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***[1]***Draft 2022 Amendments to ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms (1994-001)

***[2]***

***[3]*Publication history**

***[4]****(This is not an official part of the standard)*

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| ***[5]*Date of this document**  | ***[6]***2023-06-09 |
| ***[7]*Document category**  | ***[8]***Draft 2022 Amendments to ISPM 5 *(Glossary of phytosanitary terms)* (1994-001) |
| ***[9]*Current document stage**  | ***[10]****To* second or third consultation, depending on the terms |
| ***[11]*Major stages**  | ***[12]***CEPM (1994) added topic: 1994-001, Amendments to ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms ***[13]***2006-05 Standards Committee (SC) approved specification TP5 ***[14]***2012-10 Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG) revised specification ***[15]***2012-11 SC revised and approved revised specification, revoking Specification 1***[16]***2021-12 TPG proposed 2022 amendments below***[17]***2022-05 SC revised the 2022 amendments via the Online Comment System and approved the 2022 amendments for the first consultation at the virtual meeting***[18]***2022-11 SC revised the 2021 amendments and referred “general surveillance” (2018-046), “specific surveillance” (2018-047), “surveillance” (2020-009), “inspection” (2017-005) and “test” (2021-005) for further consideration***[19]***2022-11 SC invited the TPG to review “test”, “inspection” and “visual examination” and forward their recommendations to the SC-7 in May 2023 ***[20]***2022-11 SC requested the terms “general surveillance” (2018-046), “specific surveillance” (2018-047), “surveillance” (2020-009) and “release (of a consignment)” (2021-007) to be reviewed by the SC-7 in May 2023***[21]***2022-12 TPG reviewed the terms and drafted recommendations to SC-7***[22]***2023-03 TPG finalized the review of the terms and the recommendations to SC-7  |
| ***[23]*Notes** | ***[24]***Note to Secretariat formatting this paper: formatting in definitions and explanations (strikethrough, bold, italics) needs to remain.***[25]***Comments were only sought on the terms and definitions, not on the associated explanatory text.***[26]***The SC-7 recommended the terms “release (of a consignment)” (2021-007), “inspection” (2017-005), and *“*specific surveillance*”* (2018-047**)** to the SC for approval for adoption by the CPM (no changes from 2nd consultation). |

***[27]***

***[28]*Introduction**

***[29]***IPPC Official Contact Points are asked to consider the following proposals for addition and revision of terms and definitions to ISPM 5 *(Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms)*. A brief explanation is given for each proposal. For revision of terms and definitions, only the proposed changes are open for comments. In addition, comments are only sought on the terms and definitions, not on the associated explanatory text. For full details on the discussions related to the specific terms, please refer to the [TPG meeting reports on the IPP](https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/technical-panel-glossary-phytosanitary-terms-ispm-5/).

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1. ***[32]***ADDITION

***[33]***1.1 “general surveillance” (2018-046)

***[34]***In 2018, the TPG had noted that the revised ISPM 6 (*Surveillance*) had resulted in a slight change in the meaning of general surveillance and specific surveillance, with the previous version of ISPM 6 referring to “specific surveys” for what is now called “specific surveillance”. The SC meeting in May 2019 added the terms “*general surveillance*” and “*specific surveillance*” to the TPG work programme for inclusion in the Glossary, to provide clarity without having to read ISPM 6.

***[35]***During their November 2019 meeting, the TPG discussed various options for definitions of “ge*neral surveillance*” and “*specific surveillance*” together with an analysis of the use of these terms in adopted ISPMs.

***[36]***In January 2021, the TPG had submitted a definition proposal, reviewed by the SC in May 2021, and sent for first consultation. The TPG in December 2021 and the SC-7 in May 2022 considered the first-consultation comments received, and the SC sent an amended definition proposal for second consultation. The SC in November 2022 considered the second-consultation comments received and deferred the terms and definitions of “*general surveillance*”, “*specific surveillance*” and “*surveillance*” to be reviewed by SC-7 in May 2023.

***[37]***The SC-7 is now sending for third consultation a proposed definition, modified and in particular simplified as compared to the version sent for second consultation.

***[38]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[39]***It is useful to add the term and definition in the Glossary to clarify its meaning in ISPMs without having to read ISPM 6.
2. ***[40]***The proposed definition refers to “*various sources*” rather than “*procedures*” to allow for sources of information that are not procedures.
3. ***[41]***Whereas the overall surveillance process is official (i.e. exclusively an NPPO responsibility), those various sources of information can be official or unofficial, as explained in ISPM 6.
4. ***[42]***“*Pests*” is used rather than “*pest presence or absence*” to allow for surveillance of other characteristics of pests.
5. ***[43]*** As described in ISPM 6, general surveillance and specific surveillance are disjunctive concepts. They may be used in combination, as provided for in the revised definition of “*surveillance*” (Section 2.1).

***[44]***Proposed addition

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| ***[45]*general surveillance** ***[46]*** | ***[47]***Aprocess whereby information on **pests** in an **area** is obtained through various sources other than **surveys**.  |

***[48]***

***[49]***1.2 “specific surveillance” (2018-047)

***[50]***In 2018, the TPG had noted that the revised ISPM 6 (*Surveillance*) had resulted in a slight change in the meaning of general surveillance and specific surveillance, with the previous version of ISPM 6 referring to “specific surveys” for what is now called “specific surveillance”. The SC meeting in May 2019 added the terms “*general surveillance*” and “*specific surveillance*” to the TPG work programme for inclusion in the Glossary, to provide clarity without having to read ISPM 6.

***[51]***The TPG in January 2021 had submitted a definition proposal, reviewed by the SC in May 2021, and sent for first consultation. The TPG in December 2021 and the SC-7 in May 2022 considered the first-consultation comments received, and the SC sent the definition proposal unchanged for second consultation. The SC in November 2022 considered the second-consultation comments received and deferred the terms and definitions of “*general surveillance*”, “*specific surveillance*” and “*surveillance*” to be reviewed by SC-7 in May 2023.

***[52]***The SC-7 is now sending for third consultation the proposed definition unchanged compared to the version sent for the first and second consultations.

***[53]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[54]***It is useful to add the term and definition in the Glossary to clarify its meaning in ISPMs without having to read ISPM 6.
2. ***[55]***The essential distinction between general and specific surveillance is the source of the information, as both types of surveillance can be directed to specific pests;
3. ***[56]***Specific surveillance is achieved through surveys.
4. ***[57]***Therefore, in the case of specific surveillance, not only the overall surveillance process but also the source of information is official, as according to its Glossary definition a "*survey (of pests)*" is an official procedure.
5. ***[58]***Reference to “*presence or absence*” of a pest in the definition would be too restrictive as it would exclude seeking information on other characteristics of a pest population, such as pest biology or distribution, as allowed by the Glossary definitions of “*survey (of pests)*” and “*monitoring survey*”.

***[59]***Proposed addition

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| ***[60]*specific surveillance** ***[61]*** | ***[62]***An **official** process whereby information on **pests** in an **area** is obtained through **surveys**. |

1. ***[63]***REVISION

***[64]***2.1 “surveillance” (2020-009)

***[65]***In 2018, the TPG had noted that the revised ISPM 6 (*Surveillance*) had resulted in a slight change in the meaning of general surveillance and specific surveillance, with the previous version of ISPM 6 referring to “specific surveys” for what is now called “specific surveillance”. The SC meeting in May 2019 added the terms “*general surveillance*” and “*specific surveillance*” to the TPG work programme for inclusion in the Glossary, to provide clarity without having to read ISPM 6.

***[66]***In 2019, the TPG also discussed the definition of “*surveillanc*e” and, upon TPG’s recommendation, the SC in November 2020 added the term to the TPG work programme. The TPG in January 2021 had submitted a revised definition proposal, reviewed by the SC in May 2021, and sent for first consultation. The TPG in December 2021 and the SC-7 in May 2022 considered the first-consultation comments received, and the SC sent an amended proposal for the revised definition for second consultation. The SC in November 2022 considered the second-consultation comments received and deferred the terms and definitions of “*general surveillance*”, “*specific surveillance*” and “*surveillance*” to be reviewed by SC-7 in May 2023.

***[67]***The SC-7 is now sending for third consultation the proposed revised definition unchanged compared to the version sent for second consultation.

***[68]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[69]***Whilst the current definition of “*surveillance*” rather indistinctly mixes various methods from the two surveillance types, and unnecessarily restricts the surveillance objective to only ‘presence or absence of pests’, the proposed definitions of the new Glossary terms “*general surveillance*” (cf. section 1.2) and “*specific surveillance*” (cf. section 1.3) provides the essential distinction between those two disjunctive surveillance types.
2. ***[70]***Subsequently, the generic characteristics of “*surveillance*” remain as “*an official process whereby information on pests in an area is obtained...*” (as outlined with the first part of the definition). The possible surveillance methodologies and the conceptual relationship between the terms are then outlined in the second part of the definition as “...*through general surveillance, specific surveillance or a combination of both*”.

***[71]***Current definition

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| ***[72]*Surveillance** | ***[73]***An **official** process which collects and records data on **pest** presence or absence by **survey**, **monitoring** or other procedures [CEPM, 1996; revised CPM, 2015] |

***[74]***Proposed revision

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| ***[75]*Surveillance*****[76]*** | ***[77]***An **official** process whereby information on **pests** in an **area** is obtained through **general surveillance**, **specific surveillance** or a combination of both~~which collects and records data on~~ **~~pest~~** ~~presence or absence by~~ **~~survey~~**~~,~~ **~~monitoring~~** ~~or other procedures~~  |

***[78]***

***[79]***2.2 “phytosanitary action” (2020-006) and “phytosanitary procedure” (2020-007)

***[80]***The following introduction refers to both proposals for revising the definitions of “*phytosanitary action*” (2020-006) and “*phytosanitary procedure*” (2020-007):

***[81]***In 2014, the SC had established a subgroup to consider the various arguments (including reference to SPS text) on whether ‘*phytosanitary measure*’ should be understood in a narrow sense (covering only regulated pests in the country itself) or in a broad sense (covering also pests regulated in another, (importing) country). The SC in 2015 could not agree on one common understanding but agreed that in ISPMs all efforts should be made to use the most accurate terminology according to the concept provided in a standard.

***[82]***In the suit of SC’s discussions, it had also been broadly accepted that “*phytosanitary*” could be used, and has been used, in ISPMs as a qualifier in relation to scenarios where the NPPO of an exporting country is *applying* official measures, through phytosanitary procedures and phytosanitary actions, to meet phytosanitary import requirements of an importing country in preventing the spread of pests that are regulated in that importing country, but not regulated in the country of export where such application is taking place.

***[83]***Consequently, the TPG recommended that it would be pertinent that the definitions of “*phytosanitary action*” and “*phytosanitary procedure*” be amended to explicitly reflect that their respective scope also covers such official actions and procedures used in an export scenario against pests that are regulated in an importing country but not regulated in the exporting country. The SC in November 2020 agreed and added the terms “phytosanitary action” (2020-006) and “phytosanitary procedure” (2020-007) to the TPG work programme.

***[84]***The TPG in December 2021 recalled that a phytosanitary action is an official *operation*, and a phytosanitary procedure is an official *method* (i.e., a documented process or a methodology) for implementing phytosanitary measures (or taking phytosanitary action). The relationship between the three concepts may be illustrated as: a phytosanitary measure is *what to do, a* phytosanitary procedure is *how to do it*, and a phytosanitary action is actually *doing it*. The terms “*phytosanitary action*” and “*phytosanitary procedure*” in their current definitions both refer to “*phytosanitary measures*” and are strongly interconnected. TPG discussions on the two definitions were therefore also intertwined and followed similar lines of argumentation.

***[85]***Phytosanitary measures have the purpose of preventing the introduction or spread of quarantine pests or limiting the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests (RNQPs). Thus, phytosanitary measures are established exclusively in relation to regulated pests, i.e., quarantine pests and RNQPs.

***[86]***A national plant protection organization (NPPO) can apply phytosanitary actions and phytosanitary procedures against pests regulated in the country itself. Furthermore, to fulfill all requirements for performing phytosanitary certification in export situations, the NPPO may similarly apply phytosanitary actions and phytosanitary procedures against pests regulated in other (importing) countries in order to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of those countries. Thus, the qualifier “*phytosanitary*” can be used, and has been widely used, in ISPMs in relation to scenarios where the NPPO of an exporting country is *applying* procedures or actions to meet phytosanitary import requirements of an importing country, but not necessarily regulated in the country of export where such application is taking place.

***[87]***Examples of such inclusive use of the concepts and terms “*phytosanitary procedure*” and “*phytosanitary action*” are provided below:

* ***[88]***Inspection, testing, surveillance, treatment, etc., may also be conducted to support phytosanitary certification prior to export, and in such cases, the pests of concern may not be regulated pests of the country where these activities are carried out.
* ***[89]***Phytosanitary actions may be applied in relation to changes in the status of an Area of Low Pest Prevalence (ALPP), and phytosanitary procedures may be followed in relation to the establishment and maintenance of a pest free area (PFA) or an ALPP. PFA and ALPP may be used in a country to exclude or control pests regulated in that country, or to exclude or control pests regulated in another country in order to enable phytosanitary certification and thereby facilitate exports to that country.
* ***[90]***In ISPM 31 (*Methodologies for sampling of consignments*), the application of various phytosanitary actions may be determined by the outcome of sampling, and sampling of consignments may be performed prior to phytosanitary certification or at import.
* ***[91]***According to ISPM 45 (*Requirements for national plant protection organizations if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions*), NPPOs may authorize entities to perform phytosanitary actions on their behalf, and these phytosanitary actions can be undertaken in support of import or domestic activities (against pests regulated in the actual country) or export activities (against pests regulated in another (importing) country.
* ***[92]***Phytosanitary procedures are followed in relation to export certification as described in ISPMs 7 (*Phytosanitary certification system*) and 12 (*Phytosanitary certificates*).

***[93]***To explicitly express the full scope of “*phytosanitary action”* and “*phytosanitary procedure*”, including the aspect of pests regulated in another (importing) country, additional wording “*…or to enable phytosanitary certification*”, and “…*or for enabling phytosanitary certification*” (in the two respective definitions) had been proposed for the first consultation and had been almost unanimously accepted. This additional wording provides conceptual focus on the scenario as seen from the perspective of the NPPO *applying* the procedures and actions.

***[94]***Accepting a range of suggestions from first consultation of simplifying the definition of “*phytosanitary procedure*” by linking it to “*phytosanitary action”*, the SC-7 is now proposing the revised definition of “*phytosanitary procedure*” be modified to that effect.

***[95]***In conclusion, revising the definitions of “*phytosanitary action”* and “*phytosanitary procedure*” solves consistency issues by aligning the actual (broader) use of those two terms without violating the narrow interpretation of the definition of “*phytosanitary measure”*.

***[96]***It is noted that, while endorsing the revision of the two terms, some first-consultation comments suggested that it would have been more efficient to change the definition of “*phytosanitary measure”*’ to refer to “*phytosanitary certification*”. However, as the term “*phytosanitary measure*” had been defined in the Convention text, revising it could only take the form of a so-called “agreed interpretation” by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures. Such interpretations of Convention definitions have only been proposed and agreed in two cases, in 2002 for “*phytosanitary measure*” to include the concept of RNQPs, and in 2007 for ‘*pest risk analysis*” to include the concept of evaluating whether an organism is a pest.

***[97]***2.2.1 “phytosanitary action” (2020-006)

***[98]***The SC-7 proposes the definition be revised with a modification as compared to the version as sent for first consultation. The SC-7 proposes the insertion of “with reference to a phytosanitary procedure”, to highlight that every action needs a procedure.

***[99]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[100]***An NPPO may apply phytosanitary actions against pests regulated in the country itself. Furthermore, to fulfill all requirements for performing phytosanitary certification in export situations, the NPPO may similarly apply *phytosanitary actions* against pests regulated in other (importing) countries in order to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of those countries.
2. ***[101]***The proposed additional wording “*…or to enable phytosanitary certification*” describes the scenario from the perspective of the NPPO carrying out the operations. Implicitly, this wording refers to the objective of ‘meeting another country’s phytosanitary import requirements’, because phytosanitary certification (as per definition) can only be carried out once the exporting country is able to declare that phytosanitary import requirements have been met.
3. ***[102]***The proposed revised definition reflects the actual use of the term ‘phytosanitary action’ in ISPMs. It does not conflict with and therefore does not necessitate amendments to ISPM texts.

***[103]***Current definition

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| ***[104]*phytosanitary action** | ***[105]***An **official** operation, such as **inspection**, **testing**, **surveillance** or **treatment**, undertaken to implement **phytosanitary measures** [ICPM, 2001; revised ICPM, 2005] |

***[106]***Proposed revision

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| ***[107]*phytosanitary action** | ***[108]***An **official** operation, such as **inspection**, **testing**, **surveillance** or **treatment**, undertaken with reference to a **phytosanitary procedure,** to implement **phytosanitary measures** or to enable **phytosanitary certification** |

***[109]***

***[110]***2.2.2 “phytosanitary procedure” (2020-007)

***[111]***Meeting a range of suggestions from first consultation, the SC-7 proposes the definition be revised with some modifications as compared to the version as sent for first consultation.

***[112]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[113]***The conceptual linkage between “*phytosanitary procedure*” and “*phytosanitary action”* is that a phytosanitary procedure is a method on how to perform a phytosanitary action.
2. ***[114]***For simplification and to avoid redundancy, the conceptual linkage between “*phytosanitary procedure”* and “*phytosanitary measure”* is no longer explicit, but implicitly remains intact through the linkage to “*phytosanitary action”*, defined as ‘*an official operation… undertaken to implement phytosanitary measures or to enable phytosanitary certification*’.
3. ***[115]***In effect, an NPPO may apply phytosanitary procedures against pests regulated in the country itself. Furthermore, to fulfill all requirements for performing phytosanitary certification in export situations, the NPPO may similarly apply phytosanitary procedures against pests regulated in other (importing) countries in order to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of those countries.
4. ***[116]***Given the inclusion of ‘*phytosanitary*’ in the term itself and of ‘*phytosanitary action*’ in its definition, the current phrasing ‘*in connection with regulated pests*’ is redundant and potentially confusing, as it does not provide the immediate understanding that, with the export scenario, although the pest in question is regulated in the importing country, it may not be regulated in the exporting country where the procedure is being followed. The phrasing therefore should be deleted from the definition.
5. ***[117]***‘*An*’ as the introductory article of the definition is consistent with far the most Glossary definitions and is more precise than the current ‘*Any*’.
6. ***[118]***With the linkage to “*phytosanitary action”*’, the listed examples are redundant and therefore deleted.
7. ***[119]***The proposed revised definition reflects the actual use of the term “*phytosanitary procedure”* in ISPMs. It does not conflict with and therefore does not necessitate amendments to ISPM texts.

***[120]***Current definition

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| ***[121]*phytosanitary procedure** | ***[122]***Any **official** method for implementing **phytosanitary measures** including the performance of **inspections**, **tests**, **surveillance** or **treatments** in connection with **regulated pests** [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; CEPM, 1999; ICPM, 2001; ICPM, 2005] |

***[123]***Proposed revision

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| ***[124]*phytosanitary procedure** | ***[125]***An~~y~~ **official** method on how to perform a **phytosanitary action** ~~for implementing~~ **~~phytosanitary measures~~** ~~including the performance of~~ **~~inspections~~**~~,~~ **~~tests~~**~~,~~ **~~surveillance~~** ~~or~~ **~~treatments~~** ~~in connection with~~ **~~regulated pests~~** |

***[126]***

***[127]***2.3 “release (of a consignment)” (2021-007)

***[128]***In January 2021, when discussing the proposed deletion of ‘clearance (of a consignment)’, the TPG recommended the consequential revision of the definition of ‘release (of a consignment)’. The SC reviewed the proposal at its meeting in May 2021 and sent it for first consultation. The TPG in December 2021 and the SC-7 in May 2022 considered the first-consultation comments received, and the SC sent an amended proposal for the revised definition for second consultation.

***[129]***Subsequently, the SC in November 2022 considered the second-consultation comments received and deferred the draft revised definition to be further considered by the SC-7 in May 2023. The SC-7 recommends to the SC that the definition be revised with one modification as compared to the version presented to the SC in November 2022 and recommended by the TPG. The SC-7 proposes not to include the term ‘official’ in the beginning of the definition.

***[130]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[131]***The revision does not change the substance of the definition but merely links *release* to *compliance procedure* rather than to *clearance* (as deleted by CPM-17 in 2023).
2. ***[132]***Being linked to a *consignment* (in its defined IPPC meaning), and being an action subsequent to the completion of a *compliance procedure* (being an *official* action), the Glossary term *release (of a consignment)* has a meaning specific to the IPPC domain and distinct from other possible uses.
3. ***[133]***Strictly speaking, the proposed insertion of ‘*of a consignment*’ is redundant, given the qualifier of the term (‘of a consignment’). However, the insertion makes the wording as a stand-alone definition clearer in contrast to the term and definition of ‘*release (into the environment)*’.
4. ***[134]***The revised definition of *release (of a consignment)* does not conflict with the current uses of the term in adopted ISPMs.

***[135]***Current definition

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| ***[136]*release** (of a **consignment)** | ***[137]***Authorization for **entry** after **clearance** [FAO, 1995] |

***[138]***Proposed revision

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| ***[139]*** **release** (of a **consignment)** | ***[140]***Authorization for **entry** of a **consignment** after completion of the **compliance procedure ~~clearance~~** |

***[141]***

***[142]***2.4 “inspection” (2017-005)

***[143]***The TPG in 2015 recognized that the definition of ‘*inspection*’ might be considered partly outdated due to technological advances. In 2017, the SC, therefore, added the term ‘*inspection*’ to the List of topics for IPPC standards for a possible revision. Subsequently, the TPG presented a revised definition to the SC in 2018. While confirming the need for retaining the distinction between the definitions of ‘*inspection*’ and ‘*test*’ (as often distinguished in ISPMs and phytosanitary legislation), the SC queried the need and feasibility of including other tools than ‘*visual examination*’ into ‘*inspection*’. Furthermore, the SC noted two different uses of ‘*inspection*’ in ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*): in some parts ‘*inspection*’ is used congruent to its current definition, in other parts explicitly stating that inspection also includes the processes of examination of documents and verification of identity and integrity of the consignment.

***[144]***The SC referred the term ‘*inspection*’ back to the TPG, to particularly evaluate the term in relation to ‘*test*’, the uses of ‘*inspection*’ in ISPM 23 and the possible future revision of that standard.

***[145]***The TPG continued its discussion in its 2018, 2019 and 2021 meetings, also awaiting the parallel considerations of the consignment-related terms ‘*identity (of a consignment)*’, ‘*integrity (of a consignment)*’ and ‘*phytosanitary security (of a consignment)*’. In this process, the TPG reconfirmed that the distinction between ‘visual’ versus ‘other than visual’ examination in *inspection* and *test*, respectively, remains to be most important.

***[146]***The TPG considered various ways to overcome the discrepancy between the current definition of ‘*inspection*’ and the broader use of the term in certain parts of ISPM 23. Given that:

* ***[147]***‘*inspection*’ in its current narrow sense, i.e., referring only to the official visual examination of plants etc., is being used widely in many ISPMs, including in far the most of the cases within ISPM 23; and
* ***[148]***the Glossary term ‘*compliance procedure (for a consignment)*’, already covering the verification of compliance with phytosanitary import requirements, would fit as the overarching term to be used in the particular parts of ISPM 23,

***[149]***the TPG concluded and the SC agreed that it would be appropriate to:

* ***[150]***retain the current, narrow definition of ‘*inspection*’; and
* ***[151]***adjust the very limited number of cases in ISPM 23 where ‘*inspection*’ had been used beyond its current definition by referring instead to ‘*compliance procedure (for a consignment)*’, as revised by CPM in 2023.

***[152]***Following that approach, the proposed revision of ‘*inspection*’ only aims at improving the wording and consistency with other definitions. The SC reviewed the proposal at its meeting in May 2021 and sent it for first consultation. The TPG in December 2021 and the SC-7 in May 2022 considered the consultation comments received and the SC sent the revised definition unchanged for the second consultation.

***[153]***Following second consultation comments, the SC agreed to change “check” to “verify” as it was indicated that “check” was too informal, and also in consistency with wording in similar definitions such as test. The SC-7 May 2023 confirmed its support for the proposed revision and is now submitting the proposal to SC approval for adoption by CPM-18.

***[154]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[155]***Through Article VII.2f of the Convention and the definition of ‘*compliance procedure (for a consignment)*’*,* the terms ‘*compliance*’ and ‘*non-compliance*’ are linked with consignments, and the ‘General recommendations on use of terms in ISPMs’ stipulates ‘*conformity*’ be used in other cases. As *inspection* has a broader scope than only consignments, ‘*compliance*’ is therefore substituted by ‘*conformity*’.
2. ***[156]***The word ‘*determine*’ (compliance) is substituted by ‘*verify*’ (conformity) in consistency with the wording used in similar definitions.
3. ***[157]***The term ‘*regulations*’ is substituted by ‘*requirements*’, as phytosanitary regulations are at a higher conceptual level and refer to regulated pests. However, inspection can be carried out in scenarios other than at import, like at place of production or production site or at export, and inspection in such scenarios may not always be related to regulated pests.
4. ***[158]***While the term ‘*inspection*’ needs substitution by ‘*compliance procedure*’ in a few cases in ISPM 23 (irrespective of the proposed revision), the use of the revised definition of ‘*inspection*’ does not conflict with the current uses of the term in adopted ISPMs.

***[159]***Current definition

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| ***[160]*Inspection** | ***[161]*Official visual examination** of **plants**, **plant products** or other **regulated articles** to determine if **pests** are present or to determine compliance with **phytosanitary regulations** [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; formerly “inspect”] |

***[162]***Proposed revision

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| --- | --- |
| ***[163]*Inspection** | ***[164]*Official visual examination** of **plants**, **plant products** or other **regulated articles** to determine if **pests** are present or to ~~determine compliance~~ verify conformity with phytosanitary requirements **~~regulations~~** |

***[165]***

***[166]***2.5 “test” (2021-005)

***[167]***In January 2021, when concluding the proposed revision of ‘inspection’, the TPG recommended the consequential consistency revision of the definition of the related term ‘test’. The SC reviewed the proposal at its meeting in May 2021 and sent it for first consultation.The TPG in December 2021 and the SC-7 in May 2022 considered the consultation comments received. The SC sent the amended proposal for the revised definition for second consultation.

***[168]***Following second consultation, the SC did not reach consensus on “test”, as the main point of contention had been whether the concepts of “inspection” and “test” could be distinguished based on one being visual (“inspection”) and the other (“test’) not being visual, given that some tests include visual observations.

***[169]***During the TPG November 2022 meeting, the term “test” was further discussed and changes were proposed to the definition to further clarify the concept and address the concerns raised within the SC. The SC-7 in May 2023 reviewed the proposed revision and is now proposing for third consultation a revised definition considerably different from former consultation versions.

***[170]***The following explanatory points may be considered when reviewing the proposal:

1. ***[171]***“using for example chemical, molecular, serological, or morphological characterization,” has been added as some examples of types of methods that could be used for tests and to illustrate the distinction between “test” and “inspection”.
2. ***[172]***Through Article VII.2f of the Convention and the definition of *compliance procedure (for a consignment),* the terms ‘*compliance*’ and ‘*non-compliance*’ are linked with consignments, and the ‘General recommendations on use of terms in ISPMs’ stipulates ‘*conformity*’ be used in other cases. As *test* has a broader scope than only consignments, the term ‘*compliance*’ is therefore substituted by ‘*conformity*’.
3. ***[173]***The word ‘*determine*’ in relation to “compliance” is substituted by ‘*verify*’ in consistency with wording in similar definitions.

***[174]***Current definition

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***[175]*Test** | ***[176]*Official** examination of **plants**, **plant products** or other **regulated articles**, other than visual, to determine if **pests** are present, identify **pests** or determine compliance with specific phytosanitary requirements [FAO, 1990; revised CPM, 2018] |

***[177]***Proposed revision

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***[178]*Test** | ***[179]*Official** examination, using for example chemical, molecular, serological, or morphological characterization, of **plants**, **plant products** or other **regulated articles**, ~~other than visual,~~ to identify **pests** or determine if **regulated** **pests** are present, or~~determine compliance~~ verify conformity with specific phytosanitary requirements |

***[180]***

***[181]***Potential implementation issues

***[182]***This section is not part of the standard. The Standards Committee in May 2016 requested the Secretariat to gather information on any potential implementation issues related to this draft. Please provide details and proposals on how to address these potential implementation issues.

***[183]***