



الاتفاقية الدولية
لوقاية النباتات

国际植物
保护公约

International Plant
Protection Convention

Convention internationale
pour la protection des végétaux

Международная конвенция по
карантину и защите растений

Convención Internacional
de Protección Fitosanitaria

12 May 2016

Dear IPPC Official Contact Point,

Re: Meeting National Reporting Obligations (NROs): Pest Reporting in 2016

As you will recall, the New Revised Text of the International Plant Protection Convention (1997) established several reporting obligations (NROs) which are the legal responsibility of the contracting parties to the Convention. The Official Contact Points (OCPs) designated by the contracting parties are central to meeting these NROs – they are responsible for official communications under the Convention, and are in practice responsible for providing reports via the International Phytosanitary Portal – the IPP (<http://www.ippc.int>), as agreed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM).

In July 2014, during the first meeting of the National Reporting Obligations Advisory Group (NROAG), it was agreed that each year would be dedicated to a different national reporting obligation (as detailed in the NRO Work Plan adopted by CPM-11). After CPM-11 the period starting in April 2016 and leading up to CPM-12 becomes the “*NRO Year of Pest Reporting*”.

Given this context, the IPPC Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind you that contracting parties should report *the occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests, and of controlling those pests* (Art. VIII.1(a) of the IPPC). As this is an event driven NRO (i.e. triggered by a specific event, in this case an occurrence, outbreak or spread of a pest), it should be reported in a timely manner once it has happened. It can be reported before a final action has been undertaken, with for example the pest status “under eradication”, and then updated as more information becomes available. Therefore, the reporting of pest occurrence should not be postponed until the pest is eradicated. Its final eradication can be reported as an update of this report. Further information regarding this national reporting obligation could be found in the forthcoming issues of [the technical newsletter "NROs UPDATE"](#).

To facilitate this process, the CPM has agreed that meeting NROs *via* the IPP is the preferred method of official reporting under the IPPC. All OCPs, and their appointed IPP editors, have been given access to upload reports on the IPP. The IPP data entry manual has been prepared by the IPPC Secretariat to assist you in reporting and is available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish and can be downloaded [from the IPP](#). The IPPC Secretariat has been working on updating this manual which will become available shortly.

At the same time, the IPPC Secretariat would like to remind you that once your country has uploaded any of the NROs on the IPP, the information should be updated regularly in a timely manner

by the contracting party. Therefore the existing pest reports already uploaded on the IPP by your country may need to be updated to reflect the current status of the pest.

At the same time, please note that national pest reports can also be made through existing Regional Plant Protection Organizations on condition that an OCP for each participating country completes and signs a [form](#) to satisfy the legality of that action. However, it is essential that the technical mechanism exists for the exchange of such data between RPPO and the IPPC Website. The IPPC Secretariat has been working with EPPO for the past few years to create this mechanism and it is intended to have this completely operational (out of the pilot phase) in the next few months. The IPPC Secretariat has also been working more recently with PPPO on this issue and NAPPO will consider this in the second half of 2016.

We would greatly appreciate your cooperation on updating or meeting this NRO through regular and timely reporting. We will be monitoring progress closely while [all pest reports could be seen on the IPP](#).

In case you experience problems or have queries while uploading the information, please do not hesitate to contact the IPPC Secretariat (David Nowell dave.nowell@fao.org or Dorota Buzon dorota.buzon@fao.org).

Yours faithfully,

Jingyuan Xia
Secretary
International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

cc: Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)
FAO regional and sub-regional technical officers
Nowell, Buzon – IPPC Secretariat