UPDATE ON EPHYTO

The purpose of this paper is to provide a brief update on developments related to electronic phytosanitary certification (ePhyto).

Following the meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-8 2013) an individual competent to perform the feasibility study on an ePhyto hub/cloud has been identified, contracted and currently engaged in producing the study. Among other things, the consultant will be conducting a series of interviews with ePhyto experts worldwide and information gathering activities in the initial stages of the work. Despite some initial issues related to contracting the individual, the work has been initiated and a preliminary draft on the study is expected to be available for the upcoming meeting of the Strategic Planning Group in October, 2013.

Following a phone call that took place on June 17, 2013 with the members of the newly constituted ePhyto steering group, a face to face meeting will be taking place in Auckland, New Zealand in September.