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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fourteenth Session

Rome, 1-5 April 2019

**Written reports from relevant international organizations - Report from
the International Forestry Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG)**

Agenda item 14.3

Prepared by the IFQRG

English only

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 the IFQRG in obtaining answers to key science questions. IFQRG has had participation from over 180 delegates from 40 countries providing scientific input from academic, government, industry and regulatory perspectives. The most recent meeting of the group, IFQRG-15, was held in Rome in Oct 2018.

I. Scientific Research and Analysis

2. In response to specific questions from the Standards Committee, the 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.

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3. Other ongoing IFQRG work includes:

- Provide science support to RPPOs and the IPPC for the development of systems approaches for pest risk reduction in wood products
- Further evaluate efficacy requirements for test organisms used in treatment development, linking with the IPPC Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT).
- Synthesize knowledge on the efficacy of treatments (e.g. heat, methyl bromide, ethane dinitrile, dielectric heating) on key pest taxa
- Identify the mode of action of heat treatment on pests in wood; dose/delivery dynamics.
- Working closely with the IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC), provide scientific information for the development of guidance documents for new and existing treatments and provide capacity development support where needed and requested.
- Evaluate tactics for responding to the emergence of new pests in forest systems globally.

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. The International Forestry Quarantine Research Group 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 is analyzing a questionnaire sent in 2018 to NPPOs and other relevant bodies for input on forest phytosanitary research priorities.

5. The next formal IFQRG meeting is planned for Brazil in the fall of 2019. Contracting parties are invited to encourage specialists to participate in this meeting. Contact the chair, Dr. Mike Ormsby at michael.ormsby@maf.govt.nz for details.