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REPORT

Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments February, 2018

**Virtual meeting
14 February 2018**

IPPC Secretariat

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CONTENTS

- 1. Opening of the Meeting 4
 - 1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat and introductions 4
 - 1.2 Adoption of the agenda and election of the rapporteur 4
- 2. TPPT Work Programme 4
 - 2.1 Draft ISPM on Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure (2014-006), priority 2 4
- 3. Other Business 7
- 4. Close of the Meeting..... 7
- Attachment 1: Agenda..... 8

1. Opening of the Meeting

1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat and introductions

[1] The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat (hereafter referred to as “Secretariat”) lead for Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT) chaired the meeting and welcomed the following participants:

1. Mr David OPATOWSKI (TPPT Steward)
2. Mr Toshiyuki DOHINO (Japan)
3. Mr Michael ORMSBY (New Zealand)
4. Mr Matthew SMYTH (Australia)
5. Mr Yuejin WANG (China)
6. Mr Guy HALLMAN (Invited expert)
7. Mr Nicolaas HORN (Steward of the draft ISPM: *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-006))
8. Ms Adriana G. MOREIRA (IPPC Secretariat, lead)
9. Ms Janka KISS (IPPC Secretariat, support)

[2] The full list of TPPT members and their contact details can be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)¹.

1.2 Adoption of the agenda and election of the rapporteur

[3] The Secretariat introduced the agenda and it was adopted as presented in Appendix 1 to this report.

[4] Mr Toshiyuki DOHINO was elected as the rapporteur.

2. TPPT Work Programme

[5] The Secretariat reminded the TPPT that the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-006) was discussed at the 2017 July TPPT meeting² and informed the TPPT that two other ISPMs on treatment requirements are in different stages of the standard setting process. Therefore, the terminology and the sections of the drafts that are not specific to the treatment that they describe should be aligned. The draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of temperature treatments as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-005) was approved for adoption by the Standards Committee (SC) in November. The draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-004) is planned to be discussed by the Standards Committee working group (SC-7) in May 2018, to discuss the comments from the first consultation.

[6] The Steward of the TPPT is also the steward of the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-004), and he has already received some suggestions from the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG) on the terminology used in these ISPMs and these suggestions were incorporated into the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-006).

2.1 Draft ISPM on Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure (2014-006), priority 2

[7] The Steward of the draft, Mr Nicolaas HORN, introduced the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-006)³ and the Steward’s notes⁴.

¹ TPPT membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81655/>

² 2017-07 TPPT Meeting Report (Vienna, Austria): <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85139/>

³ 2014-006_DraftISPM

⁴ 03_TPPT_2018_Feb

- [8] He explained that the draft had been revised and edited for consistency by the editor of the IPPC. He addressed most of the editor's proposals and queries, but invited the TPPT to provide their expert advice on some specific outstanding issues, as follows.
- [9] **Enclosure or facility.** The Steward of the draft explained that in this draft and the draft on fumigation requirements (2014-004) the word "enclosure" is used to refer to a structure within which the treatment is conducted. "An enclosure is therefore required to achieve and maintain the lethal atmospheric conditions over the duration of the treatment."
- [10] He queried whether it is correct to use "enclosure" for modified atmosphere treatments, as it is used for fumigation, and for temperature treatment "facilities" is used.
- [11] One member clarified that for fumigation and modified atmosphere treatments the treatment has to be conducted in a structure with closed space (airtightness) as opposed to temperature treatments, where the treatment can be applied in different kind of structures, possibly even in the open (e.g. microwave heating).
- [12] The TPPT agreed that to use "enclosure" in the case of modified atmosphere treatments is correct.
- [13] **Description of modified atmosphere treatment.** In the section on "Methods for modifying atmospheres" one of the ways in which the modified atmosphere treatment could be applied is described as follows as revised by the editor: "displacement of the atmosphere with a mix of O₂, CO₂ and a biologically inert component (nitrogen or other inert gas) in specified proportions". The Steward thought this was unclear.
- [14] One member clarified that the atmosphere of an enclosure can be modified by changing the proportion of one or both of carbon dioxide and oxygen by adding them, or by adding an inert gas, like nitrogen.
- [15] The TPPT agreed that displacement is not the right term, as not all the atmosphere is replaced, but only a specific gas is added to change the proportion of the components of the atmosphere. It was also explained that in practice oxygen is rarely added.
- [16] One member suggested adding the concept of "maintaining" a particular atmosphere composition, as this is an important aspect of modified atmosphere treatments.
- [17] The TPPT agreed to revise the indented text, changing it to clarify and to include the above-mentioned concepts as follows: "changing the proportion of O₂ and CO₂ in the atmosphere by adding CO₂ or an inert gas (such as nitrogen) and maintaining this atmosphere."
- [18] **Monitoring: add footnote or not?** During the consultation on the draft ISPM on fumigation (2014-004) it was raised that the use of the word "monitoring" was different from the definition in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*) in some cases. In that draft ISPM on fumigation a footnote was added to make this clear. The text of this footnote is "In this standard, monitoring is not always being used as defined in ISPM 5". The Steward queried whether this footnote should also be added here.
- [19] The TPPT debated adding the footnote, but as the TPG disagreed with addition of such footnote in the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-004), they agreed to replace "monitoring" with "measuring" or "continuously measure" throughout the draft except when used in accordance with the definition in ISPM 5.
- [20] However, the TPPT agreed that the Steward of the draft ISPM should bring this issue to the SC's attention along with the other alignment issues.
- [21] **Protocol.** The following sentence refers to a protocol "Temperature measurements should be made throughout the enclosure with a full-sized load of the commodity and the treatment conducted according to the appropriate protocol." This may assume that "protocol" refers to the protocol for specific pests and commodity. The TPPT clarified that the required treatment for a specific pests and

commodity is described in the “treatment schedule” but in this case the draft refers to other additional protocols (e.g. for how to conduct temperature mapping, or other NPPO approved procedure).

- [22] It was also explained that the TPG raised concerns in relation to the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-004) as “protocol” and “treatment schedule” are translated the same way in some languages.
- [23] The TPPT decided along with the Steward to adjust the wording for clarity and use “appropriate procedure” instead of “appropriate protocol”.
- [24] **Integrity.** The following sentence refers to the integrity of the treatment: “A modified atmosphere treatment programme should include the following to maintain the integrity of the treatment and the process used.” The steward queried what is meant by maintaining the integrity of the treatment.
- [25] The TPPT explained that the intended meaning was to list items that the treatment programme should address in order to ensure the reliability of the treatment. The TPPT proposed the following alternative wording to clarify this: “to ensure that the treatment schedule is met”.
- [26] **Monitoring or auditing.** In the section on “Responsibility”, the following sentence describes the responsibilities of the NPPO: “The NPPO of the country in which the treatment is initiated or conducted is responsible for the evaluation, approval and monitoring of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure, including those performed by other authorized entities.” The Steward of the draft asked whether to include “auditing”, as it is mentioned together with monitoring in the section on “Monitoring and auditing”.
- [27] The TPPT agreed that auditing would be appropriate to include here as well, however decided against it as this is a section to be included in all three draft ISPMs on requirements for phytosanitary measures, thus the change is an alignment issue. They requested the Steward to highlight the issue to the SC.
- [28] **Authorization or approval.** Also in the section on “Responsibility”, the word accreditation is used in relation to the operators. The Steward of the draft suggested that “authorization” be used for the operator and “approval” for the facility.
- [29] The TPPT agreed with the proposed replacement of “accreditation” with “authorization” as this is in line with the terminology in the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-004).
- [30] **Appendix 1.** The Secretariat reminded the TPPT of the decision of the SC in November 2017 that Appendix 1 be removed from the draft ISPMs on temperature treatment (2014-005). The similar appendixes of the draft ISPM on fumigation (2014-004), and the draft ISPM on modified atmosphere treatment (2014-006) might be handled same manner once the draft ISPMs on temperature treatment (2014-005) is adopted. However, the Appendix will be maintained as part of the Standard Setting Procedure Manual, so the TPPT reviewed the Appendix nonetheless.
- [31] The TPPT decided to replace “most resistant life stage” with “most tolerant life stage” throughout the appendix, as this is consistent with the terminology used in other cases.
- [32] The TPPT also agreed to change “complete mortality” as the outcome of the large-scale or extrapolation (confirmatory) studies to “specified efficacy” arguing that treatments have a specific efficacy that corresponds to an acceptable level of risk, that might not be complete mortality, and that zero survival is impossible to achieve in some cases.
- [33] The TPPT agreed to:
- (1) *recommend* the draft ISPM on *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-006) to the Standards Committee (SC) for approval for consultation.

3. Other Business

[34] No other business was discussed.

4. Close of the Meeting

[35] The Secretariat informed the TPPT that one additional treatment submission had been received in response to the Call for phytosanitary treatments. The next virtual meeting is planned for 21 March 2018 and will be dedicated to discussion of the remaining submissions.

[36] The Secretariat thanked the TPPT members and Mr Nicolass HORN for their participation and closed the meeting.

Attachment 1: Agenda**2018 FEBRUARY VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL
ON PHYTOSANITARY TREATMENTS (TPPT)****14 February 2018****AGENDA**

AGENDA ITEM		DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1.	Opening of the meeting		
1.1	Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat and introductions	02_TPPT_2018_Feb	MOREIRA / ALL
1.2	Adoption of the agenda and election of the rapporteur	01_TPPT_2018_Feb	MOREIRA / ALL
2.	TPPT work programme		
	❖ 2017 July TPPT Meeting Report (Vienna, Austria)	Link to the 2017-07 TPPT meeting report	
2.1	Draft ISPM on Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as a phytosanitary measure (2014-006)	2014-006	HORN
	❖ Stewards notes	03_TPPT_2018_Feb	
3.	Other business	-	MOREIRA
4.	Close of the meeting	-	MOREIRA