



REPORT

Virtual Meeting
10 June 2015
15:00 to 17:00 GMT

Technical Panel on Forest Quarantine June, 2015



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

CONTENTS

1. Opening of the meeting	3
Election of rapporteur	3
2. IPPC Secretariat Updates	3
Update from the Tenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures	3
Update from Standards Committee 2015 May meeting	4
3. Update on IFQRG/IPPC work programme 2015	6
4. Discussion/status on IPSM 15 Treatment Criteria (2006-010)	6
5. TPFQ Work Programme for 2015	7
6. Other Business	8
7. Close of the meeting	8
Appendix 1 - Agenda	9

1. Opening of the meeting

- [1] The IPPC Secretariat (hereafter Secretariat) welcomed the participants to the meeting. The following TPFQ members participated in the meeting: Mr. Sven Christer **MAGNUSSON** (Norway), Mr. Mamoru **MATSUI** (Japan), Mr. Shane **SELA** (Canada), Mr. Eric **ALLEN** (IFQRG Chair), Mr. Victor **AGYEMAN** (Ghana), and Mr. Marcos Beéche **CISTERNAS** (Chile).
- [2] In addition the following four Standard Committee (SC) members: Mr. Piotr **WLODARCZYK** (TPFQ Steward), Ms. Marie-Claude **FOREST** (TPFQ Assistant Steward, Steward Wood ISPM (2006-029)), Mr Nicolaas **HORN** (Steward Seeds ISPM (2009-003)) and Ms. Alice **NDIKONTAR** (Steward Wood Handicrafts ISPM (2008-008)), and three Secretariat staff: Mr. Michael **ORMSBY**, Mr Brent **LARSON** and Mr Nuri **NIYAZI**, also attended.
- [3] The full list of TPFQ members and their contact details can be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)¹.
- [4] The Secretariat gave a brief explanation of the use of the Adobe Connect tool.
- [5] Mr Michael **ORMSBY**, (IPPC Secretariat) took on the role of Chair and introduced the agenda and it was adopted as presented in Appendix 1 of this report.

Election of rapporteur

- [6] Mr Michael **ORMSBY** acted as the rapporteur.

2. IPPC Secretariat Updates

Update from the Tenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures

- [7] The Secretariat provided an update from the Tenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-10) held in March 2015.
- [8] A formal objection received 14 days prior to the CPM-10 (2015) session noted that the content of the draft ISPM on *International movement of wood* (2006-029) was not consistent with current standards, which brought up the issue in general of the content of a commodity standard. It was suggested that the SC examine this issue and develop criteria for the content of commodity standard and their mode of development.
- [9] One CP underlined the importance of commodity standards such as ISPM 15 (*Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade*). They hoped that issues related to commodity standards be addressed as soon as possible, specifically those concerns related to the draft ISPMs on the *International movement of wood* (2006-029) that had received a formal objection prior to this CPM. As this CP was concerned that the SC would not have time fully to consider and discuss this issue, they suggested the CPM authorize the creation of a working group to consider the issue in order to enable the continued development of commodity standards.
- [10] The CPM agreed that the concept of a commodity standard should be determined and a small group was convened in the margins of the CPM with Argentina, Australia, Canada, EU, Japan, New Zealand, Sudan and United States.
- [11] The Secretariat updated the meeting participants on the adoption by CPM-10 of a relevant change to the List of topics for IPPC standards (LOT), namely the splitting of the TPPT subject “Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material (2007-101)” into the following two TPPT treatments: “Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of insects in debarked wood (2007-101A)” and “Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of nematodes and insects in debarked wood (2007-101B)”.

¹ TPFQ membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/publications/membership-tpfq>

- [12] Further, relating to the work of the Technical Panel of Forest Quarantine (TPFQ), it was noted that CPM-10 (2015) adopted the topic “Revision of dielectric heating section: Annex 1 (Approved phytosanitary treatments associated with wood packaging material) to ISPM 15: Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade”.
- [13] The FAO Legal Officer updated the CPM on the Secretariat’s efforts to facilitate the ISPM 15 symbol registration process². In 2014, the IPPC Secretariat initiated new registrations for 17 countries which were identified as the first group based on the prioritization criteria. In addition, in order to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the symbol and assist NPPOs in their interaction with their respective government, a letter was sent to the responsible Minister in each country explaining the purpose of registration and highlighting the need for political and financial support in registering or renewing the registration. Another letter was also sent to NPPOs providing information on the reimbursement procedures for compensating the costs of registration renewals done in 2013. In addition, the Secretariat informed the CPM of the work plan for 2015.
- [14] Canada and NAPPO presented the paper³ and spoke of the benefits of ISPM 15. They stated that due to the large volumes of wood packaging moving in international trade, the level of non-compliance continued to present a significant pest risk to forests.
- [15] Canada proposed that the IPPC Secretariat, NAPPO and other interested RPPOs work to organize an international workshop to discuss the challenges of implementation; recommendations to improve ISPM 15 and to explore opportunities for cooperative approaches for enforcement. Some CPs and RPPOs supported this proposal.
- [16] CPs shared the concern regarding non-compliance and supported continued collaboration on the implementation of ISPM 15.

Update from Standards Committee 2015 May meeting

- [17] The Secretariat provided an update from the Standards Committee (SC) 2015 May meeting⁴. The SC approved the following drafts revision of ISPMs for member consultation: “Revision of dielectric heating section (Annex 1 (Approved treatments associated with wood packaging material) to ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade) (2006-010B); and “Inclusion of the Phytosanitary treatment *Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material* (2006-010A) in annexes 1 and 2 of ISPM 15”.
- [18] 2008-008 *International movement of wood products and handicrafts made from wood*. Ms Alice NDIKONTAR (Cameroon) was assigned steward and Mr Lifeng WU (China) was assigned assistant-steward. This decision was taken because the previous steward, Mr DDK SHARMA (India), had not attended this SC meeting’s discussions on the draft.
- [19] 2006-010A *Inclusion of the PT Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material in annexes 1 and 2 of ISPM 15*. Mr Piotr WLODARCZYK (Poland) was assigned steward and Ms Marie-Claude FOREST (Canada) was assigned assistant-steward.
- [20] 2006-010B *Revision of dielectric heating section in Annex 1 of ISPM 15*. Mr Piotr WLODARCZYK (Poland) was assigned steward and Ms Marie-Claude FOREST (Canada) was assigned assistant-steward.
- [21] 2008-008 *International movement of wood products and handicrafts made from wood*
- [22] The need for the standard to describe the practical aspects related to the production of wood products and handicrafts made from wood that may affect pest risk (task 4 of the specification). Some members

² CPM 2015/12

³ CPM 2015/INF/10

⁴ SC May 2015 meeting report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/standards-committee/>

felt that this aspect had not been elaborated sufficiently in order to identify all products that fall under the scope and group them into categories, nor were the processes that would affect pest risk clearly identified and explained, and lastly it was not clear which phytosanitary measures could be applied.

- [23] Scope. The SC agreed with the small SC group's proposal to narrow the scope to handicrafts instead of the expert working group (EWG) proposal to cover manufactured or crafted products. The Assistant-steward noted that the draft should continue to include bamboo products because the pest risks are similar to wood, although this should be reviewed by the Technical Panel on Forest Quarantine (TPFQ) and there were several issues to be considered further such as the range of species covered by the term "bamboo", for example, other cane material and associated risks, and what is intended to be covered by "handicrafts".
- [24] ISPM 15 wood treatments as the basis for treatments. Some members stressed that ISPM 15 treatments are only approved for wood packaging material and hence the standard should not refer to these treatments. The SC agreed that reference to ISPM 15 treatments be left out of the draft and other risk management options be considered.
- [25] Customs harmonized codes. Also, customs harmonized codes were not considered appropriate for use in the draft as it would be hard to maintain them and keep them up-to-date.
- [26] Need for a list of products and major pest groups. Several members noted that this would be helpful to include in the draft as an appendix.
- [27] Official mark or symbol / certificate of compliance. It was pointed out that it was difficult to envisage the application of an official mark or symbol and it was not clear if this was a nationally authorized mark or symbol or an IPPC mark or symbol. The Secretariat warned of the resource implications of the latter. It was also not clear how the certificates of compliance would operate or whether they would replace phytosanitary certificates. This should be clarified or consider removal from the draft.
- [28] Commercial vs personal import. One member found that the import of wood products and handicrafts of a personal nature was not properly addressed and that some countries require declarations for "personal import" of such items, while others do not. It was not clear how this issue could be handled, but it was suggested that perhaps a label attesting the phytosanitary compliance could be used, as seen in The Netherlands for bulbs for personal use that are sold for export to USA and Canada.
- [29] PRA and justification to develop this standard. Several members felt the standard was providing conflicting views: on one hand it was too difficult to do a PRA as there were so many different types of products from so many different areas. On the other hand, the EWG concluded there was sufficient pest risk to warrant the development of mandatory requirements in this standard. Some SC members considered the draft standard needed more work on this because, as currently worded, it could mean that any kind of phytosanitary measure was technically justified. They felt pest risk still needed to be identified, considering the categories of wood and bamboo handicrafts.
- [30] It was suggested that Table 2 could be used to identify the pest risks and the level of processing that affect the pest risk, and based on this information, countries could evaluate if there was justification for applying phytosanitary measures. Nevertheless, the processing methods listed in Table 2 should be further developed. Several members stressed that it would be challenging to carry out PRA on handicrafts which are often made from different types of wood or bamboo derived from different origins and having been subjected to different levels of processing. They felt there may be an opportunity to take an "ISPM 15" type approach where phytosanitary measures could be agreed globally for certain categories of products.
- [31] The SC felt that the draft standard needed additional work by experts and agreed that the Assistant-steward (lead because Steward was absent at the SC May 2015) and Steward should revise the draft based on SC member comments and forward the revised draft to the TPFQ for their review.
- [32] The SC discussed the EWG recommendations.

- [33] Regarding the EWG's proposal for liaison with the World Customs Organization, several members felt it was important to include this organization as much as possible in the development of the draft, while others felt that it may be better to wait until the draft is ready for member consultation. This also applied to notification of industry stakeholders and other international organizations, recognizing that many NPPOs do this as a normal practice at member consultation.
- [34] Regarding setting up a system on the IPP to display examples of certificates of compliance, the SC felt this issue needed to be discussed after the final content of the draft was decided.
- [35] The SC *requested* the Steward Alice **NDIKONTAR** work with the TPFQ to revise the draft ISPM on the *International movement of wood products and handicrafts made from wood* (2008-008), taking into account SC May 2015 comments for improvement, and submit the revised draft to the next SC meeting.
- [36] *2006-029 International movement of wood*
- [37] The SC discussed that a way forward for the draft standard would be for the Steward to work with the TPFQ to try adding additional requirements. Some members felt it was important to take into consideration the outcomes from the working group to discuss the concept of the commodity standard, while others pointed out that the outcomes of this meeting, after discussions by the SPG, the SC and CPM, may change significantly. The SC, acknowledging that the final outcomes may change, agreed that the Steward and the TPFQ should still consider the outcomes when revising the draft standard.
- [38] The SC *agreed* that the Steward Marie-Claude **FOREST** in collaboration with the TPFQ would revise the draft ISPM on the *International movement of wood* (2006-029), taking into consideration the outcomes from the working group discussing the concept of a commodity standard, and present the revised draft to the SC November 2015 (to be received by the Secretariat before 2 October 2015).
- [39] *2009-003 International movement of seeds*
- [40] The SC *requested* the TPFQ to set as a high priority the development of the draft annex on forest seeds (2009-003) in order to submit it to the SC November 2015 meeting. This work will need to be completed in collaboration with the Steward Nicolaas **HORN**.

3. Update on IFQRG/IPPC work programme 2015

- [41] The meeting of IFQRG in 2015 will be held in York, UK in late October. We are planning to have a "symposium" focusing on systems approaches for managing phytosanitary risks in wood.
- [42] The meeting will take advantage of several terrible forestry issues in the UK to start discussions on forest phytosanitary concepts e.g. *Phytophthora ramorum* on larch, Ash dieback, and a number of others.

4. Discussion/status on IPSM 15 Treatment Criteria (2006-010)

- [43] The TPFQ is currently waiting on IFQRG to produce a publication on the application of the 'Cardiff Protocol'.
- [44] Members discussed at length the issues being faced with completing the annex given the science available. The IFQRG committee in particular has had difficulty developing the science supporting the "Cardiff Protocol". Partly a function of the difficulty of the science, partly the challenge of getting IFQRG members to fully engage. It is now considered that IFQRG does not have the expertise required to move it forward from here. It was suggested that a way forward could be for TPFQ to form a focus group, with invited experts as required to finish this off and present the solution with an authoritative voice. This work could also be done independently of TPFQ.
- [45] Alternatively the Steward could invite the SC to establish an expert working group (EWG) to complete the work.
- [46] The TPFQ:

- (1) *agreed* to support the Steward taking this issue back to the SC to consider, by developing a paper for the SC meeting in November. A small working group was established to prepare this paper for consideration by TPFQ in a forum or a later virtual meeting.

5. TPFQ Work Programme for 2015

[47] The meeting participants discussed the following items on the TPFQ work programme.

[48] Annexes 1&2 Sulphuryl fluoride and Dielectric Heating schedules for ISPM15 (2006-010)

[49] These draft treatment annexes were presented by the Steward Piotr **WLODARCZYK** to the SC meeting and were approved without alteration to go for member country consultation in 2015.

[50] Wood handicrafts ISPM (draft) (2008-008)

[51] The Steward Alice **NDIKONTAR** outlined the discussion at the SC and noted the following main points:

[52] - the scope needs to be reduced

[53] - pest risk still needed to be identified, considering the categories of wood and bamboo handicrafts

[54] - noted that the EWG had included, in the scope of the ISPM, products made from the hardened stems and culms of monocotyledonous plants otherwise known as bamboo (e.g. mainly but not exclusively species in the genera *Phyllostachys* and *Bambusa*) but requested this be further investigated.

[55] TPFQ members discussed the current omission of rattan from the draft ISPM, given the 600,000 tons of trade of which around 250,000 tons is commercially traded. Members considered that there were many commodities that could be included under handicrafts, such as handicrafts made from reeds, grasses etc. The EWG agreed to restrict the scope to wood and bamboo, given the scope stated by the specification and that bamboo pests were much the same as wood pests.

[56] Comments on the draft ISPM have been requested from SC members starting in June. The Steward will need to work with TPFQ to resolve the issues raised by SC members including the scope of the ISPM.

[57] The TPFQ:

- (2) *agreed* to work with the Steward on the issues raised by SC members via emails and online forum as necessary.

- (3) *agreed* that Sela will review the range of potential products that could be included in the scope of the ISPM.

[58] Wood ISPM (draft) (2006-029)

[59] The SC agreed that the Steward will work with TPFQ to try adding requirements to the draft ISPM in line with expectations for a commodity standard. The SC considers that the Wood ISPM will need to meet the scope of a commodity standard once that scope has been agreed.

[60] An EWG will be meeting in July to attempt to define what a commodity standard should contain. Once this EWG has completed this task the TPFQ will be able to review the draft ISPM under the revised specification.

[61] Members discussed the possibility of altering the scope of the ISPM to one that describes how to do risk assessments on wood products.

[62] The TPFQ:

- (4) *agreed* to work on the draft ISPM in a forum to better align the standard with a commodity standard, once the working group has reported.
- (5) *agreed* that Sela will attempt to re-draft the draft wood ISPM to focus on providing guidance on how to consider the potential risks of wood in trade.

[63] **Tree seed annex to Seed ISPM (2009-004)**

[64] TPFQ have the task of drafting a forest seed annex for the Seed ISPM currently under development.

[65] The Secretariat noted there were a considerable number of comments received and fundamental concerns raised on the draft Seed ISPM and so it was not able to go to the substantial comments period in 2015. The draft Seed ISPM was submitted for consideration at the SC7 meeting in May (2015), however due to time constraints the SC7 was unable to work on the draft Seed ISPM. The expectation now is that the draft Seed ISPM will be worked on this year and go for a substantial comments period in 2017. It is therefore important that the draft forest seed annex to the ISPM be made available to the SC as soon as possible (for the SC meeting in November 2015).

[66] It was noted that the seed standard will also be discussed at the commodity standard working group.

[67] The TPFQ members drafting the annex noted that the current draft of the annex provides practical procedural detail that maybe could be in a separate document, and there is still a significant imbalance between temperate and tropical seeds.

[68] The annex authors suggested that they could contact Nico directly and discuss ideas of incorporating forest seed concepts into the main body of the Seed ISPM. Another TPFQ member noted that many forest seeds are collected in natural areas where the diversity of potential pest is high.

[69] The TPFQ:

- (6) *agreed* to work on the draft forest seed annex to the Seed ISPM in a forum to finalize the draft for the SC meeting in November.

[70] **Emerging Phytosanitary Issues in Forestry**

[71] No new emerging phytosanitary risks in forestry were raised at the meeting.

6. Other Business

[72] A member raised the opportunity for submitting further topics for standard setting under a call for topics that was launched the week before this virtual meeting. The member noted that NAPPO have raised a topic on systems approaches for managing forestry-related phytosanitary risks. This could be developed as a part of an existing ISPM (or draft ISPM such as wood).

[73] The TPFQ:

- (7) *agreed* to support Canada in the submission of 'systems approaches in forestry' as a topic for consideration for the standard setting work programme.

7. Close of the meeting

[74] The Secretariat thanked the TPFQ and SC members for their participation and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1 - Agenda**2015 VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL ON
FOREST QUARANTINE****10 June 2015****17:00 to 19:00 (Rome, Italy)**

AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1. Opening of the meeting		
1.1 Orientation Refresher for Adobe Connect	https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/virtual-tools	DUBON/ ORMSBY
1.2 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat	01_TPFQ_2015_Jun_Agenda	ORMSBY
1.3 Introductions	https://www.ippc.int/publications/membership-tpfq	ORMSBY
1.4 Report of last meeting	https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/80945/	ORMSBY
2. Secretariat Maintenance and Updates from relevant Bodies (inc Standards Committee)	02_TPFQ_2015_Jun_Secretariat Update	ORMSBY
3. Update on IFQRG/IPPC work programme 2015		ALLEN
4. Discussion/status on IPSM 15 Treatment Criteria (2006-010)		WLODARCZYK
5. Work Programme for 2015	03_TPFQ_2015_Jun_Work Programme	ALL
5.1 ISPM 15 (2009) explanatory document	https://www.ippc.int/publications/ispm-15-explanatory-document-shane-sela-lead-author-thomas-schroeder-matsui-mamoru-and	SELA
5.2 Annex 1&2 SF schedule for ISPM15 (2006-010A)		WLODARCZYK
5.3 Annex 1 DH schedule for ISPM15 (2006-010B)		WLODARCZYK
5.4 Wood handicrafts ISPM (draft) (2008-008)	04_TPFQ_2015_Jun_Specification 57 05_TPFQ_2015_Jun_Report of EWG 06_TPFQ_2015_Jun_Draft Handicraft ISPM	NDIKONTAR
5.5 Wood ISPM (draft) (2006-029)	07_TPFQ_2015_Jun_Draft Wood ISPM	FOREST
5.6 Tree seed annex to Seed ISPM (2009-004)		HORN
5.7 Emerging Phytosanitary Issues in Forestry		ALL (TPFQ)
6. Recommendations to the SC (if applicable)		ORMSBY
7. Other business		ORMSBY
8. Follow-up Actions for next TPFQ Virtual Meeting		ORMSBY
9. Close of the meeting		ORMSBY