



REPORT

Virtual Meeting
23 September 2016
13:00 to 14:00 GMT

Technical Panel on Forest Quarantine September, 2016



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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1. Opening of the meeting

- [1] The IPPC Secretariat (hereafter Secretariat) welcomed the participants to the meeting. The following Technical Panel for Forest Quarantine (TPFQ) members participated in the meeting: Mr. Eric **ALLEN** (IFQRG), Mr. Mamoru **MATSUI** (Japan), and Mr. John Tyrone **JONES** (USA).
- [2] In addition Ms. Marina **ZLOTINA** (Steward for the TPFQ (2004-004)), Mr. Rajesh **RAMARATHNAM** (Steward for the draft ISPM on *International Movement of Wood* (2006-029)), and Mr. Michael **ORMSBY** (representing the Secretariat) 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** took on the role of Chair and Rapporteur, and introduced the single item on the agenda for the meeting which was to discuss potential implementation issues for the draft ISPM on *International Movement of Wood* (2006-029).

2. Implementation of the Draft ISPM for the International Movement of Wood (2006-029)

- [6] The new Steward for the draft ISPM on *International Movement of Wood* (2006-029), Mr. Rajesh **RAMARATHNAM**, introduced himself to the panel.
- [7] The panel members discussed aspects of the draft ISPM that may provide implementation challenges for national plant protection organizations (NPPOs). On the whole however members considered most trade in wood was bilaterally agreed, and implementation issues would be resolved in discussions between NPPOs. Of the issues that may provide particular challenges, the following were raised:
 - a) **Defining wood commodities:** it was noted that some aspects of the wood commodity definitions may be difficult to measure in practice. Examples include the extent of bark presence (or absence), the thickness of wood (where a wood sub-class was described as being less than 6 mm thick), and the size of wood pieces (where the wood is chipped or pelleted).
 - b) A panel member who attended the NAPPO workshop on the Implementation of ISPM 15², San José, Costa Rica, August 29-2 September 2016 noted that the main concern raised by participants of that meeting was related to non-compliance resulting from pest infestation after treatment. The panel considered that this issue was equally relevant to the implementation of the draft ISPM on *International Movement of Wood* (2006-029). A possible unintended outcome of implementing the draft wood standard may be overzealous regulation of commodities that were previously not a concern and issues like post-treatment contaminants may be overblown.
 - c) Related to the issue of non-compliance due to interceptions, was the limited diagnostic capability within many NPPOs. A lack of diagnostic capability may create unnecessary restrictions on trade if wood pests cannot be separated from other contaminating organisms.
- [8] The Steward of the draft ISPM on *International Movement of Wood* (2006-029) made note of these implementation issues and will raise them at the SC when the draft is next presented to them.
- [9] As discussed after the APPPC-NAPPO Workshop on Implementation of ISPM 15³, Beijing, China, June 10-14, 2014 a guidance document could be developed to support trade in wood and wood products.

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

² NAPPO ISPM 15 Workshop, 2016: <http://www.nappo.org/english/nappo-workshop-implementation-ispm-15/>

³ APPPC-NAPPO ISPM 15 Workshop, 2014: <http://www.nappo.org/english/work-program/symposiums-workshops-presentations/implementation-ispm-15-regulation-wood-packaging-material-international-trade/>

The guidance document could include information that could assist NPPO inspectors' to recognize what organisms might be the result of treatment failure and those that are post-treatment contaminants.

[10] The International Forestry Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG) chair noted that IFQRG would be available to develop material for any such guidance document.

[11] The TPFQ:

- (1) *agreed* that there was a need for guidance material on the draft ISPM on *International Movement of Wood* (2006-029) which would provide information on inspection and diagnostic methods to help discriminate between non-compliant and contaminating pests, and tools and methods for measuring the various wood sub-commodity types, which should help aid in the implementation of the draft ISPM.
- (2) *requested* the Secretariat to bring this need to the attention of the Implementation and Facilitation Unit of the Secretariat
- (3) *requested* TPFQ members to also make this need know to their region's CDC members

3. Other Business

[12] Members noted the inability of the majority of participants to adequately engage in the meeting due to various audio issues and the Secretariat will investigate the reasons for this and take steps to mitigate this for the next virtual meeting.

4. Close of the meeting

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