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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

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National Reporting Obligations (NRO) - Report
Agenda item 11.2
Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat

1. The year 2017 was a third stable year in a row during which countries supplied above 240 new NRO reports through the IPP (year 2014: 165 reports, year 2015: 246 reports, year 2016: 244 reports, year 2017: 245 reports). It clearly shows that a set of measures implemented within the NRO Programme that started in the middle of 2014 has been effective. In particular, during the year 2017 the IPPC Secretariat worked on the following issues within the NRO area:

2. All advocacy and awareness raising materials were translated into Arabic, French, Russian, and Spanish are available on the IPP: (<https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/information-exchange/nro/>). In total they consist of:

- 1) the Guide to NROs offering guidance to IPPC contact points and IPP editors on NRO types and methods together with IPP data entry advice;
 - tables listing NROs (all NROs, Public NROs and Bilateral NROs);
 - 13 detailed leaflets - one for each NRO - offering concise advice and references; and
 - 4 NRO leaflets regarding benefits of reporting, consequences of not reporting, Official Contact Points: advantages & consequences and networking.

3. The materials are freely accessible and contracting parties are welcome to use them.

- 2) The second NRO workshop was held in August 2017 for the South-West Pacific region countries and was prepared in cooperation with the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO). During a two day workshop participants were made familiar with basic information on NROs (Public and Bilateral NROs; General and specific NRO rules and procedures; NRO

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educational materials) and the latest developments in NROs (NROs UPDATE newsletter; the NRO Year of Phytosanitary legislation; the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) as the new NRO oversight body; e-learning; NRO automatic reminders; NRO statistics) and were given practical advice based on frequently asked questions. The workshop included a hands-on training of the IPP data entry and upload of reports brought by participants. Feedback from participants regarding possible improvements to reporting and IPP website was collected to serve as the basis for future work and improvements in the NRO area.

- 3) The NRO e-learning course was developed by a subcontracted company and testing of a trial version took place by selected testers, mainly from the IC. It is envisaged that the course will be improved based on testers feedback and finalized as soon as possible.
 - 4) NRO reminders system was functioning as previously scheduled. The system sends out an automatic reminder once a month to the email accounts of all IPPC contact points. Reminders refer to Public NROs (to be reported through the IPP), as well as dysfunctional links and IPP editors. The recipients are asked to provide feedback on the system that serves as a basis to readjust the system if needed. As a result, in 2017 501 reports were updated or confirmed which constitutes a quarter of all reports on the IPP.
 - 5) Since April 2017 the NRO Year of Phytosanitary legislation was taking place. The activities were as follows:
 - a letter signed by the IPPC Secretary was sent out in May 2017 to all IPPC contact points reminding about the importance of reporting Phytosanitary legislation;
 - “NROs UPDATE”, the educational NRO newsletter, was issued every 2 months in 5 languages concentrating on issues related to Phytosanitary legislation;
 - an exercise during the NRO Workshop was carried out.
4. 2017 was a fourth year in a row during which countries supplied more than 50 new reports on Phytosanitary legislation.
5. It is suggested to have the NRO Year of Regulated pest lists starting in April 2018 taking into account 3 high priorities established by the CPM-11 that included: maintaining the system of official contact points; support and improvement of the IPP; creating, posting and updating regulated pest lists and pest reports.
- 6) Regular assistance to IPPC contact points and their IPP editors was offered throughout the year to facilitate reporting through the IPP.
 - 7) Regular registration of new IPPC contact points and archiving was carried out without delay. In total 35 new IPPC contact points were registered and updated on the IPP. Additionally, at the 2017 IPPC Regional Workshops a verifying exercise was conducted and IPPC contact points details were updated in accordance with data provided.
 - 8) Automatic NRO statistics were prepared and made available in January 2017. The statistics are freely accessible (<https://www.ippc.int/en/nro-reports-and-statistics/>) and contracting parties are welcome to use them.
6. The CPM is requested:
- 1) *To note* the update on activities related to National Reporting Obligations (NRO).
 - 2) *To note* that the focus of NRO activities in 2018 will be on creating, posting and updating regulated pest lists by NPPOs and IPPC contact points.