



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON REDUCING THE INTRODUCTION OF PESTS THROUGH THE SEA CONTAINER PATHWAY

19-20 September 2022

Queen Elizabeth II Centre, London, United Kingdom

Concept note

Background

- [1] National economies depend on the efficient and uninterrupted movement of trade, which is facilitated by the efficient movement of sea containers through a complex and time-sensitive logistical system. With over 240 million containers shipped each year, the scale of sea container operations is monumental. As a consequence, any regulatory requirements or changes to the system could have substantive negative knock-on effects that may far outweigh any benefits arising from the regulations.
- [2] Over the last several years, the IPPC Community and partners worked together to identify various challenges and opportunities and explore considerations to reduce the movement of pests in the sea container pathway.
- [3] The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), its committees and subgroups have actively considered the subject of pest movement via contamination of sea containers since 2008. The huge complexity of sea container logistics operations posed a significant challenge to efforts to move forward with the work. In 2016, work on a draft International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) was paused, and the Sea Container Task Force (SCTF) was established to collect existing data from countries, and consider the issue.
- [4] Throughout these years it became obvious that the type of commodity and the handling and storage of commodities prior to and during the packing of the container constitute the most important stage of potential pest contamination of containers; that there was no way to track all stakeholders involved and therefore full accountability or custodianship was missing; that contracting parties may lack the capacity and legal basis to carry out inspections, given the large volume of container movements involved; and that the costs associated with container inspections would be very high, would result in significant delays, and present considerable challenges (e.g. resources, availability of inspection locations).

Objectives of the Workshop

- To present and discuss the conclusions and recommendations of the SCTF report
- To achieve better understanding of potential ways to address the issue of pest contamination of sea containers and their cargoes and the advantages and disadvantages of each.
- To enhance knowledge of the factors limiting the development of new measures and implementation of a CPM Recommendation and/or an ISPM.
- To analyze how potential targeted measures could address the issue of pest contamination of sea containers and their cargoes, and the advantages and disadvantages of each while achieving a reasonable level of risk reduction with minimal impact on container logistics.
- To raise awareness among the IPPC community on any guideline, recommendation or specific solution to reduce phytosanitary risk in the sea container pathway.
- To demonstrate importance of cross-regional and global cooperation to increase understanding of the information and prerequisites for developing successful measures.

Expected outcomes of the Workshop

- Awareness on the risks and impacts of moving, via sea containers and their cargoes, pests that are harmful to plants is raised and the importance of avoiding contamination of containers and their cargoes by all parties in the global supply chains is promoted.
- Questions on issues that remain unanswered and require further clarification are identified and discussed;
- Practical and cost-effective solutions to reducing risks of transfer of pests and contaminants by the sea container pathway are explored and discussed.
- Recommendations on the path forward to globally address the pest risks associated with the movement of sea containers and their cargoes in a practical and sustainable way are collected for further consideration by CPM Focus Group in close collaboration with the Industry Advisory Group.

Participants

- [5] Representatives of NPPOs, RPPOs, international organizations such as IMO, CBD, WCO and WBG and industry stakeholders such as container owners, shipping lines, container manufacturers, freight forwarders, packers, port authorities, marine terminal operators, shippers, importers, exporters.

Location and dates

- [6] The workshop will take place from 19 to 20 September 2022, at Queen Elizabeth II Centre, London, United Kingdom. Participation is free of charge.

Language

- [7] The workshop will be held in English.

Preliminary programme

Day 1: Monday 19 September

Registration	
Time	Description
08:00-08:45	Registration of participants

Opening and Welcome		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator: IPPC Secretariat		
Time		Speakers
09:00-09:45	Welcome	NPPO of UK (TBC)
	Welcome	CPM Chair
	Welcome	IPPC Secretary
	Welcome from cargo-owning and handling interests	Secretary General, Global Shippers Forum
	Welcome from container shipping industry	COA Secretary General
	Overview of issue and what is expected from workshop (participants' jobs)	Wendy Asbil (NPPO of Canada)

Session 1: Pest risks associated with sea containers movements and IPPC Sea Container Task Force

Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room

Moderator: Steering committee member or former SCTF member

Objective: Giving a common understanding on sea container challenges to all participants (i.e. why we are here, what we will talk about, etc.), showing the holistic approach and presenting the general challenges and challenges of regions.

Time	Description	Speakers
09:45-10:45	Introduction Speeches	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	SCTF charge	Greg Wolff (SCTF Chair)
	Container logistics, complexities and challenges across containerized supply chain	Lars Kjaer, WSC
	Final report of SCTF and other SCTF outcomes (e.g. materials produced, other considerations)	Greg Wolff (SCTF Chair)

10:45-11:00

Break

Session 2: Panel: Roles and responsibilities, including within sea container supply chain

Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room

Moderator:

Objective: Giving a common understanding of the containers logistics and operations and challenges of the global container shipping and international trade by sea to all participants. Showing the holistic approach and presenting of container depot operators; container manufacturers; container owners; container packers; container shipping lines; freight forwarders and consolidators; port authorities; shippers (manufacturers, producers, wholesalers, and retailers); warehouse operators; terminal operators.

Time	Description	Speakers
11:00-12:00	Introduction Speeches	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
		Container packers
		Shippers, forwarders and cargo handlers
		Container operators and shipping lines
		Container manufacturers
		Container depots
		Unpackers/warehouses
		Port authorities and marine terminal operators

Session 3: Systems and practices: practical solutions to reducing risks of transfer of plant pests and contaminants by the sea container pathway		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator:		
<i>Objective: Illustrating complexity of container movement logistics, geographical differences, complications of moving forward with the SCTF conclusions and recommendations, and how these could impact on the international movement of sea containers and international trade. Illustrating the practices and principles and examples of government-industry and inter-organization cooperation.</i>		
Time	Description	Speakers
12:00-13:00	Introduction Speeches	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	An overview of the status and content of the CTU Code and Newly approved IMO guidelines for the inspection of containers and cooperation with IPPC, WSC and others, on pest contamination issues.	IMO representative
	North American Sea Container Initiative	Wendy Beltz and Wendy Asbil
	China – Code of Practice	TBC
	Kenya	Frederik Koome Makathima (NPPO of Kenya)
	New Zealand and Australia	Sina Waghorn (NPPO of New Zealand) and TBC
13:00-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-15:30	Session 2 continue	
	Industry	James Hookham, GSF
	Shipping lines' observations and suggestions regarding container cleanliness, including information sharing	TBC
	Good Phytosanitary Practices for cargo and packing Italian tile industry program	TBC
	Work done by the Cargo Integrity Group, including: Quick Guides, Checklist, animations, etc.	TBC
15:30-15:45	Break	
Session 4: Snapshot sessions: Pest risk associated with sea containers movements.		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator: Artur Shamilov		
<i>Objective: Showing the diversity of the regions dealing with different level of risks and successful experiences as well as type of information would biosecurity agencies require and collect through screening and inspection processes at their border.</i>		
15:45-17:00	Introduction Speeches 15 min introduction	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	SCTF appendixes on pest risks	Artur Shamilov, IPPC
Speakers		
NPPOs and RPPOs (pest case studies)		
Khapra beetle		
Invasive ants		
Other insects (<i>Lymantria</i> moth, brown marmorated stinkbug and spotted lanternfly)		
Snails		
Wood packaging material		
Plant debris/seeds/soil etc.		
Session 5: Outcomes of Day 1		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator: Greg Wolf		
<i>Objective: Discussion and synthesis, to gather feedback, ideas and opinions, information and recommendations for further consideration by CPM.</i>		
17:00-18:00	Summary Day 1	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	TBC	TBC

Day 2: Tuesday 20 September

Registration	
Time	Description
08:00-08:45	Registration of participants

Session 6: Regulations and legal aspects, risk reduction measures		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator: Greg Wolff		
Objective: Legal aspects and constraints regarding mandatory measures and share existing standards and regularity measure at different level (international, regional, national, industry standards). Showing the diversity of existing regulatory measures and opportunities for harmonization/alignment, where feasible. Illustrating the importance of context specific, system oriented and participatory approaches as well as providing successful examples implementing international guidelines (e.g. ISPMs, IMO).		
Time	Description	Speakers
09:00-10:45	Introduction Speeches	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	NPPO with no legislation for things that are not plants or plant products	TBC
	ISPMs implementation example from NPPO (e.g. ISPM 15)	TBC
	Guidelines/voluntary approaches	TBC
	CPM recommendation #6 and draft ISPM	TBC
	Capacity building for the NPPOs without legal authority to inspect containers	World Bank Group (TBC)
10:45-11:00	Break	
Session 7: Education and Outreach		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator:		
Objective: Demonstrate the tools that exist, how they are used, value and where does the tools serve their purpose best. Highlight the importance, of reaching out all stakeholders in the supply chain. Demonstrate how cooperation on minimizing contaminating pests is important to serve the purpose. Showing the diversity of learning processes and tools and their importance.		
Time	Description	Speakers
11:00-12:30	Introduction Speeches	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	Industry work	TBC
	IPPC SCTF	Artur Shamilov
	NASCI	Wendy Beltz
12:30-13:00	Conclusions from Session 6 and session 7	Moderator
13:00-14:00	Lunch break	
Session 8: Possible solutions and opportunities		
Two breakout rooms will be established to encourage active discussions. The objective and discussion items are the same for both rooms.		
Breakout 1		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator:		
Objective: Examine existing technologies, innovation, research and knowledge sharing, incentives and disincentives (carrot and sticks), regional and national cooperation and partnership activities and projects.		
Time	Description	Speakers
14:00-15:30	Introduction Speeches	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	Innovations in container design	TBC
	Research, detection, projects	TBC
	Carrot and Sticks	TBC
	Regional cooperation and partnership	TBC
15:30-15:45	Break	

Breakout 2		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Mountbatten room		
Moderator:		
Objective: <i>Examine existing technologies, innovation, research and knowledge sharing, incentives and disincentives (carrot and sticks), regional and national cooperation and partnership activities and projects.</i>		
Time	Description	Speakers
14:00-15:30	Introduction Speeches	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	Innovations in container design	TBC
	Research and, detection, projects	TBC
	Carrot and Sticks	TBC
	Regional cooperation and partnership	TBC
15:30-15:45	Break	
Session 9: Outcomes of Breakout 1 and Breakout 2		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator:		
Objective: <i>Understand what is currently implemented and what information is lacking and assessment of the consequences of moving forward with solutions and existing opportunities.</i>		
Time	Description	Speakers
15:45-16:30	Reports from group discussions	
	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
	From Breakout 1	TBC
	From Breakout 2	TBC
	Discussion and Synthesis	
	To gather feedback, ideas and opinions, information and recommendations for further consideration by CPM.	
Conclusion		
Venue: Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Churchill room		
Moderator: Greg Wolf		
Objective: <i>Conclude with some practical recommendations on the path forward to globally address the pest risks associated with the movement of sea containers and their cargos in a practical and sustainable way. Get responses or views on key questions that SCTF had and to elicit additional questions, concerns and considerations for Focus Group and CPM to work with.</i>		
Time	Speakers	
16:30-18:00	Feedback from participants and Q&A	
	Wrap up of the Workshop	
	Closing remarks	