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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

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Recognition of CAHFSA as an RPPO
Agenda item 8.1
Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat

1. At the 29th session of the Technical Consultation among RPPOs held in Paris, France, the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) asked the IPPC Secretariat to initiate the procedure required for their recognition as a Regional Plant Protection Organization (RPPO), under Article IX of the IPPC.

2. The procedure for recognition of new RPPOs was approved by ICPM-4 in 2002 and consists of 4 steps as follows:

- 1) The prospective RPPO presents documentation authenticating an intergovernmental agreement and a written request for recognition as an RPPO under Article IX of the IPPC (1997) to the Chairperson of the Interim Commission.
- 2) The FAO Legal Counsel reviews the legal status of the submission.
- 3) The Technical Consultation among RPPOs (TC) assesses whether the prospective RPPO meets the Guidelines adopted by ICPM-4 for the Recognition of RPPOs. These have as a minimum the following functions:
 - coordinate the activities among National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) in the regions covered, in order to achieve the objectives of the IPPC
 - harmonize phytosanitary measures
 - participate in activities to promote the objectives of the IPPC
 - gather and disseminate information

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- 4) The Technical Consultation submits a recommendation for consideration by the Interim Commission.
3. The IPPC Secretariat informed the Chair of the CPM Bureau about the request for recognition of CAHFSA as an RPPO under Article IX of the IPPC, and asked the FAO Legal Counsel (FAO-LEGA) to review the submission.
4. FAO-LEGA reviewed the background documentation, in particular, the Agreement establishing CAHFSA originally signed by Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in Roseau, Dominica, on March 12, 2010 and the Revised CAHFSA Agreement adopted in February 2011 at St. George's Grenada which entered into force on February 25, 2011. In light of such Agreement, LEGA confirmed that CAHFSA has an intergovernmental status and is therefore eligible for being recognized as an RPPO by the IPPC.
5. The 29th TC considered the advice received from FAO-LEGA, reviewed the CAHFSA submission following the criteria set out in the ICPM-4 for the recognition of an RPPO and agreed that CAHFSA has as a minimum, the functions required to be considered an RPPO under Article IX of the IPPC. Therefore, the 29th TC recommends to CPM the recognition of CAHFSA as an RPPO (Annex).
6. CPM is invited to:
 - 1) *Recognize* CAHFSA as an RPPO under Article IX of the IPPC.
 - 2) *Congratulate* CAHFSA member countries for the initiative and welcome the new RPPO to the IPPC

Annex 01 - RECOMMENDATION OF THE 29th TC-RPPO to the CPM-13.

1. Responding to the request received from the IPPC Secretariat to assess whether the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) meets the ICPM Guidelines for the Recognition of Regional Plant Protection Organizations and submit a recommendation to CPM on the possible recognition of CAHFSA as an RPPO under Article IX of the IPPC, the Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations met in Paris, France for its 29th session and considered:

- The advice received from FAO-LEGA: after review of the existing background documentation, in particular the revised agreement establishing the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) of February 2011 and in light of such Agreement, confirmed that CAHFSA has an intergovernmental status and is therefore eligible for being recognized as a Regional Plant Protection Organization by the IPPC.
- The criteria set out in the ICPM Guidelines for the Recognition of Regional Plant Protection Organizations.

2. and agreed that CAHFSA has at a minimum, the following functions:

- coordinate the activities among National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) in the regions covered, in order to achieve the objectives of the IPPC;
- harmonize phytosanitary measures;
- participate in activities to promote the objectives of the IPPC;
- gather and disseminate information

3. as stated in the revised agreement establishing the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) of February 2011.

4. Therefore, the 29th TC-RPPO recommends to the CPM-13 the recognition of CAHFSA as an RPPO under Article IX of the IPPC.

On behalf of the 29th Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations:

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