

# LAWS GOVERNING VARIETY RELEASE, CERTIFICATION & SEED IMPORT AND EXPORT

**By: Stellamaris N. Mulika**

**kenya plant health inspectorate service (KEPHIS)**

**SEMIS- NPPOs & Seed Quality Regulators' Course**  
**16th-21st January 2017**

Seed Enterprises Management Institute

University of Nairobi

# Introduction

- ▶ Purpose
  - Release of cultivars introduces newly bred varieties to the public for commercialization in the country and within region in which it is suitable.
  - Certification is to ensure that farmers get good quality seed,
  - Import and export regulations are to facilitate safe trade

SEMIS UON

Seed Enterprises Management Institute

University of Nairobi

# Variety release procedure

- ▶ Designating agency to handle
- ▶ Applications
- ▶ Variety testing
- ▶ Data evaluation and reporting
- ▶ NPTC recommendations
- ▶ NVRC approvals
- ▶ Entry into National variety List (Gazettement)
- ▶ Commercialization

# Variety release challenges

- ▶ Over regulation or poor regulation block release of varieties that could be beneficial to farmers
- ▶ Delays or long procedures
- ▶ Variety testing and release procedures not supported by law
- ▶ Vested interests
- ▶ Free flow of germplasm is affected

# Seed certification procedures

- ▶ Registrations
- ▶ Field inspections
- ▶ Factory processing inspections
- ▶ Sampling
- ▶ Seed testing
- ▶ Seed labelling
- ▶ Post control
- ▶ Post certification survey

SEMIS UoN

Seed Enterprises Management Institute

University of Nairobi

# Seed import and export

- ▶ Registration
- ▶ Notification
- ▶ Obtaining PIP/Phytosanitary certificate
- ▶ ISTA/acceptable test certificate
- ▶ Verification at entry/exit
- ▶ Sampling in case of import
- ▶ Testing (Pre-control/lab test)
- ▶ Commercialization

SEMIS UoN  
Seed Enterprises Management Institute  
University of Nairobi

# Laws applicable

- ▶ In case of Kenya
  - seed and plant varieties act Cap 326
  - Plant protection act cap 324
  - Noxious and invasive weeds AFFA act 2012

SEMIS UoN  
Seed Enterprises Management Institute  
University of Nairobi

**END**

**Thank you**

**smulika@kephis.org**

Seed Enterprises Management Institute

University of Nairobi