



## **Notice to Trade #14**

### **Call for continuation and advancement of measures to provide for paperless and digitalized exchange of phytosanitary certificates**

25 August, 2021

The use of paperless and digitalized trading documentation by official entities at national, regional and global level is a successful response to the need to provide for efficient and reliable trade. These official measures support the international movement of grains, oilseeds, pulses and other agri-bulks from areas of surplus to areas of need. They include:

- digital attachments, signatures, copies of trade related documents;
- public-private cooperation;
- adoption of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) ePhyto Solution.

IGTC recognizes and applauds the many official actions taken to improve management of documents that underpin the international movement of grain such as certificates for plant health, supervision, fumigation, country of origin, bills of lading, and bank custody.

Paperless exchange and digitalization of phytosanitary certificates during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has been an important contribution to innovation of the digital ecosystem for phytosanitary certificate management.

**To maintain and build upon the inspirational success, this IGTC Notice to Trade calls for continuation and expansion of official measures to utilize electronic exchange and management of phytosanitary certificates.**

For the phytosanitary certificate, National and Regional Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs and RPPOs) play a pivotal role in supporting global trade of plant products through crucial communication and transparency of phytosanitary requirements to protect plant health and ensure international, unrestricted and safe trade of goods.

In light of global sustainable food systems goals and the multilateral trade facilitation agenda, future pathways need to include the adoption of digitalized trading documentation for reliable, responsive, resilient trade that benefits consumers, agricultural producers and the supply chain at large.

IGTC looks forward to continuing work with partners, serving food systems, and forging collaborative solutions to ensure the safe trade of plant products. For further information please contact us: [Secretariat@igtglobal.org](mailto:Secretariat@igtglobal.org) +41 78 932 96 18