



# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Sixteenth Session

Virtual Meeting, 5, 7 and 21 April 2022

Proposed establishment and draft TOR CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers

Agenda item 8.8.6

Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat with input of the IC lead on SCTF

## I. Background

1. CPM-15 (2021)<sup>1</sup> discussed how best to move forward on the work related to the Sea Container Task Force (SCTF), whose mandate was ending at the end of 2021. CPM requested the SCTF to develop a draft Terms of Reference for a prospective CPM focus group on sea containers<sup>2</sup> that would be charged with arranging a possible 2022 workshop or consultation, or any other tasks which CPM-16 (2022) decides upon, and assembling related information or recommendations for subsequent communication to CPM-17 (2023). The draft Terms of Reference for this focus group would be presented to the Strategic Planning Group in 2021 for review, and subsequently presented to CPM-16 (2022) for consideration and decision on holding the workshop or consultation.

2. As preliminary work to start arranging for a possible 2022 workshop or consultation is needed to begin immediately. Upon request of the SCTF, and agreed by the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee, the Bureau was requested to remove this task for the CPM FG and the Bureau agreed<sup>3</sup>.

3. Subsequently at its February 2022 virtual meeting IC agreed with the SCTF recommended the establishment of a CPM Sea Container Focus Group based on the drafted ToR (Annex 1 of this paper).

1 CPM-15 (2021) Report. Available at: [https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2021/04/CPM-15\\_Final\\_Report\\_with\\_ISPMs\\_Appendices-2021-04-30.pdf](https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2021/04/CPM-15_Final_Report_with_ISPMs_Appendices-2021-04-30.pdf).

2 Risks of contamination of sea containers related to cargo should be considered up to and including the packing stage.

3 CPM Bureau August 2021 meeting report. Available at: [https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2021/09/2021\\_08\\_Bureau\\_Report.pdf](https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2021/09/2021_08_Bureau_Report.pdf)

4. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *approve* Terms of Reference for CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers (Annex 1 to this paper)
- 2) *establish* CPM Sea Container Focus Group

## **Annex 1. Terms of Reference for CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers**

### **1. Process**

1. A CPM Focus Group (FG) on Sea Containers would meet and complete the tasks outlined as follows. The final report of these meetings will provide advice on how to address the pest risks associated with the movement of Sea Containers and would be presented to the CPM. A call for experts will be made by the IPPC Secretariat and nominations will be reviewed against the stated criteria. Experts will be recommended to the Bureau which will review and select the experts for this FG. The FG will consider the outcome of international workshop and report back to CPM-17 (2023).

### **2. Composition of the FG and criteria for selection of experts**

2. The proposed composition attempts to take into account the differences between developing and developed countries with respect to any regulatory approach and its potential impacts on trade, legislative and regulatory capacities, human resource capacities, etc.

3. The FG members will be selected based on their skills and knowledge. The FG should be composed of:

4. Four experts from contracting parties;

- Two experts representing international organizations involved in the movement of sea containers such as the IMO, WCO, etc.;
- Three experts representing industry that may be impacted by any proposed requirements and who are involved in the ownership, packing, handling, transport, unloading, etc. of sea containers such as the Container Owners Association (COA), the World Shipping Council (WSC), the Global Shippers Forum (GSF), etc.;
- One representative from each of the Bureau, IC and SC;
- noting experts may represent more than one role and that the final group should have diverse geographical representation from most FAO regions.

5. Criteria for experts, the FG should have combined expertise and knowledge in:

- working with phytosanitary issues related to sea container movement;
- logistics of sea container movement;
- phytosanitary systems related to the pest risk assessment and management of regulated articles;
- existing global and/or regional frameworks for the management of phytosanitary risks; and
- addressing issues related to invasive species.

### **3. Tasks**

6. The CPM FG will:

- 1) *review* and *consider* the various reports of the SCTF and review the recommendations of the of the SCTF final report;
- 2) *consider* and *review* the recommendations and conclusions arising from the 2022 workshop and their potential impact in container logistics and supply chains, including cost and resource implications for the various parties in those supply chains;
- 3) *identify* and review existing material and experiences on the topic;
- 4) *taking into account* the conclusions from the review mentioned under item 2, discuss and agree on the components necessary for an efficient and effective management of the risks associated with the movement of sea containers;

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- 5) *examine* the practicalities needed for such a system including legal frameworks and liability issues for the IPPC Secretariat and FAO and consider how legal risk can be managed;
- 6) *review* and *clarify* the roles of the FAO, the IPPC Secretariat, RPPOs, NPPOs and other stakeholders;
- 7) *identify* and *prioritize* the systems and tools that may be most useful to RPPOs and NPPOs who might be involved in the management of pest risks associated with the movement of sea containers;
- 8) *consider* what tools are needed for the management of pest risks associated with the movement of sea containers, and propose a way to present them and, if needed, develop them;
- 9) *review* and *refine* the action plan to manage pest risks associated with the movement of sea containers, considering the focus group discussions and inputs from the CPM Bureau, the technical consultation among RPPOs, the Strategic Planning Group, the IC, SC and industry stakeholders;
- 10) *consider* and estimate the resources required by regulators and industry as well as all the parties in the international containerized supply chains to establish and then operate a system to manage the pest risks associated with the movement of sea containers, to include the time frame and practicality of implementing such a system.

**4. Organization of the Focus Group meetings**

7. The IPPC Secretariat will organize the CPM FG meetings. The meetings shall be held in English.