

**SPS ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ECAC)
SUMMARY REPORT OF THE SIXTH VIRTUAL MEETING
16 NOVEMBER 2022**

1 INTRODUCTION

1. The Secretariat (represented by Mr Simon Padilla) welcomed participants and provided a brief introduction on the purpose of the meeting. A list of participants is available in Annex 1.

2 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

2. Mr Philippe Isler from the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation highlighted the importance of supporting developing countries to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement through digitalization. Phillippe introduced Mr. Jens Lund-Nielsen and Mr. Jose Cantera from IOTA Foundation, who presented the Trade Logistics Information Pipeline (TLIP) system and discussed the opportunities and challenges in linking the TLIP with the ePhyto system were also presented.¹ Some of the key points discussed include:

- a. TLIP can enhance transparency and data sharing between national authorities and other third-party organizations/users through a decentralized approach that will ensure data ownership.
- b. Only users with the right permission and digital authentication can access such data, and the system ensures that the data is immutable and remains unaltered from source.
- c. A single window system with TLIP connecting nodes could facilitate data sharing and ensure data immutability and credibility.

3. A question/answer session focused on how a TLIP connector could ensure integrity of an ePhyto certificate from the source (NPPO). However, ensuring a single use of the electronic data of a phytosanitary certificate could be difficult to achieve.

3 INFORMATION SHARING

4. Several members expressed interest and potential of the TLIP system as a system of trust and supply chain traceability. Digitization of trade data helps to reduce border risks of paper-based records and support trade facilitation in developing countries.

5. WOHAI indicated that it would share progress on its work to implement electronic veterinary certification in the next ECAC meeting.

6. Erik Bosker reported on Codex's current cooperation with the World Customs Organization (WCO) on the Codex-derived information package to be used as a base model when developing food safety certificates.

7. The Secretariat encouraged members to share information on relevant initiatives, publications, and events linked to electronic certification that would be shared on the STDF/ECAC dedicated webpage.²

4 NEXT STEPS

8. The Secretariat will facilitate follow-up discussions with interested members to explore possible linkages between the TLIP system and other SPS eCert initiatives. The next ECAC meeting will be held in March 2023.

¹ See the presentation at:
https://standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/TLIP_presentation_STDF_ECAC_Nov-22.pdf

² See: <https://standardsfacility.org/sps-ecac>

9. The Secretariat thanked participants for their inputs and encouraged them to make use of the [ECAC website](#) to track various eCert related efforts.

ANNEX 1
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organization	E-mail
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