



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



International  
Plant Protection  
Convention



## Revised CPM Recommendation 6 Sea Containers

2023 IPPC Regional Workshops

- This presentation will provide an overview of the revision recently conducted by the CPM Sea Containers Focus Group of Recommendation 6.

### CPM Recommendations

Address important issues related to plant health, either to promote action on a specific phytosanitary issue or to address a more generalized issue

Cover issues or actions that CPs/NPPOs/RPPOs have some influence, authority or competence to address

Provide practical guidance and support for improving the implementation of the convention, a specific ISPM or set of ISPMs

- Be relevant to the needs of the contracting parties, or at least a majority of the parties;
- Offer “guidance” that is not possible or appropriate to offer, at the moment, in the form of a standard.

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### Adopted CPM recommendations

<p><b>R-01</b> LMOs, biosecurity and alien invasive species</p>	<p><b>R-02</b> Threats to biodiversity posed by alien species: actions within the framework of the IPPC</p>	<p><b>R-03</b> Replacement or reduction of use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure</p>
<p><b>R-04</b> IPPC coverage of aquatic plants</p>	<p><b>R-05</b> Internet trade (e-commerce) in plants and other regulated articles</p>	<p><b>R-06</b> Sea containers</p>
<p><b>R-07</b> The importance of pest diagnosis</p>	<p><b>R-08</b> Preparing to use HTS technologies as a diagnostic tool for phytosanitary purposes</p>	<p><b>R-09</b> Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid to prevent the introduction of plant pests during an emergency situation</p>
		<p><b>R-10</b> Reduction of the incidence of contaminating pests associated with regulated and unregulated articles to protect plant resources and facilitate safe trade</p>

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- Currently, there are 10 published CPM Recommendations.
- CPM Recommendation 6 provides recommended actions to assist NPPOs and international organizations in minimizing the risks of pests associated with the international movements of sea containers.
- As noted, this presentation will provide an overview of the revision recently conducted by the CPM Sea Containers Focus Group of Recommendation 6.



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### Background

- The international movement of sea containers and their cargoes can potentially facilitate the introduction and spread of pests.
- The CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers was formed in 2022.
- CPM-16 (2022) requested the CPM Recommendation on Sea containers (R-06), originally adopted in 2017, should be retained and revised, either as an interim approach prior to the development of an ISPM, or as a final approach.
- The Focus Group reviewed Recommendation 6, with the revised version presented at CPM-17 2023 and approved for the first round of consultation.






Recommendation on:  
Sea containers

ADOPTED 2015 | PUBLISHED 2017

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- There is international consensus among competent authorities that the international movement of sea containers and their cargoes can potentially facilitate the introduction and spread of pests that can pose a serious risk to agriculture, forestry and natural resources.
- The CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers was formed in 2022 to further develop viable options to contribute to the risk management of the international sea container pathway.
- CPM 16 2022 requested the CPM recommendation 6 on sea containers, originally adopted in 2017, should be retained and revised, either as an interim approach prior to the development of an ISPM, or as a final approach.
- The Focus Group reviewed Recommendation 6 and identified that further detailed information should be included to provide clarification and practical advice for all parties involved in the international supply chain in the management of sea container cleanliness.

- The revised recommendation was presented at CPM-17 in 2023 and approved for the first round of consultation.

### Revised content

- Background on risks and implications for the international sea container pathway
- Shared responsibilities
- Risks related to empty sea containers and risks influenced by the type of cargo
- Description of pest contamination
- Collaboration with WOAH



- At a high level, the revised CPM Recommendation includes contextual information regarding the background to plant health risks and the international sea container pathway, identification of shared responsibilities for stakeholders, a description of the types of risks presented by sea containers moving in international trade and related contamination of concern, and encourages engagement with other regulatory bodies such as the World Organization for Animal Health in the interest of avoiding the development of duplicating or conflicting measures.

### Revised content continued...

- Included recommendations :
  - Reducing the risk of contamination of sea containers and their cargoes
  - Visual examination for contamination of sea containers and their cargoes
  - Methods to remove contamination
  - Container structure
  - Input for effective measures and best practices
  - Raising awareness



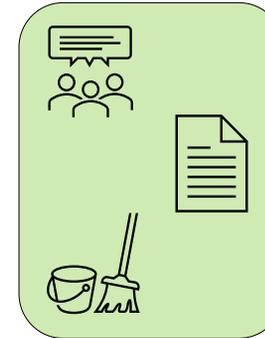
You can keep containers  
and their cargoes clean.

- Further, the revised document also includes recommended actions relating to reducing the risk of contamination of sea containers and their cargoes, visual examinations for contamination and the removal of contamination.
- It also recommends the expanded use of steel floored containers, encourages further input from NPPOs and relevant stakeholders to gather information on pest presence and risks for provision to the IPPC, and encourages NPPOs to further raise awareness of the importance of sea container cleanliness and promote best practices.

### Intent of the revised recommendation

This revised recommendation is provided in order to:

- Communicate the plant health risks related to the movement of sea containers and their cargoes.
- Confirm the IPPC CPM's intent to develop long term guidance on this matter and to recommend related activities during the interim period.
- Describe the types of contamination of concern to stakeholders and the IPPC community and common methods for their removal.



- The intent of the revised recommendation is to... (refer to points on slide)

### Intent of this recommendation continued...

- Encourage the wide-spread use of containers with steel floors to replace those that have wooden floors which provide an environment conducive to certain types of contamination and makes it difficult to detect and remove them.
- Seek input from the IPPC community and other stakeholders on effective measures to reduce contamination and risks presented by the sea container pathway, and related information.
- Communicate the next steps for IPPC community activities on sea containers to stakeholders.



- (refer to points on slide)

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**Purpose**

This revised recommendation provides a strengthened platform for minimizing the pest risks associated with the international movements of sea containers, by all responsible parties.



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- Essentially, this revised recommendation provides a strengthened platform for minimizing the pest risks associated with the international movements of sea containers, by all responsible parties.
- It should also be noted that the upcoming International Sea Containers Workshop, to be held in Brisbane, Australia on 17-19 July 2023, will be an important component of consultations on the draft revision, allowing both industry and regulatory bodies to provide feedback to the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers in preparation of its report with recommendations for a long-term IPPC guidance to CPM-18.



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# Thank you

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