



SPECIFICATION

TP 6

Technical Panel for Commodity Standards

(2020)

Title

Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS) (2019-009).

Reason for the technical panel

ISPM XX [the concept standard] provides guidance on the use and content of commodity standards. There is broad consensus that commodity standards based on scientific methods and evidence will support the development of technically justified phytosanitary import requirements to facilitate safe and more streamlined trade to the benefit of contracting parties. The development of commodity standards is therefore included in the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030. In order to develop such standards and ensure that sufficient rigour, resources and focus can be provided, CPM-14 (2019) supported the establishment of the Technical Panel for Commodity Standards (TPCS).

Scope and purpose

The TPCS develops and updates commodity standards within the framework of ISPM XX [the concept standard] and develops guidance on related aspects.

Tasks

The TPCS should undertake the following:

- (1) Draft commodity standards as prioritized by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, either directly or through expert drafting groups established by the Standards Committee (SC).
- (2) When drafting a commodity standard:
 - focus on the specific commodity and the pests that are associated with it according to the intended use so that the standard is practical and feasible;
 - consider scientific evidence, such as existing pest risk analyses, existing phytosanitary measures and related information (e.g. regional and national standards) that are relevant to the standard under development, together with production practices that may inform the development of the standard, according to the submissions made by contracting parties;
 - evaluate technical information on the commodity, relevant pests and phytosanitary measures and identify which pests and measures are to be included in the standard, using criteria established for this purpose in ISPM XX [the concept standard].

- (3) Ensure that the commodity standards being developed are consistent with the requirements and criteria in ISPM XX [the concept standard] and consistent with each other.
- (4) Review adopted commodity standards (either ISPMs or annexes to ISPMs), identify revisions needed and recommend revisions to the SC.
- (5) Provide recommendations to the SC on subjects, topics and priorities for the development or revision of commodity standards.
- (6) Liaise as needed with the other technical panels under the SC and with the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee.
- (7) In exceptional circumstances, recommend to the SC calls for expert drafting groups for specific commodity standards as needed.
- (8) Provide advice to the stewards and the SC, as requested, on appropriate responses to consultation comments relating to draft commodity standards.
- (9) Consider how to categorize and catalogue phytosanitary measures included in commodity standards, and those in other standards, for use in an online search tool for target pest, commodity and measure, cross-referenced to relevant sources of information.
- (10) When evaluating a phytosanitary measure such as a treatment for inclusion in a commodity standard, consider whether there is sufficient information to support it being proposed to the SC as a subject for the development of an annex to ISPM 28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*) through the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments process, or as a topic for a specific, stand-alone ISPM.
- (11) Consider whether commodity standards could affect in a specific way (positively or negatively) the protection of biodiversity and the environment. If this is the case, the impact should be identified, addressed and clarified in the draft commodity standard.
- (12) Consider the use of commodity standards by contracting parties and identify potential impediments to operational and technical implementation. Provide information on these impediments, and possible recommendations on how to overcome them, to the SC.

Expertise

Members of this panel should primarily have combined expertise in:

- commodity pest risk assessment;
- commodity pest risk management;
- development and management of phytosanitary import requirements;
- selection and implementation of phytosanitary measures for use in trade;
- development of regional and international phytosanitary standards;
- evaluation of commodity production practices in relation to pest risk management.

Members

Eight to ten. Details of the technical panel membership may be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) at <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/>. Panel members are selected by the SC for a five-year term. The SC reviews the composition of the panel on a regular basis. The SC may renew individual memberships for additional terms.

The TPCS may invite experts, with previous agreement by the SC, as invited experts.

Steward

The SC shall assign a member of the SC to be the Steward of the TPCS.

Please refer to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* posted on the IPP (see <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/list>).

Provision of resources

Funding for the meeting may be provided from sources other than the regular programme of the IPPC (FAO). As recommended by ICPM-2 (1999), whenever possible, those participating in standard setting activities voluntarily fund their travel and subsistence to attend meetings. Participants may request financial assistance, with the understanding that resources are limited and the priority for financial assistance is given to developing country participants. Please refer to the *Criteria used for prioritizing participants to receive travel assistance to attend meetings organized by the IPPC Secretariat* posted on the IPP (see <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/>).

References

The IPPC, relevant ISPMs and other national, regional and international standards and agreements as may be applicable to the tasks, and discussion papers submitted in relation to this work.

ISPM 28. 2016. *Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*. Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO.

Publication history

This is not an official part of the specification

2019-06 Focus group on commodity standards recommended adding to the work programme.

2019-10 Strategic Planning Group reviewed and provided comments.

2019-11 Standards Committee (SC) reviewed and proposed changes.

2019-12 CPM Bureau reviewed.

2020-06 CPM Bureau added topic (2019-009) to work programme.

2020-07 First consultation.

2020-10 Steward revised the draft based on the consultation comments.

2020-11 SC reviewed and approved the specification.

Specification TP 6. 2020. *Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS)*. Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO.

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