The revised EU Regulation

Implications for exports to Europe

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Impacts for the trade and Third Countries

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Impacts for Third Countries

> Opportunity for acceptance of local certification bodies by EU

> Third Country listing no longer necessary to facilitate export

> Choice between equivalence and compliancy with EU system
Impacts for trade

> No change expected before 2010:
  > System of import permits will continue at least until end of 2009

> If you import certified products:
  > Less bureaucracy
  > More responsibility for quality assurance
  > Check whether the CB intends to apply for the EU list for the respective non-EU-country
  > Also European CB‘s have to be listed for activities outside the EU
Recommendations for CB‘s offering services outside of Europe

> Be prepared for application:

  > Accreditation or equivalent assessment
  > Scope has to include the countries of operation
  > Types and an estimate of the quantities of agricultural products and foodstuffs intended for export to the Community
  > Proof for notification of activities in third countries
  > Production standards and control arrangements
Concerns and opportunities

- Consistent surveillance of European and non-European certification bodies
  - Supervision system run by institutions qualified and trained for the specific requirements of the EU regulation
  - Based on a common approach
  - Sufficient capacities within EU

- Tools to assess compliance and equivalency of standards applied in third countries.
Concerns and opportunities

> “Compliance” in third countries needs to be evaluated very carefully, not only equivalence

> Publication of such assessments to increase transparency

> Definition of suitable equivalent measures for requirements which cause unbearable burden to farmers in Third Countries

> International Complaints Mechanism
Conclusions

> Facilitating international trade
> Opportunity for local certification bodies
> Weakening or strengthening of the system? Success depends on
  > Implementation rules by EU
  > Capacities provided by EU Commission and Member States