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منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Thirteenth Session
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Written reports from relevant international organizations - International Forestry Quarantine Research Group Report
Agenda item 14.3
Prepared by the Chair, IFQRG
<i>English only</i>

1. 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 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.

I. Scientific Research and Analysis

2. In response to specific questions from the Standards Committee, 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 written by international experts has been submitted for publication that will outline the scientific basis for test sample sizes and efficacy targets for species groups in the treatment criteria for ISPM 15.

3. Other ongoing IFQRG work includes:

- Quantify components of systems approaches for pest risk reduction in wood products

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- 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 long horned beetle, etc.)
- Identify the mode of action of heat treatment on pests in wood; dose/delivery dynamics.
- Develop guidance documents for new and existing treatments (e.g. dielectric heating) and provide capacity development support where needed and requested.
- Evaluate tactics for responding to the emergence of new pests

4. Scientific activities that are pursued 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. IFQRG 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 science steering committee of IFQRG is developing a long-term research strategic plan for the group and will be requesting support of the IPPC Secretariat in sending out a questionnaire to NPPOs and other relevant bodies for input on forest phytosanitary research priorities.

5. The next formal IFQRG meeting will be held in Rome, 1-5 October 2018, hosted by the IPPC Secretariat. 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.