



The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Regional Workshop for the Africa:
28 - 30 July 2009
Nairobi, Kenya





Outline

- The Convention (IPPC)
- IPPC Standards and the SPS Agreement
- IPPC administrative framework
- Standard setting process
- Member consultation process
 - historical participation from FAO regions
 - member consultation 2009
 - Standards for Consideration in 2009
 - Changes in the process in 2009
 - Outlook for the future/online system for compiling member comments
- Implementation and exchange of information





The IPPC

- One of the “three sisters” of international standard setting recognized by the SPS agreement
- Identified in the WTO-SPS Agreement as the authority for **plant health** standards





The IPPC: What we do

- international framework for protection of plants from pests
- standard setting organization
- facilitate exchange of information related to import and export requirements





Scope of the IPPC

- **To protect plants and plant products from pests – including:**
 - all plants: agricultural plants, forests and wild flora
 - all pests of plants: invertebrates, diseases and weeds





Scope of the IPPC

- **To protect plants and plant products from pests – relevant to:**
 - importers: protection of national food security and natural resources based on risk analysis
 - exporters: following internationally agreed guidelines facilitates market access
 - beyond trade: protection of plants from pests





History

- Original IPPC adopted in 1951
- Revised in 1979
- Revised again in 1997 to be consistent with principles of the SPS agreement
 - formalizes Secretariat and standard-setting
- 170 contracting parties (as of May 2009)





Key principles of the IPPC

- Regulate only when necessary
- Sovereign right to regulate
- Measures should be:
 - consistent with the risk, technically justified and the least restrictive
 - non-discriminatory
 - transparent (published)





Key obligations of the IPPC

- Set up and administer a National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)
- Designate an official IPPC contact point
- Certify exports and regulate imports
- Develop and take into account phytosanitary standards
- Meet basic reporting obligations





Standard setting process

Stage 1: Topics are added to the work programme

- call for topics is made once every two years
- topics and priorities are agreed by the CPM
- in 2007
- **submission deadline for next call:**

31 July 2009





Standard setting process

Stage 2 Drafting:

Standards are drafted by experts with opportunities for all contracting parties to provide input

- A specification is developed to clarify the scope of the standard
- Draft specifications are sent to NPPOs and RPPOs for member consultation
- Next specifications to be sent for member consultation are:
 - Experimental protocol to determine host status of fruits to fruit fly (Tephritidae) infestation
 - Inspection manual





Standard setting process

Stage 2: Drafting by small drafting groups

- Experts are nominated by NPPOs and RPPOs
- Current call for experts:
 - forest regulatory expert for the Technical Panel on Forest Quarantine
 - English speaking member of the Technical Panel for the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms
 - authors of diagnostic protocol for *Striga* spp
 - deadline: **1 June 2009**





Standard setting process

Step 2: drafting (continued)

- draft standards are reviewed by the Standards Committee
- all contracting parties and RPPOs have access to draft ISPMs online (www.ippc.int)
- the Standards Committee sends the draft back to experts, or to member consultation





Standard setting process

Stage 3: Member consultation

- draft ISPMs are sent for a 100 day comment period:
- opportunity to consult with national stakeholders (importers, exporters, research institutes)
- drafts are discussed at regional workshops
- **regional workshop for the Near East:
20-25 July 2009 Cairo, Egypt**





Standard setting process

Stage 3: Member consultation

20 June – 30 September 2009

- Revision of ISPM No. 7 *Export certification system*
- Revision of ISPM No. 12 *Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates*
- Design and operation of post-entry quarantine stations
- Diagnostic protocol for *Thrips palmi*
- Phytosanitary treatments: Cold treatments for fruit flies





Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)

- Governing body for the IPPC
- Reviews global plant protection needs and sets the annual work programme
- Develops and adopts International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)
- Promotes technical assistance and information exchange activities





CPM

- Membership: Contracting parties
- Observers also attend (regional plant protection organizations, WTO, Convention on Biological Diversity)
- Meets annually, the next meeting is:

CPM-5

22-26 March 2010

FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy





IPPC Secretariat

- Hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy
- Current composition:

FAO funded

- Part-time Secretary
- 3 professional staff
- 1 administrator

Extra budgetary fund

- 8 professional staff (all short term)





IPPC Secretariat activities

- Implements the work programme
- Supports the production of ISPMs
- Facilitates information exchange
- Provides input into technical assistance programmes
- Facilitates dispute settlement
- Represents the IPPC (such as at meetings of the WTO-SPS committee)





Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- Observers to the CPM
- Meet annually at the technical consultation among RPPOs
- RPPOs develop regional standards
- Near East Plant Protection Organization entered into force in January 2009





CPM administrative bodies

- Bureau
- Standards Committee
- Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement
- Informal Working Groups
- Expert Working Groups and Technical Panels





CPM administrative bodies

- Bureau
 - CPM-3 extended the composition of the Bureau to 7 members, one each from the 7 FAO regions, including CPM Chair and two Vice-Chairs
 - Acts on behalf of the CPM between sessions
 - Near East: Mr. Mohammad KATBEH BADER (Jordan): katbehbader@moa.gov.jo





CPM administrative bodies

- **Standards Committee (SC)**
 - Oversees the standard setting process
 - Approves specifications for ISPMs, reviews draft ISPMs and recommends ISPMs for adoption by the CPM
 - Group of 25 international technical experts from the 7 FAO regions
 - Meets two times per year





CPM administrative bodies

- **Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement**
 - Activities include:
 - Development of dispute settlement procedures
 - Maintenance of roster of phytosanitary experts
 - Provision of information for the effective preparation of a dispute settlement
 - Group of 7 international experts from the 7 FAO regions





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CPM administrative bodies

- Informal working groups
 - Focus Group
 - Open-ended working group which focuses on a particular issue of concern identified by the CPM.
 - Informal working group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (SPTA)
 - IPP Support Group
 - Provides support for the International Phytosanitary Portal and information exchange activities





CPM administrative bodies

- Expert working groups (EWGs)
 - Draft ISPMs, usually meet only once
 - Consist of experts nominated by NPPOs or RPPOs, selected by the SC and approved by the Bureau
 - A steward guides the EWG
 - Submit draft ISPM to the SC for review





CPM administrative bodies

- Technical Panels (TPs)
 - Five have been established on:
 - Phytosanitary treatments (TPPT)
 - Diagnostic protocols (TPDP)
 - Forest quarantine (TPFQ)
 - Fruit flies pest free areas and areas of low pest prevalence (TPFF)
 - Glossary of phytosanitary terms (TPG)





Information exchange

- Contracting parties provide:
 - Official contact points
 - Official information on pests and phytosanitary measures
- IPPC Secretariat:
 - Provides official documents (ISPMs, reports, etc.)
 - Maintains the IPPC website



International Phytosanitary Portal

“IPP”

The screenshot shows the IPP website interface within a browser window. At the top left is the IPP logo, a globe with a plant. The main title is "International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)" with the subtitle "the official web site for the International Plant Protection Convention". A search bar is located on the right. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with buttons for Home, IPPC, IPPC Publications, National, and Calendar. On the right side of the menu are buttons for Search, Member Login, Site map, Help, and Logout. Language options for العربية, 中文, français, and español are also present. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Welcome to Georgia**: A message stating Georgia is a new IPPC contracting party as of March 2007.
- All National Information**: A list of links including NPPO Contact & Information Points, News, and Statistics.
- Basic reporting**: Links to Pest Reports, Phytosanitary Regulations, Lists of Regulated Pests, Points of Entry, Emergency Actions, and Description of NPPO.
- Optional reporting**: Link to Rationale for phytosanitary requirements / PPAs.
- IPPC Hot Topics**: A list of recent events, including the 2nd CPM Rome in March 2007.
- Convention (IPPC)**: Links to Convention text, Benefits of membership, Contracting parties, and Adherence.
- The Commission (CPM)**: Links to About the CPM, 2nd CPM Rome, CPM/ICPM reports, and Report of 1st CPM.
- Standards (ISPMs)**: Links to Adopted ISPMs, Draft ISPMs for country consultation, and Specifications for ISPMs.
- Standard setting**: A section for new standards.
- Information exchange**: Link to IPP/Information Exchange Workshops.
- Dispute Settlement**: Links to Dispute Settlement Manual and Form to initiate an IPPC dispute.
- Recent IPPC News**: A list of news items with dates, including updates on IPPC surveys, new documents for CPM-2, pest risk analysis training material, and comments on draft ISPMs.

The bottom right corner features a small IPPC logo.



Technical assistance

- IPPC staff provide phytosanitary support to:
 - FAO technical cooperation programmes (TCPs)
 - Ad hoc workshops (e.g. WTO, SPS)
 - Programmes of other regional and international organizations (e.g. IAEA, APO, APEC)





ISPMs

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures

- Adopted by the CPM
- Implemented by countries





Standard setting Work programme


- 32 adopted ISPMs
- 75 topics at various stages of development on the work programme



Most recently adopted ISPMs CPM-3 (April 2008)

- ISPM No. 5 (2008): Glossary of phytosanitary terms
- ISPM No. 30 (2008): Establishment of areas of low pest prevalence for fruit flies (Tephritidae)
- ISPM No. 31 (2008): Methodologies for sampling of consignments





Draft ISPMs sent to CPM-4 for adoption

Regular process

- Amendments to ISPM No. 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*).
- Appendix to ISPM No. 5 on Terminology of CBD in relation to the Glossary
- Revision of ISPM No. 15 (Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade)
- Categorization of commodities according to their pest risk

Special process

- 14 irradiation treatments





Input into the standard setting process in 2009

- expert working group to draft a standard on PRA for plants as quarantine pests: 25-29 May (discussion papers)
- call for experts: 1 June 2009
- Regional workshop for the review of draft ISPMs:
- call for topics: 31 July
- Standards Committee (drafts available to contact points): November 2009
- Adoption of ISPMs: Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-5): 22-26 March 2009





Secretariat

- Provides information on IPPC
- Facilitates the process
- Keeps members on track with various IPPC procedures
- Assists steward and TPPT
- Organization and administration





Role of the NPPO

To **protect** national **plant resources**
from the risks associated with **pests**





Role of the NPPO

- Importance of plant protection:
 - food security: protect crops to ensure an abundant, high-quality, and varied food supply
 - international trade: strengthen the marketability of agriculture in international commerce by meeting import requirements, including pest risk analysis
 - environmental protection: preserve natural ecosystems and horticultural plant resources





Importing Country Rights and Responsibilities

- Sovereignty to establish phytosanitary measures
- Measures should not discriminate between members
- Measures should be based on international standards or appropriate risk assessments
- Notification of proposed changes in requirements

