**Draft CPM Recommendation: Reduce the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated articles and unregulated goods to protect plant health and facilitate trade (2019-002)**

**Status box**

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| This is not an official part of the CPM Recommendation and it will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat after adoption. | |
| **Date of this document** | 2019-09-09 |
| **Document category** | Draft CPM recommendation |
| **Current document stage** | *To* Strategic Planning Group (2019-10) and CPM Bureau |
| **Major stages** | 2019-03 Topic proposed to the IPPC work programme for a CPM Recommendation by Australia and supported by New Zealand  2019-04 CPM-14 added the topic “Facilitating safe trade by reducing the incidence of contaminating pests associated with traded goods” to the IPPC work programme for a CPM Recommendation  2019-09 adjustments made following CPM-14 (call for experts made)  2019-09 Working group proposed title change to “Reduce the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated articles and unregulated goods to protect plant health and facilitate trade” |
| **Notes** | To be edited once approved by the CPM to the consultation period.  This is a draft document |

**Background**

1. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) aims to protect global plant resources and facilitate safe trade. It does this by minimising the risk of spread of plant pests and effectively managing their impacts within countries. Contracting parties are working to develop and maintain the capacity to implement harmonised measures to prevent pest introduction~~s~~ and spread, and minimise the impacts of pests on food security, trade, economic growth and the environment.
2. IPPC supports actions by contracting parties to significantly reduce the international movement of plant pests associated with plants and plant products. However, the scope of the Convention also provides for managing the contaminating pests associated with goods and places capable of harbouring or spreading contaminating pests, which pose a risk to global plant health. Goods and places refers to conveyances, containers, packaging, storage places, traded goods, soil and any other organism, material or articles which are not associated with plants or plant products that are capable of harbouring or spreading contaminating pests that may be regulated or unregulated.
3. This CPM recommendation provides a platform for managing contaminating pests associated with international movement of plant and plant products specifically those pests associated with regulated and unregulated goods and places and a basis for further work that may be agreed on managing pests outside of the commercial trading framework for plants and plant products including passengers, mail, and where outside the commercial trading framework, courier pathways. The recommendation encourages National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs), Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs), importing and exporting industries to work together to raise awareness of the pest risks associated with the trans-boundary movement of all goods and people, and identify and promote the adoption of good practices that minimise contaminant pest spread.
4. The purpose of this recommendation is to reduce the occurrence of contaminating pests associated with the international movement of plants and plant products specifically occurring in; regulated and unregulated articles, goods and places, to protect plant health and facilitate trade.

**Addressed to**

1. Contracting parties, RPPOs and relevant industries involved in international trade including exporters, importers and logistic operators.

**Recommendation**

1. The IPPC is the global international treaty for protecting plant resources. The Convention provides a framework to protect the world’s plant resources from damage caused by pests. The three strategic objectives of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) are to:
2. Enhance food security and increase sustainable agricultural productivity
3. Protect the environment from the impacts of plant pests.
4. Facilitate safe trade, development and economic growth.
5. Recognising that the Convention provides for the management of the pests associated with regulated and unregulated goods and places capable of harbouring or spreading plant pests, in addition to those on plants and plant products, the CPM encourages contracting partiesto:

***a****.* *raise awareness* with governments, particularly departments for trade and transport and relevant industries of the risks and impacts of quarantine pests spreading internationally as contaminating pests on regulated and unregulated goods, accompanying passengers, mail and courier packages.

***b****.* Promote the benefits of preventing traded goods, and conveyances, containers, packaging and similar items that carry them or accompany them within and between countries from contamination by phytosanitary risk material such as soil, plant material and pest organisms, in terms of facilitating safer trade

***c****.* *gather* scientific information on the risks of contaminating pests moving in trade, which is to be analysed and then used to determine, as appropriate, risk-based actions in sufficient consultation with industries to reduce the risks.

***d****. collaborate* with exporting industries and logistics operators to develop practices that may be commercially applied to reduce the risk of contaminating pests associated with traded goods spreading.

***e****.* *agree* actions between countries to reduce exposure of regulated and unregulated goods and places to contaminating pests.

***f****.* consider taking, as appropriate, necessary actions based on sufficient scientific evidence to regulate export pathways for the purpose of minimising the spread of contaminating pests on traded goods, conveyances, containers and other non-plant regulated articles

***g****. record and share* information about the effective measures implemented by contracting parties in order to prevent the spread of contaminant pests, including, effective practices and pest interception data.

***h****. conduct* pest risk analyses as appropriate to ensure that regulation of contaminating pests is consistent with the IPP Convention Article VII.2(g) and relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures.

***i***. *communicating* with relevant international organizations including International Maritime Organization (IMO) and World Custom Organization (WCO) through IPPC secretariat and National and Regional Plant Protection Organisations about the risk of pest movement on regulated and unregulated goods and places conveyances and packaging.

**RECOMMENDATION(S) SUPERSEDED BY THE ABOVE**

1. None.

**This attachment is for reference purposes only and will be removed upon adoption of the CPM recommendation.**

**ATTACHMENT 1:** Background/Justification to draft CPM recommendation on Reduce the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated articles and unregulated goods to protect plant health and facilitate trade (2019-002)

1. Phytosanitary risks in plants and plant products should be managed on the basis of pest risk analysis (PRA). The focus of the PRA is generally on pests associated with the commercially grown and traded commodity, where measures are applied by the importing country to reduce the pest risks to an acceptable level agreed through bilateral negotiation with the exporting country. These measures may be applied prior to export or on arrival in the importing country. The PRA rarely considers pest risks associated with the processes of moving the commodity in trade, or pathways outside of commercial trade.
2. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) also directs actions to prevent the international movement of pests through more than the management of phytosanitary risks on plants and plant products. Contracting parties, through the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), have recognised this with the adoption of international standards providing guidance on, for example, the *International movement of used vehicles, machinery and equipment* (ISPM 41), or with actions to reduce the spread of pests on sea containers through the work of the Sea Container Task Force (SCTF). However, the awareness of the scope of the Convention and the risks that pests associated with storage places, packaging, conveyances, containers, soil and any other organism, object or material capable of harbouring or spreading plant pests pose to global plant health remains low. A CPM recommendation would help to raise the profile of these risks and provide a stronger focus for addressing them.
3. Recent experience in Australia indicates an increase in the number and type of phytosanitary and other risks associated with containers, conveyances and pathways, and with goods that are not regulated plants or plant products.
4. There is also ongoing exposure to plant pests in material brought in by travellers and entering through postal and courier mail services.
5. It is logical to assume that the same pests are moving between all countries by the same means, and that the global spread of pests, including contaminating pests, will continue. This poses a significant risk to production and natural ecosystems. The rapid inter- and trans-continental spread of the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) and the red imported fire ant (RIFA) highlight this risk and the significant impacts that can result from the establishment of serious pests in an area.
6. The endorsed IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and the associated five year investment plan approved by the CPM identify the management of these pests directly and indirectly to protect global plant resources and facilitate safe trade. Some relevant 2030 key result areas identified for the three strategic objectives progressed by the Framework include:

* Pest risk prevention is integrated throughout the production, processing and trade chain of plants and plant products (food security and agriculture protection measure).
* Contracting parties have mechanisms in place to control the spread of environmental contaminant pests on non-plant trade pathways, e.g. invasive ants on vehicles and machinery, or gypsy moth egg masses on sea containers and vessels (environment protection measure).
* NPPOs have built capacity and been supported to establish export assurance and certification systems that have strong integrity and are trusted by trading partners, and,
* The detections of pests on trade pathways are declining as exporting countries take more responsibility for managing the pest risk on exports, and importing countries report detections more quickly and more consistently (trade facilitation measures).

1. This matter was discussed by CPM-14 which agreed to a small working group of interested contracting parties to develop the recommendation further for consideration by the Bureau and the Strategic Planning Group in 2019 before it is presented to CPM-15 (2020) as a draft for country consultation.
2. This recommendation would encourage NPPOs, RPPOs and importing and exporting industries to work together to raise awareness of the pest risk associated with the transboundary movement of goods and the benefits of addressing these risks. NPPOs might use this awareness as the driver to develop and implement tools and systems that enables them to manage pathways, goods and places associated with the movement of contaminating pests. Collaboration with exporting and importing industries will help to identify and promote the adopting of good practices that are cost effective, least trade restrictive and commercially feasible.