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IPPC Secretariat

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1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] The Chairperson, Mr Dominique PELLETIER, welcomed all participants to the eleventh virtual meeting of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC).

2. Meeting Arrangements

2.1 Election of the Rapporteur

- [2] Mr Thorwald GEUZE (The Netherlands) was elected as the Rapporteur to the meeting.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

- [3] The IC agreed to consider three items under agenda item 8 (Any Other Business), regarding an IC lead for the guide on *Managing non-compliant treated consignments (2018-027)*, proposed dates for IC meetings, and the Call for implementation and capacity development (ICD) projects. The agenda, as modified, was adopted and is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

3. Administrative Matters

3.1 Review of meeting documents

- [4] The following meeting documents, which are also posted on the IC restricted work area of the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP), were introduced:

- Agenda (VM11_01_2021_Feb)
- Sea Containers Task Force 2021 work plan (VM11_02_2021_Feb)
- Design thinking study: IC agreement on next steps (VM11_03_2021_Feb)
- Update on the status of the Beyond Compliance project (VM11_04_2021_Feb)
- IPPC e- Commerce programme (VM11_05_2021_Feb).

3.2 Review of participants

- [5] All IC members and the representatives from the Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) and Standards Committee were present except for Mr Lalith Bandula KUMARASINGHE (New Zealand).

4. Sea Containers Task Force (IC subgroup)

4.1 Sea Containers Task Force (IC subgroup): work plan review and approval

- [6] The IPPC Secretariat (hereafter referred to as “the Secretariat”) presented the proposed work plan for the Sea Containers Task Force (SCTF)¹, noting that the task force’s mandate finishes at the end of 2021.

- [7] The IC lead for the SCTF, Ms Stephanie BLOEM (Representative from the RPPOs), explained that the work plan was presented in a more concise format than previous work plans, to make it easier to digest.

- [8] The Chairperson thanked the Secretariat and IC lead, and invited comments from the IC.

- [9] Regarding the SCTF development of proposed recommendations to the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), one IC member queried whether the December 2021 deadline for the final report on SCTF activities would be too late, given the timetable for submissions to the CPM. The IC lead explained that the December date was intended to give the task force the maximum amount of time to complete their work, but acknowledged that it could be tightened or that at least a draft report could be produced earlier. The Secretariat clarified that, if the CPM agreed to the revision of CPM

¹ VM11_02_IC_2021_Feb

Recommendation R-06 (*Sea containers*) that it would follow the usual process for CPM Recommendations, but is a separate action item to the final report of the SCTF.

- [10] Regarding the work area on national plant protection organization (NPPO) surveys, one IC member asked whether there was any further information on the security difficulties that some countries may face in contributing trade-sensitive data. Referring to the increasing number of non-compliance issues related to contamination of sea containers in some regions, the member also raised the question of whether it would be worthwhile submitting a topic for a standard on sea container cleanliness during the forthcoming Call for topics. The IC was reminded that the topic for a draft standard on *Minimizing pest movement by sea containers* (2008-001) was already on the List of topics for IPPC Standards.
- [11] The IC then broke into groups to discuss the work plan, specifically addressing the question of whether the work plan sufficiently addressed the objectives set for the SCTF, namely: (1) measuring the impact of the cargo transport unit (CTU) shipping code, and (2) increasing awareness of the pest risks of sea containers.
- [12] When the main session resumed, one IC member from each group gave a brief summary of their group's discussion. There was general support from the IC for the work plan and agreement that the activities aligned well with the SCTF objectives. There was also, however, a recognition that it was quite an ambitious plan, which raised the question of whether all components of the plan could be completed within the time available. Several specific comments and suggestions were also made:
- **NPPO surveys** – It was noted that if sufficient countries were still not in a position to contribute the required data, then the outputs relating to that data would be lacking. The IC lead responded that although it would be good to have these extra data, the data from even a couple of countries is still useful because containers move around the world and so the data would have wider relevance than just the two countries in question. The IC lead confirmed, however, that the SCTF is still actively pursuing data, and is confident that it will have sufficient data.
 - **Determining the extent of contamination problems with sea containers** – It was suggested that, in addition to NPPO surveys, regional plant protection organizations could be asked about their experience of sea container contamination and the extent of the problem.
 - **Communication and awareness raising** – It was suggested that more detail be given on the specific deliverables under this work area, including why the different outputs had been included in the plan. It was also suggested that, as it was unlikely that many more NPPOs would contribute data within the timeframe given the difficulties experienced to date, it would be better to spend more time on raising awareness of the risks associated with sea containers rather than spending more time collecting data to prove that pests are associated with sea containers when data already collected show this to be true. Therefore, there is no need to put more efforts into trying to encourage NPPOs to collect more data.
 - **Promoting sea container cleanliness among NPPOs** – It was suggested that the SCTF consider what incentives could be introduced for NPPOs to take the necessary actions on sea container cleanliness.
 - **Outputs** – It was suggested that the objectives of the work plan be more clearly stated in terms of tangible outputs.

[13] The IC:

- (1) *approved* the Sea Containers Task Force work plan as presented in the Appendix 2.

5. Design-Thinking Study

5.1 Design-thinking study: IC agreement on next steps

- [14] The Secretariat presented the paper, describing the possible next steps following the pilot study conducted by Price Waterhouse Cooper and the comments made by the IC at the last meeting (VM10)². The proposals included extending the study to further 10–12 countries, submitting a proposal for conducting this study within the context of the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS), and holding a webinar to provide information on the results of the pilot study to the IPPC community. The Secretariat outlined the various recommendations arising from the pilot study, the activities that the Secretariat are already undertaking to address these (including activities relating to communication and to ICD guides, training materials and e-learning courses), and some medium- and long-term activities to be considered in the future.
- [15] The Chairperson thanked the Secretariat and invited the IC to comment.
- [16] One IC member expressed support for the proposed activities, commenting that they reflected the needs of the member's own region. The member particularly highlighted the use of social media, the need to simplify guides and training materials, and having regional representation in the study.
- [17] Regarding the medium- to long-term aim to develop IT tools on the IPP for readers to be able to ask questions, comment and share posts, the Secretariat clarified that the idea is to create networks within the IPPC community so that the Secretariat can share information but NPPOs can also interact with the Secretariat and with other NPPOs and experts. So, "readers" in this context did not refer to the public, but to the IPPC community.
- [18] One IC member suggested that a call could be made to NPPOs requesting assistance for translations of technical resources. The Secretariat confirmed that even if translations were provided, there would still need to be a budget for the translations to be reviewed, and the practicalities would need also considering, but the cost would be less than commissioning full translations.
- [19] Regarding the proposed longer-term aim of introductory training on using the IPP, the IC Chairperson commented that if a website is good there should not be a need for training on how to use it. The Secretariat clarified that this activity was only intended as an interim activity, as the IPP is in the process of being improved.
- [20] On the question of funding for the work, the Secretariat informed the IC that there may be some resources available from 2020 savings (a consequence of the pandemic), but if not then one option could be to use the webinar to solicit financial contributions. In terms of the mechanism for mobilizing resources, the IFU lead encouraged IC members to also take part in the resource mobilization efforts and approach their own NPPO and other potential funders. He explained that the Secretariat has very limited staffing resources to prepare applications for funding bids and, in some cases, such as the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), the submission has to come from a developing country.
- [21] The IC:
- (1) *noted* the ongoing and planned activities arising from the design-thinking pilot study
 - (2) *supported* conducting an expanded design-thinking study to include 10–12 countries
 - (3) *asked* Mr Dominique PELLETIER (Canada) to develop a proposal for an IRSS topic for an expanded design-thinking study
 - (4) *requested* that IC members and the IPPC Secretariat to make efforts to mobilize the necessary resources to carry out an expanded design-thinking study
 - (5) *agreed* to take an active role in finding partners to translate IPPC Guides and training materials.

² VM11_03_IC_2021_Feb

6. Beyond Compliance

6.1 Beyond Compliance: update and IC agreement on next steps

[22] The Secretariat presented the paper, providing an update on the project “Rolling out Systems Approach Globally: Sharing Tools for Enhanced Application of Systems Approach and Market Negotiation on Plant Pest Risk” (otherwise known as the “Beyond Compliance” project)³. The Secretariat explained that the two main components of the project are to (1) develop decision-support tools (Beyond Compliance Tools) that NPPOs can use to assess pathways and the possible pest risk management options that could be applied related to those pathways, and (2) accredit facilitators to train and support other people to use the Tools. At the IC meeting on 22 July 2020 IC (VM05), a suggestion had been made that unused funds arising from the COVID-19 travel restrictions could be used to develop an interactive online platform for the Tools. This possibility had therefore been explored and the costs estimated, but it had been found that it would be too expensive, especially considering the need for ongoing maintenance costs. It was therefore proposed that the Tools be provided on the IPP as downloadable Excel files, translated in all official FAO languages.

[23] The Chairperson thanked the Secretariat and invited the IC to comment.

[24] One IC member expressed support for all the recommendations in the report, but asked whether unused funds could be used on the communication component of the project, rather than returning it to the STDF as proposed in the paper. The IFU lead clarified that STDF has very strict rules on what funds can be spent on; to reallocate money that had been assigned to workshops would require a new project proposal to STDF, but neither the Secretariat nor Imperial College London (who are providing technical services to the project) had the staffing resource to put such a proposal together. However, the STDF had confirmed that, should the need for the Tools be demonstrated by NPPOs using the downloadable Excel files, then a new application for an STDF grant could be made in the future for another project to develop the online platform.

[25] The IC:

- (1) *agreed* that Mr Dominique PELLETIER (Canada) be assigned as the IC lead for the Beyond Compliance project.
- (2) *noted* that the Beyond Compliance Tools will not be produced as interactive online tools but rather will be downloadable Excel files and instructions, posted on the IPP in all FAO official languages.
- (3) *noted* that as many trainees as possible will be accredited before the end of the project and that a list of accredited facilitators will also be posted on the IPP.
- (4) *noted* that communication materials to promote the Beyond Compliance Tools will be developed and made available on the IPP (i.e. factsheets, videos).
- (5) *agreed* on the plans to complete the project (Appendix 3).
- (6) *noted* that, owing to the pandemic, any unused funds for this project will be returned to the Standards and Trade Development Facility.

7. e-Commerce

7.1 e-Commerce: work plan review and approval

[26] The Secretariat presented the paper, outlining the ongoing activities on e-Commerce and proposed new activities for 2021–2022⁴. Ongoing activities included the virtual, informal network of e-commerce experts that had been launched in February 2020, and collaborations with the World Customs Organization (WCO) and Universal Postal Union (UPU). The first meeting of the working group on the guide to e-Commerce had also taken place on 23 February 2021. Work proposed for 2021–2022

³ VM11_04_IC_2021_Feb

⁴ VM11_05_IC_2021_Feb

included contributing to the review of the WCO e-Commerce Package and the WCO annex on “Reference Datasets for Cross-Border e-Commerce”, preparing a proposal for a desk study to submit to the 2021 Call for IRSS topics, developing and implementing a communications plan to raise awareness about the phytosanitary risks associated with e-Commerce, revising the e-Commerce programme budget, and continuing the ongoing activities with the informal e-Commerce network and the development of the e-commerce guide.

[27] The IC Chairperson thanked the Secretariat and invited the IC to comment.

[28] One IC member asked whether there was anything that came out of the working group discussions on 23 February 2021 that could be added to the activities or that the IC could consider. The Secretariat replied that they would invite WCO, UPU and Global Express Association (the global trade association of the express delivery industry⁵.) to present to future working group meetings, as requested by the working group.

[29] Another IC member commented that the current situation for many NPPOs is that they are aware of the need to do something on e-commerce, do not really know what to do, but have started to introduce e-commerce elements into their regulations and to raise awareness about the issue. The member therefore suggested that a proposal for an IRSS desk study on e-commerce could survey NPPOs on the status of e-commerce in their regulations.

[30] The IC noted that the World Trade Organization (WTO) has an informal group on e-commerce. The IFU lead had met with the WTO lead on e-Commerce a year ago, at which time the group had not considered sanitary or phytosanitary issues at all, but was focused on not charging tariffs for things that are exchanged electronically, such as e-books and games. More recently, the WTO had circulated a new document to some NPPOs for comment, but it was of more relevance to ePhyto than potential phytosanitary risks associated with e-commerce. The Secretariat stated that it would explore the opportunity to organize a side-session at a future, virtual meeting of the informal WTO group, to raise awareness about phytosanitary issues.

[31] The IC Chairperson thanked everyone for their comments and encouraged them to share any further suggestions relating to e-commerce arising from the various working groups they are on with the Secretariat.

[32] The IC:

- (1) *noted* the activities related to the e-commerce programme completed in 2020
- (2) *approved* the e-commerce work plan as presented in Appendix 4.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Assign an IC lead for the topic: *Managing non-compliant treated consignments, Guide (2018-027)*

[33] The IC:

- (1) *agreed* that Mr Ahmed M. Abdellah ABDELMOTTALEB (Egypt) be assigned as the IC lead for *Managing non-compliant treated consignments, Guide (2018-027)*.

8.2 Proposed dates for IC meetings

[34] The Secretariat proposed dates for the IC meetings from July to December 2021 noting that the dates in November and December 2021 may be adjusted according to the Task Force on Topics meeting dates. The IC noted that no face-to-face IC meetings are being planned for 2021.

[35] The IC:

⁵ Global Express Association : <https://global-express.org/index.php?id=30>

- (1) *agreed* that IC meetings be held on the following dates in 2021: VM16, 15 July; VM17, 18 August; VM18, 15 September; VM19, 13 October; VM20, 10 November; VM21, 15 December.
- (2) *noted* that the meeting dates for VM20 and 21 may be updated to review the recommendations prepared by the Task Force on Topics regarding the topics submitted through the Call for topics: Standards and Implementation.

8.3 Call for implementation and capacity development (ICD) projects

[36] The Secretariat confirmed that a call had been opened⁶, soliciting information on ICD projects at national, regional and global level. The submissions would be reviewed and analysed according to the process previously agreed by the IC⁷.

[37] The IC:

- (1) *noted* the update on the Call for implementation and capacity development projects.

9. Date and Arrangement of the Next Meeting

[38] The next virtual IC meeting will be held on 31 March 2021, at 22:00 Rome time (CET).

10. Evaluation of the Meeting Process

[39] The Secretariat opened an online poll for IC members to provide feedback on the meeting.

11. Close of the Meeting

[40] The IC Chairperson thanked everyone and closed the meeting.

⁶ Call for Implementation and Capacity Development (ICD) Projects: <https://www.ippc.int/en/calls/call-for-implementation-and-capacity-development-icd-projects/>

⁷ *Strategy and process on how the IC reviews and analyses implementation and capacity development projects:* <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/88055/>

Appendix 1: Agenda**VIRTUAL MEETING N° 11 AGENDA***(Updated 2021-02-10)***COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES****IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (IC)****Start:** 2021-02-24 at 14:00 (Rome, time)**Zoom link:** <https://fao.zoom.us/j/95572734224>**Meeting ID:** 955 7273 4224**Meeting Password:** 264079

	Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the Meeting		
1.1	Opening by the IFU Team lead and welcome by the IC Chairperson		LARSON PELLETIER
2.	Meeting Arrangements		
2.1	Election of the Rapporteur		PELLETIER
2.2	Adoption of the Agenda	VM11_01_IC_2021_Feb	PELLETIER
3.	Administrative Matters		
3.1	Review of meeting documents	Link	KOUMBA
3.2	Review of participants		KOUMBA
4.	Sea Containers Task Force (IC Sub-group)		
4.1	Sea Containers Task Force (IC Sub-group): work plan review and approval	VM11_02_IC_2021_Feb	SHAMILOV
5.	Design thinking study		
5.1	Design Thinking study: IC agreement on next steps	VM11_03_IC_2021_Feb	BRUNEL
6.	Beyond Compliance		
6.1	Beyond Compliance: update and IC agreement on next steps	VM11_04_IC_2021_Feb	ALLEX
7.	e- Commerce		
7.1	e- Commerce: work plan review and approval	VM11_05_IC_2021_Feb	PETERSON
8.	Any other business		PELLETIER
9.	Date and arrangement of the Next Meeting		KOUMBA
10.	Evaluation of the meeting process		GOGNADZE
11.	Close of the Meeting		PELLETIER / LARSON

Appendix 2: Sea container Task Force 2021 work plan**SEA CONTAINERS TASK FORCE 2021 WORK PLAN***(Last updated 2021-02-08)*

Output/Work Area I - NPPO Surveys			
Expected outcome: Aggregated data on the degree of interior and exterior contamination of a subset of empty and packed (with cargo) sea containers, as well as their cargoes, utilizing a uniform approach.			
Action Item	Action Party	2021	Comments
1.1 NPPOs provide survey results and analysis of their national surveys to the SCTF	Wendy, Wendy, Sina, Gu, Rama, Frederick	September-October 2021	China has indicated that due to security reasons they might not be in a position to submit data.
1.2 Consider deletion of some fields from the inspection template of the Guidelines on Sea Container Surveys for NPPOs to assist in better reporting	Rama/All	February 2021	This might facilitate improved reporting by some countries Contact China on what exactly to delete, otherwise delete 1.2
1.3 Develop a paper summarizing the pest risks resulting from NPPO surveys	Wendy, Wendy, Sina, Gu, Rama, Frederick	November 2021	Can be communication tool
1.4 Collect information on techniques used by NPPOs, port authorities/other stakeholders to survey and monitor cleanliness, safety and movement of CTUs	All	Over the course of 2021	Australia has initiated a project on development of technologies. Rama might be in a position to lead this. Information could assist in finding ways to reduce the cost of surveys.
1.5 The World Bank to update the SCTF on the pilot to support selected CPs /NPPOs with national surveys	Shane	September- October 2021	Update will be delivered at December 2021 meeting
1.6 Consider assistance to IMO member countries on sea container cleanliness in the IMO technical development programmes	IMO/IPPC Secretariats	November 2021	Depends on the outcomes of the work from the Correspondence Group on the inspection programme

Output/Work Area II - Coordination with CPs, RPPOs, industry and other organizations			
Expected outcome: Enhanced collaboration on identification of pest risks and on possible international actions as well as consistency of relevant regulations with the CPM Recommendation related to sea containers.			
Action Item	Action Party	2021	Comments
2.1 Establish collaboration with the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH)		Over the course of 2021	Secretariat will provide update at March 2021 meeting
2.2 Work within the CCC CG on refinement of proposals for inclusion of cleanliness and pest management issues into the IMO inspection programme	Secretariat/ All	February 2021	The proposal for the 4 th round of consultation has been submitted in January 2021. The 4 th Round has just opened with a submission deadline of March 2, 2021.
2.3 Develop a proposal to include additional data fields to the WCO data model	Rama and Sina	2021	Consultation with industry to seek input on this has been delayed due to COVID restrictions. Further update will be at March 2021 meeting
2.4 Industry representatives identify challenges and ways to provide information to be reflected in a WCO data model so that NPPOs can consider this when/if a potential new data element is added in the WCO Data Model	Lars, Uffe, Jiang	2021	From Lars: Industry representatives can only meaningfully provide comments if/when a potential data element has been identified.
2.5 IPPC Sect. discusses with WCO Sect. the inclusion of phytosanitary aspects/criteria into the global AEO framework	Secretariat/WCO Secretariat	2021	Ongoing.
2.6 Participate in the 5th WCO Global AEO conference “ AEO 2.0: Advancing towards new horizons for sustainable and secure trade” planned for April 2021	Secretariat	April 2021	

2.7 Participate in development of UNECE CTU Code App	Secretariat/Lars All	2021	Subject - Establishment of a UNECE expert group. app could provide guidance to CTU packers, could include guidance on prevention of contamination by pests.
2.8 Development of an SCTF proposal for the revision of the CTU Code with respect to pest risks	All/Secretariat	Over the course of 2021	
2.9 Additional contributions to UNECE handbook on national master plans for freight transport and logistics	All	2021	As needed
Output/Work Area III - Communication and awareness raising			
Expected outcome: Increased awareness of different stakeholders on sea container pest risks through provision of information and possible risk management			
Action Item	Action Party	2021	Comments
3.1 Develop regional communication strategy on the need for NPPO surveys and share with the RPPOs to be used for informing CPs in their regions	Sina, Stephanie, Nico RPPOs	January 2021	The RPPOs should be informed on the availability of the draft communication strategy by the RPPO representative to the SCTF (Sina)
3.2 Publish Information on emerging pest risks in the sea container pathway on the IPP	NPPOs to provide information Secretariat to publish	Over the course of 2021	Monthly publications would be preferred News Item from Australia was about Khapra beetle posted on IPP on 1 st January 2021. Case to be submitted by Mexico (data on Khapra beetle). Calendar for posting could be created, starting from SCTF members submitting one article per month
3.3 Collaborate with maritime journals to publish cleanliness and emerging pest related articles	All/Secretariat	Over the course of 2021	Relevant journals could be identified with the assistance of journalists known to be working on these issues
3.4 IPP News item on materials available including industry Quick Guide to the CTU Code and Container Packing Checklist	Secretariat	February 2021	

3.5 IPP News item on the progress of the World Bank pilot	Shane	Over the course of 2021	Depends on the progress of the pilot
3.6 IPP News item on the outcomes of the CG work and CCC -7 meeting	Bingbing/Secretariat	2021	
3.7 IPP News item on pest risk developed by Industry representatives and published	Lars, Uffe, Jiang	TBD	From Lars: Industry representatives could develop a news item on the Quick Guide and the Checklist if that would be of interest.
3.8 IPP News item on survey results developed by countries that conducted surveys	Wendy, Wendy, Sina, Gu, Rama, Frederick	December 2021	Depends on data availability.
3.9 IPP News Item from NPPOs conducting surveys providing the data on interceptions, information on emerging pests and systems to mitigate pest risks associated with sea containers and their cargos	Wendy, Wendy, Sina, Gu, Rama, Frederick Secretariat to support	One news item per month beginning January 2021	
3.10 IPP phytosanitary systems page on sea containers develop and published	Secretariat/IC Lead	February 2021	
3.11 IPP News item on availability of the SCTF landing page	Secretariat	sometime in 2021	Depends on when SCTF landing page is developed
3.12 NPPOs to provide relevant materials to be published on the Sea containers IPP page inter alia case studies	All	Over the course of 2021	An IPPC call should be issued
3.13 Development of key messages/facts and figures to share with industry	ALL	Over the course of 2021	
3.14 NASCI/WB webinars with specific industry sectors to conduct outreach and to collect specific commodity/sector input	Wendy, Wendy, Shane	September-October 2021	
3.15 NASCI workshop NPPO and Industry	Wendy, Wendy, Shane	Sometime in 2021	

3.16 Deliver NPPO workshop to discuss challenges, generate ideas on next steps and collect suggestions for measures	ALL	Virtually 2021	Shane could coordinate workshop and Wendi, Rama and Wendi, Sina will come up with suggestions and consider feasibility
3.17 Develop generic presentation on the risks associated with movement of sea containers and their cargos for NPPOs to share with different stakeholders	ALL	Jan. 2021	Might be based on the SCTF update used in 2020 for the IPPC RWs Consider how to use the video presentation developed for 2020 IPPC RWs
3.18 Preparation and delivery of a presentation for the CCC-7 meeting on sea containers cleanliness and on the SCTF/Phytosanitary community work on the issue	Secretariat	6-10 September 2021	
Output/Work Area IV – Elaboration of recommendations to CPM			
Expected outcome: Recommendations to CPM how address the risks of sea containers elaborated and final report of the SCTF submitted			
Action Item	Action Party	2021	Comments
4.1 Revision of the CPM recommendation 06 on Sea containers: https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2017/08/R_06_En_2017-08-23_Combined_UZOHKA3.pdf		May	Pending CPM 15 (2021) decision, then will be revised and sent for country consultation July 2021
4.2 Elaboration of options/recommendations/considerations that outline the pros and cons of each option for CPM on how address the risks of sea containers	ALL	October	
4.3 Elaboration of final report on SCTF activities and submission of	ALL	December	

recommendations for the CPM to the IC			
4.4 SCTF virtual meetings	ALL	March, September, December	June,

Appendix 3: Beyond Compliance project – Plan for 2021

“BEYOND COMPLIANCE” PROJECT

Plan for 2021

2.1 Sharing the Tools

The IPPC Secretariat and ICL are ready to share two primary Beyond Compliance Tools developed, accredited, and refined through STDF funding.

In the report presented to the IC in July 2020, there was a proposal to transform the Tools into an interactive online application with a platform providing secure areas for password protected work. This action was not foreseen in the initial project but was considered to spend the funds dedicated to travels which were not used in 2020 as a consequence of the pandemic. However, the funds would have covered costs for converting the tools to an online version, but these costs were higher than expected. In addition, it was not possible to use funds from this project to support the hosting and maintenance costs beyond the end of the project, as explained in Appendix 1.

This proposal of having an interactive online application is no longer being pursued but an alternative strategy, using downloadable files posted on the IPP is described below.

2.1.1 Downloadable Excel files

The Tools consist primarily of two Excel-based files, each with user instructions in pdf; these are currently in English only.

The STDF has agreed for these Tools to be posted on the IPPC website, rather than restricting posting to their own site (as occurred in the first project). The location of the Tools will be on a dedicated webpage on the IPP and a method to track the use of the use of these Tools by Contracting Parties will be set up by the IPPC Secretariat. The tracking will provide the IPPC Secretariat the number of times and the origin of where the file was downloaded. This will allow the IPPC Secretariat to obtain some information from users in order to evaluate the Tool usage. On the same webpage, the names and address of accredited facilitators (see part 2.2) will be published, in such a way that they can be contacted by the users for support.

While the primary aim of sharing files is to make them accessible, it is evident that having some indication of the use of the Tools would provide the opportunity for further learning and future implementation of ISPM 14 *The use of integrated measures in a systems approach for pest risk management*.

2.1.2 Translation of Tools

The Tools (Excel files and instructions) will be translated from English into the other official FAO languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish) and posted on the IPP.

Translation of materials from English to other FAO languages was delayed while decisions were made about transferring the Tools online, as the online tools would have needed different instructions. The ICL will be proof reading and checking the translations along with candidate Facilitators before they are posted on the IPP. Members of the IC, RPPOs or other plant health entities are welcome to join this process, which will be managed by the Project Manager of ICL.

A glossary of words used, and preferred translation will be available in the final report, or through a publication on outputs of the project. There are concepts which are not defined in ISPM 5 *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*) but may prove useful in other situations or could be referred to the Glossary Committee for consideration.

2.1.3 Promotion of Tools

The project budget will cover the costs for a communications contract. The IPPC Secretariat will be responsible for hiring a communication firm or consultant to develop, finalize and implement a plan for raising awareness of the outputs of the project (i.e. factsheet, video). The ICL will be closely involved in oversight of the work. The IC Lead will be involved in this oversight. .

Materials produced through this contract will be posted on the IPP.

2.2 Upcoming accreditation of Facilitators

Facilitators are people who are undergoing training under the supervision of ICL. Once accredited, they will be able to train or support other people to use the Tools. The plan is now to accredit as many facilitators as possible before the end of the project.

Specific trade cases were included in the project as a means to share the experience and increase demand for the Tools, but also as a pathway to accredit Trainees as Facilitators. Trainees and ICL team have continued to work on the cases remotely despite the barriers to travel and the challenges posed by the pandemic. Each Trainee submitted a first draft Trade Case report. Final reports will be shared with the next report. Table 1 provides details about the Trade Cases, not all are expected to be completed.

During this reporting period the Trainees have continued working with ICL to consolidate their understanding of Systems Approaches including how to include control points in the Tools, identifying frequent pathways, and identifying data that NPPOs would agree to collect if the Tools were moved online.

Table 1. Information on Beyond Compliance Trade Cases

Hosting country	Trade partner	Plant material/Pest	Facilitators in training
Tunisia (import)	Europe – Italy, Spain, France	Planting material e.g. grapevine, but other crops may be added once it is possible to engage with production sector more	Sadek Abbas and Mekki Chouibani
Uganda	Europe	Capsicum	Theo Pongolo
Kenya	China	Avocado	Eunice Kagendo and Kenrick Witty
Kenya	Europe	Mango	Ephrance Tumuboine and Phyllis Githaiga
Mexico (import)	Netherlands	Tomato seeds	Ulises Garcia Romero and Nelson Laville
Peru	USA and Australia	Asparagus	Ramon Canizares Amoros

The original plan for accrediting the Trainees as Facilitators required each Trainee to support the application of the Tool for selected Trade Cases. The Trainee would then be evaluated by the NPPO that is being supported for the implementation of selected Trade Cases and by the ICL team. Only then would the IPPC Secretariat consider the evidence and declare a Trainee to be an accredited Facilitator for the Beyond Compliance Tools. The IPPC Secretariat communicated to the two self-funded Trainees, Ms Astra GARKAJE and Mr Xubin PAN that, due to unavailability of additional Trade Cases, there is not an opportunity to accredit them officially as Facilitators. However, the team encouraged them to continue to participate with the group as they both are important resource people who contribute

different perspectives. One Trainee was notified that he is no longer a candidate for Facilitator due to his lack of participation over the past year. Therefore, under the original pathway to accreditation, 10 Trainees still need to be accredited under the original approach. The project logframe has currently the aim of 4 accredited Facilitators, at least.

Criteria for accreditation are being revised to adapt to the pandemic. These criteria could include participation in monthly group calls, written feedback and contribution to discussions around specific issues such as revision of the Tools, use of the Tools on cases in their own work portfolio but not officially in the project, and ability to explain key concepts in other forums. Fluency in FAO official languages could be considered also. The IC Lead might participate to the revision of the criteria for validation, if interested.

Appendix4: e-Commerce 2021 work plan**IPPC SECRETARIAT 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN****E-COMMERCE PROGRAMME***(2021-02-09)*

Date	January-March 2021	April-June 2021	July-September 2021	October-December 2021
1. Collaboration with WCO & other organizations	- proposals to review "Reference Datasets for Cross-Border e-Commerce" must be submitted to WCO by 5 March	- WCO Permanent Technical Committee meeting (tbc)	- proposals to review the WCO e-Commerce Package must be submitted by 15 July	
2. Informal network of e-commerce experts	- Add Guide WG members to the informal network -Initiate new e-forum discussions	- Initiate new e-forum discussions	- Initiate new e-forum discussions	- Initiate new e-forum discussions
3. e-Commerce Guide (2017-039)	- monthly or bi-monthly WG meetings	- monthly or bi-monthly WG meetings	- monthly or bi-monthly WG meetings	- draft guide for editing and peer review
4. Communication and Advocacy	- e-Commerce component page is published	- Develop and implement a communications plan to raise awareness about the phytosanitary risks associated with e-Commerce and promote an integrated approach among border agencies		- Annual maintenance of e-Commerce web pages on IPP
5. Monitoring and evaluation		- draft a proposal for an IRSS desk study		