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منظمة  
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للأمم المتحدة

# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Fourteenth Session

Rome, 1-5 April 2019

**Written reports from relevant international organizations - Phytosanitary  
Measures Research Group (PMRG)**

**Agenda item 14.3**

**Prepared by the PMRG**

*English only*

1. The Phytosanitary Measures Research Group (PMRG)<sup>1</sup> was initially established as the Expert Consultation on Cold Treatments (ECCT) before becoming the Phytosanitary Temperature Treatment Expert Group (PTTEG). The PMRG was created to be an independent group that could consider all temperature related phytosanitary treatments. It is a forum where critical phytosanitary treatment issues can be addressed through discussion and collaborative research and where global phytosanitary treatments issues can be scientific analysed and reviewed. The PMRG mission is to harmonize research on phytosanitary treatments and other measures with application to international trade of horticultural commodities to support IPPC Technical Panels, plant protection organizations, and researchers.

2. The PMRG also works to provide support to the IPPC Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT), to help address any issues that are identified during the development of annexes to ISPM 28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*). Although established in 2015, a recent time frame, the PMRG made significant contributions to the IPPC TPPT and to IPPC community. For example, studies in collaboration with Joint FAO/IAEA Division and MAFF-Japan (Research Center Yokohama), on how economic important fruit flies populations from different geographical regions of

<sup>1</sup> Phytosanitary Measures Research Group (PMRG): <https://www.ippc.int/en/external-cooperation/organizations-page-in-ipp/phytosanitarymeasuresresearchgroup/>

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the world responded to cold and vapour heat treatments, which led to the adoption of several annexes to the ISPM 28 by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM).

3. The PMRG currently has 83 active members from 28 countries (up from 58 members from 23 countries in 2016) collaborating on research and analysis addressing phytosanitary issues. Summaries of activities for 2018 follow:

- 1) Research guidelines for both vapour heat treatment and cold treatment have been developed and are available at the PMRG webpage<sup>1</sup>. These guidelines will help researchers, from all around the globe, to have a better understanding on technical procedures that might be used to support vapour heat and cold treatments research against fruit fly species in host commodities.
- 2) Research guidelines for fumigation, modified atmosphere treatments, including controlled atmosphere heat treatments are being developed and draft copies will be presented at the next meeting of the PMRG.

4. PMRG members are also developing working papers on research and operational issues covering generic cold treatments, modelling phytosanitary treatments, documenting existing phytosanitary systems used in international trade, treatment of mixed loads, heat treatments and non-target organisms.

5. The entire IPPC community, with its national and regional plant protection organizations are welcomed to contact and utilize the expertise offered by the PMRG. The PMRG is to continue to help and to contribute to the work of the IPPC technical panels and Standards Committee to help protect plant health on a global scale. The PMRG is ready to contribute to the development of phytosanitary measures, to wide up the options to countries to boost safe trade and to protect the environment, and to help enhance countries capacities.

6. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Cairns Australia in September 2019 (tentatively 23-27 September 2019). The PMRG invites all national and regional plant protection organizations to support the participation of its experts in the group's activities and to attend the PMRG meetings, to ensure a global representation.

7. For more information on PMRG or to find out how to become a member, please check the PMRG web page on the IPP (<https://www.ippc.int/en/external-cooperation/organizations-page-in-ipp/phytosanitarymeasuresresearchgroup/>).