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# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

**Fifteenth Session**

**Virtual Meeting, 16, 18 March and 1 April 2021**

**Report from Standards Committee**

**Agenda item 9.1**

**Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat**

## I. Introduction

1. This report provides a record of the activities of the Standards Committee (SC) in 2019 and 2020, as well as an insight into the work that is on the horizon for the SC and consequently for the contracting parties. Detailed reports supporting this information are available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)<sup>1</sup>.
2. The SC completed a fruitful year in 2019 with two International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) adopted by CPM-14 (2019) and one diagnostic protocol (DP) adopted by the SC on behalf of the CPM. The SC has also planned to recommend three ISPMs for adoption by the CPM in 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the session was canceled. Therefore, the planned adoption for the three ISPMs has been deferred to CPM-15 (2021) with the addition of one ISPM and seven phytosanitary treatments (PTs) also to be adopted in 2021.
3. The SC has also been engaged in various other works, most notable of which are the input to the development and governance approach of commodity and pathway standards, addressing the concerns around the authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions and the consideration given to the reorganization of the standards related to pest risk analysis. Additionally, the SC continues to strive to improve the cooperation between the SC and the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC).
4. The SC also dedicated some time to review how their work relates to the IPPC 2020-2030 Strategic Framework; and how to support the commencement of the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH), recognizing the important opportunity to raise awareness of plant health and the role of the IPPC and phytosanitary standards in protecting plant health.
5. Progress in the SC's work on the development of ISPMs depends entirely on the commitment and technical input from experts from all regions of the world. This includes contracting parties, regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs), and international organizations. The commitment of contracting parties to provide experts as members of the Standards Committee is essential for the functioning of the Committee and allows the IPPC to fulfill its mission as the standard setting organization in plant health. In addition to the valuable comments received from contracting parties, RPPOs, and international organizations, the SC has also utilized their help with organizing some of the meetings. The SC would like to recognize the support from the contracting parties in providing SC members and experts to participate in the standard setting process.
6. This report highlights the significant input provided by the SC, technical panels, and expert drafting group members, and the stewards of draft ISPMs. Over 50 of the 100 topics on the *List of topics for IPPC standards*<sup>2</sup> have progressed, and this has required considerable input from all involved, i.e. the SC, technical panels, experts, contracting parties, RPPOs, other organizations, and the IPPC Secretariat.
7. In 2019 and 2020, the SC continued to strive to meet the CPM expectations and the IPPC community to develop standards via a meaningful, transparent, and inclusive process, and could not do this without the professionalism and dedication of the staff of the Standard Setting Unit (SSU) of the IPPC Secretariat.

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<sup>1</sup> Standard Setting web page: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting>

<sup>2</sup> List of topics for IPPC standards: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/list>

## II. ISPMs adopted by the Standards Committee (SC) on behalf of CPM

8. The SC adopted the following diagnostic protocol (DP) on behalf of the CPM in February 2019:
- 1) DP 29: Diagnostic protocol for *Bactrocera dorsalis* (2006-026), Annex to ISPM 27.

## III. Consultations

9. The draft ISPMs, phytosanitary treatments (PTs), and diagnostic protocols (DPs) listed in this section have been considered and revised by the SC, the Standards Committee Working Group (SC-7), the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG), the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) and the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT).

10. The following eight draft PTs and one draft DP were submitted for consultation for the first time **in 2019**:

- 1) Draft PT: for Irradiation treatment for *Bactrocera dorsalis* (2017-015);
- 2) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Ceratitidis capitata* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus domestica* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022A);
- 3) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus domestica* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022B);
- 4) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Ceratitidis capitata* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023A);
- 5) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023B);
- 6) Draft PT: Irradiation treatment for *Bactrocera tau* (2017-025);
- 7) Draft PT: Irradiation treatment for *Carposina sasakii* (2017-026);
- 8) Draft PT: Irradiation treatment for the genus *Anastrepha* (2017-031);
- 9) Draft DP for *Striga* spp. (2008-009).

11. The following four draft ISPMs were submitted for consultation for the second time **in 2019**:

- 1) Draft 2018 Amendments to ISPM 5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (1994-001);
- 2) Draft Revision of ISPM 8: *Determination of pest status in an area* (2009-005);
- 3) Draft ISPM: *Requirements for NPPOs if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2014-002);
- 4) Draft ISPM: *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as phytosanitary measures* (2014-006).

12. The following three draft specifications, four draft ISPMs, and five draft PTs were submitted for consultation for the first time **in 2020**:

- 1) Draft Specification: Annex to ISPM 38: ISPM 38- International movement of seeds: Annex 1 - Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009);
- 2) Draft Specification: Criteria for the determination of host status for fruit flies based on available information (Annex to ISPM 37) (2018-011);
- 3) Draft Specification: Draft specification for the Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS) (2019-009);
- 4) Draft ISPM: Focused Revision of ISPM 12: (*Phytosanitary certificates*) in relation to re-export (2015-011)

- 5) Draft ISPM: Audit in the Phytosanitary context (2015-014);
  - 6) Draft ISPM: 2019 & 2020 Amendments of ISPM 5 *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (1994-001);
  - 7) Draft ISPM: Commodity-based standards for phytosanitary measures (2019-008);
  - 8) Draft PT: Irradiation treatment for *Tortricidae* on fruits (2017-011);
  - 9) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Citrus sinensis* (2017-029);
  - 10) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera zonata* on *Citrus sinensis* (2017-013);
  - 11) Draft PT: Vapour heat - modified atmosphere treatment for *Cydia pomonella* and *Grapholita molesta* in fruit of *Malus pumila* and *Prunus persica* (2017-037/038);
  - 12) Draft PT: Irradiation treatment for *Sternochetus frigidus* (2017-036).
13. The following seven draft PTs were submitted for consultation for the second time **in 2020**:
- 1) Draft PT: for Irradiation treatment for *Bactrocera dorsalis* (2017-015);
  - 2) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Ceratitis capitata* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus domestica* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022A);
  - 3) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus domestica* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022B);
  - 4) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Ceratitis capitata* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023A);
  - 5) Draft PT: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023B);
  - 6) Draft PT: Irradiation treatment for *Carposina sasakii* (2017-026);
  - 7) Draft PT: Irradiation treatment for the genus *Anastrepha* (2017-031).

#### **IV. Recommendation of draft ISPMs to CPM-15 (2021) for adoption**

14. The SC at its November 2019 meeting agreed that the following three draft ISPMs be recommended to CPM-15 (2020) for adoption (see also CPM 2020/07 and attachments):
- 1) Draft 2018 amendments to ISPM 5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (1994-001);
  - 2) Draft Revision of ISPM 8: *Determination of pest status in an area* (2009-005);
  - 3) Draft ISPM: *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as phytosanitary measures* (2014-006).
15. In 2019 November, the SC could not reach consensus to recommend the draft ISPM: *Requirements for NPPOs if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2014-002) to CPM-15 (2020) for adoption; therefore, the SC prepared a paper to be presented to the CPM.
16. Once again, with the cancellation of the CPM session in 2020, the Bureau, at their 2020 July meeting, reviewed the issue and recommended that the SC to proceed with recommending the adoption of the draft ISPM to the next CPM session. The SC at its November 2020 meeting agreed that the ISPM be recommended to CPM-15 (2021) for adoption (see also CPM 2021/15 and attachments).

#### **V. Contracting parties' support for the standard setting activities**

17. As in the previous years, contracting parties and international organizations continued their support for the activities related to the IPPC standard setting.
18. Special thanks should be directed to countries that supported the standard setting-related meetings and for providing in-kind staff support for the Secretariat:

- Canada, for providing financial contribution to organize the Expert Working Group meeting on *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2015-014), and for their support in hosting and co-organizing the meeting in 2019
- FAO/IAEA Joint Division for hosting the meeting of the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments in Vienna, Austria in 2019
- Australia, and AgriBio-Centre for Agri Bioscience, La Torbe University for hosting the meeting of the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) in 2019
- France, for providing in-kind staff support in 2019 for the Standard Setting Unit (SSU) of the IPPC Secretariat.

19. We greatly value these contributions, and we look forward to their continuation in the future. We would also like to thank those who have made such arrangements for 2020 but that due to the situation in 2020, meetings had to be cancelled. We hope to continue these collaborations for upcoming years.

20. Moreover, the SC would like to thank the staff of the Standard Setting Unit (SSU) of the IPPC Secretariat in organizing the first IPPC webinar in 2020 on the topic “Enhancing the understanding of the concept on authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions”, on 20 October 2020 in which had over 150 participants from 88 NPPOs, as well as participants from several RPPOs, international organizations and FAO decentralized offices.

## VI. Other issues discussed by the SC

### A. Commodity and Pathway Standards

21. In May 2019, the SC considered the discussions held by the Focus Group on Commodity and Pathway Standards in October 2018 and the subsequent outcomes of CPM-14 (2019). The SC considered the relative merits of different governance models and possible transitional arrangements that might be used for the concept standard, and the need to include industry participation after the initial stage. While recognizing that the focus group is within the scope of the Bureau, the SC expressed support for the development of commodity and pathway standards being under the mandate of the SC, with a permanent stewardship arrangement from the SC.

22. In November 2019, the SC considered the outcomes of the June 2019 meeting of the focus group. The SC endorsed the focus group’s recommendations that the standards should be restricted to commodities and not include pathways and that these commodity standards should be annexes to the concept standard. The SC recommended that the concept standard remains with the focus group until the decision of CPM-15 (2020) and that if CPM-15 were to decide to submit the draft concept standard for consultation, it should follow the normal Standard setting procedure. The SC considered the focus group’s proposal for a Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS) and endorsed the focus group’s recommendation that the Steward from the TPCS be a member of the Task Force on Topics. The SC provided comments on the drafting process for commodity standards and recommended that there be a Steward for each individual commodity standard. The SC further recommended that the SC should decide upon the criteria for including measures in commodity standards, with support from the TPCS, but recognized that the criteria for inclusion would be in the concept standard. Possible mechanisms to ensure prompt technical updates on measures when new evidence becomes available were discussed. The SC then considered the draft concept standard (draft ISPM on *Commodity-based standards for phytosanitary measures* (2019-008)) and the draft specification for the Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (2019-009) drawn up by the focus group and provided suggested amendments for consideration by the Bureau.

23. With the cancelation of the CPM 2020 session, the Bureau approved these two draft documents, i.e. the draft concept standard and the draft specification for the technical panel, for consultation period.

Additionally, the Bureau also transferred the development of the commodity standards framework to the SC. And in November 2020, the SC approved the specification TP6 for the Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS). This new technical panel will support the IPPC's work on safeguarding agriculture and facilitating safe trade under the commodity standards framework and development agenda of the IPPC.

### **B. Pest risk analysis (PRA) related standards**

24. A proposal on the revision and reorganization of Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) standards was discussed by the SC after addressing the draft ISPM on Pest risk management for quarantine pests (2014-001). At their November 2019 meeting, the SC considered the six options for reorganization of the PRA standards: new stand-alone draft ISPM on pest risk management, with no revision of ISPM 11 (Option 1); revision of ISPM 11, section 3 on pest risk management (Option 2); revision of ISPM 11 and stand-alone ISPM on pest risk management (Option 3); three standards – one for each stage of PRA (Option 4); four standards – overarching standard on the PRA process and one for each stage of PRA (Option 5); and, one overarching standard on PRA process with an annex for each stage of PRA (Option 6). Following discussions, the SC had invited the CPM 2020 to consider Options 2 and 5 for the proposed revision and reorganization of the PRA standards and decide on a suitable option.

25. As CPM 2020 was unable to meet, the Bureau discussed this issue at its July 2020 virtual meeting. The CPM Bureau discussed the available options and decided for option 6, considering it to be the most thorough, which would result in one overarching standard with an annex for each of the three stages of PRA. Thus, the CPM Bureau recommended the SC to proceed with option 6 on the reorganization of standards related to PRA and added the topic “reorganization of Pest Risk Analysis standards” to the List of Topics accordingly.

26. The SC drafted the Specification accordingly. ISPM 2 (*Framework for pest risk analysis*), ISPM 11 (*Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests*), and the draft ISPM on Pest risk management for quarantine pests (2014-001) will be reorganized into one single standard.

27. The SC will soon review the draft specification on Reorganization of pest risk analysis standards (2020-001) using the Online Comment System.

### **C. International Year of Plant Health**

28. The SC members are continuously working in their areas to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) and providing input to the IYPH International Steering Committee (ISC) on IYPH initiatives and activities from a technical perspective as required.. The SC is contributing in particular by divulging the programme of events, using the IYPH visual identity, disseminating the call for contributions and the call for human-interest stories related to plant health, and sharing any IYPH-related event details with the IYPH Secretariat.

### **D. IPPC Regional Workshops**

29. The SC provided strong contributions to the the 2019 and 2020 IPPC Regional Workshops, either byhaving at least one SC member participating in each workshop or by the stewards providing updates and materials on the draft ISPMs under consultation period. A joint effort with IPPC Secretariat, IC, Bureau, NPPOs and RPPOs that made the workshops be successfully implemented.

30. The 2020 IPPC Regional Workshops were held virtually and gave particular importance to raise awareness of regional plant health issues and highlight regional ongoing or future initiatives to leave a lasting impact of the International Year on Plant Health (IYPH) beyond 2020. They included discussions on draft ISPMs, IYPH, call for topics (to be open in 2021), IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030, and regional priorities.

### **E. Collaboration between SC and IC**

31. The interaction between Standard Setting and Implementation activities has been very fruitful. The Framework for standards and implementation (FSI) was successfully reformatted and updated to align with the Strategic Framework 2020-2030. The joint effort by the IFU/SSU staff together with the SC and IC Framework champions has resulted in the framework now being more user friendly. The new FSI is being presented to the CPM-15 (agenda item 8.4) for formal endorsement.

32. In November 2018, the SC nominated two SC members as representative and alternate representative on the IC to ensure collaboration between the two committees and to better support the work of the IPPC contracting parties.

33. The SC has been gathering and reviewing information on potential implementation issues related to each draft ISPM via consultation comments and requesting the input of the experts drafting the ISPMs, and have been forwarding these for consideration to the IC. To improve the flow of this information, the SC representative compiled and presented all implementation issues gathered on the ISPMs that were recommended for adoption for discussion at the November meeting of the IC.

34. The SC welcomed the assignment of the IC liaison person for each ISPM under development. Both SC and IC agreed that their representatives attending each IPPC Regional Workshops should liaise prior to the workshop to help ensure better coordination. The Steward for a draft ISPM should collaborate with their IC counterpart on the development of the presentation and in order to include questions/topics for the discussion on potential implementation issues.

35. The SC and IC also worked on revising the format of the Strategic Framework for Standards and Implementation with the assistance of the assigned Framework Champions and the Secretariat. The successful collaboration resulted in a clear and readable format of this database of existing standards, topics, and other reference material and enabled the easier identification of gaps as guidance for the development of standards and other material to support implementation.

36. The SC felt that the interactions between the SC and IC are progressing well and will evolve as the IC procedures and activities develop.

37. The SC has proposed members from the SC to be part of groups, subgroups or activities of the IC. A representative from the SC has been appointed to represent the Standards Committee in the IC Implementation Review and Support System subgroup; an SC member has been selected to follow the development of the PRA e-learning (2020-002); and another SC member have been selected to follow the development of the export certification elearning (2020-003). The SC will also appoint a member to be involved in the informal e-Commerce network and the e-Commerce programme.

## F. Standards Committee Working group (SC-7)

38. The Standards Committee Working group (SC-7) at their 2019 meeting considered the comments to the following four draft ISPMs, submitted during the 2018 first consultation period:

- 1) Draft 2018 Amendments to ISPM 5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (1994-001);
- 2) Draft Revision of ISPM 8: Determination of pest status in an area (2009-005);
- 3) Draft ISPM: *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2014-002);
- 4) Draft ISPM: *Requirements for the use of modified atmosphere treatments as phytosanitary measures* (2014-006).

39. The SC-7 approved all draft ISPMs for a second consultation but amended the name of draft ISPM *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2014-002) to *Requirements for NPPOs if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2014-002).

40. Due to the global situation in 2020, the SC-7 did not have a meeting, in which it was planned to have some discussions related to the standard setting process, commodity standards, PRA-related standards and potential draft of Specifications. The next meeting of the SC-7 is planned for May 2021 in virtual modality, to review ISPMs that were submitted for first consultation.

## G. Summary of e-Decisions

41. To expedite the development of ISPMs, Specifications, and the large number of draft DPs and PTs, and to decide other pending issues, the SC has been using decisions via electronic means (forums and polls). During the COVID-19 pandemic, such innovative tools demonstrated being crucial to ensure continuity of the SC's work.

42. In 2019 the SC conducted the following 21 SC e-decisions and 1 SC-IC joint e-decision:

- 2020\_eSC\_May\_06: Approval of CPM paper on PRA reorganization;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_05: Approval of CPM paper on Authorization;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_03: Selection of TPPT members;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_04: Selection of TPDP members;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_02: Review of the objection to the Heat treatment of wood using dielectric heating (2007-114);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_01: Modified atmosphere usage in irradiation treatments;
- 2019\_eSC\_Nov\_01: Approval of Draft DP *Striga* spp. (2008-009) for consultation;
- 2019\_eSC\_Nov\_02: Selection of Experts for Expert Working Group on Focused Revision of ISPM 12 (*Phytosanitary certificates*) in relation to re-export (2015-011);
- 2019\_eSC\_May\_01: Selection of experts for the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT);
- 2019\_eSC\_May\_02: Selection of experts for the for Expert Working Group on Audits in the Phytosanitary context (2015-014);
- 2019\_eSC\_May\_03: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Irradiation treatment for the genus *Anastrepha* (2017-031);
- 2019\_eSC\_May\_04: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Irradiation treatment for *Carposina sasakii* (2017-026);
- 2019\_eSC\_May\_05: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Irradiation treatment for *Bactrocera tau* (2017-025);



- 2019\_eSC\_May\_06: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Irradiation treatment for *Bactrocera dorsalis* (2017-015);
  - 2019\_eSC\_May\_07: Review of the Annotated Glossary, Explanatory document for ISPM 5 (Glossary of phytosanitary terms), 2019 version;
  - 2019\_eSC\_May\_08: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Cold treatment for *Ceratitidis capitata* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus domestica* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022A);
  - 2019\_eSC\_May\_09: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus domestica* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022B);
  - 2019\_eSC\_May\_10: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Cold treatment for *Ceratitidis capitata* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023A);
  - 2019\_eSC\_May\_11: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023B);
  - 2019\_eSC\_May\_12: Selection of an invited expert for Expert Working Group on Audits in the phytosanitary context (2015-014);
  - 2019\_eSC\_May\_13: Approval of Draft DP *Striga* spp. (2008-009) for consultation;
  - 2019\_eSCIC\_Nov\_01: Approval of the Framework for Standards and Implementation.
43. In 2020 the SC conducted the following 37 SC e-decisions:
- 2021\_eSC\_May\_01: For adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Bactrocera dorsalis* (2017-015);
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_02: For adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Carposina sasakii* (2017-026);
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_03: For adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for the genus *Anastrepha* (2017-031);
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_04: For adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Cold treatment for *Ceratitidis capitata* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus salicina* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022A);
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_05: For adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus salicina* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022B);
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_06: For adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Cold treatment for *Ceratitidis capitata* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023A);
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_07: For adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023B);
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_08: Selection of SC representatives on the subgroups of the IC-SC;
  - 2021\_eSC\_May\_09: Selection of experts for the Russian language for the Technical Panel for the Glossary;
  - 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_01: Selection of members for the EWG on Revision of ISPM 4 (Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas) (2009-002);
  - 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_02: Review of the TPPT work programme;
  - 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_03: Possible ways to streamline the standard setting process for subjects;
  - 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_04: Selection of experts for the EWG on the use of specific import authorizations (2008-006);
  - 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_05: Review of the TPDP work programme;
  - 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_06: Review of the TPG work programme;
  - 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_07: Summary of standards committee e-decisions November 2019 – May 2020;

- 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_08: Confirmation of Stewards of the ISPM on commodities and the TPCS;
- 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_09: Reorganization of PRA standards;
- 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_10: Selection of Botanist for the TPDP;
- 2020\_eSC\_Nov\_11: Membership of the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT) and invited experts;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_07: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Tortricidae* in fruits (2017-011);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_08: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28 on Cold treatment for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Citrus sinensis*. (2017-029);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_09: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28 on Cold treatment for *Bactrocera zonata* on *Citrus sinensis* (2017-013);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_10: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Vapour heat - modified atmosphere treatment for *Cydia pomonella* and *Grapholita molesta* in fruit of *Malus pumila* and *Prunus persica* (2017-038) – priority 3;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_11: Draft Specification on Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (Annex to ISPM 38 International movement of seeds) (2018-009) for consultation;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_12: Draft Specification on Criteria for the determination of host status for fruit flies based on available information (Annex to ISPM 37) (2018-011), for consultation;
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_13: Approval of Draft PT for second consultation: Cold treatment for *Ceratitis capitata* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus salicina* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022A);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_14: Approval for consultation of draft PT: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Prunus avium*, *Prunus salicina* and *Prunus persica* (2017-022B);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_15: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Cold treatment for *Ceratitis capitata* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023A);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_16: Approval of Draft PT for consultation: Cold treatment for *Bactrocera tryoni* on *Vitis vinifera* (2017-023B);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_17: Approval for consultation: 2019-2020 Amendments to ISPM 5 (1994-001)
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_18: Approval for consultation: Draft ISPM on the Focused revision of ISPM 12 (Phytosanitary certificates) in relation to re-export (2015-011);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_19: Approval for consultation: Draft ISPM: Audit in the phytosanitary context (2015-014);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_20: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Carposina sasakii* (2017-026);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_21: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Sternonchetus frigidus* (2017-036);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_22: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Bactrocera dorsalis* (2017-015);
- 2020\_eSC\_May\_23: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for the genus *Anastrepha* (2017-031).

## H. TPs & EWGs

44. The SC oversees the work of the technical panels and expert working groups (EWGs). A summary of their work is presented below.

### ***Technical Panel for Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP)***

45. It is known that early detection and accurate diagnosis can minimize the impact of a pest outbreak, highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The IPPC's Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) is a group of international experts, nominated by the SC to develop international diagnostic protocols to support the harmonization of pest detection and identification procedures worldwide. This contributes to greater transparency in the diagnostics for regulated pests and assists in the resolution of disputes between trading partners. As outlined by the CPM Recommendation 7, accurate and rapid pest diagnosis underpins phytosanitary certification, import inspections and the application of appropriate phytosanitary treatments.

46. The TPDP<sup>3</sup> is comprised of ten members<sup>4</sup> and has a work programme with six disciplines or topics, and as of January 2021, 19 draft DPs were under various stages of development, noting that the majority of them are on the initial stages of development in the standard setting process. The TPDP works following the ISPM 27 (*Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests*).

47. One DP (*Striga* spp) was submitted for consultation in July 2019. One new topic was added by the SC at their November 2019 meeting on the Revision of DP 5 (*Phyllosticta citricarpa* (McAlpine) Aa on fruit) because of new information regarding the potential for false positive detections using the methods described in DP 5. The topic was initially included on the LOT with a “pending” status but has since moved to “under development” so that a revision can take place. The Panel oversees the work of more than 40 experts in various countries<sup>5</sup> to help ensure the quality and consistency of the DPs.

48. In 2019 the TPDP's work programme was delivered through consultations (see section IV entitled Consultations, above), two TPDP e-forums, and one face-to-face meeting, which was held in August 2019 in Melbourne, Australia and was hosted by AgriBio – Centre for Agri Bioscience. The reports from TPDP meetings are available on the IPP6.

49. In 2020, the TPDP had to postpone their face-to-face meeting and some work proposals related to the development agenda items, particularly to the laboratories diagnostic networking of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030. However, the TPDP held three virtual meetings to move forward with their work programme. During these meetings, the TPDP selected authors for various drafting groups, discussed how to best advance with the development of the protocols and plan its work for the upcoming year. The TPDP also welcomed new members to the panel and received updates from the IPPC Secretariat on the activities of the SC and the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030.

### ***Technical Panel for Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT)***

50. The TPPT is composed of nine members<sup>7</sup>. The TPPT members are committed and engaged in the development of quality ISPMs and phytosanitary treatments (PTs) that meet the requirements outlined in ISPM 28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*).

51. The TPPT work programme comprises 26 draft PTs and three draft ISPMs (on requirements for the following types of treatments: chemical, irradiation, and modified atmosphere).

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<sup>3</sup> TPDP webpage: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-diagnostic-protocols/>

<sup>4</sup> TPDP membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81560/>

<sup>5</sup> IPPC DP drafting groups: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/2582/>

<sup>6</sup> Reports of the TPDP meetings: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-diagnostic-protocols/>

<sup>7</sup> TPPT membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81655/>

52. The call for phytosanitary treatments is still open<sup>8</sup>. Contracting parties and RPPOs may submit phytosanitary treatments to be adopted as annexes to ISPM 28 or posted as contributed resources. The call remains open, so treatments can be submitted at any time. Since the call opened in 2017, 31 submissions<sup>9</sup> were received.

53. In 2019 the TPPT held one face-to-face meeting in June in Vienna, Austria, hosted by the FAO/IAEA Joint Division, and one virtual meeting. The reports from the meetings can be found on the IPP<sup>10</sup>.

54. During their 2019 meetings, the TPPT discussed 16 draft PTs and recommended four of them for the first consultation in 2020. They also considered how to contribute to the Development Agenda of the 2020-2030 IPPC Strategic Framework, in particular to the development of commodity standards, and considered ways to streamline the process of developing PTs. They also reviewed the effect of modified atmosphere storage on the efficacy of irradiation treatments and presented their findings to the SC and to the CPM.

55. Eight PTs were submitted for the first consultation in 2019, and the Treatment Leads provided responses to the comments of contracting parties.

56. In 2020 the TPPT had to postpone their face to face meeting and held 7 virtual meetings to maintain their work programme. During these meetings, the TPPT discussed and revised 8 PTs that were submitted for the first consultation in 2019 and agreed on the responses to consultation comments, recommended one new PT for approval for consultation, discussed their contribution to the International Plant Health Conference, and addressed the consultation comments on 7 PTs that were submitted for the second consultation in 2020. They also finalized the responses to 2 of the 5 PTs that underwent the first consultation in 2020 and started working on the revisions of ISPM 18 (Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure).

57. The TPPT will continue the assessment of the submissions that they requested additional information from the submitter, will keep working on the draft PTs that are in the review stage of the standard setting process, and seek further submissions for treatments used in international trade.

58. The TPPT also continues its liaison with the Phytosanitary Measures Research Group (PMRG) and the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee via the Ozone Secretariat.

### ***Technical Panel for Forest Quarantine (TPFQ)***

59. The Technical Panel for Forest Quarantine (TPFQ) is composed of seven members<sup>11</sup> and deals with technical matters regarding quarantine issues relating to the pests of wood, wood packaging material, and tree species. The TPFQ also works closely with the TPPT in developing guidance related to treatments for wood commodities and ISPM 15 treatments.

60. The TPFQ did not meet in 2019 and 2020, as the topics on their work program are pending the availability of further information.

61. The SC, at their meeting in September 2020, decided to recommend to disestablish the panel, considering that any remaining topics can be addressed by an expert working group, possibly including

<sup>8</sup> Call for Phytosanitary Treatments: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/calls-treatments/>

<sup>9</sup> Call for treatments and all submissions: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/calls-treatments/>

<sup>10</sup> Reports of the TPPT meetings: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-phytosanitary-treatments/>

<sup>11</sup> TPFQ membership: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/1191/>

the previous members of the TPFQ. This recommendation is being presented to the CPM consideration (see agenda item 9.3).

### ***Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG)***

62. The Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG) is composed of eight experts<sup>12</sup> with knowledge of phytosanitary systems, which together represent all FAO official languages. There are currently 22 terms on the TPG work programme.

63. The TPG held one face-to-face meeting in November 2019 hosted by FAO in Rome, where they reviewed subjects on the TPG Work Programme such terms as “inspection”, “incidence”, “emergency action” and others were discussed. In addition, during the meeting, TPG agreed to continue working on “surveillance”, “specific surveillance” and “general surveillance” as well as “identity (of a consignment)”, “integrity (of a consignment)” (consequential), and “phytosanitary security (of a consignment)” hence, defer any recommendations to the SC, and come back to the definitions next year.

64. The TPG has elaborated a discussion paper for the expert working group EWG on the “Focused revision of ISPM 12 (*Phytosanitary certificates*) in relation to re-export (2015-011)” and provided a recommendation to avoid using the term “phytosanitary status” when amending section 5 of ISPM 12.

65. Strategic discussion on the TPG work was concentrated around the potential impact of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 on the work of the panels and possibilities for increased involvement of TPG in consistency review in languages.

66. The TPG considered areas where they could contribute to and have an impact on the future work of the IPPC governing bodies. The TPG highlighted the significance of the TPG’s work to the IPPC standard setting process, including the harmonization of terminology and the production of explanatory documents to facilitate implementation.

67. In 2020 the TPG had to postpone their face to face meeting and proceeded with the virtual meeting (divided into two parts December 2020 and January 2021). Hence, TPG reviewed the consistency, terminology, and translation, as well as glossary related comments on draft ISPMs, went for the first consultation period. TPG also worked on proposals for new or revised terms/definitions (subjects of TPG work programme), which will be compiled into new draft Amendments to the Glossary, to be submitted to the SC in the future.

### ***EWG on the development of draft ISPM on Audit in the phytosanitary context***

68. The meeting of the Expert Working Group (EWG) for the development of a draft International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) on Audit in the phytosanitary context (2015-014) was convened in Toronto, Canada, from 03 to 07 June 2019. The meeting of the EWG was co-organized by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). The standard drafted at the meeting provides guidance to NPPOs on the conduct of audits in the phytosanitary context. It enables the common understanding of the term “audit” and the responsibilities of NPPOs, auditors, and those audited, and provides procedures for planning and conducting audits. The standard describes the essential elements of uses of audit that focus on the implementation of phytosanitary measures, including audits of entities in the exporting country conducted by the NPPO of the exporting country, audits of the phytosanitary certification system carried out by the NPPO of the importing country in the exporting country, and audits of entities other than NPPOs who are authorized to perform phytosanitary actions. The EWG also considered implementation issues in relation to the draft standard.

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<sup>12</sup> TPG membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/8069/>

***EWG on the development of the draft Revision of ISPM 12***

69. The meeting of the Expert Working Group (EWG) on *Focused revision of ISPM 12 (Phytosanitary Certificates) in relation to re-export* took place at FAO Headquarters in Rome, from 09 to 12 December 2019. The main objective of this revision was to provide more detailed requirements for preparing and issuing phytosanitary certificates in re-export situations to ensure a provision of a clearer and more comprehensive description of re-export issues, with correct use of terminology and in particular, if necessary, of the terms “identity”, “phytosanitary security” and “integrity”.

70. Hence, the EWG work was focused on sections affected by the terms “identity (of a consignment)”, “integrity (of a consignment)” and “phytosanitary security (of a consignment)” aiming to provide some minor text changes so that the requirements for preparing and issuing phytosanitary certificates in re-export situations are clearly and unambiguously described, using correct terminology.

71. The EWG revised as deemed necessary the text dealing with re-export situations to ensure more clarity as regards the description of the considerations and requirements for preparing and issuing phytosanitary certificates for re-export and clearly explained the process of issuing a phytosanitary certificate for re-export in plain wording (and without referring to the three terms mentioned in the previous point). The EWG particularly considered current section 6 of the ISPM 12 and provided suggestions to SC for expanding on some additional typical re-export situations and giving additional guidance. The EWG also consider the implementation of the revised ISPM by contracting parties and identify potential implementation issues to be provided to the SC.

***EWG on the development of the draft Revision of ISPM 4***

72. The meeting of the Expert Working Group (EWG) on Revision of ISPM 4 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*) took place virtually from 07 to 11 December 2020. Since the adoption of ISPM 4 almost two decades ago and new information has become available, a revision of this standard was proposed. In addition, new standards dealing with various aspects of pest free areas (PFAs) have been adopted, and therefore the revision should provide more consistent guidance on the establishment and maintenance of PFAs. As this is the first time an EWG has taken place virtually, the group was unable to produce a draft within the 5-day 2.5 hour time allocation and decided additional days are necessary in order to produce a viable draft. The continuation date for the EWG is scheduled for January 2021, with the plan to present to the SC at their May meeting.

***EWG on the use of Specific Import Authorizations (2008-006)***

73. The meeting was originally planned to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 2020, but was canceled. Instead, the meeting will be organized virtually in February 2021.

**VII. Decisions**

74. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *note* the report on the activities of the Standards Committee in 2019 and 2020.