

ISPM 20

Guidelines for Phytosanitary Import Regulatory System



Scope

This standard describes:

- The **Structure** and **operation** of a phytosanitary import regulatory system
- The **rights, obligations and responsibilities** which should be considered in **establishing, operating and revising** the system



Objective

- To prevent the **introduction** of quarantine pests and to **limit** the entry of RNQPs with imported commodities and other regulated articles



Requirements

Structure: Two components

Regulatory framework –

for phytosanitary legislation, regulations and procedures

NPPO-

responsible for the operation of the system

Rights, obligations and responsibilities

The followings factors affect the structure and implementation of the import regulatory Systems and the NPPO should takes them

- ✓ **International conventions, agreements and treaties;**
- ✓ **International standards;**
- ✓ **National policies;**
- ✓ **Administrative policies...**
- ✓ **Regional policies**



Regulatory framework

- specifies role and responsibilities of NPPO
- legal authority to carry out responsibilities
- apply phytosanitary measures to imports
- legal authority for actions against non-compliance



Regulatory framework (cont'd)

- Regulated articles
- Phytosanitary measures for regulated articles
- Measures for consignments to be imported
 - *actions at pre export, shipment, point of entry*
 - *provision for special imports (biological agents, scientific research)*
 - *pest free areas, pest free sites/places, ALPP*
- Import authorization procedures
 - *general - no permit; specific - permitted*
- Prohibitions



Regulatory framework (cont'd)

- Consignments in transit- *administrative and phytosanitary intervention***
- Measures concerning non-compliance**
- Designation of entry points**
- Designation of official contact point**
- Information dissemination and pest reporting**



Operation of an import regulatory system

Management and operational responsibilities:

- ✓ **Administration- *ensure application of regulations; compliance with international obligations etc***
- ✓ **Regulatory and development revision- *NPPPO?***
- ✓ **Surveillance;**
- ✓ **PRA and pest listing;**
- ✓ **Audit and compliance checking;**



Operation of an import regulatory system (cont'd)
Management and operational responsibilities:

✓ **Audit and compliance checking:**

-Exporting country

production systems, inspection procedures, phytosanitary management, accreditation procedures, testing etc)



Management and operational responsibilities

**Audit and compliance
checking**

Importing Country

check : documents,
consignment
integrity,

phytosanitary
inspection etc)



Management (cont'd)

- ✓ **Non-compliance and emergency action;**
- ✓ **System for authorizing other personnel;**
- ✓ **International liaison;**
- ✓ **Notification and dissemination of regulatory information;**
- ✓ **Settlement of disputes;**
- ✓ **National liaison**



Resources

- ✓ Competent staff, training;
- ✓ Availability of information for staff;
- ✓ Adequate equipment and facilities.



Documentation

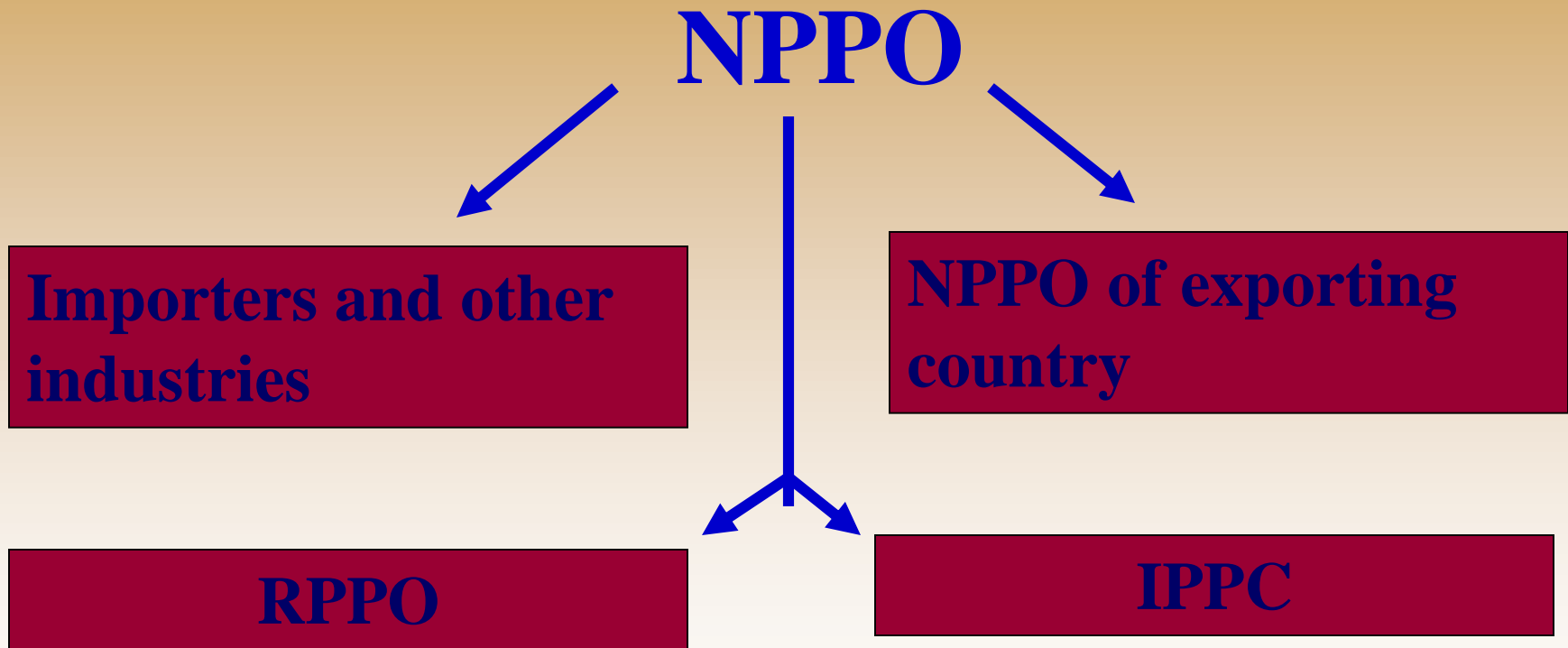
Procedures

(Manuals and instructions)

Records



Communication



Review mechanism

- ✓ **System review by monitoring the effectiveness of the adopted measures and auditing the activities of all involved personnel and organizations and phytosanitary regulations and procedures**
- ✓ **Incident review (e.g. non compliance) may lead to changes in phytosanitary measures.**

