



MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP A GUIDE TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF ISPM 15 (2017-043) (VM07)

21 September 2021 at 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Central European Summer Time, UTC+2)

1. Opening of the meeting

- [1] Barbara PETERSON, the IPPC Secretariat, Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU) Lead for the ISPM 15 Guide, welcomed the participants.

2. Meeting arrangements

- [2] There was no objection for the Secretariat to record the meeting.
- [3] The Working Group (WG) selected Brad GETHING as chairperson and Vinod PANDIT as rapporteur.
- [4] The agenda for the meeting was adopted and is presented in Appendix 1.

3. Administrative matters

- [5] Corrado CREMONINI, Debora Maria RODRIGUES CRUZ and Faith NDUNGE did not attend the meeting. The list of meeting participants is presented in Appendix 2.

4. Review draft Guide

- [6] The WG discussed the main comments to the draft guide, which were shared using MS teams.
- [7] The WG agreed to add a text box with the definitions “primary wood pest”, “secondary wood pest”, “raw wood” and “contaminating pest” to Section 1. The WG also suggested that the guide should clearly state that “contaminating pests” are outside the scope of ISPM 15.
- [8] The WG suggested that a “primary wood pest” could be considered a pest of living trees which may be found in raw wood and that a secondary wood pest could be described as a pest of dry or dead wood which may infest wood after treatment. The WG noted that definitions for “raw wood” and “contaminating pest” may be found in the *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (ISPM 5). One WG member suggested that the IPPC Secretariat ask attendees at the International Forest Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG) Symposium whether they are aware of any formal definitions for “primary wood pest” and “secondary wood pest” and invite comments on the WG’s proposed definitions.
- [9] The WG discussed the proposed information about wood dunnage in Section 2 of the guide. Two WG members agreed to review this text and offer more clarity as to what is meant by “large cross section” or “large diameter” timbers and the challenge of applying treatments to these materials.

- [10] The WG discussed whether information about how ISPM 15 treatments have been evaluated in the past should be included in Section 4.3 of the guide. The WG agreed that this type of historical information is not relevant and that including it in the guide would just confuse matters. The WG noted the challenge associated with the lack of criteria for approving new ISPM 15 treatments but suggested that the scope of the guide should be limited to information that is currently applicable. One WG member suggested that the question about treatment criteria could be raised by WG members during the upcoming IFQRG symposium.
- [11] The WG discussed Section 4.4, which is about alternative or bilateral agreements. The WG members agreed that ISPM 15 is intended to harmonize the phytosanitary requirements for WPM and that the guide should not encourage countries to enter into bilateral agreements. The WG requested that the Secretariat review the text to reflect the discussion and notify the WG members when it is ready for their review.
- [12] With respect to Section 5.2, one expert questioned whether it is acceptable to apply a printed sticker or tag to ISPM 15 treated WPM, rather than applying it to the wood with ink or paint. The WG agreed to maintain consistency with Annex 2 of ISPM 15. The mark must be legible, durable and not transferable. Tags or other less permanent markings which are attached to the wood packaging material should be avoided unless there is no alternative.
- [13] The lead author of Chapter 6 agreed to revise Section 6.2 as several WG members found the meaning of the proposed text is unclear.
- [14] The WG considered whether to develop a compliance agreement template for inclusion as an appendix to the guide, in reference to Section 7.1. The WG concluded that compliance agreements are legal instruments and that it would not be appropriate to include a sample or a template in the guide. However, the WG agreed to add a sentence indicating that it may be appropriate to use compliance agreements to clarify the responsibilities of the regulated parties.
- [15] The WG members agreed to carefully review the draft flowchart that the IPPC Secretariat prepared and verify that it aligns with the intent of the original flowchart proposed by IFQRG and that it adequately presents the steps in the authorization and audit process. The WG agreed that Chapter 7 should be revised to better align with ISPM 45 and to avoid duplication between the different sections. The lead author for Chapter 7 agreed to notify the WG when his review of this chapter has been completed, so that they may review the revised text.
- [16] One of the WG members noted that he developed a draft template and checklist for quality manuals / operating procedures. The Secretariat saved these documents to a separate folder on MS Teams and the WG members agreed to review them.
- [17] The lead authors of Chapter 8 agreed to address the comments provided by the WG members in order to clarify the information about the reuse and repair of WPM.
- [18] The WG agreed with the proposal of one WG member to merge Section 9.4 with 10.3 to avoid duplication and improve the flow of the information.

5. Discussion of next steps, overview of submitted case studies and plan for ISPM 15 treatment manuals

- [19] The WG discussed the time line for modifying the sections as identified during agenda item 4 and agreed to complete all the remaining sections of the guide by 8 October. The Secretariat encouraged the WG members to send a message via the e-Forum to inform the rest of the group when they have completed the action items assigned to them. The WG members also agreed to review the quality manual template and checklist by 8 October.
- [20] The Secretariat explained that once the draft guide is completed that it would be professionally edited and then peer reviewed. It was suggested that the Secretariat invite IFQRG members to peer-review the draft guide and the WG agreed that this was a good idea.
- [21] The Secretariat provided an overview of the ISPM 15 case studies that had already been submitted in response to the call and suggested that any final case studies should be submitted by 30 September. She indicated that the case studies would be saved to MS Teams and a message would be sent to the WG members so that they may review the case studies. The WG agreed not to include the case study submitted by Sri Lanka, as it is out of scope. The Secretariat will suggest to Sri Lanka that it be submitted to the Secretariat as a proposed ISPM 15 treatment instead.
- [22] The Secretariat reminded the WG members that the call for fumigation experts would close on 24 September and asked that the WG members share the call information with their colleagues. The Secretariat confirmed that the two sub-groups preparing the treatment manuals would be under the oversight of the WG and that the WG members would have the opportunity to review both of the manuals before they are finalized.
- [23] The chairperson confirmed that a sub-group has been established to work on the heat treatment manual and that he would provide the liaison between the WG and this sub-group. He reported that the sub-group met to start developing an outline for the heat treatment manual and he anticipates that it will take several months to draft. He confirmed that the sub-group includes experts on dielectric heating and that dielectric heat treatments would be included in the manual.

6. Any Other Business

- [24] The Secretariat provided information about the 2021 IFQRG Symposium and encouraged the experts to attend the session on 7 October as it would be focused on ISPM 15. She also informed the WG members that the Secretariat would provide IFQRG members with an update on IPPC activities related to ISPM 15 during that session.
- [25] The WG agreed to complete their review of the draft guide and complete any outstanding sections by 8 October. The WG agreed to meet again on 2 November to review the second draft of the guide and try to finalize the remaining sections.

7. Close of the meeting

[26] The Chair and the Secretariat thanked all the experts for their participation and the meeting was closed.

Appendix 1

Working Group Meeting to develop an IPPC Guide to support the implementation of ISPM 15 (VM-07)

21 September 2021 at 13:00 - 16:00 (Central European Summer Time, GMT +2)

PROVISIONAL Agenda

Dated: 2021-07-27

	AGENDA ITEM	Duration (minutes)	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1	Opening of the Meeting	10	--	Barbara PETERSON
2	Meeting Arrangements	15	--	Barbara PETERSON
2.1	Selection of the chairperson		--	Natsumi YAMADA
2.2	Selection of the rapporteur		--	Natsumi YAMADA
2.3	Adoption of the Agenda		VM07_01_ISMP15_Guide	Chairperson
3	Administrative matters	5	--	Natsumi YAMADA
3.1	Participants		VM07_02_ISPM15_Guide	Natsumi YAMADA
3.2	Working papers		IPP restricted work area	Natsumi YAMADA
4	Review draft Guide	90		Chairperson / Lead authors
5	Discussion of next steps, overview of submitted case studies and plan for ISPM 15 treatment manuals	30	--	Barbara PETERSON
6	Any Other Business	10	--	Chairperson
7	Close of the Meeting	5	--	Chairperson / IPPC Secretariat

Appendix 2

Working Group Meeting to develop a Guide to support the implementation of ISPM 15 (VM-07)

Participants List (2021-07-27)

Role	Name	Email address
WG Member	Mr Corrado CREMONINI	corrado.cremonini@unito.it
WG Member	Mr Marcel DAWSON	marcel.dawson17@gmail.com
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WG Member	Mr Brad GETHING	bgetting@palletcentral.com
WG Member	Mr Christopher HOWARD	chris.howard@agriculture.gov.au
WG Member	Mr Mohamed MAGDY	mm.fao.ispm15@gmail.com
WG Member	Mr Vinod PANDIT	v.pandit@CABI.org
WG Member	Ms Debora Maria RODRIGUES CRUZ	debora.cruz@agricultura.gov.br
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