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Digitalization of agricultural trade – needs and solutions
for national inspection bodies

1 Context – Digitalisation transformation

2 Specifications for FFV Electronic Quality Certification System

Improved coordination between stakeholders in trade & Better risk management

Focus areas

- ▶ **Facilitate collecting information from different actors & Re-use of supply chain data:** Providing Customs and other Partner Competent Authorities with a 360-degree overview of the movements of goods and their supply chains
 - ▶ **Pre-arrival/Pre-departure processing:** Facilitate submission and *processing of declarations*, notifications, supporting documents prior to the presentation of goods
 - ▶ **Enhanced cooperation between customs and non-customs authorities:** Interoperability/information exchange, operational coordination, multi-agency risk management, improved enforcement of prohibitions and restrictions
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- ▶ **Better risk management:** Providing Customs and other Partner Competent Authorities with access to real-time data and with richer information to support a more informed risk assessment for a better targeting and more effective decision on which shipments to inspect

Context - Digitalisation projects

Digital Customs, Digital Partner Government Authority, Interoperability, Interconnectivity & Cross-border Information Exchange

Digital Customs

ASYCUDAWorld Integrated Customs Information System, including alignments with regional Customs Unions requirements (EU, EACU, EAC, CARICOM, COMESA, etc.).

Interconnectivity & Interoperability

► Cross-Border Information Exchange

(Customs, Transport, Regulatory data integration and processing)

► Digital corridors (Air/Sea/Road/Rail/MMT)

Digital Partner Government Agency



Collection of integrated applications and solutions developed by UNCTAD/ASYCUDA at the request of Member States to address the needs of different regulatory agencies, and to achieve the required balance between trade control and facilitation



Platform to facilitate the electronic exchange of data for pre-arrival (entry) and pre-departure (exit)



Development of a cloud-based electronic permit system offering automated support for permit application, processing, issuance, and reporting



ASYCUDA module for the management of sanitary and phytosanitary certificates.

Context - Permits management solutions

UNCTAD provides several **permits management solutions** integrated with customs systems



Permits management solutions





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Specifications for FFV Electronic Quality Certification System








Automated System for Customs Data






United Nations e-Business Standards and Tools for Sustainable Agriculture Trade



Specifications for an Electronic Quality Certification System for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

March 2022

- the high-level end-to-end business process,
- sub-processes, and
- main entities and their state transitions



1. Risk analysis process			
Brief Description	<p>The Exporter initiates the certification process by requesting a conformity certificate for a consignment from the Competent Authority of the exporting country. The RfC has been registered and passed on to the Competent Authority.</p> <p>Based on the RfC "Control date" the eQCert system will either initiate the risk analysis process or delay that process. Where the control date of request is not within the time limit set by the Competent Authority (e.g. within the next 48 hours), the system will start the timer for automatic initialisation of risk analysis. Upon expiration of the timer the eQCert system will initiate the risk analysis process and record the risk analysis results (Risk identified or No risk).</p> <p>The eQCert system should automatically check whether the Exporter is an Approved Trader (authorised trader classified in the lowest risk category,) and if his authorisation is still valid.</p> <p>Based on the outcome of the risk analysis process the system will indicate whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RfC has gone through the risk analysis and is now being evaluated by the Competent Authority of the exporting country. • The RfC has gone through the risk analysis and a Conformity Certificate or a Waiver will be issued automatically * <p>* Exporter has the status of Approved Trader, benefiting from a reduced level of controls or exemption and the automatic issuance of Conformity Certificate or Waiver is enabled in the system</p> <p>Outcome/Final situation: Risk analysis completed, results recorded and communicated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk identified, risk analysis results recorded indicating the recommended control types, the lots that should be checked and the sample size. The system will assign status "RISK IDENTIFIED" to the RfC and to each lot for which the system identified a certain level of risk. <p>The Competent Authority or the Competent Inspection body should maintain the catalogue of sample sizes (number of packages to be taken to check the lot for conformity) and activate the function for the automatic selection of sample size in eQCert.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No risk. Conformity Certificate/Waiver may be issued automatically or pending final decision by certification officer. 		
Actor(s)	Primary: Competent Authority Secondary: Exporter		
Pre-Conditions	Exporter submitting a RfC		
Basic Flow of Events			
Actor(s) Actions	Result/System Response		
eQCert system	Automatic	1.1	Receive RfC and accompanying documents (scanned documents) Validate RfC data, set RfC status as "REQUESTED" Verify "Control date". If control date is in the future (more than 48 hours) start "Timer for initiating risk analysis".
		1.2	Initiate risk analysis if the control date of request is within the time limit set by Competent Authority (e.g. less than 48 hours) or upon expiration of "Timer for initiation of risk analysis"
		1.2.1	Set RfC status "RISK IDENTIFIED" if risk identified
		1.2.2	Issue Conformity Certificate or Waiver automatically if no risk (Exporter has the status of Approved Trader) and the automatic issuance function is being enabled within eQCert system. Set RfC status "ISSUED"

Core features/functionality

▶ Traders

- create and submit request for conformity checks,
- follow-up status of their application,
- submit additional information and/or documents on request made by competent authority
- receive conformity certificates

▶ Competent authorities

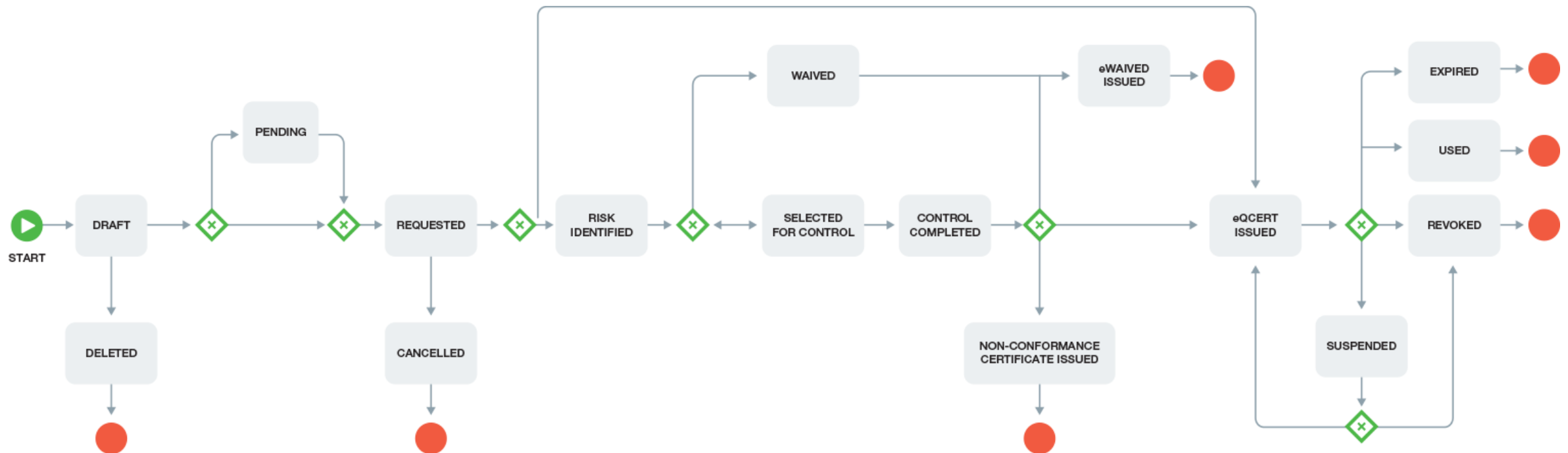
- work with dematerialized documents, which addresses the issues with paper-documents fraud as well as the need for paper storage
- have access to all requests for conformity certificates
- perform risk analysis, handle control results and take decision on the issuance of conformity certificates,
- manage complaints,
- issue conformity certificates,
- engage with other authorities (e.g. Customs) in order to exchange information

▶ Customs

- receive the electronic conformity certificate data in a streamlined procedure

Core processes - FFV Electronic Quality Certification System

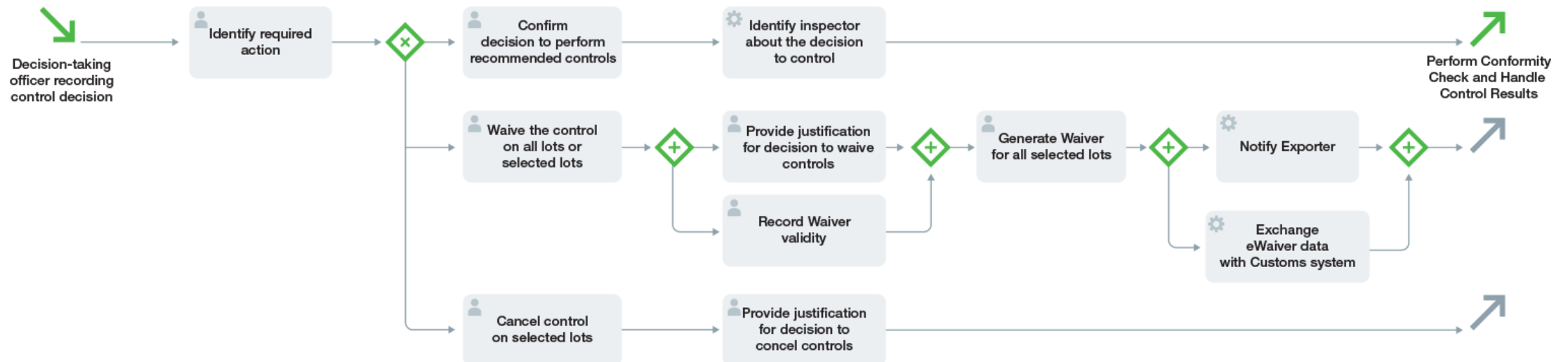
- **Electronic submission** of the request for conformity checks supported by automated checks of the data and receiving notifications (conformity certificates, waivers or non-conformity reports) for the processing
- **Risk analysis process**
- **Decision making process**
 - Start Take Decision,
 - Manage Adjustments,
 - Take Decision & Notify



State transitions

Core processes - FFV Electronic Quality Certification System

- **Perform Conformance Checks** process
 - **Handle Control Results**, including
 - Reporting compliance, defects, waivers, split lots
 - Automatic exchange of electronic data with national Customs Authority (Conformity certificate, Waiver declaration and Certificate of Non-Conformance data)
 - Automatic exchange of electronic data with Competent Authority in the country of importation (Conformity certificate data)
 - **Manage Complaints** Process - Follow-up inspection of the defective lot (Reinspection),
- **Issuance of Conformity Certificates** process



ASYCUDA
Automated System for Customs Data

ASYCUDA
40
YEARS

THANK YOU!
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



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