

# Update on e-Phytosanitary Certificate

- Results of the Questionnaire on Phytosanitary Certificate
- Thailand's Progress in the Implementation of e-Phyto Certificate
- Next Step Discussion

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## Phytosanitary Certificate

- An official document issued by the national plant protection organization (NPPO) of the exporting country and transmitted to the NPPO of the importing country.
- Phytosanitary Certificate certifies that the plants or plant products covered by the certificate have been inspected according to appropriate procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests and practically free from other injurious pests.
- Furthermore, the Phytosanitary Certificate attests that the traded goods conform to the current phytosanitary regulations of the importing country.

## e-Cert (Electronic Certificate)

- e-Cert is an international standard developed by UN/CEFACT. Its objective is to standardize the electronic exchange of information for traded agricultural products.
- It allows for information to be exchanged electronically using XML from government to government (G2G) for sanitary (human and animal health) and phytosanitary (plant health) certificates.

## Questionnaire on Phytosanitary Certificate

The questionnaire aims to identify the readiness of AFACT member countries to exchange the Phytosanitary Certificate electronically and to implement the electronic Phytosanitary Certificate aligned to the UN/CEFACT's e-Cert standard.

# Results of the Questionnaire on Phytosanitary Certificate

Questionnaire on Phytosanitary Certificate was sent to AFACT members.  
 Completed questionnaires had been returned by **Pakistan, Japan, Taiwan, and Thailand.**

## No. of Phytosanitary Certificates in 2016

AFACT Member	Responsible Organization for Issuing Phytosanitary Certificates	Total no. of Phyto Certificates issued in 2016			Total no. of Phyto Certificates received in 2016
		Export	Re-Export	Total	
<b>Japan</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - <b>Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau</b> -- Plant Protection Division	~30,000	~1,700	~31,700	<b>~220,000</b>
<b>Pakistan</b>	Ministry of National Food Security and Research - <b>Department of Plant Protection</b> -- Quarantine Division	109,602	--	109,602	45,022
<b>Taiwan</b>	Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan - <b>Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine</b> -- Plant Quarantine Division	97,609	--	97,609	210,763
<b>Thailand</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives - <b>Department of Agriculture</b> -- Office of Agricultural Regulation	353,554	~ 300	<b>~ 353,854</b>	--

# Results of the Questionnaire on Phytosanitary Certificate

## Export Processing

Export Processing → the issuing of Phytosanitary Certificates

AFACT Member	Can exporters apply for Phyto Certificates online through NSW or organization's website?	Internal system (or database) for issuing Phyto Certificates or are they issued manually?
Japan	Online → Apply online through NSW	NPPO's internal system for issuing Phyto Certificates
Pakistan	Manual	Phyto Certificates are issued manually
Taiwan	Online	NPPO's internal system for issuing Phyto Certificates
Thailand	Manual → have plans for online systems	NPPO's internal system for issuing Phyto Certificates

## Import Processing

Import Processing → the receipt of Phytosanitary Certificates

AFACT Member	Are scanned copies of Phyto Certificates uploaded into NSW as attachments to import declarations?	Do you keep hard copies of Phyto Certificates received from other countries?	National legislation require original Phyto Certificates to be cited at the time of import?	National legislation allow for electronic Phyto Certificates to be accepted instead of paper documents?
Japan	No.	Yes. Importers are required to submit the hard copies of Phyto Certificates to NPPO of Japan at the time of import, and <u>NPPO of Japan keeps Phyto Certificates for a certain period.</u>	Yes. Required original ( <u>or certificated copy of</u> ) Phyto Certificates to be cited at the time of import.	Yes.
Pakistan	Not in all cases. Few countries like Iran demand scanned copies.	Yes	Yes.	Yes.
Taiwan	No.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Thailand	Yes.	Yes	Yes.	Yes.

# Results of the Questionnaire on Phytosanitary Certificate

## Technical Issues

<b>AFACT Member</b>	<b>Is your internal system able to generate an electronic Phyto Certificate? Is it based on UN/CEFACT e-Cert standard?</b>	<b>Which format of an electronic Phyto Certificate?</b>	<b>Do you require an electronic Phyto Certificate to be signed with digital signature?</b>
<b>Japan</b>	No	N/A	N/A. NPPO does not exchange electronic Phyto Certificates with other countries.
<b>Pakistan</b>	No	N/A	Yes
<b>Taiwan</b>	No	N/A	No
<b>Thailand</b>	No	N/A	Yes

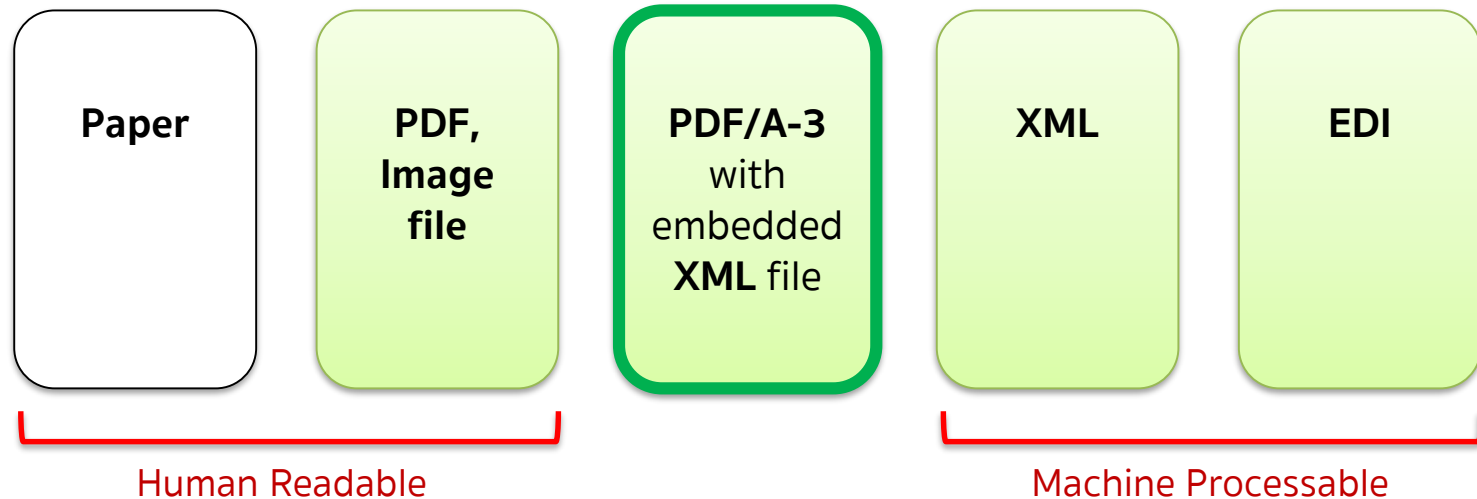
# Results of the Questionnaire on Phytosanitary Certificate

## Any other comment or suggestion

<b>Japan</b>	<p>The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is now working on developing an <b>electronic hub system</b> that is able to facilitate the transfer of electronic Phytosanitary Certificates between NPPOs. The NPPO of Japan is <b>currently studying to connect its national system to the said hub system.</b></p>
<b>Pakistan</b>	<p><b>NTTFC is striving hard to electronically connect</b> Department of Plant Protection and Animal Quarantine Department <b>with Web Based One Customs (WeBOC).</b> IT equipment's are being arranged for these departments from the Government to speed up connectivity.</p>
<b>Taiwan</b>	<p>Phytosanitary certificates must meet the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No. 12: Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates. It states that electronic phytosanitary certificates may be used when data is exchanged using an agreed, secure, government-to-government system (eCert). Also, it indicates that <b>a paper phytosanitary certificate without signature and stamp by the NPPO is considered unacceptable.</b></p> <p>The Indian government has begun issuing phytosanitary certificates from <b>an electronic web based system and has advised that system access will be given to the NPPO of importing countries,</b> allowing them to view the certificates. However, the India government did not discuss the new measure nor received agreement from BAPHIQ. Therefore, in trade practice, exporters print out the eCert paper by themselves without signature and stamp by the NPPO of India.</p> <p>However, those phytosanitary certificates without signature and stamp are not considered acceptable. When an unacceptable phytosanitary certificate is presented to BAPHIQ, <b>importers will be requested to provide a correct phytosanitary certificate with signature and stamped by the NPPO of India.</b></p>
<b>Thailand</b>	<p>The NPPO of Thailand plans to develop <b>e-Phytosanitary system in July 2018.</b> Electronic Phytosanitary Certificates will be generated in <b>XML format based on the UN/CEFACT e-Cert standard.</b> This XML file will be embedded in <b>PDF/A-3</b> file and signed with the digital signature by the NPPO of Thailand.</p> <p>However, the discussion with the plant protection organization of the importing country is needed to ensure the acceptance of electronic documents.</p>

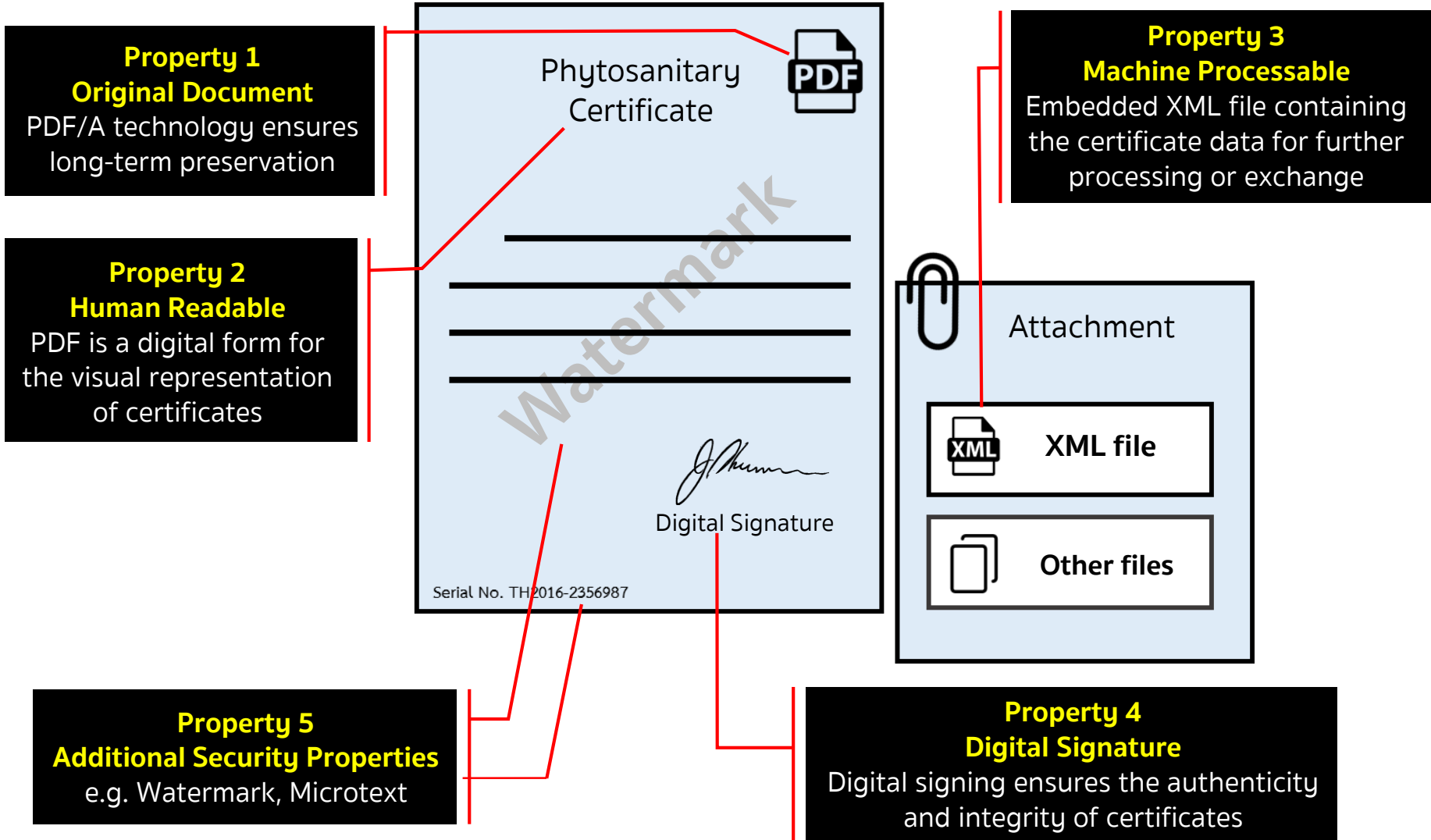
- ❑ The NPPO of Thailand plans to develop e-Phytosanitary system in **July 2018**.
- ❑ e-Phyto Certificate will be generated in **XML** format based on the UN/CEFACT e-Cert standard.
- ❑ The XML file will be embedded in **PDF/A-3** file and signed with the **digital signature** by the NPPO of Thailand.
- ❑ However, the discussion with other NPPOs of the importing country is needed to ensure the acceptance of electronic documents.

## Format of documents



# Thailand's Progress in e-Phyto Certificate Implementation

## PDF/A-3 with embedded XML





# Next Step Discussion:

How to exchange e-Phyto Certificate ?





**For more information:** <https://standard.etda.or.th/>

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