Type, Metadata Language, Commodity, Cross-Sectoral Issue, and Country, along with buttons for 'Add / Change Keywords'.

**Step C11 - Required field - 'Metadata Language':**

'Metadata Language': Indicate the language of the title, keywords etc. Information uploaded to the Portal should be in at least one of the three 'official' Portal languages: English, French or Spanish.

The screenshot shows the 'ADD A FORMAL TEXT' form in the International Portal on Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health. The form is divided into several sections, each with a 'required' label and an 'Add / Change Keywords' button. The sections are:

- Title:** REQUIRED TRANSLATABLE. Text: 'Regulations for the transportation of green coffee for export'.
- Type:** REQUIRED. Text: 'Legislation / Regulation'.
- View:** REQUIRED. Text: 'Electronic version is on my PC (upload): [Browse] (insert new File) OR is on a website (URL): http://www.iso.org/standards3.php?standardid=233&typed=65'. Includes a 'File Validation' button.
- Metadata Language:** REQUIRED. A dropdown menu is open, showing 'English (en)', 'French (fr)', and 'Spanish (es)'. There is an 'Other:' field next to it.
- Commodity:** REQUIRED. Text: '- Click on button to add new keywords -'.
- Cross-Sectoral Issue:** REQUIRED. Text: '- Click on button to add new keywords -'.
- Country:** REQUIRED. Text: '- Click on button to add new keywords -'.

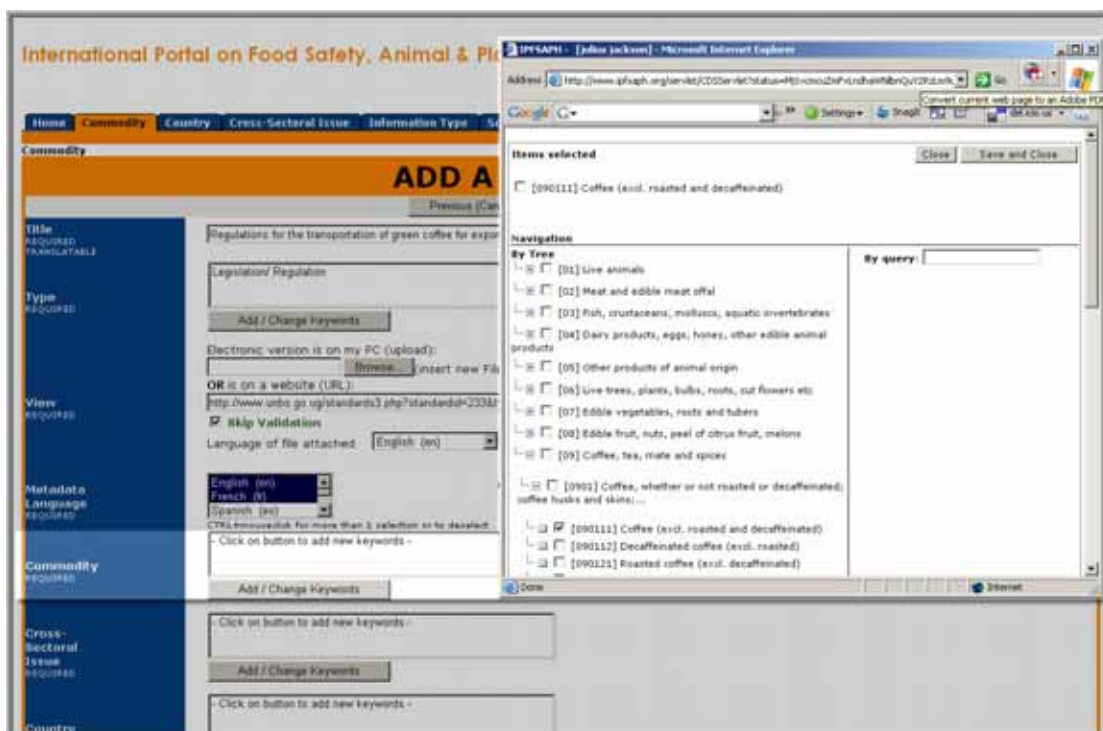
At the top of the form, there is a search bar with 'Title and description' and 'Search the portal' buttons, and 'Search by Topics' and 'Advanced Search' links. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Commodity', 'Country', 'Cross-Sectoral Issue', 'Information Type', and 'Source'. Language options for 'English', 'Español', and 'Français' are also visible.

**Step C12 - Required field - 'Commodity':**

'Commodity': Click the 'Add/Change Keywords' button to open a new window with a list of possible commodity descriptions<sup>8</sup>.

Each record should be indexed at the most detailed level of description possible (i.e. the 6 digit code). Many of the code descriptions allow for description of a specific commodity not explicitly specified in its more generic category to be described as, e.g., 'Other vegetables, fresh or chilled'.

Click 'Save and Close' once selection is complete.



<sup>8</sup> Note: IPFSAPH uses the World Customs Organization Harmonized System 2, 4 and 6 digit commodity codes (HS Codes). A full listing of these can be found in the Annex of IPFSAPH's Metadata Reference Tables, included at the end of this guide.

**Step C13 - Required field - 'Cross-Sectoral Issue':**

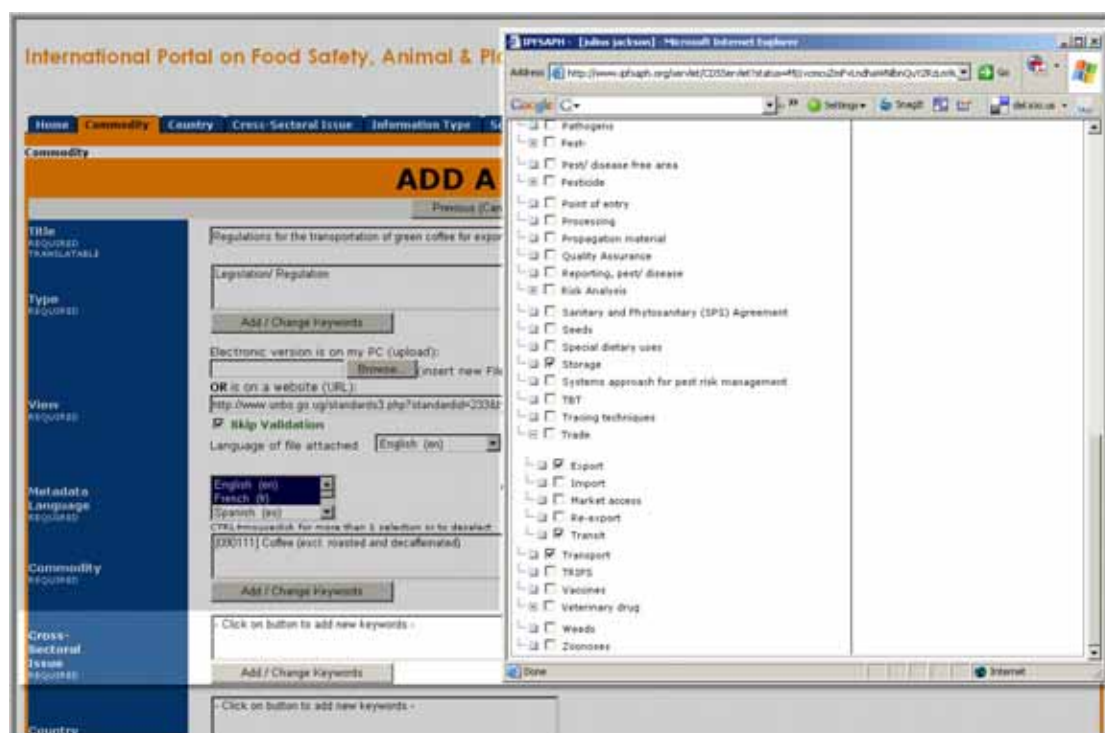
**'Cross-Sectoral Issue':** Click the **'Add/Change Keywords'** button to open a new window with a list of possible keywords, established to connect the cross-sectoral themes inherent in information held in the Portal.

Information should be indexed as specifically as possible using between 1 and 4 keyword terms. A complete list of these keywords and their Portal definitions is available by using the Portals **'Keyword Finder'**.<sup>9</sup>

For example, if a record concerns a particular weed that is considered both a quarantine pest as well as an alien invasive species, the item should be tagged with all three of the following keywords:

- 'Weeds'
- 'Pests, quarantine' (under 'Pest-'), and
- 'Invasive Alien Species'

Click **'Save and Close'** once selection is complete.



<sup>9</sup> The full listing of cross-sectoral issue keywords can also be found in Annex 1 of Metadata Reference Tables included at the end of this guide.

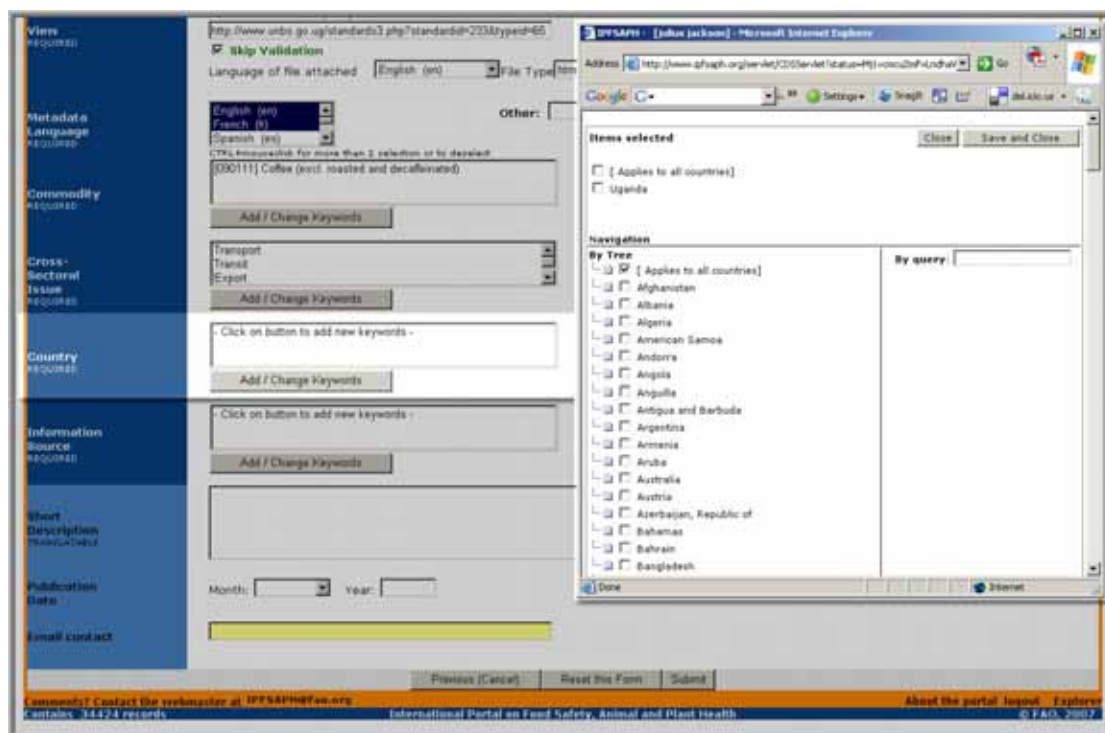
**Step C14 - Required field - 'Geography':**

**'Geography':** Click the **'Add/Change Keywords'** button to open a new window with a list of countries.

Information should be tagged with the specific country or countries that the information concerns, including both the country submitting the information and any other countries dealt with in the document.

If a document relates to all countries check **'Applies to all countries'**.

Click **'Save and Close'** once selection is complete.

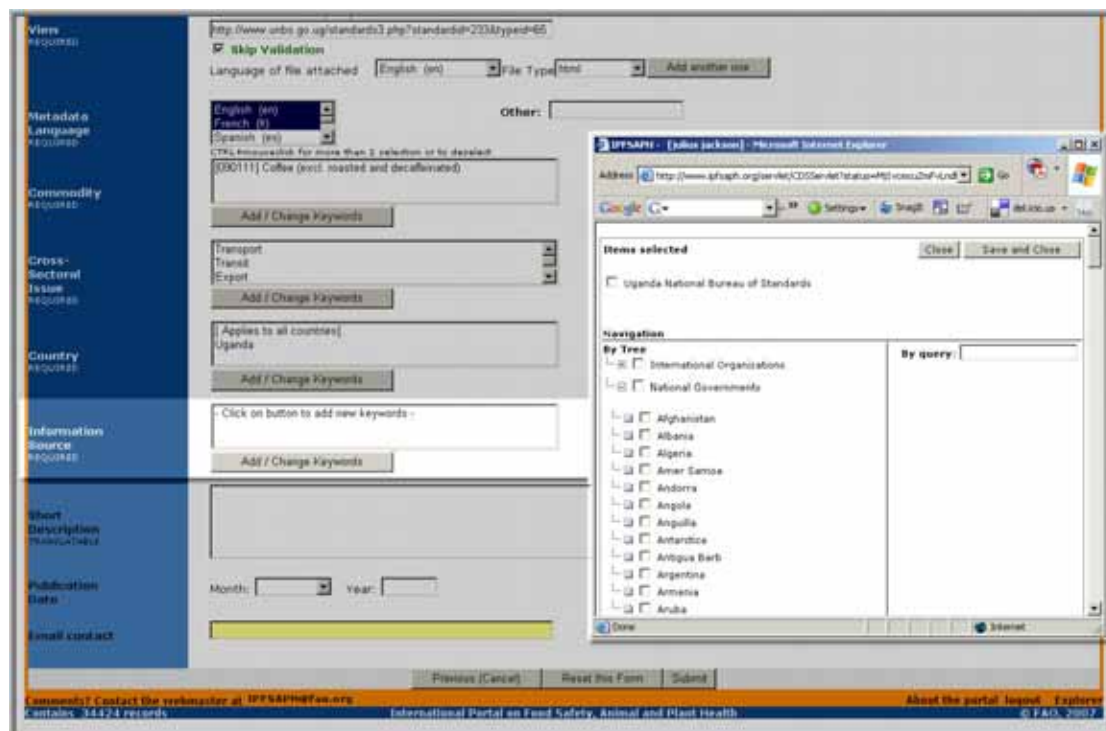


**Step C15 - Required field - 'Information Source':**

**'Information Source':** Click the **'Add/Change Keywords'** button to open a new window with a list of possible information sources.

Organizations must select their name from the list. The Portal automatically does not permit information to be added by one agency under the name of another agency.

Click **'Save and Close'** once selection is complete.



**Step C16 - Optional fields - 'Short Description', 'Publication Date', 'Email contact':**

Unlike the preceding fields the three fields 'Short Description', 'Publication Date' and 'Email contact' are all optional, but will appear in the display of the record information of each item. As such they are useful in instances where the full text is not available.

Including a short description (70 characters or less) makes the item more searchable, and provision of an email contact allows Portal users to request additional information. Please note that the publication date (month and year) should reflect the date the item was adopted.

The screenshot displays the metadata entry form for a standard. The left sidebar contains navigation links: View (REQUIRED), Metadata Language (REQUIRED), Commodity (REQUIRED), Cross-Sectional Issue (REQUIRED), Country (REQUIRED), Information Source (REQUIRED), Short Description (TRANSLATABLE), Publication Date, and Email contact. The main form area includes a URL field, a 'Skip Validation' checkbox, and a 'Language of file attached' dropdown menu (English (en), French (fr), Spanish (es), Other:). Below this is a text field for the standard number (000111) and a description (Coffee (incl. roasted and decaffeinated)). There are 'Add / Change Keywords' buttons for this field. The 'Cross-Sectional Issue' section has a dropdown menu (Transport, Transit, Export) and another 'Add / Change Keywords' button. The 'Country' section has a text field (Uganda) and an 'Add / Change Keywords' button. The 'Information Source' section has a text field (Uganda National Bureau of Standards) and an 'Add / Change Keywords' button. The 'Short Description' section has a large text area. The 'Publication Date' section has 'Month:' and 'Year:' dropdown menus. The 'Email contact' section has a text field. At the bottom, there are 'Previous (Cancel)', 'Reset this Form', and 'Submit' buttons. The footer contains contact information for the system master, the portal name, and the copyright year (2007).

**Step C17 – 'Submit':**

Once you have completed the data entry form, and checked the information provided, click on the '**Submit**' button. Should any information be invalid a message will appear and information can be corrected accordingly before resubmission.

If the data is valid, a thank-you screen will appear and the information item will be added to the Portal within 24 hours.

The screenshot shows a web form for submitting standards data. The form is titled "http://www.unbs.go.ug/standards3.php?standard=233&typed=65". It includes a "Skip Validation" checkbox and a "Language of file attached" dropdown menu set to "English (en)". The "Commodity" field contains "[00011] Coffee (incl. roasted and decaffeinated)". The "Cross-Sectoral Issue" field contains "Export, Transit, Transport". The "Country" field contains "[Applies to all countries], Uganda". The "Information Source" field contains "Uganda National Bureau of Standards". The "Short Description" field is empty. The "Publication Date" field has "Month: December" and "Year: 2007". The "Email contact" field contains "info@unbsen.co.ug". A "Submit" button is circled in red. The footer contains "Contact the administrator at IPFS@FAO.org", "International Portal on Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health", and "© FAO, 2007".



### 3. Can IPFSAPH's data be accessed to feed national portals?

Yes. A simple HTTP-based query of [www.ipfsaph.org](http://www.ipfsaph.org) can be used to produce an XML output of selected information, which can then be incorporated into any national portal. The basic query (without a search string appended) is:

<http://www.ipfsaph.org/servlet/CDSServlet?class=org.fao.waicent.cds.KOExtractor&CDSOutput=xml&searchStr=>

To this basic extraction tool one could add a simple search string that requests, for example, all the records in the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) pest alerts data pool, i.e.

[http://www.ipfsaph.org/servlet/CDSServlet?class=org.fao.waicent.cds.KOExtractor&CDSOutput=xml&searchStr=id:nappo\\*](http://www.ipfsaph.org/servlet/CDSServlet?class=org.fao.waicent.cds.KOExtractor&CDSOutput=xml&searchStr=id:nappo*)

This would generate an XML output as follows, and the data could then be mapped to the national portal as appropriate:

```

<feed version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" >
  <results xmlns:agis="http://www.usa.gov.us/rucodkkeeping/gov_online/agis/1.1/" xmlns:agis="http://www.fao.org/agis/agis/metadata/1.1/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/terms/1.1/" xmlns:dcterms="http://purl.org/dc/terms/" matches_found="200" matches_displayed="200">
    <knowledgeobject id="NAPPOca132" list="formal_text">
      <metadata>
        <dc:metadata>
          <int:formal_text</int>
          <crelated>
            <related_topic>http://www.fao.org/aos/ipfsaph/information/sourcenappo/related_topic</related_topic>
          </crelated>
        </dc:metadata>
        <dc:title lang="en">Official Pest Reports:Potato Wart Surveillance Activities Continue in PEI</dc:title>
        <dc:title lang="es">Notificaciones Oficiales de Plagas: SContinúan las actividades de vigilancia para la verruga de la papa en la Isla del Príncipe Eduardo</dc:title>
        <dc:terms:alternative lang="en">Potato Wart Surveillance Activities Continue in PEI</dc:terms:alternative>
        <dc:terms:alternative lang="es">Continúan las actividades de vigilancia para la verruga de la papa en la Isla del Príncipe Eduardo</dc:terms:alternative>
        <dc:language>en</dc:language>
        <dc:language>es</dc:language>
        <dc:type uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/Information_type#Notifications">http://www.fao.org/aos/Information_type#Notifications</dc:type>
        <dc:terms:issued>20041020</dc:terms:issued>
        <dc:subject scheme="Issue"
        uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Surveillance">http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Surveillance</dc:subject>
        <dc:subject scheme="Issue"
        uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Fungus">http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Fungus</dc:subject>
        <dc:subject scheme="Issue"
        uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Quarantine-pests">http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Quarantine-pests</dc:subject>
        <dc:subject scheme="Issue"
        uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Risk-Management">http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH_issue_keywords#Risk-Management</dc:subject>
        <dc:subject scheme="commodity" uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/HS#0701">http://www.fao.org/aos/HS#0701</dc:subject>
        <dc:source uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH-Information-Source#NAPPO">http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH-Information-Source#NAPPO</dc:source>
        <dc:coverage uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH-Geography#CA">http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH-Geography#CA</dc:coverage>
        <dc:coverage uri="http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH-Geography#US">http://www.fao.org/aos/IPFSAPH-Geography#US</dc:coverage>
        <dc:identifier add="no">
          <location isExternal="true" lang="en" title="http://www.pestalert.org/oprDetail.cfm?oprID=132" type="html">http://www.pestalert.org/oprDetail.cfm?oprID=132</location>
          <location isExternal="true" lang="es" title="http://www.pestalert.org/espanol/oprDetail.cfm?oprID=132" type="html">http://www.pestalert.org/espanol/oprDetail.cfm?oprID=132</location>
        </dc:identifier>
        <dc:availability />
        <dc:description />
      </metadata>
    </knowledgeobject>
  </results>
  <metadata>
    <int:formal_text</int>
    <crelated>
  </crelated>

```

The search string could obviously be made more advanced and complex as required in order to extract more specific information. The Portal Secretariat is available to provide additional information on this service via [IPFSAPH-Helpdesk@fao.org](mailto:IPFSAPH-Helpdesk@fao.org).

## 4. Glossary

<b>Commodity</b>	The Commodity view of Portal data allows users to navigate information based on animal or plant species, or food product. The underlying classification used is based on the Harmonised System of classification, which is used with the permission of the Brussels-based World Customs Organization.
<b>Cross-Sectoral Issue</b>	The Cross-Sectoral Issue view of Portal data provides users with access to information on cross-sectoral themes such as biosafety, HACCP, invasive alien species, amongst others.
<b>Geography</b>	The Geography view of Portal data displays information sorted by country or regional body. It includes both material submitted by the country itself and material about a country (submitted by an international body, or by another country such as a trading partner).
<b>IPFSAPH</b>	Acronym for the International Portal on Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health ( <a href="http://www.ipfsaph.org">www.ipfsaph.org</a> ).
<b>Mapping</b>	Matching one system's Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) reference to another system's URI reference, e.g. the IPFSAPH reference 'Invasive-Alien-Species' would be mapped to its WTO equivalent 'Invasive Species'.
<b>Metadata</b>	Data about data. An item of metadata may describe an individual datum, or content item, or a collection of data including multiple content items. Metadata is used to facilitate the understanding, use and management of data. The metadata required for effective data management varies with the type of data and context of use.
<b>Portal</b>	Short form of International Portal on Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health ( <a href="http://www.ipfsaph.org">www.ipfsaph.org</a> ).
<b>Source</b>	The source view of Portal data highlights the specific international organization, standard-setting body, individual country or regional body which submitted that information.
<b>URI</b>	Uniform Resource Identifier.
<b>URL</b>	Uniform Resource Locator, often used to signify a specific web address (i.e. <a href="http://www.ipfsaph.org">www.ipfsaph.org</a> ) or HTTP-based query such as:  <code>http://www.ipfsaph.org/servlet/CDSServlet?class=org.fao.waicent.ds.KOSearchResults&amp;org.fao.waicent.cds.KOSearchResults.0.query=csubjectissue:httpwwwfaoorgaosipfsaphissuekeywordsexport</code>

## 5. Annexes - Metadata Reference Tables (excluding 'Commodity' and 'Country')

Annex 1            Cross-Sectoral Issue

Annex 2            Information Type

Annex 3            Source

*(Note: IPFSAPH specific descriptions for metadata keywords are provided where available)*

## Annex 1 - Cross-Sectoral Issue

Cross-Sectoral Issue keywords were established to tag information included in IPFSAPH in order to connect the cross-sectoral themes inherent in information held in the Portal:

### **Accreditation**

The procedure by which a government agency having jurisdiction formally recognizes the competence of an inspection and/or certification body to provide inspection and certification services.

### **Additives**

Any substance intentionally added to food, not normally consumed as a food by itself and or used as a typical ingredient of the food, whether or not it has nutritive value, for a technological purpose in the manufacture or holding of such food and which results, or may be reasonably expected to result (directly or indirectly) in it or its by-products becoming a component of, or otherwise affecting the characteristics of, such foods.

### **Analytical methods**

All officially recognized methods of analysis including sampling, assay and experimental design.

### **Animal feed**

Any substance, whether processed, semi-processed or raw which is intended for animal consumption.

### **Animals**

### **Antibiotics**

### **Area of low pest/ disease prevalence**

### **Biotechnology**

i) The use of biological processes or organisms for the production of materials of benefit to humankind. It includes the use of techniques for the improvement of the characteristics of economically important plants and animals and for the development of micro-organisms to act on the environment. ii) The scientific manipulation of living organisms, especially at the molecular genetic level.

### **Certification**

The procedure by which official certification bodies and officially recognized bodies provide written or equivalent assurance that control systems conform to requirements.

### **Chemical contaminants/toxins, general**

### **Composition**

### **Control measures, general**

### **Diagnostic tests**

### **Diseases**

### **Economic impact**

Relates to the effect of decisions, guidelines, standards, etc. on the finances, trade, productivity, income, etc. of a community.

**Environmental impact**

Relates to the effect of decisions, guidelines, standards etc. on the eco-systems balance and quality.

**Equipment**

Relates to specifications, standards, operating procedures etc dealing with industrial, agricultural and artisanal machines, apparatus and utensils used in manufacture of food and agricultural products.

**Equivalence****Fisheries****Glossaries/definitions**

All official documents (standards, regulations etc) containing definitions of multiple items.

**HACCP**

Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points is a system which identifies, evaluates, and controls hazards which are significant for food safety).

**Health impact****Hormones****Hygiene**

Relates to all measures necessary to ensure the safety and wholesomeness of animals/animal products and food. These measures cover all stages after primary production up to supply to the consumer. Includes: public health requirements, technical/cleaning measures, microbiological criteria, temperature control criteria, hygienic condition of primary production of foodstuffs and keeping of animals, refrigeration/ventilation plants, etc.

**Invasive Alien Species**

An alien species whose introduction and spread threaten ecosystems, habitats or species with socio-cultural, economic and/or environmental harm, and/or harm to human health. Alien species means a species, subspecies, or lower taxon occurring outside of its natural range (past or present) and dispersal potential and includes any part, gametes, seeds, eggs, or propagules of such species that might survive and subsequently reproduce.

**Labeling**

Includes any written, printed or graphic matter that is present on the label, accompanies the food, or is displayed near the food, including that for the purpose of promoting its sale or disposal.

**Licensing****Microorganisms****Nutritional impact**

Relates to the direct (disease prevention and/or description) or indirect (nutritional requirements and/or recommendations) effect of decisions, guidelines, standards etc on human and animal health and welfare.

**Packaging**

The container together with the protective wrapping used to carry products via wholesale or retail distribution to users.

**Parasitic plants**

**Pathogens**

An organism that causes a disease in another organism.

**Pest-****Pest/disease free area****Pesticide**

Any substance intended for preventing, destroying, attracting, repelling, or controlling any pest including unwanted species of plants or animals during the production, storage, transport, distribution and processing of food, agricultural commodities, or animal feeds or which may be administered to animals for the control of ectoparasites.

**Point of entry**

Airport, seaport or land border point officially designated for the importation of consignments, and/or entrance of passengers [IPPC, 1997]

**Processing**

All operations intended to transform a raw material and ingredients into an end-product exhibiting desirable characteristics.

**Propagation material**

Vegetative part of a plant able to develop into individual plants, such as cuttings, roots, bulbs, corms or leaves.

**Quality Assurance****Reporting, pest/disease**

The exchange of information on pests, particularly the reporting of the occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests that may be of immediate or potential danger). Reporting applies also to the exchange of information on food borne and animal diseases (occurrence, outbreaks, spread, etc.).

**Risk Analysis**

A major common component to the 3 sectors within agricultural biosecurity. It is based on sound scientific principles and is the technical justification on which sanitary and phytosanitary measures are based. Although each sector deals with risk assessment and analysis in slightly different ways, the underlying principles are essentially the same.

**Seeds**

Botanically, the matured ovule without accessory parts.

**Special dietary uses**

All food products and supplements intended for a particular consumer group as related to : age (ex. infant formulas), health status (ex. low sodium), socio-cultural/religious requirements (ex. Halal food), or special purpose (ex. weight control).

**Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement**

The Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement binds signatories to the application of science-based sanitary and phytosanitary measures which do not arbitrarily discriminate between countries where identical or similar conditions prevail. Sanitary measures are those related to human or animal health, and phytosanitary measures deal with plant health. The protection of fish and wild fauna, forests and wild flora are included in this definition while the protection, for example of the environment per se and animal welfare are excluded.

## **Storage**

### **Systems approach for pest risk management**

The integration of different pest risk management measures, at least two of which act independently, and which cumulatively achieve the appropriate level of phytosanitary protection.

### **TBT**

The Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) tries to ensure that regulations, standards, testing and certification procedures do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade. In particular, procedures used to decide whether a product conforms with national standards have to be fair and equitable, and the agreement discourages any methods that would give domestically produced goods an unfair advantage.

### **Tracing techniques**

Traceability is the ability to recall the history, the use or the localization of an entity by means of recorded identifications. The traceability makes it possible to follow and thus to find a product or a service since its creation (production) till its destruction (consumption).

### **Trade**

International buying, selling or bartering of food products, live animals and plants.

## **Transport**

### **TRIPS**

Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights is a multilateral agreement on intellectual property. The areas of intellectual property that it covers are: copyright and related rights; trademarks including service marks; geographical indications including appellations of origin; industrial designs; patents including the protection of new varieties of plants; the layout-designs of integrated circuits; and undisclosed information, including trade secrets and test data.

## **Vaccines**

### **Veterinary drug**

Any substance applied or administered to any food-producing animal, such as meat or milk-producing animals, poultry, fish or bees, whether used for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic purposes or for modification of physiological functions or behaviour.

## **Weeds**

## **Zoonoses**

## Annex 2 - Information Type

### **Key to hierarchy of 'Information Type' keywords:**

#### **Level 1**

#### **Level 2**

#### **Level 3**

#### **Level 4**

### **Contacts**

Contacts are an individual or a service officially designated by an authority to be the focal point for a specific subject.

#### **Biosafety national focal point**

A person or position responsible for managing communication between the Secretariat of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and respective governments, and the public.

#### **Codex contact point**

“National bodies within institutions which act as the link between the Codex Secretariat and Member countries; coordinate all relevant Codex activities within their own countries, receive all Codex final texts (standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other advisory texts) and working documents of Codex sessions and ensure that they are circulated to those concerned within their own countries; send comments on Codex documents or proposals to the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Work in close cooperation with the national Codex Committee, where such a committee has been established. The Codex Contact Point acts as the liaison point with the food industry, consumers, traders and all other concerned to ensure that the government is provided with an appropriate balance of policy and technical advice upon which to base decisions relating to issues raised in the context of the Codex work; act as a channel for the exchange of information and coordination of activities with other Codex Members....” (Source: CAC procedural manual, 14th edition, p.101).

#### **NPPO contact point**

A representative from a National Plant Protection Organization designated by a country having ratified the International Plant Protection Convention for the exchange of information connected with the implementation of this Convention (Source: IPPC, revised text 1997).

#### **OIE contact point**

Official delegate from a national veterinary service or other related institutions mandated to liaise with OIE

#### **Other contact**

#### **WTO SPS enquiry point**

A person or position responsible for answering relevant questions in the SPS area. The notification authorities are responsible for ensuring that new or changed SPS measures are notified to the WTO (Source: WTO).

#### **WTO TBT enquiry point**



A person or position which is able to answer all reasonable enquiries from other Members and interested parties in other Members (Source: WTO).

### **Texts and supporting materials**

Texts and supporting materials include documents of an internationally-negotiated or legally-binding nature governing the setting and application of standards and legislations/regulations nationally and internationally. They may also include other official documents that can be used in the process of decision making and have direct impact on trade (expert consultation reports, scientific evaluation and specifications) or that enhance the understanding of the functioning of a particular item (training materials) or facilitate its implementation (manuals).

#### **Agreement**

Regional, bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements established between countries and/or organizations.

#### **Basic texts and policies**

Includes constitutions, conventions, protocols and procedure rules that establish a binding governing framework for an institution, as well as articulated plans of the government on a particular matter.

#### **Communications**

Non-legally binding information (such as questions and replies, statement of position, and recommendations) reported by a country (not by the secretariat) to be shared with other parties of that organization.

#### **Decisions**

The official position of a national or an international institution on an issue under consideration.

#### **Disputes**

Request for consultation on a specific issue from one member of an international body to another

#### **Guidelines**

Tools to facilitate and guide certain actions and processes, usually outlining steps or tasks to follow (Source: FAOTERM, UNDP Programming Manual October 1999).

#### **Legislation-DRAFT**

An initial unsigned agreement, treaty, or piece of legislation which is not yet in force (Source: DICLAW).

#### **Legislation/ Regulation**

Legislation: All documents containing laws or related to the process of their enacting (Source: FAO legal department).

Regulations: All texts stating instructions, specifications, limits, orders and rules that allow the execution of a law and that govern its procedure – encompasses “Technical regulation” - document which lays down product characteristics or their related processes and production methods, including the applicable administrative provisions, with which compliance is mandatory. It may also include or deal exclusively with terminology, symbols, packaging, marketing or labelling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method” (definition of the TBT agreement, March 2002-OECD).

#### **Manual/training materials**

Information intended to assist parties in understanding and implementing established standards, legislation, regulations, etc.

**Maximum Residue Limit**

The maximum concentration of a residue (normally expressed as mg/kg) that is recommended by the Codex Alimentarius Commission to be legally permitted or recognized as acceptable in or on food commodities and **animal** feeds. (Source: adapted from Codex procedural manual, 14th edition: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/PM/Manual14e.pdf>).

**Notifications**

All official documents by which notice is given (e.g. disease or pest reports, proposed changes to regulations, etc)

**Official summaries**

A synopsis of legislation or other information, provided by the body which produced the complete version of the text.

**Official website**

A website containing a variety of official information from a national government.

**Reports**

A formal account of the proceedings or transactions of a group, including international standard setting body meetings, technical and expert consultations, etc.

**Scientific and technical papers**

**Scientific evaluations**

The results of a process of scientifically evaluating and carefully judging an object, chemical, ingredient, etc. (e.g. residue evaluations, toxicological evaluations, risk assessments, etc).

***Risk Assessment***

**Biopesticide**

**Feed**

**Food**

**Food and feed**

**Importing**

**Importing and processing**

**Marketing**

**Processing**

**Unconfined planting**

**Secretariat papers**

Documents prepared by the secretariat of an organization or standard setting body such as event agendas, working documents for meetings, notes, work plans, and other official information prepared for the use of the member delegations.

**Specifications**

A detailed, exact statement of particulars (e.g. chemical composition, scope of a standard, etc)

**Standards**

A document - established by consensus and approved by a recognized body that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results - aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context (Source: ISPM, Pub. No. 5).

**Trade Concerns**

Specific issues related to trade of food and agricultural products raised by a member nation and addressed by the WTO.

**Organisations**

**Association**

Includes consumers, producers and professional associations as well as chambers of commerce and public-private partnerships.

**National, government**

**National, technical**

**Non-governmental**

**Private sector**

**Regional, economic**

**Regional, technical**

**Research**

Includes universities, research centres and institutions

## Annex 3 - Source

### Key to hierarchy of 'Source' keywords:

#### Level 1

#### | Level 2

#### | Level 3

#### | Level 4

### International Organizations

#### **CBD**

Information from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) principally includes material on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, specifically that which has been submitted to the Biosafety Clearing House.

#### **Codex**

Information from the Codex Alimentarius Commission includes food standards, guidelines and related texts such as codes of practice as established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, which is a part of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.

#### **FAO**

Information from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) includes supporting materials (scientific evaluations, training materials, manuals, guidelines, etc) principally in the Animal Health and Food Safety area. Plant health information is mainly presented as part of IPPC information. Many food safety materials are produced by the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.

#### ***FAOLEX***

*The FAOLEX legal database, maintained by the FAO Legal Office, includes comprehensive and up-to-date national laws and regulations related to food, agriculture and renewable natural resources. This portal specifically presents links to FAOLEX information on food safety, plant health and animal health issues.*

#### **Joint FAO/WHO**

Information from the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The information includes scientific advice and training materials with the aim of protecting health of the consumers and ensuring fair trade practices in the food trade.

#### ***JECFA***

*Information from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, consisting of risk assessments and scientific evaluations of food additives, colorants, contaminants, naturally occurring toxicants and residues of veterinary drugs in food.*

#### ***JEMRA***

*Information from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment, consisting mainly of risk assessments on micro-organisms in foods, conducted due to the related public health concern or because of its nature as a barrier to international trade.*

**JMPR**

*Information from the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues.*

**IPPC**

Information from the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), signed in 1951, provides material related to international phytosanitary standards and their implementation through National Plant Protection Organisations.

**Joint FAO/IAEA**

Information from the Joint FAO/IAEA Programme on Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture. Information contained in the portal includes mainly the maximum dose levels of irradiation allowed in specific food and agricultural products in specific countries, which is reported by countries in response to a yearly request letter from FAO/IAEA.

**OECD/FAO/Codex**

**OIE**

Information from the World Organisation for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties - OIE) includes the main standards - the International Animal (and Aquatic Animal) Health Code - manuals, lists of reference laboratories, collaborating centres for specific diseases, contact points, etc.

**WHO**

Information from the World Health Organisation (WHO) includes technical guidance relating to zoonoses as well as supporting materials on Food Safety. Many food safety materials are produced by the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.

**WTO**

Information from the World Trade Organisation (WTO) includes that which is relevant to Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health, including SPS and TBT notifications and SPS trade concerns.

**National Governments**

**Andorra**

**United Arab Emirates**

**Afghanistan**

**Antigua and Barbuda**

**Anguilla**

**Albania**

**Armenia**

**NethAntilles**

**Angola**

**Antarctica**

**Argentina**

**American Samoa**

**Austria**

**Australia**  
**Aruba**  
**Azerbaijan**  
**Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
**Barbados**  
**Bangladesh**  
**Belgium**  
**Burkina Faso**  
**Bulgaria**  
**Bahrain**  
**Burundi**  
**Benin**  
**Bermuda**  
**Brunei Darussalam**  
**Bolivia**  
**Brazil**  
**Bahamas**  
**Bhutan**  
**Bouvet Island**  
**Botswana**  
**Belarus**  
**Belize**  
**Canada**  
**Cocos (Keeling) Islands**  
**Congo, Dem Republic of**  
**Central African Republic**  
**Congo, Republic of**  
**Switzerland**  
**Côte d'Ivoire**  
**Cook Islands**  
**Chile**  
**Cameroon**  
**China**  
**Colombia**  
**Costa Rica**  
**Serbia and Montenegro**

**Cuba**  
**Cape Verde**  
**Christmas Island**  
**Cyprus**  
**Czech Republic**  
**Germany**  
**Djibouti**  
**Denmark**  
**Dominica**  
**Dominican Republic**  
**Algeria**  
**Ecuador**  
**Estonia**  
**Egypt**  
**Western Sahara**  
**Eritrea**  
**Spain**  
**Ethiopia**  
**Finland**  
**Fiji Islands**  
**Falkland Is (Malvinas)**  
**Micronesia, Fed States of**  
**Faeroe Islands**  
**France**  
**Gabon**  
**United Kingdom**  
**Grenada**  
**Georgia**  
**French Guiana**  
**Ghana**  
**Gibraltar**  
**Greenland**  
**Gambia**  
**Guinea**  
**Guadeloupe**  
**Equatorial Guinea**

**Greece**  
**South Georgia/Sandwich Is**  
**Guernsey**  
**Guatemala**  
**Guam**  
**Guinea-Bissau**  
**Guyana**  
**China, Hong Kong SAR**  
**Heard and McDonald Is**  
**Honduras**  
**Croatia**  
**Haiti**  
**Hungary**  
**Indonesia**  
**Ireland**  
**Israel**  
**India**  
**British Indian Ocean Ter**  
**Iraq**  
**Iran, Islamic Rep of**  
**Iceland**  
**Italy**  
**Jersey**  
**Jamaica**  
**Jordan**  
**Japan**  
**Kenya**  
**Kyrgyzstan**  
**Cambodia**  
**Kiribati**  
**Comoros**  
**Saint Kitts and Nevis**  
**Korea, Dem People's Rep**  
**Korea, Republic of**  
**Kuwait**  
**Cayman Islands**



**Kazakhstan**  
**Laos**  
**Lebanon**  
**Saint Lucia**  
**Liechtenstein**  
**Sri Lanka**  
**Liberia**  
**Lesotho**  
**Lithuania**  
**Luxembourg**  
**Latvia**  
**Libyan Arab Jamahiriya**  
**Morocco**  
**Monaco**  
**Moldova, Republic of**  
**Madagascar**  
**Marshall Islands**  
**Midway Islands**  
**Macedonia, The Fmr Yug Rp**  
**Mali**  
**Myanmar**  
**Mongolia**  
**China, Macao SAR**  
**Northern Mariana Is**  
**Martinique**  
**Mauritania**  
**Montserrat**  
**Malta**  
**Mauritius**  
**Maldives**  
**Malawi**  
**Mexico**  
**Malaysia**  
**Mozambique**  
**Namibia**  
**New Caledonia**

**Niger**  
**Norfolk Island**  
**Nigeria**  
**Nicaragua**  
**Netherlands**  
**Norway**  
**Nepal**  
**Nauru**  
**Niue**  
**New Zealand**  
**Oman**  
**Panama**  
**Peru**  
**French Polynesia**  
**Papua New Guinea**  
**Philippines**  
**Pakistan**  
**Poland**  
**Saint Pierre & Miquelon**  
**Pitcairn Islands**  
**Puerto Rico**  
**Palestine, Occupied Tr.**  
**Portugal**  
**Palau**  
**Paraguay**  
**Qatar**  
**Réunion**  
**Romania**  
**Russian Federation**  
**Rwanda**  
**Saudi Arabia**  
**Solomon Islands**  
**Seychelles**  
**Sudan**  
**Sweden**  
**Singapore**

**Saint Helena**  
**Slovenia**  
**Svalbard and Jan Mayen**  
**Slovakia**  
**Sierra Leone**  
**San Marino**  
**Senegal**  
**Somalia**  
**Suriname**  
**Sao Tome and Principe**  
**El Salvador**  
**Syrian Arab Republic**  
**Swaziland**  
**Turks and Caicos Is**  
**Chad**  
**French Southern Terr**  
**Togo**  
**Thailand**  
**Tajikistan**  
**Tokelau**  
**Timor-Leste**  
**Turkmenistan**  
**Tunisia**  
**Tonga**  
**Turkey**  
**Trinidad and Tobago**  
**Tuvalu**  
**China, Taiwan Prov of**  
**Tanzania, United Rep of**  
**Ukraine**  
**Uganda**

***Uganda Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries***

*The Uganda Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (U-MAAIF) works to improve the agricultural sector, animal industries and fisheries in Uganda. The portal includes food safety, animal and plant health legislation from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries- Uganda.*

***Uganda Ministry of Health***

*The Uganda Ministry of Health (U- MOH) ensures the attainment of a good standard of health by all people in Uganda in order to promote a healthy and productive life. The portal includes food safety legislation from the Ministry of Health- Uganda.*

**Uganda National Bureau of Standards**

*The Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) is a parastatal body under the Ministry of Trade and Industry. UNBS's objectives are to facilitate national standards, promote standardisation, metrology (measurement systems), and develop quality control/assurance systems. The portal includes information on the food and agricultural- related standards from UNBS.*

**Uganda National Council on Science and Technology**

*The Uganda National Council on Science and Technology (UNCST) has a mandate to support scientific and academic research in the country.*

**US Minor Outlying Is**

**USA**

**FDA**

*The FDA regulates all foods, except for meat and poultry which is regulated by the USDA. They are responsible for product standards, including labelling, and products that are contaminated with pesticides. (Source: FDA).*

**USDA**

*USDA is responsible for the safety of meat, poultry, and egg products, and helps ensure open markets for U.S. agricultural products. (Source: USDA)*

**APHIS**

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is a division of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-APHIS) that safeguards agriculture and natural resources from the risks associated with the entry, establishment, or spread of animal and plant pests and noxious weeds. The portal includes APHIS completed Pest Risk Assessments (Source: US).

**FAS**

FAS works to improve foreign market access for U.S. products. This USDA agency operates programs designed to build new markets and improve the competitive position of U.S. agriculture in the global marketplace. (Source: USDA)

**FSIS**

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is the public health agency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture responsible for ensuring that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe, wholesome, and correctly labeled and packaged [Source: FSIS]

**US Federal Register**

*US Federal Register: Published by the U.S. Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), the Federal Register is the official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of US government agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents. The US Federal Register provides a beta-electronic version of the Code of Federal Regulations (e-CFR) (Source: US).*

**US House of Representatives**

*The Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the U.S. House of Representatives (US House of Representatives) publishes the US Code. The Code is a consolidation and codification by subject matter of the general and permanent laws of the United States (Source: US).*

**US Other**

**Uruguay**

**Uzbekistan**

**Holy See**

**Saint Vincent/Grenadines**

**Venezuela**

**British Virgin Islands**

**US Virgin Islands**

**Viet Nam**

**Vanuatu**

**Wallis and Futuna Is**

**Wake Island**

**Samoa**

**Yemen**

**Mayotte**

**South Africa**

**Zambia**

**Zimbabwe**

**Regional Bodies**

**APPPC**

Asia and Pacific Region Plant Protection Commission

**COSAVE**

Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur

**CPPC**

Caribbean Plant Protection Commission

**EPPO**

European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization

**European Union**

EU: Information from the EU is provided in consultation with the EU SPS Enquiry Point, DG SANCO, and is drawn principally from the main Commission legal database (EURLex), the website of the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA), the Automated Documentation Central Service (SCADPlus), and the DG Trade Expanding Exports Helpdesk.

**EFSA**

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) provides risk assessments and scientific advice on all issues related to food and feed safety, and to animal health and welfare. In close collaboration with national authorities and in

open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks.

**EU-DG Trade**

The Expanding Exports Helpdesk (EU-DG Trade) is an online resource, provided by DG Trade to facilitate access for developing countries to markets within the European Union (Source: EU).

**EURLEX**

EURLex is the official portal for European Union law. It provides texts in all the official languages of the EU.

**EU-SCADPlus**

The EU Automated Documentation Central Service (EU – SCADPlus) is a Commission site that provides user-friendly fact sheets that summarise EU legislation (Source: EU).

**IAPSC**

Inter-African Phytosanitary Council

**NAPPO**

The North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) is comprised of federal plant protection officials from Canada, Mexico and the United States. Information in the portal comes from the Phytosanitary Alert System and includes pest alerts of importance to North America.

**OIRSA**

Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria

**PPPO**

Pacific Plant Protection Organization

**CA**

Andean Community