Philippines Specific Experience with Export Certification

APEC Export Certification Workshop
Greenbelt Marriott Hotel
Greenbelt, Maryland, USA
April 24-25, 2012

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Where we are...
Geography

- **Location:**
  Just above the equator in Southeast Asia, archipelago composed of about 7,107 islands between the Western Pacific Ocean and the South China Sea, east of Vietnam

- **Area:**
  total: 300,000 sq. km.
  land: 298,170 sq. km.
  water: 1,830 sq. km.

- **Agricultural land area:**
  9.560 million hectares
Economy

- **GDP**  
  (at current prices): P 9,003 billion  
  (at constant 2000 prices): P 5,702 billion

- **Share of agriculture in GDP**: 12%

- **GVA in agriculture and fishing**  
  (at current prices): P 1,106 billion  
  (at constant 2000 prices): P 660 billion

- **Distribution by sub-sector**:  
  Crops: 48%:  
  - palay 19%, corn 5%, coconut 5%, sugarcane 2%, banana 5%, mango 2%, pineapple 2%, others 8%
  
  Livestock: 14%  
  Poultry: 10%  
  Fisheries: 21%  
  Agricultural activities and services: 7%
External Trade

Value of total agricultural exports: P185 billion f.o.b.

- % agriculture in total exports: 8%
- Top agricultural export commodities:
  - coconut oil (31%), fresh banana (8%),
  - tuna (9%), pineapple and products (6%)
- Major markets:
  - coconut oil: The Netherlands (43%), USA (34%)
  - tuna: USA (25%), Germany (13%)
  - fresh banana: Japan (53%), Iran (12%)
  - pineapple and products: USA (54%), Japan (14%)
External Trade

Value of total agricultural imports: P 334 billion c.i.f.

- % agriculture in total imports: 13%
- Top agricultural import commodities:
  - rice (22%),
  - milk and cream and products (8%),
  - wheat (7%),
  - soya bean oil/cake meal (5%)
- Major suppliers:
  - rice: Vietnam (74%)
  - milk and cream and products: New Zealand (42%), USA (24%)
  - wheat: USA (56%), Canada (14%)
  - soya bean oil/cake meal: USA (50%), Argentina (46%)
Export Certification Experience

- Bureau of Plant Industry
- Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- Bureau of Animal Industry
- National Meat Inspection Service
Exportation of Fruits and Vegetables

- Issuance of Export Certificate is based on the requirements of the importing country or based on MOA/MOU as a result of bilateral agreement.

- Laboratory test results on pesticide residue analysis, heavy metals or *Vibrio cholera* and other information required by the importing country in the form of attestations attached to the Phytosanitary Certificate.

- No specific food safety certificate is issued by the BPI.

- New guidelines for the possible issuance of Export Food Safety Certificate by BPI is being drafted to certify fitness for human consumption, as several importing countries have started to require.
Exportation of Fish and Aquaculture Products

- Issuance of Export Certificate is based on the requirements of the importing country or based on MOA/MOU as a result of bilateral agreement.

- Sanitary Fish/Aquaculture Certificate can be accompanied by one or combination of issuances such as Fish Health Certificate, Chemical and Microbiological Laboratory Analysis results.

- EU requires additional certification/attestations on EU approved fishing/freezer vessels and fish origin.
Exportation of Meat and Meat Products

- Issuance of Export Certificate is based on the requirements of the importing country or based on MOA/MOU as a result of bilateral agreement.
- Two government Agencies issue separate International Veterinary Certificate and Official Meat Inspection Certificate to accompany export.
- Exports made from imported raw materials but processed locally require Special Attestations pertaining to some details of the raw material country of origin.
- Exports to Muslim countries require Halal Certification attached to the Official Meat Inspection Certificate.
- Laboratory Meat Residue/ Micro tests results attached to the Official Meat inspection Certificate.
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION SERVICE
Visayas Avenue, Dilliman, Quezon City

OFFICIAL MEAT INSPECTION CERTIFICATE

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<tr>
<th>MEAT PLANT AND ACCREDITATION NO.</th>
<th>MEAT PLANT ADDRESS</th>
<th>VESSEL/AIRCRAFT</th>
<th>PORT OF DISCHARGE</th>
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<tr>
<th>MARKS, NUMBERS ON CANS</th>
<th>NUMBER AND KIND OF PACKAGE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION OF GOODS</th>
<th>NT. WT. AND VALUE</th>
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I hereby certify that the shipment above were prepared, processed and packaged under the following conditions:

1. They were derived from fed animals slaughtered at an accredited abattoir for export purpose, passed ante-mortem and post-mortem veterinary inspection, found to be free from dangerous communicable animal diseases and, suitable in every way for human consumption.

2. In the preparation, processing and packing of the meat/meat products, no injurious ingredients were used and that all necessary precautions were observed to prevent and preclude danger to public that may result from the consumption of these products.

Issued this __________ day of __________, 20__ at __________, Philippines.

__________________________  ______________________________
Regional Director          Meat Control Officer
(Signature Over Printed Name)  (Signature Over Printed Name)
IMPORTATION

- Importation Clearance (SPS Clearance) required
- Accreditation of Country of Origin and Establishment
- Registration of Importers
- Sanitary/Phytosanitary/ Food Safety Certification required and other attestations based on bilateral agreements, MOA/MOU and on knowledge, confidence and experience with trading partners

Fruits, Vegetables, Fish, Aquaculture Products, Meat and Meat Products
Issues and Concerns on the Export Certificates

- Food Safety Certificates not distinct with Animal/Fish Health Certificates.
- Attestations come in different formats based on the variety of requirements of importing countries.
- Difficulty of rectifying errors or making changes in issued Export Certificates due to language barrier at the port of entry.
- Export Certificate is the basic legal document used by Competent Authorities in the Philippines to certify fitness for human consumption of exported primary agricultural products.
- Likewise it is the legal document required by importing countries to be assured of compliances to their SPS measures.
- Same is true in importation when issues on traceability, safety or legality become an issue, the Export Certificate is the document that is initially verified.
- Takes time to revise legislations/issuances related to the process of certification and use of Export Certificates.
- Absence of alternative means of certification.
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Thank You