Impact of Aflatoxins on Trade
Overview

• Implications of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures on food safety and trade (safe trade)
• Challenges in regional and international trade
• Recent cases of aflatoxins in the EU & Lessons learnt
• Priorities for PACA
Objective - human, plant and animal health

In terms of food safety, key provisions that underpin national food safety systems are:

- **Article 3** – Role of International Standards (Codex)
- **Article 4** – Equivalence of food safety systems
- **Article 5** – Risk analysis, i.e. risk assessment, risk management and risk communication
- **Article 7** – Transparency in both domestic and external trade
The WTO SPS Agreement (Governance)

WTO

SPS Commitee

SPS Policy

ISSOs

OIE

IPPC

CODEX

Regional Trade Agreements

Animal Health

Plant Health

Food Safety

Legal Authority

Government Official Controls

CODEX Standards Guidelines Recommendations

PACA Strategy Meeting - Dar Es Salaam - 10-12 April 2013
Mycotoxins/aflatoxins challenge in regional trade

- Mobilizing public / private investments
- Legislation & institutional framework
- Varied sampling and testing protocols (scientific data for establishing FSO and negotiating equivalence)
- Varied laboratory competencies, rejection of certificates of analysis
- The result in mistrust and restrictions on trade in aflatoxin sensitive foods
- Maize, peanuts, cassava, and value added products e.g. peanut butter, cassava flour etc
Challenges in international trade

**EU 178/2002** – (a) places legal obligations on food operators (producers, food & feed processors) to ensure food safety, to review and control critical control points for mycotoxin contamination **(systems)**, supplemented by:

(b) maximum limits for mycotoxins in food stuffs

**Reg 165/2010** amends Reg. 1881/2006, total aflatoxin from 4 to 8 ppb for ready to eat, 10-12 ppb for further processing, aflatoxin M1/ 0.05 ppb, (c) OC methods for sampling and analysis of mycotoxins **Reg 178/2010** amends Reg 401/2006, bringing EU legislation in line with Codex (from 30 kg to 20 kg sample size)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>Total Aflatoxins</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Republic of South Africa</td>
<td>10 - 15 ppb</td>
<td>Cereals, peanuts, other nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>10 ppb</td>
<td>Cereals, peanuts, other nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>5 ppb</td>
<td>Cereals, peanuts, other nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>5 ppb</td>
<td>Cereals, peanuts, other nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>10 ppb</td>
<td>Cereals, peanuts, other nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>10 ppb</td>
<td>Cereals, peanuts, other nuts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Challenges in international trade

- The World Bank estimates that Africa loses over US$750 million in export trade earnings annually due to aflatoxin contamination’
- RASFF notifications; 2000-2010 (10 notifications), 2011-2012 (9 notifications)
Recent cases in the EU (Feb – Mar 2013)

- **Romania, Serbia, Croatia** - aflatoxins in milk
- **Germany**: Aflatoxin in animal feed traced to a shipment from Serbia
- **Belgium**: High levels of aflatoxin in milk and feed - suspected source, maize imported from Romania
- 2001-2011 – EU RASFF had 9 notifications
- 2012-2013 – EU RASFF had 10 notifications
- While in the past aflatoxin was a problem with imports, increasingly these are problems in the EU
- **China** – consumer rejection of infant formula
Lessons Learnt &
Priority actions for PACA

Lessons Learnt – (1) A food safety problem in one country easily becomes a regional problem, (b) The EU early detection, emergency response systems & RASFF, Priority Actions (1) evidence to identify & pilot best practice/policy, regulatory, equivalence, mitigation technology (2) Utilize the convening power of AU/RECs (3) utilize existing financing mechanisms (IF, CAADP, CC) to scale up best practice in policy, regulatory, mitigation etc