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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأمم المتحدة
للزراعة والأغذية

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Twelfth Session

Incheon, Republic of Korea, 5-11 April 2017

**Written reports from relevant international organizations - International
Forestry Quarantine Research Group Report**

Agenda item 14.2

Prepared by the IFQRG

English only

The International Forestry Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG), formed in 2003, is an independent science group that carries out analysis and scientific research in response to international forest phytosanitary issues identified by quarantine bodies. The IPPC – Technical Panel on Forest Quarantine (TPFQ) and the CPM Standards Committee have utilized the IFQRG in obtaining answers to key science questions. IFQRG has had participation from over 180 delegates from 39 countries providing scientific input from academic, government, industry and regulatory perspectives.

Scientific Research and Analysis

In response to specific questions from the Standards Committee the IFQRG continues to address the challenges in developing the IPPC draft appendix to ISPM 15 (2009) *Revision of ISPM 15 specifically: Criteria for treatments for wood packaging material in international trade*. A scientific journal paper is being written by international experts that will outline the scientific basis for test sample sizes and efficacy targets for species groups in the treatment criteria for ISPM 15.

Other ongoing IFQRG work includes:

- quantify components of systems approaches for pest risk reduction in wood products
- further evaluate efficacy requirements for test organisms used in treatment development
- synthesize knowledge on the efficacy of heat treatment and methyl bromide on key taxa (e.g. pinewood nematode, Asian longhorned beetle, etc)
- develop guidance documents for new and existing treatments
- evaluate tactics for responding to the emergence of new pests

Scientific activities are carried out throughout the year in research institutions around the world support the work of IFQRG. NPPOs are invited to utilize the technical expertise offered by IFQRG and by providing support to their scientists to participate meetings and research activities. IFQRG strongly encourages the participation of developing countries to ensure that all perspectives on phytosanitary issues are considered. Funding mechanisms are being explored to facilitate participation of the widest scientific community. The International Forestry Quarantine Research Group will continue to respond to the needs of IPPC bodies and Regional Plant Protection Organizations to provide a sound scientific basis for the development of new standards.

The coordinating body of IFQRG, the science steering committee, met in Victoria Canada in June 2016 immediately following a face-to-face meeting of the Technical Panel on Forest Quarantine. The next formal IFQRG meeting will be held in Rotorua, New Zealand Oct 2-6, 2017. Contracting parties are invited to encourage specialists to participate in this meeting. Contact the chair, Dr. Eric Allen at eric.allen@canada.ca for details.