IRSS STUDY – ANALYZING THE BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING THE IPPC

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

Background

With the strategic focus of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) on different themes each year between now and 2020, the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) will analyze the economic and other benefits of implementing the IPPC to contribute to the 2017 theme of Plant Health and Trade Facilitation. The IRSS has previously concentrated on identifying contracting parties’ implementation difficulties, however there is also a need to identify and acknowledge the many successes of implementing the IPPC, to advocate for the IPPC and broaden communication and outreach.

This IRSS study seeks to identify the benefits at the national, regional and global level, while also considering benefits to different stakeholders in the IPPC community. The different aspects to be considered are in relation to the Convention, international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPMs) and achieving the IPPC strategic objectives, but also with a particular emphasis on the economic benefits of implementing the IPPC and ISPMs at the national level.

Discussion meeting

The IRSS discussion meeting for the study *Analyzing the benefits of implementing the IPPC* took place from 13-15 September 2016 in Washington DC, United States of America. The meeting was attended by selected experts from the fields of plant health, trade, international economics and environmental protection.

The results from the discussion group meeting will be shared with the Bureau at the October 2016 meeting, including the categories of benefits, beneficiaries and other relationships (Annex 1) and an outline and defined scope of the study (Annex 2). In addition to case studies suggested at the meeting, the IRSS will seek information regarding the feature case study to be included in the study, the Mexican avocado industry, and seek input from the Bureau and the ePhyto Industry Group at their next meetings, on their perspectives of benefits.

The IRSS consultant is using the results of the meeting to continue analysis of the benefits of implementing the IPPC and seeking concrete details associated with suggested case studies.

The RPPOs are invited to:

1. *Suggest* potential case studies for inclusion in the study.