



# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Sixteenth Session

Virtual Meeting, 5, 7 and 21 April 2022

**Recommendations from the Task Force on Topics from the IPPC 2021 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation - TFT recommendations to CPM-16 for the 2021 Call for Topics submissions**

**Agenda item 8.7**

**Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat**

## I. Background

1. The CPM-13 (2018) adopted the biennial Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation process, the criteria for justification and prioritization, and the Terms of reference for a Task Force on Topics (TFT)<sup>1</sup>. The TFT consists of one Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Bureau, three Standards Committee (SC), and three Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) representatives<sup>2</sup>.

2. The CPM-14 (2019) noted that the joint call for topics process has operated effectively and will be refined and streamlined for the next call in 2021<sup>3</sup>.

## II. 2021 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation

3. The 2021 Call for Topics was open 4 May – 15 September 2021. In June 2021, the Secretariat organized a *webinar on the 2021 Call for Topics* to help contracting parties (CPs) and regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) enhance the quality of new proposals to be included in the IPPC work

<sup>1</sup> CPM-13 (2018) report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85963/>

<sup>2</sup> CPM-14 (2019) report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/87271/>

<sup>3</sup> Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the TFT (2018): <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/87222/>

programme<sup>4</sup>. By the end of the Call, the Secretariat received 17 topic submissions (7 standards, 3 implementation resources, and 7 diagnostic protocols (DPs)) from 8 CPs and 2 RPPOs<sup>5</sup>.

### III. TFT October 2021 virtual meeting and recommendations to the SC and the IC

4. The TFT met virtually from 4-6 October 2021 to review the topic submissions<sup>6</sup>. The TFT members provided detailed preliminary assessments and scorings of topic submissions without reviewing their country submissions. These assessments were used as a starting point for the meetings' TFT discussions and formed the basis of the TFT recommendations to the SC and the IC.

5. The TFT reviewed the topic submissions against the *Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics*<sup>7</sup>. In addition, each TFT member assessed all topic submissions against three questions for comparative scoring and commenting on: (1) whether the problem and proposed options are relevant from an IPPC perspective; (2) whether the topic is relevant from a global perspective; and (3) whether the proposed material is adequate. Additional criteria were identified and used to review and prioritize the proposed DPs<sup>8</sup>.

6. A checklist<sup>9</sup> comprising of questions was used to assess the topics before the meeting. The TFT discussed each topic and allocated a score from 0 (low) to 5 (high) based on the assessed merit and fit with the *Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics*, and an indicative priority from 1 (high) to 4 (low) as in the Standard Setting Process ranking topics on feasibility and urgency.

7. The TFT summary assessments with scores, recommendations, and proposed priorities for appropriate topic submissions were presented to the SC and the IC at their November 2021 virtual meetings. The SC reviewed TFT recommendations on the proposed DPs as they fall within their remit (subjects for work by the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols). The TFT recommendations on the topic submissions were reviewed by both committees, with specific requests from the TFT indicated.

8. The TFT did not reach a consensus on topic 2021-020 on **Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid** (Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO)). The TFT had considered the proposal's scope to be too broad for a standard because it could include anything that was potentially consumable and included not only food but also other humanitarian aid. The TFT had suggested to (1) consider reducing the scope of the proposed topic to facilitate the development of a standard; or (2) consider changing the submission from a proposal to develop a standard to a proposal to develop an implementation resource; or (3) consider changing the topic submission to amend the existing CPM Recommendation no. 9 "Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid to prevent the introduction of plant pests during an emergency situation," rather than developing a standard.

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4 The webinar recordings are publicly available on the "2021 IPPC Call for Topics (June 2021)" web page: <https://www.ippc.int/en/work-area/sc-ic/ippc-webinar-on-call-for-topics/>

5 All topic submissions are publicly available on the "Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation" web page: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-and-implementation/call-for-topics-standards-and-implementation/>

6 TFT October 2021 virtual meeting report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90360/>

7 Criteria for the Justification and Prioritization of Proposed Topics: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/89854/>

8 Criteria for prioritization of diagnostic protocols (page 2): <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/89799/>

9 Checklist for evaluating topic submissions – Appendix 6 of the TFT October 2018 meeting report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/86953/>

#### IV. SC November 2021 virtual focused meeting

9. At their November 2021 virtual meeting, the SC discussed the TFT recommendations on the 2021 Call for Topics submissions<sup>10</sup>. The SC agreed with most TFT recommendations and had additional comments on some topic submissions.

10. Contrary to the TFT's recommendation, the SC recommended that topic **2021-010 on Revision of ISPM 26: Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)** (New Zealand) should be added to the work programme as a revision of the full text of ISPM 26, with priority 3, rather than as an annex to ISPM 26.

11. **On topic 2021-020**, the SC considered the TFT suggestion that SC representatives participate in discussions with the IC representatives to discern the way forward. The SC also agreed that a small group would develop a CPM paper, including terms of reference for a potential CPM Focus Group (FG), and that the draft paper would be presented to the SC and IC for comment in a joint e-forum.

12. The SC agreed with the TFT's view that the proposed DPs submissions (**2021-016 on ISPM 27 Annex: *Spodoptera frugiperda*** (New Zealand) and **2021-022 on ISPM 27 Annex: *Spodoptera frugiperda*** (Kenya)) would complement each other and that they should be developed as a single DP and added to the work programme with a priority 1.

13. The SC included all recommended DPs in the *List of Topics for IPPC Standards* (LOT)<sup>11</sup> (see Table 2 and CPM 2022/22).

#### V. IC November 2021 virtual meeting

14. At their November 2021 virtual meeting, the IC discussed the TFT recommendations on the 2021 Call for Topics submissions<sup>12</sup>. The IC agreed with most TFT recommendations and had additional comments on some topic submissions. The IC agreed with TFT's recommendation to add topic **2021-009 on Guide on performing audits in the phytosanitary context** (Canada) to the List of Implementation and capacity development (ICD) topics<sup>13</sup>.

15. The IC could not agree with the SC's proposal to create a CPM FG on **topic 2021-020** because the IC felt that there is currently a record number of active CPM FGs. However, the IC agreed to participate in the work of the small group of SC members and the subsequent joint SC-IC e-forum.

#### VI. The SC-IC small group

16. The SC-IC small group met virtually on 2 December 2021 to discuss the SC paper proposing the creation of a CPM FG on the Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid. The IC's concern was somewhat alleviated during the small group meeting, with the assurance that the duration of the proposed FG would be limited to 2-3 days. Considering this, the IC representatives participating in the small group felt that the IC could support the SC paper to the CPM, provided that the language is modified to specify the duration of activity of the proposed FG and that the language describing the tasks for the FG be changed to include the three options mentioned above identified by the TFT. The version of the paper that the small group discussed was standard-centric, and the input from the IC

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10 SC November 2021 virtual focused meeting report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90440/>

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

12 IC November 2021 virtual meeting report (IC VM17) on the IC web page: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/capacity-development-committee/>

13 List of implementation and capacity development topics: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/list-topics-ippc-implementation/list>

representatives would address this by keeping the options open for the proposed FG (it would be up to the FG to determine the best course of action).

17. A joint SC–IC e-forum took place from 17 December 2021 – 3 January 2022. Results of this e-forum are presented in the SC paper (CPM 2022/23).

## VII. TFT December 2021 virtual meeting

18. The TFT met virtually on 16 December 2021 to finalize their recommendations to CPM-16<sup>14</sup>.

19. The TFT noted the SC and the IC discussions and agreed with the SC's suggestions that **topic 2021-010** should be added to the work programme as a revision of the full text of ISPM 26.

20. The topics recommended by the TFT, in agreement with the SC and the IC, are presented to CPM-16 for adoption as outlined in Table 1. Topics for the SC should be reflected in the LOT, and for the IC, in the List of ICD topics (CPM 2022/11)

21. The TFT agreed not to recommend some topics to CPM-16 (Table 3) for various reasons justified at the meetings and also discussed what topics could be better addressed by other topics in the LOT and the List of ICD topics (see in the footnotes the 2021 TFT, SC and IC virtual meeting reports).

22. Several submissions not recommended to CPM-16 did not provide sufficient information for topics. Although the TFT and the Secretariat followed up with the CPs on the incomplete submissions, the TFT encouraged submitters to consider resubmitting strengthened proposals during the next call in 2023, noting the planned call for topics training sessions at the IPPC Regional Workshops in 2022.

## VIII. Lessons learned

23. The TFT acknowledged the work done by the Secretariat to develop the automatic online submission forms for the 2021 Call for Topics to (1) simplify and accelerate the submission process, (2) increase the quality of the topic proposals, (3) ensure there are no omissions in mandatory sections, (4) establish the database with all submissions, and (5) reduce the workload on the relevant stakeholders.

24. In addition, the TFT acknowledged the migration of the checklist for evaluating topic submissions to an online form, facilitating the TFT preliminary assessment of the topic proposals.

25. The TFT also streamlined the process of reviewing submissions by amending the checklist for evaluating topic proposals<sup>15</sup>.

## IX. Recommendations

26. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *Adopt* the recommended topics in response to the 2021 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation as presented in Table 1.
- 2) *Adopt* the recommended priorities for standards in response to the 2021 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation as presented in Table 1.
- 3) *Request* the SC and the IC to integrate the adopted topics into their respective lists of topics.
- 4) *Note* the TFT recommendations on SC subjects outlined in Table 2.
- 5) *Encourage* CPs, RPPOs and other interested parties to provide support to deliver high-priority topics.

<sup>14</sup> TFT December 2021 virtual meeting report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90554/>

<sup>15</sup> Streamlined checklist for evaluating topic submissions – Appendix 5 of the TFT December 2021 virtual meeting report.

- 6) *Request* the Bureau to discuss and propose a way forward for topics not recommended by the TFT, as presented in Table 3.

**Table 1: TFT recommendations for the proposed standards and implementation resources**

Topic number	Title	CP / RPPO	Support letters	TFT summary	TFT recommended priority (1-4)	TFT recommended material
2021-011	Annex International movement of mango ( <i>Mangifera indica</i> ) fruit to ISPM XX (Commodity-based standards for phytosanitary measures)	Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)	PPPO	TFT recommended considering these topic submissions.	1	Standards
2021-018	Field inspection (including growing season inspection) (Annex to ISPM 23: Guidelines for inspection)	Japan	-		2	
2021-010	Revision of ISPM 26: Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)	New Zealand	Australia		3	
2021-009	Guide on performing audits in the phytosanitary context	Canada	North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)		1	Implementation resource

**Table 2: DPs recommended by the TFT and subsequently added by the SC to the LOT**

Topic number	Title	CP / RPPO	TFT recommended priority (1-4)	TFT summary
2021-016	ISPM 27 Annex: <i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i>	New Zealand and Kenya	1	TFT recommended the development of these DPs.
2021-017	ISPM 27 Annex: <i>Drosophila suzukii</i> (Diptera: Drosophilidae)	New Zealand	1	
2021-025	ISPM 27 Annex: <i>Tomato brown rugose fruit virus</i>	China	1	
2021-013	ISPM 27 Annex: <i>Bactrocera zonata</i> (Saunders, 1842)	Egypt	2	
2021-014	ISPM 27 Annex: <i>Dickeya</i> spp. on potato	New Zealand	2	
2021-015	ISPM 27 Annex: <i>Heterobasidion annosum</i>	New Zealand	3	

**Table 3: Topic submissions not recommended by the TFT**

Topic number	Title	CP / RPPO	Support letters	Proposed material	TFT summary
2021-020	Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid	PPPO	APPPC, Republic of Korea	Standards	TFT did not recommend adding these topic submissions to the lists of topics.
2021-012	Requirements for the use of testing laboratories	Japan			
2021-019	Field certification for export-oriented fruits and vegetables	Sri Lanka			
2021-023	Revision of ISPM 31: Methodologies for sampling of consignments	Kenya		-	
2021-024	Development of authorization programme for use of fumigation	Ukraine		Implementation resources	

2021-021	Methodology for field sampling	Kenya			TFT was not in a position to formulate the recommendation given the incomplete submission.
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