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# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

**Thirteenth Session**

**Rome, 16-20 April 2018**

**EU written statement on Call for topics "Standards and Implementation"**

**Agenda item 9.1**

**Prepared by the European Union and its 28 Member Countries**

***English only***

## 9.1 Call for topics: 'Standards and Implementation' EU written statement

The EU and its Member States thank the Focus Group for their proposal for a call for topics, 'Standards and Implementation'. We believe that it is essential to have strong cooperation between the Standard Committee (SC) and the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC), particularly to screen the submitted topics and develop recommendations and priorities so that the CPM can address the topics in a better way – be it through a standard or through an implementation resource. We agree that it is important that, in exceptional circumstances, the IC can recommend topics to the CPM.

The EU and its Member States welcome the criteria for the call for topics. We are in favour of the call being made every two years, beginning May this year. However, we would like to propose changes to the topic submission process. We believe that, in order for the process to be more transparent and comprehensive, the recommendations and priorities for recommendations to be presented to the CPM should be prepared by the Task Force on Topics (TFT). Therefore the tasks of discussing the topics recommended by the SC and IC and preparing the final paper on recommended topics for adoption by CPM should be added to the list of the functions of the TFT. We would also like to stress that, according to rule 2 of the Rules of procedure for the Task Force on Topics, the TFT consists of seven members, and therefore we believe that the quorum for the meeting should be four members, not five members as stated in rule 8. Taking that into account, we propose amending Annex 1 and Annex 3 respectively.

Furthermore, we would like to encourage the IPCC Secretariat to analyse the possible impact of the forthcoming call this year on the Secretariat's work and present proposals for possible changes to be approved by CPM. We would therefore like to propose adjustments to point 8 of the CPM decision.

The EU and its Member States would like to propose changes to Annex 1, 'The process of the Call for topics: standards and implementation', of document CPM 2018/19. The January stage of the process needs to be adjusted in such a way as to mandate TFT to discuss the topics recommended by the SC and IC and prepare the final paper on recommended topics for adoption by CPM, instead of adoption by the Chairs of SC and IC.

The EU and its Member States propose making an addition to the list of the TFT's functions and amending Annex 3 point 1 ('Scope of the Task Force on Topics') by adding a third bullet point: 'to discuss the topics recommended by the SC and IC and prepare the final paper on recommended topics for adoption by the CPM.'

Therefore, in light of the above, rule 5, 'Chairpersons of the SC and the IC', of the Rules of procedure for the Task Force on Topics should be deleted from Annex 3 and the numbering should be changed accordingly.

The EU and its Member States propose adjusting point 8 of the CPM decision as follows:

"8) *Acknowledge* the need to reflect these decisions in the IPCC Standard Setting Procedure or other CPM Procedures as appropriate and request the IPCC Secretariat to ~~consider the~~ *analyse possible* impacts and to present ~~proposed changes~~ *them* to CPM."