



Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions, Guide (2018-040)

Status box

This status box is not an official part of the Specification and will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat	
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Title	Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions
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Current document stage	Specification approved by IC
Major stages	<p>2019-03: CPM-14 (2019) added this topic to the List of Implementation and Capacity Development Topics; priority 1</p> <p>2020-11: Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) lead identified (Dominique PELLETIER (CA))</p> <p>2021-06: The IC agreed that the draft specification should be developed for the 2022 consultation</p> <p>2022-03: IC approved draft specification for consultation</p> <p>2022-08: Consultation on draft specification</p> <p>2022-11: IC approved the specification (2022_eIC_12)</p>
Implementation Committee leads	2020-11: Dominique PELLETIER
IPPC Secretariat lead	2021-02: Descartes KOUMBA
Working Group experts	
Notes	Development to be coordinated with Guide on <i>Audits in the phytosanitary context</i> (2021-009) (IC_2022_Nov)

Specification: Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions, Guide (2018-040)

1. Title

Guide on the authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions (2018-040)

2. Type of implementation resource

IPPC guide

3. Convention articles, ISPMs and CPM recommendations to be addressed by the proposed implementation resource

International Plant Protection Convention (Article V.2 (a) in particular)

ISPM 45: *Requirements for national plant protection organizations if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions.*

ISPM 47: *Audit in the phytosanitary context.*

4. Scope

This IPPC guide is meant to improve the understanding of the concept of authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary action and contribute to the implementation of ISPM 45 (*Requirements for national plant protection organizations if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions*).

5. Purpose

The guide will provide direction to national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) and the authorized entities regarding process of authorization. It will also provide guidance on the roles and responsibilities of parties and requirements to be met" during the development and implementation of authorization programmes to carry out phytosanitary actions.

The guide will also provide examples and case studies to help NPPOs and authorized entities adapt their authorization process to perform phytosanitary actions while remaining consistent with the requirements of the IPPC.

6. Content for the proposed implementation resource

The working group should include content based on the outcomes of the following tasks:

- (1) describe initiation of consideration and responsibilities of the NPPOs related to the authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions;
- (2) describe the phytosanitary actions that an NPPO may decide to authorize entities to perform (including national and international entities) in line with the IPPC and the ISPMs;
- (3) describe which phytosanitary actions will need more specific guidance for authorizing entities;
- (4) describe the mechanisms to enable authorization of entities (e.g. regulatory framework, memorandum of understanding, definite work plan with specific time lines);
- (5) describe the development of procedures and processes to authorize, suspend, revoke and reinstate entities;
- (6) describe the development of management systems and documenting procedures;
- (7) give a possible lay-out for audit, supervision and assurance system
- (8) describe the supervision of authorized entities, including procedures for the examination, assessment of competencies and the conduct of audits;
- (9) provide concrete examples of processes for authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions;

- (10) suggest case studies that show how authorized entities perform phytosanitary actions;
- (11) provide a more specific guidance on authorizing entities to carry out its activities such as phytosanitary fumigation treatments and laboratory tests.

The WG is also invited to review regional standards and procedures as well as documents listed in the references section related to the authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions.

Note: Any overlapping topic presented in the future guide on audits should be identified to ensure that both guides complement and do not repeat each other.

7. Financial and in-kind contributions

Contracting parties are encouraged to identify any financial or in-kind contributions that will be provided to support the development of this guide or to facilitate the translation of the final product.

8. Selection criteria for working group experts

The IPPC Secretariat and the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee support equity, diversity and inclusiveness, and encourage all interested experts to submit their candidature to participate in the working group tasked with developing this IPPC guide.

The working group members will be selected based on their technical and practical expertise in the subject matter. Geographical representation of experts from both developing and developed countries will also be considered to ensure that the material developed is globally applicable and reflects best practices from all over the world.

The following criteria should be used for selecting working group members:

- (1) practical expertise and knowledge in one or more of the following areas:
 - design and implementation of agreements with authorized entities
 - development of legal framework to enable authorization
 - inspection or treatment of plants and plant products and other regulated articles
 - work with NPPOs or RPPOs
 - experience of collaboration with laboratories and research institutes
 - export certification
 - audit for phytosanitary purposes
 - developing or managing phytosanitary export systems;
- (2) strong working knowledge of English and ability to formulate ideas and write clearly in English.

The working group is encouraged to consider inviting experienced entities to contribute to the development of the guide, by consulting with them or inviting them to make presentations to the working group, etc.

In addition, it would also be beneficial for the working group to have recourse to seek the advice of FAO Legal Services on legal aspects related to the mechanisms to enable authorization.

9. References

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