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International Plant Protection Convention

REPORT

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

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Rome, Italy

IPPC Secretariat

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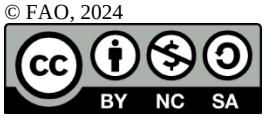

Executive summary

[1] The Standards Committee (SC) revised three draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and approved them to be submitted for a first round of consultation in 2024:

- draft revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*);
- a draft annex to ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*) on field inspection; and
- a draft annex to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*) on the design and use of systems approaches for the phytosanitary certification of seeds.

[2] The SC agreed an approach that allowed sources other than an ISPM or an international agreement (e.g. IPPC guides and training materials) to be referenced in ISPMs.

[3] The SC revised a draft specification for a revision of pest risk analysis ISPMs and approved it to be submitted for consultation in 2024. This new topic was added to the SC's work programme by the Eighteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) in April 2024. The intention is that the new topic will allow a more comprehensive revision than the topic it is intended to replace.

[4] The SC received an update from the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments. The SC:

- recommended that CPM-19 (2025) revoke three phytosanitary treatments (PTs) on irradiation of individual species of *Anastrepha* (a fruit fly), as such treatments are now adequately covered by a PT for the genus as a whole;
- agreed on a common formula to use when calculating treatment efficacies for inclusion in PTs; and
- requested that the panel proceed with drafting criteria to use for the evaluation of treatments for wood packaging material and agreed that these criteria, once approved by the SC, would be included in the standard setting procedural manual rather than as an annex of ISPM 15 (*Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade*).

[5] The SC received an update from the Technical Panel for the Glossary. The SC:

- agreed to issue a call for an expert for the English language to join the panel to replace an outgoing member;
- approved ink amendments to the definitions of "area of low pest prevalence", "IPPC" and "treatment schedule" in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*), to be presented to CPM-19 (2025) for noting, and agreed to include an index in ISPM 5;
- approved the 2024 version of the *Explanatory document on ISPM 5* (otherwise known as the "Annotated Glossary"); and
- confirmed that the panel is allowed to review portions of text in draft ISPMs which were not the subject of consultation comments.

[6] The SC received an update from the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols. The SC:

- agreed to extend the membership of two panel members and to invite an invited expert to the next face-to-face meeting of the panel;
- removed the development of a draft diagnostic protocol (DP) for the fungus *Moniliophthora roreri* from the work programme, as it was of low priority and insufficient authors had been identified; and
- agreed to undertake an additional consultation period for DPs only, in January 2025, and recommended to CPM-19 (2025) that this additional consultation become a permanent feature of the Standard Setting Procedure.

[7] The SC received an update from the Technical Panel on Commodity Standards. The SC:

- recommended that the secretariat open a call for information material for all four priority 1 commodity standards added to the SC's work programme by CPM-18 (2024) – seeds of the bean

Phaseolus vulgaris, fresh taro, fresh banana and *Citrus* fruit – and invited the technical panel to then decide in which order to work on these subjects; and

- approved the working procedures for the panel.

[8] The SC agreed that a small working group of SC members would draft guidance to fill gaps in the current guidance for stewards, with a focus on technical panels, and report back to the SC.

[9] The SC assigned stewards and assistant stewards to topics and subjects, selected an SC representative on the Task Force on Topics, selected the SC representative to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee, and confirmed the selection of an additional entomologist member to join the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols. Selection of SC representatives for the CPM Focus Group on Diagnostic Laboratory Networking and the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers were deferred.

[10] The SC discussed mechanisms to address technical issues that are raised about draft ISPMs submitted for adoption but that are not objections. They agreed that a small working group of SC members would explore this further and report back to the SC.

[11] The SC selected two SC members to be members of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation Board, with a third member in reserve.

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1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat

[1] The IPPC Standing Setting Unit (SSU) lead, Avetik NERSISYAN opened the Standards Committee (SC) meeting and welcomed all participants. A particular welcome was extended to the new SC member, Melisa Graciela NEDILSKYJ (Argentina), who was attending as a replacement member at this meeting.

[2] The SC noted the absence of Xiaodong FENG (China), Eyad MOHAMMED (Syrian Arabic Republic), Theophilus Mwendwa MUTU (Kenya) and Mi Chi YEA (Republic of Korea).

[3] The SSU lead thanked the outgoing SC members – Xiaodong FENG (China), Hernando Morera GONZÁLEZ (Costa Rica), Alphonsine LOUHOUARI TOKOZABA (Republic of Congo) and Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE (Chile) – for their contributions. He also thanked Brazil and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) for hosting meetings and Australia for their continued in-kind contribution of a member of the secretariat.

[4] The SC Chairperson, Sophie PETERSON (Australia), also welcomed everyone, including the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) representative on the SC.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Election of the rapporteur

[5] The SC elected Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (Argentina) and Steve CÔTÉ (Canada) as rapporteurs.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

[6] The SC adopted the agenda (Appendix 1), noting that they would consider agenda item 6.2 on Wednesday morning. The SC chairperson reminded the SC that decision points would be reviewed for adoption at the start of each day.

3. Administrative matters

[7] The IPPC secretariat (hereafter referred to as "the secretariat") introduced the documents list (Appendix 2) and the participants list (Appendix 3), and invited participants to notify the secretariat of any information that required updating in the latter or was missing from it.

[8] The secretariat provided a document on local information and encouraged all SC members to complete the evaluation of the meeting later in the meeting, via the link provided to SC members on the agenda.

[9] The SSU lead introduced the SSU staff[1] and updated the SC on forthcoming personnel changes.

[10] Members of the SC were invited to attend a training session at lunchtime, which was aimed at new SC members but also useful as refresher training for others.

4. Updates from CPM-18 (2024)

[11] The SC chairperson referred the SC to issues arising from the Eighteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) that were of relevance for the SC.[2] Among these were the following issues:

- All the changes to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* had been noted or agreed by the CPM.
- The changes to the Standard Setting Procedure and the Rules of Procedure for the Standards Committee, together with other revisions to the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting*,

[1] Standard Setting Unit Staff (2024-02-21): https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/2463/

[2] 20_SC_2024_May.

proposed by the SC had also been agreed, with some modifications.[3] One of these modifications was that the CPM, rather than the SC, would decide on the addition of commodity-standard subjects to the list of topics and the corresponding priorities.

- All the standards presented for adoption had been adopted, but the CPM had requested that the SC explore mechanisms to address technical issues that are raised about draft ISPMs submitted for adoption but that are not objections (see agenda item 11 of this meeting).
- The CPM had approved the draft specification on *Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid* (2021-020) for consultation and had agreed that the CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid would review the consultation comments first and then present a revised draft specification, and responses to the comments, to the SC.
- The CPM had approved the terms of reference for the CPM Focus Group on Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination and the CPM Focus Group on Diagnostic Laboratory Networking, but only the latter required an SC representative to be nominated. An SC representative would also be needed for the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers, as the CPM had extended its mandate until 2027.
- The new SC members and replacement members had been confirmed. As usual, the membership term would start after the end of the 2024 SC-7 meeting.

[12] The SC noted that the delay in progress of the draft annex *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds* (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*) had been raised during CPM-18 (2024). One SC member asked why reference to a CPM Bureau paper about this had been raised at a CPM meeting without it being posted as a CPM paper and sought clarity on the proper procedure. The SC chairperson clarified that the issue had been raised in response to the draft IPPC Secretariat workplan, which included consultation on a draft specification for this topic and which was on the CPM agenda. This had then prompted reference to a paper submitted to the CPM Bureau. The secretariat noted the procedural point raised by the SC member and confirmed that they would report back to the SC.

[13] The SC:

(1) *noted* the outcomes of CPM-18 (2024) and its key issues; and

(2) *agreed* to review the draft specification on *Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid* (2021-020) at their meeting in November 2024, after analysis of the consultation comments by the CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid, with a view to presenting it to CPM-19 (2025) with a request for the CPM to decide whether to proceed with the development of an ISPM.

4.1 Updates from the CPM Bureau

[14] The secretariat highlighted issues arising from the December 2023 and April 2024 meetings of the CPM Bureau that were relevant to the SC.[4] These included a review of the report-adoption policy of subsidiary bodies, liaison with the International Forest Quarantine Research Group, and the issues already highlighted under the CPM-18 (2024) update earlier in agenda item 4 in this meeting.

[15] The SC:

(3) *noted* the update from the CPM Bureau.

[3] CPM-18 (2024), agenda item 9.1.2.

[4] 19_SC_2024_May.

5. Draft ISPMs for approval for the first consultation

5.1 Draft revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*) (2021-010), priority 2

[16] The Steward, Joanne WILSON (New Zealand), introduced the draft ISPM and supporting documentation.[5] She highlighted the main points of discussion during drafting of the standard by the expert working group (EWG), together with one issue raised subsequently by the editor:

- a change to the title to refer to the maintenance of pest free areas (PFAs), not just the establishment of PFAs, to more accurately reflect the content of the draft ISPM;
- an amendment to the Scope section to clarify what the ISPM should *not* apply to;
- terminology issues (including the use of the terms "incursion", "established population", "outbreak" and "breeding population");
- a recommendation that the SC consider including a reference to the IPPC *Guide for establishing and maintaining pest free areas*;
- a suggestion of the editor that to bring greater cohesion to the General requirements section;
- changes to the Specific requirements section, including the addition of criteria for determining whether a breeding population is present and the transfer and revision of text about trapping and sampling to a new annex (Annex 1) to avoid repetition through the document; and
- recommended changes to annexes and appendices:
  - Annex 1 (Corrective action plans) and Annex 2 (Control measures for an incursion within a fruit fly pest free area) being revised and renumbered as Annex 2 and Annex 3, respectively, and
  - Annex 3 (Phytosanitary procedures for fruit fly management), Appendix 1 (Fruit fly trapping) and Appendix 2 (Fruit sampling) being moved to implementation material.

[17] The SC discussed some of the generic issues raised in the steward's notes.

[18] **Pest free areas and pest absence.** The steward's notes highlighted a concern raised by the EWG about an ambiguity in the definition of "pest free area" in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*), which could lead some national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) to believe that it was a choice rather than an obligation to technically justify or officially maintain a PFA. The EWG had also highlighted a lack of clarity about the distinction between a pest status of "absent" and a PFA. The EWG had therefore recommended that the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG) review the ISPM 5 definition of "pest free area" and make a distinction between declarations of "absence" and an "official PFA".

[19] The SC recognized that the distinction between pest absence and a PFA was important and acknowledged that the distinction was not clear in the draft revision of ISPM 26 presented to the SC.

[20] However, as it would not be possible for the TPG to consider this issue before the 2024 consultation, the SC agreed to defer consideration of it until after the first consultation, by which time the TPG would have had the opportunity to respond to consistency issues raised during the consultation.

[21] **Moving content to implementation material.** The IC representative on the SC asked whether the EWG had made any recommendations on whether the content of the current Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 was good enough or needed improving. The steward explained that the EWG had not had time to review the text, but their general impression was that there was much updating to be done. However, they had left this decision to the IC.

Review of draft standard

[22] The SC made various editorial changes to the text to improve its clarity and flow. This included removing some content from the General requirements section, which the SC addressed under the

[5] 2021-010; 04_SC_2024_May.

Specific requirements section instead. The main technical and substantive issues discussed were as follows.

[23] **Title.** The SC noted that the EWG had added "maintenance" to the title, but the title of the revised ISPM 4 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*) adopted by CPM-18 (2024) did not include "maintenance" even though the standard itself did refer to maintenance. The SC agreed to retain "maintenance" in the title of the draft revised ISPM 26, at least until after first consultation, as the draft included a section on maintenance. The secretariat clarified that, if the SC wished to propose a change in the title of ISPM 4, they could recommend that to the CPM.

[24] **Controls on the movement of regulated articles.** The SC considered whether the target fruit fly needed to be regulated in the exporting country, noting that some countries cannot impose controls unless a pest is regulated but that this may not be the case in all countries. However, the SC noted that the newly adopted revision of ISPM 4 clearly stated that "the pest should be regulated in relation to the area".

[25] **Official declaration of a fruit fly pest free area (FF-PFA): "wild" vs "fertile" adults.** The SC considered whether to refer to "wild adults" or "fertile adults" when making a distinction with sterile insects released after application of the sterile insect technique. They noted that whatever term was used, it would be necessary to be able to distinguish those individuals, which should not be a problem for males released after the sterile insect technique (which could be distinguished by their colour) or fertile adults (for which there were fairly easy methods of determining fertility). However, they agreed to retain "wild adults" for the time being, pending the first consultation comments. They also noted that it was only necessary to refer to adults in this context, as it was unlikely to find larvae in traps.

[26] **Corrective actions.** The SC agreed that stakeholders should be notified when a PFA is suspended.

[27] **Transience.** The SC recognized the importance of distinguishing between, on the one hand, long-term situations where the target pest is absent and a PFA is not required because the conditions are unsuitable for its establishment and, on the other hand, short-term situations where a pest is present but is not expected to establish (i.e. transience). The SC recalled that the ISPM 5 definition of "establishment" referred to the perpetuation of a pest "for the foreseeable future". As corrective actions are permitted when a transient pest poses an unacceptable risk to plant trade, under Article VII.3 of the IPPC, the SC agreed that it was appropriate to mention transience in the section on Corrective actions, even though transience is not mentioned in ISPM 4.

[28] **Moving guidance to implementation material (Annex 1).** One SC member expressed concern about the proposed move of the tables from Appendix 1 of the current ISPM 26 to implementation material, as implementation material carried no level of obligation and the remaining guidance (which was now in Annex 1 of the draft standard) may be too general to be useful. The steward explained that moving guidance to implementation material would provide an opportunity to expand on the information for particular species and it could be updated more readily.

[29] The SC noted the need to: explain the proposed fate of the current Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to contracting parties when the draft is submitted for consultation; include a reference or link to the implementation material in the draft standard; and provide continued access to the guidance being moved in the event of a delay in publication of the implementation material. The steward for the *Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard* (2023-037) commented that the same issues applied to that standard and suggested that the same approach be taken. The SC chairperson suggested that implementation material could be listed against the relevant ISPM on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).

[30] **Trap deployment (Annex 1).** The SC considered the level of obligation for the use of geographical coordinates, noting that the appropriateness of "may" versus "should" depended on whether or not some countries have difficulties in accessing the relevant technology. The SC agreed to take a neutral approach and say that geographical coordinates *can* be useful.

[31] **Quality assurance of trapping and sampling (Annex 1).** The SC agreed that the requirement for an NPPO to establish a quality-assurance programme for surveys should not be obligatory (i.e. "may" rather than "should"), as NPPOs may not necessarily conduct quality assurance on their own operations and because the current ISPM 26 required quality control only in relation to the performance of sterile fruit fly programmes.

[32] **Reporting of changes in FF-PFA status (Annex 2).** The SC recognized the importance of communicating with stakeholders for certain changes in the status of an FF-PFA, but acknowledged the impracticality of obliging NPPOs to do this for *any* change. The SC therefore agreed not to refer to stakeholders in this section, which focused on reporting by NPPOs.

[33] The SC noted that recognition of PFAs, or of PFA reinstatement, by importing countries was outside the scope of this standard but was addressed in ISPM 29 (*Recognition of pest free areas and areas of low pest prevalence*).

[34] **Eradication areas.** The SC discussed the use of the term "eradication area", which was used in Annex 3 of this draft standard but not elsewhere in adopted ISPMs. The SC noted that some countries may refer to an "infested area" or a "demarcation area" instead, but they acknowledged the need to identify the area where control measures are being implemented. To avoid having to describe it, they agreed instead to refer to the figure that depicted it.

[35] **Buffer zones around eradication areas.** When discussing the figure of an eradication area in Annex 3, the SC noted that a buffer zone would surround the eradication area (i.e. be outside the circles or polygons in the figure), rather than being included within it. When discussing the section on Movement of regulated articles, the SC noted that measures would be taken in both the eradication area and the buffer zone, but the measures in the buffer zone would depend on the distance between the centre of the eradication area (where the pest was detected) and the buffer zone.

[36] **Management of waste.** The SC noted that, where draft Annex 3 referred to material rejected as a result of inspection or quality-assurance activities, the quality assurance was not necessarily referring to authorized entities. However, it was the management of the waste that was relevant rather than the reason for its rejection.

[37] **Referencing implementation material.** The SC acknowledged the value of referring to the IPPC *Guide for establishing and maintaining pest free areas* in the draft standard and considered how best to refer to IPPC implementation material in ISPMs. They recognized the need to avoid creating the impression that implementation material had the same status as ISPMs and also the need to comply with IPPC and FAO style. The secretariat offered to investigate options and later in the meeting provided a conference room paper with four options.[6] The SC agreed to use a combination of two of the options, whereby implementation materials would not be cited in the text of an ISPM but could be listed in a Further reading section along with a general statement giving the URL for IPPC guides and training materials.

[38] The IC representative on the SC pointed out that, if draft implementation material was listed under Further reading, there may not be a confirmed title. The secretariat confirmed that updated bibliographic details could be applied as ink amendments after adoption.

Potential implementation issues

[39] The steward's notes explained that the EWG had identified the removal of Annex 3 and the two appendices from the draft ISPM 26 as an implementation issue but had not had enough time to update

[6] CRP_02_SC_2024_May

or recommend revisions to these resources. A proposal to develop guidance material for ISPM 26 had been submitted during the 2023 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation.[7]

[40] The SC chairperson thanked the steward for her work on the draft standard.

[41] The SC:

(4) *agreed* to change the title of the ISPM to ISPM 26 (*Establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*) (2021-010);

(5) *deferred* consideration of the need for further explanation in the ISPM 5 definition of "pest free area" and the distinction between declarations of "absence" and an "official pest free area" until after consultation;

(6) *recommended* that Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the currently adopted ISPM 26 be moved to guidance material so that they could be updated more easily;

(7) *approved* the draft revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*) (2021-010) as modified at this meeting for submission to first consultation (Appendix 4), to be accompanied by a covering note to explain the intended move of Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the currently adopted ISPM 26 to guidance material;

(8) *requested* that the secretariat investigate how best to make available Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the currently adopted ISPM 26 in the event of there being a delay between the publication of the revised ISPM 26 and the publication of the associated guidance material;

(9) agreed that sources other than an ISPM or an international agreement may be referenced in ISPMs in the following way (except in diagnostic protocols, phytosanitary treatments and commodity standards, to which this rule does not apply):

- they should not be cited in the text but may be listed in a Further reading subsection,
- the Further reading subsection would have an introductory statement giving the URL of the landing page for IPPC guides and training materials,
- the Further reading subsection would be the second subsection of a Bibliography section, with the References forming the first subsection, and
- in ISPMs where there are no sources to list in a Further reading section, either the Further reading subsection may be omitted or it may be included with a general statement giving the URL of the landing page for IPPC guides and training materials, as appropriate; and

(10) *agreed* to include a Further reading subsection in the draft revision of ISPM 26 (2021-010) and the draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*) (agenda item 5.2).

5.2 Draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*), priority 2

[42] The Steward, Masahiro SAI (Japan), introduced the draft ISPM and supporting documentation.[8] He outlined the concept of field inspection and highlighted some specific questions on parts of the text for the SC to consider. The SC considered these during their review of the draft annex.

Review of draft annex

[43] The SC made various editorial changes to the text to improve its clarity and flow. The main technical and substantive issues discussed were as follows.

[44] **Concept of field inspection: use of the term "field".** The SC discussed the meaning of the term "field" and whether it was more appropriate to refer to "place of production". They referred to the ISPM 5

[7] CPM-18 (2024) agreed to accept the recommendation of the IC that, instead of adding a new topic, the submitted topic be integrated into an existing one – the revision of the IPPC *Guide for establishing and maintaining pest free areas* (topic *Pest free areas* (2017-044)). See CPM-18 (2024), agenda item 16.5.

[8] 2021-018; 06_SC_2024_May.

definition for each of these terms, noting that a field was within a place of production. Some SC members queried whether this was the common understanding of the two terms and that maybe the ISPM 5 definitions needed to be reviewed or the definition of "field" deleted. The secretariat recalled that the wording in Specification 74 (*Field inspection*) – "(including plants in open fields, in nurseries, under protected cultivation and in controlled environments)" – had been used by the SC because "a plot of land with defined boundaries" (the phrasing used in the ISPM 5 definition of "field") could refer equally to environments such as greenhouses and not just open fields.[9] The secretariat also recalled that the EWG had discussed the matter and agreed to use "field". The SC agreed to use "field" with the wording from the specification.

[45] **Concept of field inspection: inspection of soil.** The SC discussed whether aspects of the field itself, such as the soil, would be inspected during a field inspection. They recognized that the focus was on plants because the benefit of field inspection was to detect signs and symptoms that may be expressed by a plant when growing but missed once it is a commodity. However, they also noted that, in a later section of the draft annex, the text referred to verification of conformity with phytosanitary requirements for the growing medium or substrate. This matter was unresolved.

[46] **Scope.** During the SC's discussion on the Documentation section of the annex, the SC considered whether the NPPO of an importing country could conduct field inspections in the territory of an exporting country. They noted that this was not specified in the Scope section but could potentially include joint inspections or checking documents. To allow for all scenarios and to avoid having to add guidance to the core text of ISPM 23, the SC agreed not to mention it in the annex. They considered that the Scope of the annex was sufficiently broad without having to go into detail.

[47] **Assumptions involved in the application of field inspection.** The SC considered whether the scope of the annex covered both domestic and international trade or just the latter. They noted that the same principles would apply to both, but they recognized that ISPMs refer to international trade. Referring to the Scope section of Specification 74, they noted that the annex should apply to "plants destined for international trade", with field inspection being used "as the basis for phytosanitary certification". The SC therefore agreed that the annex should be restricted to international trade, but they noted that this did not prevent countries applying the same measures domestically.

[48] **Verification of conformity with phytosanitary requirements.** The SC discussed the requirements that may apply in the vicinity of the field. Recalling the EWG's discussions, the steward and the IC representative on the SC commented that such requirements could include the distance between the crop and the border of the field, the type of physical barrier used for the field boundary, the pest management practices used in the vicinity of the field, or the absence of alternative hosts in the vicinity of the field. The requirements would depend on the distribution of the pest and its capacity to spread.

[49] **Consideration of methods.** The SC considered whether the scope of a field inspection could include the general observation of plants for any pest, not just the target pest. However, the SC recognized that, in the context of this annex, the purpose of field inspection was to support phytosanitary certification and hence it was appropriate to restrict the scope to target regulated pests. They noted that this would not prevent countries from looking for other pests if they wished.

Potential implementation issues

[50] The steward reported that the EWG had recognized the need for more comprehensive implementation guidance material to help contracting parties effectively implement field inspection and those ISPMs that referenced field inspection. They had suggested that a guide could include detailed case studies and examples and cover the following subjects:

- how to assess the pest selected for field inspection;
- how to select and approve fields for field inspection and the procedure to be used;

[9] SC 2022-04, agenda item 4.2.

- inspection patterns often used in field inspection;
- how to select plants for close examination;
- how to select samples for testing;
- what data should be collected and maintained by producers, authorized entities and NPPOs;
- the producers' responsibilities;
- what requirements other than the pest should be included in field inspection;
- audit points for producers and for entities authorized by the NPPO;
- if actual inspection is conducted by producers or companies who are not authorized entities, how to manage and recognize it; and
- how importing countries effectively monitor the implementation of field inspection required as an import requirement.

[51] The steward reported that the EWG had also highlighted a need for more information on signs and symptoms of pests in diagnostic protocols (DPs) and a list of the pests and hosts for which field inspection was often required.

[52] The SC did not make any further comments on the issues raised by the EWG or add any issues.

[53] The SC:

(11) *approved* the draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*) as modified at this meeting for submission to first consultation (Appendix 5); and

(12) *requested* that the secretariat archive the implementation issues identified for the draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 until after the first consultation, for consideration by the SC and potential forwarding to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee.

6. Draft specifications for review and approval for consultation

6.1 Draft specification on holistic revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard (2023-037)

[54] The Steward, Masahiro SAI (Japan), presented a summary of the changes made thus far to address the first consultation comments on the draft *Reorganization of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001).[10] He also presented a draft specification for the new topic *Holistic revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard* (2023-037).[11] This topic had been recommended by the SC at its meeting in November 2023, to replace topic 2020-001,[12] and it had subsequently been added to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* by CPM-18 (2024).[13] The draft specification had been developed by the small working group of SC members charged with doing this by the SC. The steward highlighted a series of issues for the SC to consider regarding the draft specification.[14] These included: a change to the title; the arrangements for parallel development of an IPPC guide; the anticipated arrangements for identifying guidance to be moved to implementation material; and the necessity, or otherwise, of including the standard task about protection of biodiversity and the environment.

[55] The SC first considered the issues highlighted by the steward and then reviewed the draft specification paragraph by paragraph.

[10] 07_SC_2024_May.

[11] 2023-037.

[12] SC 2023/11, agenda item 5.

[13] CPM-18 (2024), agenda item 16.5 (referencing agenda item 9.1.1); CPM 2024/07.

[14] 08_SC_2024_May.

Issues highlighted by the steward

[56] **Title.** The SC agreed with the steward's suggestion to remove the word "holistic" from the title, to avoid any potential confusion over its meaning.

[57] **Implementation material.** The SC noted that the *List of implementation and capacity development topics* did not currently include a topic to develop an IPPC guide on pest risk analysis (PRA). The secretariat confirmed that the SC could recommend to the IC that a guide be developed. The IC representative on the SC noted that implementation material on PRA already existed, so the IC would need to determine what was needed, but she explained that PRA was not a top priority for IPPC guides because of other competing priorities for resources. The SC recognized the resourcing issues but also noted the fundamental importance of PRA.

[58] The IC representative on the SC strongly recommended that the guide should not be developed before the standard. The SC noted that the EWG for the ISPM would be unlikely to meet before 2025.

[59] The SC recognized the value of there being a linkage between the membership of the EWG developing the draft ISPM and the working group drafting the corresponding guide (if developed), as it was a very technical topic. The IC representative on the SC explained that the membership composition of working groups was decided by the IC, with members being selected following a call for experts. She confirmed that the SC could nominate a member from the EWG.

[60] The SC recognized the value of having a linkage with the EWG on *Reorganization of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001), but also the need to include experts with a different profile (e.g. in relation to climate change) in the membership of the new EWG.

[61] The secretariat drew the attention of the SC to the standard task in the draft specification, which charged the EWG with identifying potential implementation issues and making possible recommendations to the SC for forwarding to the IC.

[62] The SC chairperson noted that, based on the experience of the EWG on *Reorganization of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001), one week would be insufficient to both draft a standard and formulate recommendations on implementation material. She therefore proposed that two weeks be allocated for the face-to-face meeting of the new EWG.

[63] **Biodiversity and the environment.** The steward had questioned the need for this standard task, as there was no guidance on how impacts on the biodiversity and the environment should be assessed, and the content of the biodiversity and the environment section in different ISPMs could not be proven.

[64] Given that this was a generic issue that kept arising during the development of draft ISPMs, the SC chairperson suggested that a small group of SC members could possibly draft a suite of text options that could be used or tailored to specific ISPMs.

[65] The secretariat clarified that the section on "Impacts on biodiversity and the environment" in ISPMs was included as the IPPC is a biodiversity-related convention and has the same status as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) among the biodiversity-related conventions. The intention was that NPPOs would liaise with environmental bodies in their countries when inputting to this section of a draft ISPM, with the wording varying depending on the standard. One SC member highlighted the guidance on interpretation of CBD terminology in an appendix of ISPM 5, and the secretariat highlighted the guidance in the *IPPC style guide* about drafting the biodiversity and environment section of ISPMs.

[66] One SC member suggested that the biodiversity and environment section be omitted from ISPMs, or a footnote be included instead, as it did not add value to the standard and was not used by anyone. The member suggested that another way could be found to express the relationship between ISPMs and the protection of biodiversity and the environment. Later in the meeting, the SC noted that ISPMs were recognized in CBD material, with both ISPM 2 (*Framework for pest risk analysis*) and ISPM 11 (*Pest*

risk analysis for quarantine pests) being listed on the CBD web page on risk analysis guidance and tools. The secretariat confirmed that they were engaged in ongoing liaison with the CBD Secretariat.

[67] The SC did not reach consensus on the way forward, so agreed to continue with the status quo for the time being and consider it at a later date.

Review of the draft specification

[68] The SC made various editorial changes to the text to improve its clarity and flow. The main substantive issues discussed were as follows.

[69] **Scope.** The SC preferred to refer to the review and revision of the draft ISPMs as being "comprehensive" rather than "holistic", in case the meaning of the latter (meaning the whole of the standard) was not understood by all those reading the specification. They applied this approach throughout the draft specification.

[70] **Best practices from other standard setting bodies.** The SC discussed at some length a proposed task on considering the relevance to the IPPC PRA framework of the best practices from existing standards and guidelines for risk analysis developed by the World Organisation of Animal Health and the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Some SC members did not see the need for this task or expressed concern about its feasibility. Other SC members thought that it would be beneficial to learn from what other standard setting bodies have done. One SC member commented on the elegance of the PRA standard of the World Organisation of Animal Health, which was only a few pages long and was supplemented by additional guidance that was longer, but some other members felt that it was better to avoid having a short standard with most of the guidance elsewhere. In the end, the SC agreed to include the task but modified the wording slightly.

[71] **Moving guidance to implementation material.** The SC noted that the EWG would make recommendations to the SC on the content of an IPPC guide on PRA, and the SC would then discuss them and forward their recommendations to the IC. However, there was no need to mention the IC in the task, because the task of the EWG was to report to the SC.

[72] **Beneficial organisms.** The SC noted that the steward's update on the draft *Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001) referred to a consultation comment suggesting the development of an additional annex on PRA for beneficial organisms. The SC acknowledged the need to consider whether guidance on PRA for beneficial organisms would be better placed in the revised, reorganized PRA ISPM or as an annex of ISPM 3 (*Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms*). They considered whether there should be an explicit task on this in the specification but agreed to wait for consultation comments, noting that it was already embedded in several tasks.

[73] **References.** One SC member offered to provide an updated reference for the EPPO guidance on PRA.

[74] The secretariat commented that implementation resources could be included in the References section.

[75] The SC:

(13) *noted* the paper on "The present situation of addressing the first consultation comments on the draft PRA ISPM"; and

(14) *approved* the draft specification *Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis (PRA) ISPMs* (2023-037) as modified at this meeting for submission for consultation (Appendix 6).

6.2 Draft annex *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds* (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*), priority 1

[76] Harry ARIJS (European Union) introduced proposed revisions to the draft annex *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds* (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International*

movement of seeds).[15] The revisions had been developed by one region in response to decisions made at CPM-18 (2024) and the subsequent CPM Bureau meeting, which encouraged the SC to make its best efforts to resolve the technical issues and encouraged the SC members who had objected to the draft annex to provide a revised version that demonstrated how their concerns could be addressed.[16] Mr ARIJS explained that the revised draft was directed towards NPPOs and allowed for different ways of working with systems approaches. However, it was incomplete because the short time frame for drafting it (only two weeks between CPM-18 and this SC meeting) was not enough for the region to obtain input from relevant experts for some sections.

[77] The SC considered how best to proceed. Some SC members favoured submitting the existing draft annex for the July 2024 consultation period, during which the above revisions could be submitted by the region concerned, while others preferred to review the proposed revisions. After an extensive discussion, the SC agreed to make their best efforts to work on the revised text during this meeting and then discuss whether it was acceptable for consultation.

Review of the draft annex

[78] The SC reviewed the revised text, including working on it outside of the plenary sessions. The SC made various editorial changes to the text to improve its clarity and flow. The main technical and substantive issues discussed were as follows.

[79] **Terminology.** During the SC's discussion, the SC agreed on the following use of terms to bring greater consistency to the text:

- "entities" not "seed entities" for parties other than NPPOs involved in the seed supply chain, regardless of whether they are participating in a systems approach or not;
- "participating entities" for entities participating in a systems approach;
- "commonly used phytosanitary measures" rather than "traditional phytosanitary measures";
- "production practices" rather than "industry production practices" for practices used by industry (for consistency with ISPM 36 (*Integrated measures for plants for planting*), ISPM 38 and Specification 70 (*Design and use of systems approaches for the phytosanitary certification of seeds*); applies to the entire seed supply chain);
- "authorize" rather than "accredit" in relation to an NPPO giving authority to an entity to participate in a systems approach; and
- "approve" rather than "authorize" in relation to an NPPO confirming that a facility meets the requirements for a systems approach.

[80] **Title.** The SC agreed to use the original title, *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds*, rather than the alternative, *Arrangements for designing and authorizing systems approaches by NPPOs as an option for phytosanitary certification of seeds*.

[81] **Scope.** The SC agreed that the annex should cover seeds being moved internationally, regardless of the purpose for which those seeds were being imported. They agreed that this included seeds being imported for research purposes, as it was important to provide an option for the phytosanitary certification of such small, high-value lots that did not involve destructive testing. The SC agreed that it was not necessary to give examples of the various potential purposes of seed import.

[82] The SC renamed the section "Scope", rather than "Scope and overview".

[83] **Pest risk management measures.** The SC elaborated this section, for which no content had been provided. They started by inserting text that had been in the draft annex presented to the SC in November 2022, but which the SC had moved to become a figure in an appendix.[17] The text, which was based on

[15] CRP_01_SC_2024_May.

[16] CPM-18 (2024), agenda item 19.2; CPM Bureau 2024-04, agenda item 11.

[17] SC 2022-11, agenda item 6.1.

one particular systems approach used by a contracting party, described eight critical control points, each with the associated regulatory actions and production practices. The SC noted that the number of critical control points may vary depending on the seed commodity and so agreed to make it clear that the eight listed were examples. They also agreed that the regulatory actions and production practices were examples. In addition, they added cross-references to relevant parts of the currently adopted ISPM 38, recognizing that there was some overlap between the examples given in the draft annex and text in the currently adopted ISPM 38.

[84] **Issuance of phytosanitary certificates.** The SC discussed whether the use of a systems approach would need to be declared via an additional declaration on a phytosanitary certificate and concluded that this would depend on the phytosanitary import requirements.

[85] **Multilateral systems approaches.** The SC considered whether a multilateral systems approach is jointly developed and recognized by multiple countries or is developed by one country and recognized by multiple other countries. The SC noted that it could be either of these situations.

[86] **Evaluation and monitoring of systems approaches.** The SC acknowledged that the draft text for this section did not capture how to address the complexity of systems approaches when evaluating and monitoring them, but they noted that solutions to this may be suggested during consultation.

[87] **Responsibilities of NPPOs.** The SC discussed whether a country would need to conform with all the requirements of a systems approach regardless of its relative position in the seed supply chain and concluded that the country would need to meet the requirements for those components that were applicable to it.

[88] **Responsibilities of participating entities.** The SC agreed that multiple non-critical conformities, as well as single critical nonconformities, could lead to the exclusion of nonconforming entities from a system approach. The SC noted that, if a regulated pest was detected in seeds in either the country of origin or a re-exporting country, those seeds would not progress any further along the seed supply chain. There was no difference in this respect between phytosanitary certification under a systems approach and phytosanitary certification based on other phytosanitary measures.

[89] **Example of critical control points (appendix).** The SC agreed not to refer to the particular systems approach from which the figure in the appendix was derived. They discussed whether the term "containment" referred to protected cropping (i.e. exclusion of the pest) rather than being the ISPM 5 term (which related to containing the pest within an area) and the SC chairperson suggested that the term could be left unchanged in the appendix but amended in the main part of the annex. The SC left both instances unchanged, pending consultation comments.

[90] The SC:

(15) *approved* the draft annex *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds* (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*) as modified at this meeting for submission for first consultation (Appendix 7).

7. Review of technical panels (from May 2023 to April 2024)

[91] The SC received reports from the technical panels.

7.1 Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments

[92] The secretariat presented a report on membership of the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT), an overview of the TPPT's activities since May 2023 and the tentative workplan for 2024/2025.[18] The secretariat reported that the TPPT had recommended the revoking of three adopted phytosanitary treatments (PTs) for irradiation of *Anastrepha* species, as such treatment was now covered by an irradiation PT for the genus *Anastrepha*. The TPPT had also agreed on a common formula to use

[18] 05_SC_2024_May.

when calculating the efficacy of treatments. The formula did not result in much of a change to efficacies, so although it would be used for future draft PTs, the TPPT had concluded that there was no need to recalculate the efficacies given in adopted PTs. Following the SC's request for advice from the TPPT,[19] the TPPT had recommended that the criteria for the evaluation process for treatments being considered for inclusion in ISPM 15 (*Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade*), once developed, should be included in the TPPT section of the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting*, as this would allow the criteria to be more easily updated. The TPPT had also conducted a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis of the TPPT,[20] and the secretariat had developed a list of follow-up actions.

[93] The SC reviewed the recommendations from the TPPT.

[94] **Criteria for evaluation of potential ISPM 15 treatments.** The TPPT Steward, David OPATOWSKI (Israel), confirmed that, although the TPPT had made changes to the draft text for the criteria over the years, they had not undertaken a detailed review of it. He clarified that it was up to the SC to decide whether they wished the TPPT to proceed to work on the text.

[95] The SC noted that the need for the criteria remained valid.

[96] Harry ARIJS (European Union), Steward of the topic under which the criteria had been developed (*Revision of ISPM 15 (*Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade*): Criteria for treatments for wood packaging material in international trade* (2006-010)), highlighted the request from the SC for the TPPT to assess whether the proposed model for evaluation provided a sufficient basis for the development of treatment schedules.[21] The secretariat explained that this was pending the face-to-face TPPT meeting in June.

[97] The secretariat clarified that, if the SC agreed with the TPPT's recommendation to place the criteria in the procedural manual, and wished the TPPT to develop this section of the manual, the SC would need to add this to the TPPT's work programme. It would not need to be added as a subject to the *List of topics for IPPC standards*. The draft text, once developed, would then be presented to the SC for approval.

[98] The SC agreed to ask the TPPT to develop the text, rather than an EWG.

[99] **SWOT analysis.** The TPPT steward commented that, in addition to the issues identified in the SWOT analysis, there was also the potential effect of the development of commodity standards on the development of PTs. In addition, he highlighted the TPPT's offer to review draft commodity standards before submission to first consultation (see agenda item 7.4 of this meeting).

[100] The SC noted that one of the follow-up actions from the SWOT analysis was to develop a webinar on the call for treatments to increase the quality of submissions. One SC member asked whether it would be possible to offer guidance about treatment submissions at the IPPC regional workshops. The secretariat confirmed that the Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation was always on the agenda of IPPC regional workshops, and this provided an opportunity to share information about the ongoing call for treatments.

[101] The SC:

(16) *noted* the reports of the face-to-face TPPT meeting in October 2023 and the virtual TPPT meetings in June, August and November 2023 and in February 2024;

(17) *agreed* to keep priority 1 for the draft PT Irradiation treatment for *Aspidiotis destructor* (2021-029);

[19] SC 2023-11, agenda item 6.1.

[20] 10_SC_2024_May.

[21] SC 2023-11, agenda item 6.1.

(18) *recommended* that CPM-19 (2025) revoke PT 1 (Irradiation treatment for *Anastrepha ludens*), PT 2 (Irradiation treatment for *Anastrepha obliqua*) and PT 3 (Irradiation treatment for *Anastrepha serpentina*), to be superseded by PT 39 (Irradiation treatment for the genus *Anastrepha*);

(19) *agreed* to the proposed changes to the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting* section 7.6 regarding efficacy calculation methods (Appendix 8);

(20) *agreed* not to recalculate the treatment efficacy, based on the new calculation, in adopted PTs;

(21) *agreed* with the TPPT recommendation that the criteria around the ISPM 15 treatment testing process, once developed, should be included in the IPPC framework but do not need to be an annex to an ISPM and should be placed in the TPPT section of the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting*;

(22) *requested* that the TPPT draft the criteria around the ISPM 15 treatment testing process, to be presented to the SC for approval to include in the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting*, and *added* this task to the TPPT workplan;

(23) *agreed* to recommend to CPM-19 (2025) that the topic *Criteria for treatments for wood packaging material in international trade* (2006-010) be removed from the *List of topic for IPPC standards*;

(24) *noted* the TPPT workplan for June 2024 to April 2025;

(25) *noted* that the next face-to-face meeting of the TPPT is planned for 24–28 June 2024 in Argentina;

(26) *noted* the outcomes of the SWOT analysis of the TPPT and the follow-up actions proposed by the secretariat; and

(27) *thanked* the former secretariat lead for the TPPT, Janka KISS, for her contribution to the work of the panel.

7.2 Technical Panel for the Glossary

[102] The secretariat presented a report on membership of the TPG, an overview of the TPG's activities since May 2023 and the tentative workplan for 2024/2025.[22] The secretariat explained that, following the adoption by CPM-18 (2024) of eight ISPM 5 terms, there was now only one subject on the TPG's work programme, which was an ongoing review of the use of "and/or" in adopted ISPMs. The secretariat referred the SC to the TPG's recommendations for consideration by the SC. The secretariat confirmed that the TPG's proposal to apply bold to some terms in ISPM 5 definitions (where this had been missed previously) would be done by the secretariat, as this was a typographical change and so the ink amendment procedure was not required. The secretariat had also investigated a proposal to apply bold to all ISPM 5 terms in ISPMs and discussed this with the TPG, with the conclusion being that it was not practicable. Regarding the TPG's proposal that the SC consider the possibility of the TPG reviewing portions of text (other than terms and definitions) that were not the subject of consultation comments, the secretariat explained that this issue had arisen because the specification for the TPG was not clear about whether this was within the scope of the panel's work.

[103] The next face-to-face TPG meeting is tentatively scheduled for 25–29 November 2024.

[104] The outgoing TPG Steward, Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE (Chile), thanked the Assistant Steward, Ebbe NORDBO, and the secretariat for their support to the panel, the NPPO of Brazil for hosting the November 2023 meeting, and the outgoing TPG member for English, Rajesh RAMARATHNAM (Canada), for his active contributions. He drew attention to the TPG's proposal that "noted" be added to the list of responses to consultation comments, for those situations where no action was required, and to the inclusion in the TPG's tentative workplan of the development of "position papers, explanations, recommendations, etc." in order to better reflect the work of the panel. The latter change had been made as a result of a SWOT analysis conducted by the TPG with the secretariat.[23]

[22] 11_SC_2024_May.

[23] 12_SC_2024_May.

[105] The SC reviewed the recommendations from the TPG.

[106] **"Fumigation" and "irradiation".** The SC considered the recommendation from the TPG that the revision of these two terms be added to the work programme to align them with the definitions of "chemical pressure impregnation" and "heat treatment", which referred to an official technical specification. However, the SC considered that the revision would not add much value and may even complicate the understanding of these terms.

[107] **"Pest free area".** The SC noted the TPG's recommendation to include the revision of "pest free area" in their work programme but recalled their decision earlier in the meeting (agenda item 5.1) to defer consideration of this matter.

[108] "**ePhyto".** The SC referred to a recommendation from the ePhyto Steering Group that a definition for "ePhyto" be included in ISPM 5 because the usage of the term was not consistent.[24] The SC noted that the ISPM 5 definition of "phytosanitary certificate" already covered electronic certificates. They considered, therefore, that if the ePhyto Steering Group felt that there was a need for a definition of the abbreviation "ePhyto" in addition to this, it would be better for the group to develop the concept further and make a recommendation to the SC, as it was important for the TPG to have a clear understanding of proposed concepts before proceeding with the drafting of definitions.

[109] **"plant protection organization (national)".** The SC agreed in principle with the deletion of this term, as the definition was simply a cross-reference to the term "national plant protection organization" and hence did not add any value. They recognized, however, that it would first be necessary to confirm whether the term appeared in any adopted ISPMs. Once this was confirmed, they would need to consider whether the deletion would need to proceed through the usual process (i.e. being submitted for consultation) or whether it could be implemented as an ink amendment given that the definition was only a cross-reference.

[110] The SC:

(28) *thanked* the outgoing member Rajesh RAMARATHNAM (Canada) for his contributions and commitment to the work of the TPG;

(29) *thanked* the outgoing TPG Steward, Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE (Chile), for his contribution to the work of the TPG;

(30) *agreed* to issue a call for an expert for the English language for the TPG for a five-year period beginning in 2025;

(31) *thanked* the NPPO of Brazil for hosting the 2023 meeting of the TPG;

(32) *noted* that the TPG comments on the draft *Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001) were transmitted to the steward for consideration;

(33) *agreed* to forward the supplementary paper "Supplementary TPG paper on consistency recommendations on the draft revised PRA ISPMs for quarantine pests" drafted by the TPG for consideration to the potential EWG on the revision of the draft reorganized PRA standards;

(34) *noted* that the TPG comments on the draft annex *International movement of fresh* Mangifera indica *fruit* (2021-011) to ISPM 46 (*Commodity-based standards for phytosanitary measures*) were transmitted to the steward and SC-7 for consideration;

(35) *noted* that the TPG comments on the draft annex *Use of systems approaches in managing the pest risks associated with the movement of wood* (2015-004) to ISPM 39 (*International movement of wood*) were transmitted to the steward and SC-7 for consideration;

(36) *noted* that the TPG comments on the draft CPM recommendation on *Sea containers* (R-06) were transmitted to the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers for consideration;

(37) *disagreed* with the proposed addition of the terms "irradiation", "fumigation", "pest free area" and "ePhyto" to the TPG's work programme in the *List of topics for IPPC standards*;

[24] 09_SC_2024_May.

(38) *agreed* that it would be preferable to delete the term "plant protection organization (national)" from ISPM 5 but *invited* the TPG to first check whether the term is mentioned in any adopted ISPMs, so that the SC could assess the potential impact of deletion and the possibility of applying the change as an ink amendment;

(39) *suggested* that, if the ePhyto Steering Group consider a definition of "ePhyto" is required, a proposed definition and a rationale explaining the wording of the definition could be provided for consideration by the SC;

(40) *requested* that the TPPT consider the need for revision of the term "treatment schedule";

(41) *approved* ink amendments to the definitions of "area of low pest prevalence", "IPPC" and "treatment schedule" (Appendix 9), to be presented to CPM-19 (2025) for noting;

(42) *requested* that the secretariat apply a typographical change to the definitions of "contaminating pest", "corrective action plan (in an area)", "debarked wood" and "host pest list", so that "debarked wood", "infest" and "officially" are presented in bold;

(43) *noted* that the secretariat would apply a typographical change to the term "treatment" so that it is presented in bold in all definitions in ISPM 5 where it is used in the glossary sense of the term (if not already done);

(44) *approved* the 2024 version of the *Explanatory document on ISPM 5* (Annotated Glossary);

(45) *noted* that the IPPC brochure *Introduction to international phytosanitary terminology* would be published in 2024;

(46) *agreed* to include an index in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*);

(47) *agreed* with the recommendation of the TPG and the secretariat not to proceed with applying bold to glossary terms in all ISPMs, apart from ISPM 5;

(48) *agreed* that the option "noted" be included in the response options when addressing consultation comments on draft ISPMs, including draft amendments to ISPM 5;

(49) *confirmed* that the TPG is allowed to review portions of text in draft ISPMs which were not the subject of consultation comments;

(50) *noted* the TPG workplan for 2024/2025 (Appendix 6 of the report of the TPG meeting in December 2023);

(51) *noted* that when the annual face-to-face TPG meeting is held outside of FAO premises, the panel would arrange a presentation (capacity-building) session for the host NPPO's employees, demonstrating the work of the TPG, and that this approach would also apply to other meetings organized by the Standard Setting Unit of the secretariat; and

(52) *noted* the outcomes of the SWOT analysis of the TPG and the follow-up actions proposed by the secretariat.

7.3 Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols

[111] The secretariat presented a report on membership of the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP), an overview of the TPDP's activities since May 2023 and the tentative workplan for 2024/2025.[25] The secretariat referred to agenda item 9.2, regarding the selection of a TPDP member for entomology, and reported that although the TPDP had discussed whether further members were needed, they had concluded that this was not necessary for the time being. The TPDP had proposed, however, that an additional consultation period be opened in January 2025, because of the increase in the number of DPs under development, and that this be made a permanent feature of the Standard Setting Procedure. The secretariat informed the SC that, as well as developing draft DPs, the TPDP had conducted a SWOT analysis[26] and planned to review the instructions to authors of DPs.

[25] 15_SC_2024_May; 16_SC_2024_May.

[26] 12_SC_2024_May.

[112] The outgoing TPDP Steward, Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE (Chile), thanked the SC for the opportunity to be involved with the panel and the secretariat lead for her support.

[113] The SC reviewed the recommendations from the TPDP.

[114] **SWOT analysis.** The secretariat presented the outcome of the SWOT analysis, which outlined the strengths and weaknesses of the panel, together with proposed follow-up actions.

[115] The SC noted the increased workload of the TPDP and confirmed that they would welcome advice from the TPDP on what the panel needed to be able to function more efficiently, given this workload.

[116] The SC noted that one of the proposed follow-up actions was to simplify the process of revising DPs. The SC chairperson confirmed that, to progress this, the TPDP would need to submit recommendations to the SC.

[117] The SC:

(53) *noted* the TPDP update and the work accomplished from May 2023 to April 2024;

(54) *agreed* to extend the TPDP membership of Juliet GOLDSMITH (Entomology) and Géraldine ANTHOINE (Nematology) for another five-year term;

(55) *agreed* to invite Valérie GRIMAULT, the Assistant Director of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), as an invited expert in the next TPDP face-to-face meeting;

(56) *agreed* to the recommendation of the TPDP to remove DP *Moniliophthora roreri* (2019-005) from the work programme, as it was of low priority and only one author had been identified after several attempts;

(57) *agreed* to undertake an additional consultation period for DPs only, in January 2025, and *requested* that the secretariat open the consultation period via the Online Comment System (tentative dates: 30 January to 2 May 2025);

(58) *recommended* to CPM-19 (2025) that the Standard Setting Procedure be adjusted to include the January–May consultation period for DPs as a permanent feature of the Standard Setting Procedure (in addition to the consultation period in July–September);

(59) *noted* the reports of the virtual TPDP meetings in March and October 2023 and the face-to-face TPDP meeting in November 2023;

(60) *thanked* EPPO for hosting the 2023 TPDP face-to-face meeting;

(61) *agreed* to raise awareness within their networks to engage experts to participate in the expert consultation;

(62) *noted* that the next face-to-face meeting of the TPDP is tentatively planned for 21–25 October 2024 and that Japan had offered to host the meeting in Yokohama;

(63) *noted* the TPDP tentative workplan for April 2024 to April 2025;

(64) *thanked* the outgoing TPDP Steward, Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE (Chile), for his contribution to the work of the TPDP; and

(65) *noted* the outcomes of the SWOT analysis of the TPDP and the follow-up actions proposed by the secretariat.

7.4 Technical Panel on Commodity Standards

[118] The secretariat presented a report on membership of the Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS), an overview of the TPCS's activities since May 2023 and the tentative workplan for 2024/2025.[27] The secretariat highlighted the new subjects added to the TPCS's work programme by CPM-18 (2024), the draft TPCS working procedures that had been revised by the panel for the

[27] 17_SC_2024_May_Rev.

consideration of the SC, and revisions to the template form for submitting information on pests and measures.

[119] The secretariat explained that the next TPCS face-to-face meeting was tentatively scheduled for 2–6 December 2024, probably in Australia, and that the intention was to draft at least two new standards in the 2024/2025 period.

[120] The TPCS Steward, Joanne WILSON (New Zealand), thanked the secretariat for the support they provided to the panel.

Tentative workplan

[121] The SC noted that four of the new subjects for commodity standards had been assigned priority 1: seeds of *Phaseolus vulgaris* (2023-008), fresh taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) for consumption (2023-023), fresh banana (*Musa paradisiaca*) fruit (2023-028) and *Citrus* fruit (2023-019). They discussed which should be worked on first and whether the call for information materials should be for all four or for just two, given the intention to start by drafting two.

[122] The SC acknowledged the value of starting with the more straightforward subjects, given that the development of commodity standards was still in its infancy. They noted that, in general, the greater the number of pests associated with a commodity, the more challenging it would be to develop the commodity standard. The standards on banana and *Citrus* fruit might therefore be more challenging, and the standards on *Phaseolus vulgaris* seeds and taro might be more straightforward. The SC recognized that the standard on *Citrus* fruit was also likely to be challenging because it was a standard for a group of commodities, and the SC chairperson suggested that if a standard on *Citrus* proved not to be feasible, then work could begin on the standard for fresh orange (*Citrus sinensis*) fruit (2023-027) instead, which was a priority 2 subject. The steward suggested that the first two standards to be drafted be taro and *Citrus* (i.e. one straightforward and one more challenging), and another SC member suggested that work start on the two more straightforward subjects.

[123] The SC recognized that gathering the necessary information to submit information materials in response to the call was a time-consuming task for contracting parties. There was therefore uncertainty about how much information would be received in response to the call, as well as uncertainty about the robustness of the information that would be submitted. The SC therefore agreed to open a call for all four priority 1 subjects, to allow the TPCS to then determine which to work on first. However, the SC also recognized the need to manage the expectations of contracting parties about when the drafting of the standards would begin, given that work would not start immediately on all four.

Working procedure

[124] The SC reviewed the draft TPCS working procedures, which had been revised by the TPCS in response to an invitation to do this by the SC at its meeting in November 2023.[28]

[125] **Invited experts.** The SC noted that the procedure allowed for experts to be invited to drafting meetings of the TPCS. They recognized that this was also the case for other technical panels and they noted that the TPCS-invited experts would be agreed by the same process, with the SC making the decision (as in agenda item 7.3 of this meeting).

[126] **Revising or amending commodity standards.** The SC noted that a footnote would be added to adopted commodity standards when evidence suggested that a phytosanitary measure was no longer effective or when there was a change in pest taxonomy that did not affect the options for phytosanitary measures. This would be considered an ink amendment and would be an interim solution until the standard could be revised in the normal way. When new pests and measures were proposed by an NPPO or regional plant protection organization (RPPO) for inclusion in an adopted commodity standard, the normal revision procedure for standards would apply.

[28] SC 2024/11, agenda item 8.2.

[127] The SC noted that they would need to consider the process for these footnote ink amendments, including the process for triggering an amendment (e.g. NPPOs submitting a request supported by evidence of negative experiences of a measure) and whether requests for amendments would go directly to the TPCS or pass first through the SC. The SC agreed to defer this discussion to a future meeting and noted that it was also an issue of relevance to the TPPT and TPDP.

[128] One SC member commented that removing a measure from a commodity standard or adding a measure should go through the same process.

[129] The TPPT steward referred to the report from the October 2023 meeting of the TPPT, where some TPPT members had noted that some of the treatments listed in the draft annex *International movement of Mangifera indica fruit* (2021-011) to ISPM 46 (*Commodity-based standards for phytosanitary measures*) were not in use and had not been for many years while others had been missed. The TPPT had agreed to offer support to review draft standards before consultation and, thereafter, regarding phytosanitary treatments and any treatment-related issues arising from the new commodity standards being developed.

[130] **Inclusion of pests.** Some SC members felt that the TPCS should do some level of technical evaluation of the pests proposed for inclusion in commodity standards. The SC chairperson explained that the panel could not question the technical justification made by countries to regulate pests, as one of the key principles of commodity standards was that they should not impinge on the sovereign right of countries to make decisions on regulation. The SC members concerned, however, suggested that this still allowed for at least some evaluation, which was important for an internationally agreed standard. The TPCS steward explained that the panel intended to resolve this by being transparent about the reasons for excluding pests from standards: this information was being recorded and could eventually be held on a database. She explained that the value and resource needed to develop a database was currently under discussion by the TPCS. The steward added that possible ways to improve commodity standards were also emerging through the development of the draft standard on mango, but it would take time for these to mature and come into effect.

[131] **Consultation on draft commodity standards.** The SC was invited to discuss a TPCS proposal that the Standard Setting Procedure be adjusted to include the option of omitting a second consultation on draft commodity standards if no substantive comments were received, or no changes to pests and measures were proposed, in response to the first consultation. The SC agreed that it was premature to agree to this, given that the development of commodity standards and the work of the panel were still in their infancy. The SC therefore deleted the text referring to this in the TPCS working procedures.

[132] The SC:

(66) *recommended* that the secretariat open a call for information material for all four priority 1 subjects added to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* by CPM-18 (2024), for a period to be determined by the secretariat and the steward and to be accompanied by an explanatory statement about the expected time frame for development, and *invited* the TPCS to then decide in which order to work on these subjects, based on the information received;

(67) *invited* the TPCS to consider the suggestion made by the TPPT at their meeting in October 2023 (agenda item 5.1) about how the TPPT could input its advice to the TPCS on treatments;

(68) *approved* the draft TPCS working procedures as modified at this meeting (Appendix 10) and the subsequent inclusion of these procedures in the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting*;

(69) *noted* the TPCS update and the work accomplished from May 2023 to April 2024;

(70) *noted* the TPCS tentative work programme for 2024/2025;

(71) *noted* the submission form for information materials for commodity standards; and

(72) *noted* the reports of the virtual TPCS meetings in June, July, October, November and December 2023, and in February and March 2024.

8. Review of the *List of topics for IPPC standards*

[133] **Role and responsibilities of stewards and assistant stewards.** Before reviewing the *List of topics for IPPC standards*, the secretariat invited the SC to discuss the need for additional guidance for lead stewards and assistant stewards of technical panels, and the "regular" role of assistant stewards.

[134] The SC:

(73) *agreed* that a small working group of SC members, comprising David KAMANGIRA (Malawi (lead)), Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana), Steve CÔTÉ (Canada), Nader ELBADRY (Egypt), Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece), André Felipe C.P. da SILVA (Brazil) and Sophie PETERSON (Australia) would develop guidance for lead stewards and assistant stewards in relation to technical panels and also for the "regular" role of assistant stewards, to fill gaps in the current guidance, and report back to the SC in November 2024 or May 2025.

8.1 Review of list of topics adopted by CPM-18 (2024)

[135] **List of topics.** The SC chairperson drew the attention of the SC to the updated *List of topics for IPPC standards* as adopted by CPM-18 (2024).[29]

[136] The SC reviewed the list of topics and assigned stewards and assistant stewards to the following topics:

- Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (2004-002) – Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana) as steward and Mi Chi YEA (Republic of Korea) as assistant steward;
- Technical Panel for the Glossary (2006-013) – André Felipe C.P. da SILVA (Brazil) as steward;
- Annex *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds* (2018-009) to ISPM 38 – Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (Argentina) as assistant steward;
- Revision of ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*) (2023-014), priority 2 – Masahiro SAI (Japan) as steward, Harry ARIJS (European Union) as assistant steward;
- Revision of ISPM 12 (*Phytosanitary certificates*) (2023-020), priority 1 – Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece) as steward and Steve CÔTÉ (Canada) as assistant steward;
- Annex *Remote audits* to ISPM 47 (*Audit in the phytosanitary context*) (2023-031), priority 1 – Steve CÔTÉ (Canada) as steward and Nader ELBADRY (Egypt) as assistant steward;
- Annexes to ISPM 46 (*Commodity-specific standards for phytosanitary measures*):
  - Seeds of *Phaseolus vulgaris* (2023-008), priority 1 – Harry ARIJS (European Union) as steward,
  - International movement of *Citrus* fruit (2023-019), priority 1 – André Felipe C.P. da SILVA (Brazil) as steward,
  - International movement of fresh taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) corm for consumption (2023-023), priority 1 – Sophie PETERSON (Australia) as steward, and
  - International movement of fresh banana (*Musa paradisiaca*) fruit (2023-028), priority 1 – André Felipe C.P. da SILVA (Brazil) as steward;
- Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard (2023-037) (no priority assigned) – Masahiro SAI (Japan) as steward and Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece) as assistant steward.

[137] **SC representatives.** The SC selected representatives for two focus groups and the IC (see decisions).

[138] **IPPC regional workshops.** The SC confirmed that the following SC members would attend the IPPC regional workshops in 2024:

- Africa – Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana), David KAMANGIRA (Malawi);
- Asia – Mi Chi YEA (Republic of Korea), Gerald Glenn F. PANGANIBAN (Philippines; to be confirmed), Masahiro SAI (Japan);

[29] 14_SC_2024_May; *List of topics for IPPC standards*: https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/list

- Europe and Central Asia – Harry ARIJS (European Union; tentative), Mariangela CIAMPITTI (Italy), Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece);
- Pacific – Sophie PETERSON (Australia), Joanne WILSON (New Zealand);
- Near East and North Africa – Nader ELBADRY (Egypt), Eyad MOHAMMED (Syrian Arabic Republic; to be confirmed); and
- Latin America and the Caribbean – Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (Argentina), Steve CÔTÉ (Canada), André Felipe C.P. da SILVA (Brazil) (all tentative).

[139] The SC:

(74) *noted* the revised *List of topics for IPPC standards*;

(75) *assigned* stewards and assistant stewards as agreed at this meeting;

(76) *recommended* to CPM-19 (2025) that priority 1 be assigned to the topic *Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard* (2023-037);

(77) *deferred* selection of the SC representative for the CPM Focus Group on Diagnostic Laboratory Networking;

(78) *deferred* selection of the SC representative on the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers;

(79) *selected* Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece) as an SC representative on the Task Force on Topics;

(80) *selected* Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana) as the SC representative to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee; and

(81) *confirmed* that SC members would attend the 2024 IPPC regional workshops as agreed at this meeting.

9. Standards Committee

9.1 Summary of polls and fora discussed on the e-decision site (from November 2023 to May 2024)

[140] The secretariat presented a paper listing the e-decision polls and fora conducted from November 2023 to May 2024,[30] and the SC reviewed it.

[141] The SC noted that the section about the selection and nomination of the TPDP member for entomology needed correcting, as the decision had yet to be finalized. The secretariat confirmed that the correction would be made once agenda item 9.2 had been concluded.

[142] The SC:

(82) *agreed* that the "Summary of Standard Committee e-decisions between 2023 November – 2024 May" (Appendix 11) as modified in this meeting accurately reflected the outcome of the SC e-decisions.

9.2 SC e-decision on selection and nomination of TPDP member for entomology

[143] The secretariat referred the SC to the e-forum and e-poll held to select an additional member for entomology to the TPDP.[31] Seven complete nominations had been received in response to the call for experts. These seven had been presented to the SC for consideration in an e-forum, followed by an e-poll on the nominee that had been most preferred in the e-forum. As agreed by the SC at their meeting in November 2023, however,[32] the final selection had been deferred to this meeting.

[30] 21_SC_2024_May.

[31] 22_SC_2024_May.

[32] SC 2023/11, agenda item 8.3.

[144] The SC:

(83) *confirmed* the selection of David Ouvrard (France) as an Entomologist member of the TPDP for a five-year term starting in 2024; and

(84) *requested* that the SC members for the regions of the unsuccessful nominees inform those nominees of the outcome of the selection.

10. SC and IC update and enhancing synergies

[145] Kyu-Ock YIM (Republic of Korea), the IC representative on the SC, gave a verbal update on IC activities. She explained that, at their May 2024 meeting, the IC would be discussing a change to their procedures to allow the SC to submit proposals for topics directly to the IC. The IC also intended to simplify the form for submission of information on proposed topics. She commented that the IC would need to consider updating the IPPC *Guide for establishing and maintaining pest free areas*, following the adoption by CPM-18 (2024) of the revised ISPM 4 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*), and also consider whether to expand the guidance on FF-PFAs in this guide or whether a new guide on FF-PFAs was needed. However, this topic was currently assigned a low priority on the IC's work programme because of other, competing priorities.

[146] Recalling matters discussed earlier in this meeting, the IC representative on the SC confirmed that she would raise with the IC the issue of how to address the delay between publication of a standard and the corresponding IPPC guide when material is being moved out of a standard into a guide. She would also inform the IC of the SC's decision on referencing IPPC implementation material in ISPMs.

[147] Finally, the IC representative thanked the outgoing SC representative on the IC, Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE (Chile), and welcomed the newly appointed SC representative, Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana).

[148] The SC:

(85) *thanked* the outgoing SC representative on the IC, Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE (Chile), for his work supporting the synergies between the SC and IC.

11. Any other business

Technical issues that are not objections

[149] Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (Argentina) presented a paper prepared by the SC members from the Latin America and Caribbean region,[33] following the request by CPM-18 (2024) that the SC explore mechanisms to address technical issues that are raised about draft ISPMs submitted for adoption but that are not objections.[34] The paper proposed that a new stage be added to the Standard Setting Procedure, whereby contracting parties could propose technical improvements or wording adjustments to draft ISPMs approved by the SC to be presented for adoption, based on the English version published as an appendix to the SC November report. If the number of comments received for a draft ISPM exceeded a predetermined threshold, the draft would be returned to the SC.

[150] The SC discussed the proposal.

[151] **Time frame.** The SC noted that the proposed mechanism would give more opportunity for technical improvements of draft ISPMs being presented for adoption. The secretariat explained, however, that the time frame proposed was not feasible, because of the deadlines for posting CPM papers and the time required for translation. The SC recalled their discussion in November 2023, where they had discussed another mechanism and decided not to proceed with it for the same reason.[35]

[33] 23_SC_2024_May,

[34] CPM-18 (2024), agenda item 10.

[35] SC 2023-11, agenda item 20.

[152] **SC November report.** The SC recalled that they had agreed to add a footnote to the SC November report to highlight the fact that draft ISPMs approved by the SC for adoption by the CPM are available in English as appendices of the report.[36] They noted that the report is often not available until January but recognized that this was still earlier than the date when draft ISPMs being submitted for adoption are posted on the IPP. The secretariat confirmed that it took a minimum of a month to publish the SC report, as priority had to be given to editing the newly approved standards.

[153] **Limiting the number of comments.** The SC noted the need to limit the number of comments submitted under the proposed mechanism, so that it did not amount to a third round of consultation. The SC noted that the proposed mechanism allowed for a maximum threshold to be set, although one SC member suggested that this be lowered to a maximum of four or five comments per region.

[154] **Process for submitting comments.** Regarding the process by which contracting parties and RPPOs would submit comments under the proposed mechanism, the SC chairperson suggested that information papers or conference room papers could be submitted, and a Friends of the Chair meeting could be convened at the CPM meeting if necessary.

[155] **Drafting at the CPM meeting.** The SC discussed the possibility of returning to the former system where there was one round of consultation followed by evening drafting sessions at the CPM meeting. However, they recalled that these sessions may not have had interpretation in all six FAO languages and that the CPM had subsequently agreed that there should be no drafting of ISPMs at the annual CPM meeting.[37] The SC also acknowledged that the quality of the ISPMs may suffer if drafted in this way.

[156] **Using the current procedure.** The SC noted that, although the current procedure for objections was usually used for critical issues, it could be used to propose technical improvements and there was precedence for a standard being adopted when an objection was submitted with a technical solution and that solution was accepted by the CPM. The SC recalled that criteria to help determine if an objection was technically justified were available in the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting* (section 3.5) and included the presence of technical inaccuracies.

[157] The secretariat suggested that they could adjust the wording of the CPM paper about the adoption procedure to ask contracting parties and RPPOs to clearly state, when submitting an objection, whether it is an objection to adoption or is another type of consideration.

[158] **Avoiding the need for late changes to ISPMs.** The SC chairperson suggested that SC members encourage countries in their region to engage in the consultation process at an early stage, to reduce the likelihood of technical issues being raised later on when there are few procedural options to address them.

[159] **Improving communication.** The secretariat confirmed that they could enhance communication about the availability of the draft ISPMs attached as appendices to the SC November report, to raise awareness among contracting parties and RPPOs.

Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation Board

[160] A member of the secretariat's Implementation and Facilitation Unit presented a paper about the establishment of a Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Board.[38] The purpose of the board was to oversee the certification of PCE facilitators and assess the PCE facilitator trainees to become certified PCE facilitators. The SC was invited to select three SC members to join a pool of board members who would be solicited to form the board on an ad hoc basis, depending on the nationality and language of the candidates being assessed (with one SC member on the board at any one time).

[36] SC 2023-11, agenda item 20.

[37] CPM-7 (2012), Appendix 4 (Decision 1 on "CPM Decision on improving the Standard setting process").

[38] CRP_04_SC_2024_May.

[161] The SC:

(86) *agreed* that Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (Argentina, lead), Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana), Steve CÔTÉ (Canada), Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece), David OPATOWSKI (Israel) and Sophie PETERSON (Australia) would form a small working group of SC members to explore mechanisms to address technical issues that are raised about draft ISPMs submitted for adoption but that are not objections, for the SC to consider at its meeting in November 2024; and

(87) *selected* Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana) and Mariangela CIAMPITTI (Italy) to be members of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation Board, with Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (Argentina) in reserve depending on the regional composition of the board once the CPM Bureau and IC have selected their representatives.

12. Recommendations to CPM Bureau, Strategic Planning Group or CPM-19 (2025)

[162] The SC noted that the following would be recommended to CPM-19 (2025):

- the revocation of PT 1 (Irradiation treatment for *Anastrepha ludens*), PT 2 (Irradiation treatment for *Anastrepha obliqua*) and PT 3 (Irradiation treatment for *Anastrepha serpentina*), to be superseded by PT 39 (Irradiation treatment for the genus *Anastrepha*);
- the removal of the topic *Criteria for treatments for wood packaging material in international trade* (2006-010) from the *List of topic for IPPC standards*;
- the adjustment of the Standard Setting Procedure to include the January–May consultation period for DPs as a permanent feature of the Standard Setting Procedure (in addition to the consultation period in July–September); and
- the assignment of priority 1 to the topic *Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard* (2023-037).

[163] The SC noted that the following would be forwarded to, or a paper prepared for, CPM-19 (2025):

- ink amendments to definitions in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*), for noting (see agenda item 7.2); and
- a paper on mechanisms to address technical issues that are raised about draft ISPMs submitted for adoption but that are not objections (see agenda item 11).

13. Agenda items deferred to future SC meetings

[164] The following item was deferred to the November 2024 meeting of the SC:

- selection of the SC representative for the CPM Focus Group on Diagnostic Laboratory Networking and the SC representative on the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers (from agenda item 8.1 of this meeting).

[165] The following items were also deferred for subsequent SC discussion:

- consideration of the need for further explanation in the ISPM 5 definition of "pest free area" and the distinction between declarations of "absence" and an "official pest free area" (from agenda item 5.1 of this meeting);
- a review of the need for, and content of, the section on "Impacts on biodiversity and the environment" that is included in ISPMs (from agenda item 6.1 of this meeting); and
- the process for footnote ink amendments in adopted commodity standards (from agenda item 7.4 of this meeting).

14. Date and venue of the next SC meeting

[166] The next SC meeting is scheduled for 18–22 November 2024 in Rome, Italy.

15. Review and adoption of decisions

[167] The SC reviewed and adopted the decisions from this meeting.

[168] For ease of reference, a list of action points arising from the meeting is attached as Appendix 12.

[169] The SC:

(88) *requested* that the secretariat open an e-decision to approve the report from this meeting, following approval of the text by the rapporteurs.

16. Close of the meeting

[170] The SC chairperson thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Agenda

	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER/ SECRETARIAT SUPPORT
1.	**Opening of the Meeting**		
1.1	Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat	---	EL-LISSY NERSISYAN
2.	**Meeting Arrangements**		
2.1	Election of the Rapporteur	---	**Chairperson**
2.2	Adoption of the Agenda	01_SC_2024_May	**Chairperson**
3.	**Administrative Matters**		
3.1	Documents List	02_SC_2024_May	KRAH
3.2	Participants List	03_SC_2024_May SC membership list	KRAH
3.3	Local Information	Link to local information	KRAH
3.4	Evaluation of the meeting process	Link to survey	KRAH
3.5	Standard Setting Unit staff	Link to standard setting staff	NERSISYAN
4.	**Updates from CPM-18** ❖ Standard Setting Procedure ❖ Revision of draft specification Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid (2021-020) ❖ SC Rep for CPM Focus Group on Diagnostic laboratory networking ❖ SC Rep for CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers	20_SC_2024_May CPM-18 Report Part 1 CPM-18 Report Part 2	**Chairperson** / NERSISYAN
4.1	**Updates from CPM Bureau**	19_SC_2024_May Link	NERSISYAN
5.	**Draft ISPMs for approval for the first consultation**		
5.1	**Draft revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies* (*Tephritidae*)) (2021-010)** Steward: Joanne WILSON Assistant steward: Prudence ATTIPOE ❖ Specification 75 (for information) ❖ Steward's notes ❖ EWG meeting report	2021-010 Specification 75 04_SC_2024_May EWG meeting report	**WILSON**/SHAMILOV

	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER/ SECRETARIAT SUPPORT
5.2	**Draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*)** Steward: Masahiro SAI Assistant steward: Mariangela CIAMPITTI ❖ Specification 74 (for information) ❖ Steward's notes ❖ EWG meeting report	2021-018 Specification 74 06_SC_2024_May EWG meeting report	**SAI**/SHAMILOV
6.	**Draft specifications for review and approval for consultation**		
6.1	**Draft specification on holistic revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard (2023-037)** Steward: Masahiro SAI ❖ The present situation of addressing the first consultation comments on the draft PRA ISPM ❖ Steward's notes	2023-037 07_SC_2024_May 08_SC_2024_May	**SAI**/SHAMILOV
6.2	**Draft specification on annex *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds* (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*) revised** Steward: Harry ARIJS ❖ Specification 70 (for information) ❖ Lead's notes **Item proposed by CPM-18 and Bureau:** **Draft annex *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds* (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*)** ❖ Steward's notes (from SC May 2023) ❖ EWG meeting report	2018-009 (Revised) Specification 70 18_SC_2024_May 2018-009 13_SC_2024_May EWG meeting report	**ARIJS/ ZLOTINA** /SHAMILOV
7.	**Review of technical panels (from May 2023 to April 2024)** ❖ **Discussion on roles and responsibilities of Stewards and Assistant Stewards**		
7.1	**Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT)** Steward: David OPATOWSKI ❖ TPPT meeting reports ❖ Update on activities of the TPPT ❖ SWOT analysis	Call for Phytosanitary Treatments page TPPT meeting reports 05_SC_2024_May 10_SC_2024_May	**OPATOWSKI**/SHAMILOV

	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER/ SECRETARIAT SUPPORT
7.2	**Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG)** Steward: Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE ❖ TPG December 2023 meeting report ❖ Update on activities of the TPG ❖ SWOT analysis ❖ ePhyto Steering Group (ESG) recommendation to add ePhyto definition in ISPM 5	TPG Reports 11_SC_2024_May 12_SC_2024_May 09_SC_2024_May	**SEPÚLVEDA**/SHAMILOV
7.3	**Technical Panel for Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP)** Steward: Álvaro SEPÚLVEDA LUQUE Assistant steward: Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE ❖ TPDP meeting reports ❖ Update on activities of the TPDP ❖ SWOT analysis	TPDP meeting reports 15_SC_2024_May 16_SC_2024_May	**SEPÚLVEDA**/MOREIRA
7.4	**Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS)** Steward: Joanne WILSON Assistant Stewards: Mariangela CIAMPITTI, Eyad MOHAMMED ❖ TPCS meeting reports ❖ Update on activities of the TPCS ❖ Modifications proposed to the Standard Setting Procedure (Section 7.4 of the IPPC procedure manual for standard setting) - Technical Panel on Commodity Standards	TPCS meeting reports 17_SC_2024_May_Rev	**WILSON**/MOREIRA
8.	**Review of the List of Topics for IPPC standards (LOT)**		
8.1	Review of adopted List of Topics by CPM-18	14_SC_2024_May Link to List of Topics for IPPC standards	KRAH
9.	**Standards committee**		
9.1	Summary of polls and forums discussed on the e-decision site (from November 2023 to May 2024)	21_SC_2024_May	KRAH
9.2	SC e-decision on selection and nomination of TPDP member for entomology	22_SC_2024_May	**MOREIRA**
10.	**SC & IC update and enhancing synergies**		**YIM / SEPÚLVEDA** / NERSISYAN

	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER/ SECRETARIAT SUPPORT
11.	**Any other business:** Follow up from CPM COSAVE paper (CPM 2024/INF/20) "*request* the SC to explore mechanisms to address technical issues to the drafts for adoption not being objections".	23_SC_2024_May	**Chairperson/SC Members from LAC**
12.	**Recommendations to CPM Bureau, SPG, or CPM-19 (if any)**		**Chairperson**
13.	**Agenda items deferred to future SC Meetings**		**Chairperson**
14.	**Date and venue of the next SC Meeting**	18-22 Nov 2024 (FAO HQ, Rome)	**Chairperson**
15.	**Review and Adoption of remaining Decisions** (Thursday, Friday and any outstanding)		**Chairperson**
16.	**Close of the meeting**		**Chairperson**

Appendix 2: Documents list

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
Draft ISPMs			
2021-010	5.1	Draft revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies* (*Tephritidae*)) (2021-010)	2024-03-05
2021-018	5.2	Draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*)	2024-03-05
2018-009	6.2	Draft annex Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*)	2024-04-22
2023-037	6.1	Draft specification on holistic revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard (2023-037)	2024-04-09
2018-009 (Revised)	6.2	Draft specification on annex Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*) revised	2024-04-29
Other Documents			
01_SC_2024_May	2.2	Provisional Agenda	2024-02-27 2024-04-09 2024-04-12 2024-04-19 2024-04-22 2024-04-25 2024-04-29 2024-04-30 2024-05-02 2024-05-03
02_SC_2024_May	3.1	Documents List	2024-05-02 2024-05-03
03_SC_2024_May	3.2	Participants List	2024-04-22
04_SC_2024_May	5.1	Steward's notes: Revision of ISPM 26 *(Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae*)) (2021-010)	2024-03-28
05_SC_2024_May	7.1	Update on activities of the TPPT from June 2023 to April 2024	2024-04-12
06_SC_2024_May	5.2	Steward's notes and potential implementation issues: draft annex Field Inspection to ISPM 23	2024-04-12
07_SC_2024_May	6.1	The present situation of addressing the first consultation comments on the draft PRA ISPM	2024-04-12
08_SC_2024_May	6.1	Steward's notes: revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis (PRA) ISPMs	2024-04-12
09_SC_2024_May	7.2	ePhyto Steering Group (ESG) recommendation to add ePhyto definition in ISPM 5	2024-04-12
10_SC_2024_May	7.1	SWOT analysis: Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT)	2024-04-22

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
11_SC_2024_May	7.2	Update on activities of the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG)	2024-04-22
12_SC_2024_May	7.2	SWOT analysis: Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG)	2024-04-22
13_SC_2024_May	6.2	Steward's notes (from SC May 2023): Draft annex Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (International movement of seeds)	2024-04-22
14_SC_2024_May	8.1	Review and Adjustments to the List of topics for IPPC Standards	2024-04-23
15_SC_2024_May	7.3	Update on activities of the Technical Panel for Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP)	2024-04-29
16_SC_2024_May	7.3	SWOT analysis: Technical Panel for Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP)	2024-04-29
17_SC_2024_May_Rev	7.4	Update on activities of the Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS)	2024-04-29 2024-05-02
18_SC_2024_May	6.2	Lead's notes: Draft specification on annex Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (International movement of seeds) revised	2024-04-30
19_SC_2024_May	4.1	Updates from CPM Bureau	2024-04-30
20_SC_2024_May	4	Updates from CPM-18	2024-05-02
21_SC_2024_May	9.1	Summary of polls and forums discussed on the e-decision site (from November 2023 to May 2024)	2024-05-02
22_SC_2024_May	9.2	SC e-decision on selection and nomination of TPDP member for entomology	2024-05-02
23_SC_2024_May	11	Mechanisms to address technical issues to the drafts for adoption not being objections (Paper from Latin American and Caribbean SC members)	2024-05-03
CRP_01		2018-009 Draft Annex ISPM38 International movement of seeds EPPO for SC My 2024.	2024-05-06

IPP LINKS:	Agenda item
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Link to CPM 18 Report (CPM-18 Report Part 1 & CPM-18 Report Part 2)	4
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Link to Technical Panels	7
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Appendix 3: Participants list

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[39] Bracketed number indicates the Criteria used for prioritizing participants to receive travel assistance to attend meetings organized by the IPPC Secretariat when Statement of Commitment was signed: (0) no funding, (1) airfare only, (2) full funding (https://www.ippc.int/publications/criteria-used-prioritizing-participants-receive-travel-assistance-attend-meetings)

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Asia Member	**Ms Mi Chi YEA** Department of Plant Quarantine, Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency 177, Hyeoksin 8-ro Gimcheon-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do, **REP. OF KOREA** Tel: 82-54-912-0627 Fax: 82-54-912-0635, Mobile: 82-10-8405-9278	kittymc@korea.kr	Replacement for Ms Chonticha RAKKRAI CPM-14 (2019) CPM-16 (2022) 2nd term / 3 years (0)	2025
Asia Member	**Mr Xiaodong FENG** Deputy Director of the Division of Plant Quarantine, NATESC Ministry of Agriculture No. 20, Maizidian Street, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100125 **CHINA** Tel: (8610)59194524	fengxdong@agri.gov.cn	CPM-13 (2018) CPM-15 (2021) 2nd term / 3 years (0)	2024
Near East Member	**Mr Eyad MOHAMMED** Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian reform Al Abed street Sabeh Bahrat Area, Damascus **SYRIA** Tel:+963933492111-00963112220187	ppdsyr@gmail.com Eyadm2009@gmail.com	Replacement for Mr Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa (TUNISIA) CPM-15 (2021) 1st term / 3 years	2024

[40] Bracketed number indicates the Criteria used for prioritizing participants to receive travel assistance to attend meetings organized by the IPPC Secretariat when Statement of Commitment was signed: (0) no funding, (1) airfare only, (2) full funding (https://www.ippc.int/publications/criteria-used-prioritizing-participants-receive-travel-assistance-attend-meetings)

Appendix 4: DRAFT REVISION OF ISPM 26: Establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae) (2021-010)

Status box

This is not an official part of the standard and it will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat after adoption.	
Date of this document	2024-05-16
Document category	Draft revision of ISPM
Current document stage	*To* first consultation
Major stages	2022-04 CPM-16 added topic *Revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*)* (2021-010) to the work programme with priority 2. 2022-11 Standards Committee (SC) approved Specification 75 (*Revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*)*). 2023-07 Expert working group drafted the revised standard. 2024-05 SC revised and approved for first consultation.
Steward history	2022-05 SC Joanne WILSON (NZ, Lead Steward) 2022-05 SC Prudence ATTIPOE (GH, Assistant Steward)
Notes	This section will remain on the drafts going for consultation but will be deleted before adoption. 2023-07 Expert working group added “and maintenance” to the title (subsequently agreed by SC, 2024-05) 2024-02 Edited 2024-05 Edited

Adoption

Text to this paragraph will be added following adoption.

INTRODUCTION

Scope

This standard provides guidance for the establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae) of economic importance.

If a country has declared a fruit fly to be absent in an area in accordance with ISPM 8 (*Determination of pest status in an area*), then establishing and maintaining a pest free area in accordance with this standard should not be required by importing countries unless there is technical justification.

Bibliography

References

The present standard refers to ISPMs. ISPMs are available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) at https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/ispms.

IPPC Secretariat. 1997. *International Plant Protection Convention*. IPPC Secretariat. Rome, FAO. https://www.ippc.int/en/about/convention-text/

Further reading

Information to support the implementation of this standard may be available on the IPP at https://www.ippc.int/en/about/core-activities/capacity-development/guides-and-training-materials/.

IPPC Secretariat. 2019. *Guide for establishing and maintaining pest free areas – Understanding the principal requirements for pest free areas, pest free places of production, pest free production sites and areas of low pest prevalence*. IPPC Secretariat. Rome, FAO. xviii + 107 pp. https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90620/

Definitions

Definitions of phytosanitary terms used in this standard can be found in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*).

Outline of requirements

A fruit fly pest free area (FF-PFA) is a phytosanitary measure that may be used to facilitate safe trade and protect plant resources. National plant protection organizations (NPPOs) should consider an FF-PFA to be a phytosanitary measure that, when used alone, is sufficient for managing the pest risk posed by a specified fruit fly.

Requirements include programmes to establish and maintain an FF-PFA, surveillance activities, appropriate corrective actions in the event of pest detections, proper documentation of activities and appropriate record-keeping, and transparency and stakeholder communication.

This standard includes specific requirements for buffer zones, surveillance activities (fruit fly trapping and host sampling), corrective action planning and control measures, and the suspension, reinstatement and withdrawal of FF-PFA status.

BACKGROUND

Fruit flies are a very important group of pests for many countries because of their potential to cause damage in fruits and the potential for restrictions to be placed on access to international markets for host plants of fruit flies. This standard therefore provides specific guidance on establishing and maintaining pest free areas for fruit flies.

A pest free area is "an area in which a specific pest is absent as demonstrated by scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained" (ISPM 5). This standard, which focuses specifically on fruit flies, supplements the more general guidance on pest free areas provided in ISPM 4 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*). The measures in this standard target insects of the economically important species of the order Diptera, family Tephritidae, such as the genera *Anastrepha*, *Bactrocera*, *Ceratitis*, *Dacus*, *Rhagoletis* and *Zeugodacus*.

Areas initially free from fruit flies may remain naturally free from fruit flies as a result of the presence of physical barriers or climatic conditions, or they may be maintained free through movement restrictions and related measures (even though fruit flies have the potential to establish there). Areas where fruit flies are present may be made free by an eradication programme (ISPM 9 (*Guidelines for pest eradication programmes*)). ISPM 4 provides general guidance on the establishment of pest free areas.

In this standard, the pest specified in an FF-PFA is referred to as the "target fruit fly" regardless of whether it is a single species or multiple species.

IMPACTS ON BIODIVERSITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

This standard may contribute to the protection of biodiversity and the environment by preventing the introduction of regulated pests into an area. When establishing and maintaining FF-PFAs, countries are encouraged to consider phytosanitary procedures that minimize impact on biodiversity and the environment.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

When initiating, establishing or maintaining an FF-PFA, NPPOs should follow the requirements outlined in ISPM 4 and this standard.

Measures and specific procedures described in this standard may be required for the establishment and maintenance of an FF-PFA. The decision to establish an FF-PFA may be made based on the technical factors provided in this standard, such as but not limited to the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly, the size of the area, the population levels and dispersal pathways of the target fruit fly, the geographical isolation of the area and the availability of methods for eradication of the target fruit fly. ISPM 4 should be referred to in conjunction with this standard because its requirements apply to the establishment and maintenance of pest free areas.

If an FF-PFA is established and maintained in accordance with this standard, importing countries should not require additional phytosanitary measures specific to the target fruit fly for host commodities within the FF-PFA.

1. Communication and stakeholder engagement

A public-awareness programme is important in areas where the risk of introduction is higher. An important factor in the establishment and maintenance of an FF-PFA is the support and participation of the public close to the area (especially the local community) and individuals who travel to or through the area, including parties with direct and indirect interests. The public and stakeholders should be informed through different media (e.g. written, radio, television) of the importance of establishing and maintaining the pest free status of the area, and of avoiding the introduction or reintroduction of potentially infested host material. This may contribute to and improve compliance with the various measures used to establish and maintain the FF-PFA. The public-awareness programme should be ongoing while the FF-PFA is being maintained.

2. Supervision activities

The FF-PFA programme, including regulatory control, surveillance procedures (e.g. trapping, host sampling – see details in Annex 1) and corrective action planning should comply with officially approved procedures. In circumstances where an entity is authorized to undertake certain activities on behalf of an NPPO, this should be done in accordance with ISPM 45 (*Requirements for national plant protection organizations if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions*).

The effectiveness of the programme should be monitored periodically by the NPPO of the exporting country. In this standard, the "NPPO of the exporting country" refers to the NPPO of the country in which the FF-PFA is situated, unless stated otherwise.

3. Documentation and record-keeping

The measures used to establish and maintain an FF-PFA should be adequately documented as phytosanitary procedures. They should be reviewed and updated regularly, and they should include corrective actions if required (see also ISPM 4).

The records of surveys, detections, outbreaks (including incursions) and the results of other operational procedures should be retained for at least 24 months. Such records should be made available to the NPPO of the importing country on request.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

4. Initiation of a fruit fly pest free area

When initiating the establishment of an FF-PFA, the NPPO of the exporting country should:

- delimit the area proposed as an FF-PFA (maps or coordinates showing the boundaries, natural barriers, entrance points and host area locations, and, where necessary, buffer zones);
- specify the target fruit fly and its distribution within, and adjacent to, the proposed area;
- list the commercial and non-commercial host species of the target fruit fly in the proposed area;
- describe the climatic conditions in the proposed area (e.g. rainfall, relative humidity, temperature, prevailing wind speed and direction); and
- record any other relevant information.

For further guidance on establishing and describing a pest free area, see ISPM 4.

5. Establishment of the fruit fly pest free area

5.1 Establishment of a buffer zone

A buffer zone should be established around the area proposed as an FF-PFA if geographical isolation is not considered adequate to prevent introduction to, or reinfestation of, the area or where there are no other means of preventing fruit fly movement into the area. Factors that should be considered when determining the boundaries of a buffer zone include:

- the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly;
- pest pressure from the target fruit fly in neighbouring areas;
- host availability, cropping systems, natural vegetation;
- the climatic conditions in the area;
- the geography of the area;
- the capacity for natural spread through identified pathways;
- the ability to implement a system to monitor the effectiveness of the buffer zone (e.g. trapping network); and
- pest-control strategies that may be used.

5.2 Surveillance activities for the establishment of the fruit fly pest free area

General surveillance may be sufficient in cases where the pest has never been introduced into the FF-PFA, nor into the surrounding areas, and there have been no records of the pest's presence in the FF-PFA.

If specific surveillance is needed, it should be conducted in accordance with Annex 1. A regular detection survey programme should be implemented. For attractant-responsive species, trapping should be used to determine fruit fly absence or presence in the area. Host sampling may be used to complement the trapping programme in cases where trapping is less effective, (e.g. if species are less attractant-responsive) or instead of the trapping programme where species are not responsive to specific attractants.

When specific surveillance is used during the establishment of the FF-PFA, it should be undertaken for a period determined by:

- the biology and the ecology of the target fruit fly;
- the climatic conditions in the area; and
- the sensitivity of the survey method used (e.g. how effective a trapping grid is at detecting an established population).

The NPPO of the exporting country should have in place, or have ready access to, adequate infrastructure and trained personnel to identify specimens of the target fruit fly in a timely manner, preferably within 48 hours. Continuous access to expertise may be necessary during the establishment phase.

5.3 Controls on the movement of regulated articles

Controls on the movement of regulated articles should be applied to prevent the target fruit fly entering and establishing in the area proposed as an FF-PFA. These controls depend on the assessed pest risk (after identification of likely pathways and regulated articles) and should include:

- regulation of the target fruit fly, pathways and articles that require control in relation to the proposed FF-PFA;
- imposition of domestic restrictions, phytosanitary import requirements, or other measures to control the movement of regulated articles into or through the area; and
- inspection and testing of regulated articles where technically justified, examination of the relevant documentation and, where necessary for cases of non-compliance, the application of appropriate measures (e.g. treatment, rejection, destruction).

5.4 Additional technical information for the establishment of the fruit fly pest free area

Additional information that may be useful while establishing the FF-PFA includes:

- information on the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly;
- historical records of detections of, and surveys for, the target fruit fly in the area proposed as an FF-PFA;
- the results of phytosanitary actions taken following detections of the target fruit fly in the area;
- records of the commercial production of host crops in the area, an estimate of non-commercial production and the presence of wild host material; and
- a list of the other fruit fly species of economic importance that may be present in the area.

5.5 Criteria for the area to qualify as a fruit fly pest free area

For the area to qualify as an FF-PFA, there should be no sign of a breeding population of the target fruit fly. A breeding population may be an established or transient population. Detection of an immature life stage, or an inseminated female, of the target fruit fly during the survey period should be considered a sign of a breeding population. Although the detection of wild adults may also be a sign of a breeding population, this will depend on the number of adults captured. The number of captured wild adults required to indicate the presence of a breeding population may be determined in advance by the NPPO of the exporting country and will depend on the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly, the trapping density and sensitivity, the response of the target fruit fly to attractants, the distance and time between detections, the climate, the season and the geographical location. Other information, such as from modelling, may also be used to help determine whether a breeding population is present.

To provide confidence that the target fruit fly is absent in the area, a determination that the area is free from the target fruit fly should be made only after a sufficient period without signs of a breeding population. The required period (which, for some species, may correspond to up to three consecutive life cycles) should be predetermined, based on scientific information, and provide a sufficient level of confidence that the area is free from the target fruit fly.

5.6 Official declaration of the fruit fly pest free area

When the pest status is determined as absent in accordance with ISPM 8 (including when the pest has been eradicated in accordance with ISPM 9), the NPPO of the exporting country should make an official declaration that the area is free from the target fruit fly. All internal management procedures and measures to maintain the FF-PFA (see ISPM 4 and section 6) should be in place before any declaration is made.

6. Maintenance of the fruit fly pest free area

The NPPO of the exporting country should set up a programme to ensure maintenance of the FF-PFA. This programme should be risk-based and should incorporate at least the following elements:

- a regulatory framework to control the movement of regulated articles;
- surveillance and collection of relevant data to inform the management of the FF-PFA, including a framework for reporting pest detections; and
- a corrective action plan, with associated provisions for suspension and reinstatement of the FF-PFA status in accordance with ISPM 4.

6.1 Controls on the movement of regulated articles

Controls on the movement of regulated articles are the same as for the establishment of the FF-PFA (see section 5.3).

6.2 Surveillance for maintaining the fruit fly pest free area

After declaring the FF-PFA, the surveillance programme should be continued at a level assessed as providing sufficient confidence that the FF-PFA is being maintained. Regular technical reports on the surveillance activities should be generated (e.g. monthly in countries where fruit flies are endemic). The requirements for this surveillance are essentially the same as for the establishment of the FF-PFA (see Annex 1).

6.3 Corrective actions (including a response to an incursion)

The NPPO of the exporting country should prepare a corrective action plan to be implemented if the target fruit fly is detected in the FF-PFA or intercepted in host material from that area (see detailed guidance in Annex 2) or if procedures are found to be inadequate for maintenance of the FF-PFA. This plan should include components, systems or criteria to cover:

- determination of the appropriate, technically justified response to an incursion, depending on the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly and the characteristics of the FF-PFA or part of the FF-PFA;
- determination of when the FF-PFA, or a part of it, should be suspended;
- notification of the suspension of the FF-PFA, or a part of it, both domestically to stakeholders and to the NPPOs of importing countries, the latter in accordance with ISPM 17 (*Pest reporting*);
- a delimiting survey or surveys (trapping and host sampling) to determine the infested area under corrective actions or whether a population has established in the area;
- eradication measures (see Annex 3);
- increased surveillance, when there is an incursion, to determine the effectiveness of eradication measures in the area affected by the incursion and hence whether FF-PFA status may be reinstated; and
- determination of the appropriate responses to interceptions of the target fruit fly in consignments originating from the FF-PFA.

The corrective action plan may include interim measures agreed between relevant NPPOs to enable the continuation of trade.

The corrective action plan should be initiated as soon as possible and at the latest within 72 hours of a detection of the target fruit fly.

In circumstances where the target fruit fly is transient within the FF-PFA, no action may be necessary unless the presence of the target fruit fly poses an unacceptable risk to plant trade (see Article VII.3 of the IPPC).

7. Suspension, reinstatement or withdrawal of fruit fly pest free area status

7.1 Suspension

The status of the FF-PFA or the affected part within the FF-PFA should be suspended when a breeding population is detected based on one of the following triggers:

- detection of an immature life stage of the target fruit fly;
- detection of an inseminated female; or
- detection of wild adults.

The number of captured wild adults required to indicate the presence of a breeding population will depend on the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly, scientific evidence (including molecular analysis of the origin of the fruit fly), the trapping density and sensitivity, the response of the target fruit fly to attractants, the distance and time between detections, the climate, the season and the geographical location. The number may be determined in advance by the NPPO of the exporting country.

In circumstances where the target fruit fly is transient within the FF-PFA, suspension of the FF-PFA or a part of it may not be necessary unless the presence of the target fruit fly poses an unacceptable risk to plant trade (see Article VII.3 of the IPPC).

The FF-PFA, or a part of it, may be suspended if procedures have been implemented incorrectly (e.g. inadequate trapping, host-movement controls or treatments) or the target fruit fly has been intercepted in a consignment originating from the FF-PFA or part of the FF-PFA.

If there is a detection, the corrective action plan should be applied as specified in this standard (see Annex 2) and, if the criteria for an incursion are met, the NPPOs of relevant importing countries (see ISPM 17) should be notified. Where a suspension is applied, the criteria for lifting the suspension (including the level of confidence required to demonstrate pest freedom for the area) should be made clear to the relevant importing countries.

7.2 Reinstatement

Reinstatement should be based on the same requirements as for establishment, with the following conditions:

- no further detection of the target fruit fly for a period determined by the biology and ecology of the species, the prevailing environmental conditions, and the effectiveness of the surveillance system used; and
- in the case of a fault in the procedures, only when the fault has been corrected.

To provide confidence that the target fruit fly is absent in the area, the reinstatement of the FF-PFA should occur only after a sufficient period without signs of a breeding population. The required period (which, for some species, may correspond to up to three consecutive life cycles) should be predetermined, based on scientific information, and provide a sufficient level of confidence that the area is free from the target fruit fly.

7.3 Withdrawal

If the target fruit fly becomes established in the FF-PFA and if eradication is no longer pursued, the NPPO of the exporting country should withdraw the FF-PFA status from the area and notify both stakeholders domestically and the NPPOs of importing countries, the latter in accordance with ISPM 17.

Potential implementation issues

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

This annex is a prescriptive part of the standard.

ANNEX 1: Fruit fly surveillance (trapping and host sampling)

This annex contains general information on fruit fly surveillance.

1. Trapping procedures

Trapping procedures for fruit fly surveys should take into consideration:

- the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly;
- the conditions in the survey area (e.g. climate, environment, geography);
- the trap types and attractants;
- the trap density (number of traps per unit area);
- the presence of hosts;
- trap servicing (maintaining and refreshing the traps);
- trap examination and specimen collection;
- record-keeping (including trap identification); and
- identification capacity and capability.

1.2 Trap type and attractants

Several types of traps and attractants have been developed over decades to survey fruit fly populations. The fruit fly species captured will differ depending on the type of attractant used. The type of trap that should be chosen for a survey depends on the target fruit fly and the nature of the attractant.

1.3 Trap density

The trap density (number of traps per unit area) is a critical factor for effective fruit fly surveys and it should be based on the target fruit fly, the trap efficiency, cultivation practices, and other biotic and abiotic factors that may affect the effectiveness of the survey. The trap density may change depending on the phase of the FF-PFA programme, with the density required during the establishment phase being different to that required during the maintenance phase. The trap density also depends on the probability of the target fruit fly entering the FF-PFA via potential pathways.

1.4 Trap deployment

In establishing an FF-PFA programme, the specific location of the traps in a trapping network should be determined considering the characteristics of the area, such as the climate, environment, geography, host presence and distribution, commercial-management practices and the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly. The location, including rotation, of traps should follow the sequence of fruit maturity in host plants. When placing traps in commercial-production areas, consideration should be given to pest-management practices such as the regular application of insecticides (or other chemicals) that may have a false-negative effect on the trapping programme.

Geographical coordinates can be useful for the management of a trapping network.

1.5 Trap servicing and examination

The frequency of trap servicing (maintaining and refreshing the traps) during the period of trapping should depend on the longevity of attractants (attractant persistency) and killing agents, the retention capacity (e.g. sticky traps' retention capacity declines over time), the rate of catch of target and non-target species, the placement of the traps, the biology and ecology of the species, and environmental conditions.

The frequency of examination should be adjusted according to the prevailing environmental conditions, the likely catch rate and the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly. The interval can range from one day up to 30 days, varying depending on the survey type and the phase of the programme (establishment

or maintenance). The interval should also consider the number of target and non-target organisms expected to be captured and the condition of the fruit flies in the trap, as specimens may degrade rapidly. Specimen degradation may complicate or impair identification.

Measures should be taken to avoid accidental cross-contamination between different attractant types (e.g. cue-lure and methyl eugenol). Cross-contamination may reduce trap effectiveness and may delay corrective actions. Attractants are highly volatile and care should be taken when storing, packaging, handling and disposing of attractants to avoid compromising the attractant effectiveness and operator safety. Similarly, care should be taken when handling the trap itself, as mishandling may reduce trap functionality.

2. Fruit fly host-sampling procedures

If trapping is not effective (or sensitive) enough to provide sufficient levels of confidence in pest freedom over a suitable period, it may be combined with fruit fly host sampling to improve the overall detection sensitivity. Fruit fly host sampling is particularly effective in small-scale delimiting surveys in an outbreak (including an incursion) area. Samples should be held in suitable conditions to maintain the viability of all immature stages of fruit flies in infested host material for identification.

Procedures for sampling the host as part of fruit fly surveys should take into consideration:

- factors related to the preferred host of the target fruit fly:
  - the effect of host maturity on infestation,
  - the signs or symptoms of infestation of host material;
- the targeting of areas that are likely to be at high risk of having infested host material:
  - urban areas,
  - abandoned places of production,
  - fruit markets,
  - packing facilities,
  - sites with a high concentration of hosts,
  - entrance points into the FF-PFA, where appropriate; and
- the sample size and selection, including consideration of:
  - the required level of statistical confidence,
  - the availability of host material in the survey area,
  - the targeting of hosts with symptoms of fruit fly damage (e.g. fallen fruit, fruit rejected at packing facilities), where appropriate.

3. Handling of samples and identification of species

Host material and the contents of traps should be labelled, transported and held in a secure manner to avoid mixing up host material or specimens.

Samples collected in the field from hosts or from traps may be brought to a facility for fruit flies to be recovered and the species identified. Host samples may be dissected immediately or maintained until identifiable life stages develop.

Diagnostic protocols adopted as annexes to ISPM 27 (*Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests*) may be used for pest diagnosis.

The NPPO of the exporting country should have in place, or have ready access to, adequate infrastructure and trained personnel to identify immature stages or emerged adults of the target fruit fly in a timely manner, preferably within 48 hours.

4. Quality assurance of trapping and sampling

The NPPO of the exporting country may establish a quality-assurance programme for the survey to confirm and document that all protocols have been met. The key elements of the quality-assurance programme may include verification of attractant effectiveness, placement and recovery of marked target flies, regular reviews of survey documentation, audits of trap placement and servicing, host sampling, and confirmation of diagnostic competency.

This annex is a prescriptive part of the standard.

ANNEX 2: Corrective action plans

1. General considerations

The detection of the target fruit fly in an FF-PFA should result in the implementation of a corrective action plan with the objective of eradication.

Once it is determined that the detection represents an incursion of a breeding population, the objective of the corrective action plan should be to ensure eradication of the target fruit fly to enable the FF-PFA status of the affected area to be reinstated.

The corrective action plan should consider the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly, the prevailing environmental conditions in the FF-PFA (e.g. climate, geography), and the distribution of the target fruit fly and the hosts within the FF-PFA.

The elements required for implementation of the corrective action plan include:

- a regulatory framework under which the corrective action plan can be implemented;
- technical criteria for the determination of a breeding population;
- timescales for the initial response;
- technical criteria for the selection of survey (trapping or host sampling) parameters, application of corrective actions for eradication and establishment of regulatory measures;
- the availability of sufficient operational resources and expertise;
- pest diagnostic capability; and
- effective communication within the NPPO of the exporting country and with the NPPOs of importing countries, including sharing the contact details of all parties involved.

2. Actions to implement the corrective action plan

2.1 Determination of the pest status upon detection

If the detection is of a transient population (pest status "present: transient" according to ISPM 8) within the FF-PFA, no action may be necessary. If the presence of the pest poses an unacceptable risk to plant trade, a delimiting survey should be implemented immediately after the detection.

If the detection of the target fruit fly could constitute a breeding population that is not transient (i.e. one of the other "present" categories described in ISPM 8), a delimiting survey should be implemented immediately after the detection. The delimiting survey may include placement of additional traps, an increased trap-examination rate and host sampling.

The outcome of the delimiting survey will determine necessary corrective actions. If an established population is present, the delimiting survey is also used to determine the size of the affected area for eradication of the target fruit fly.

2.2 Suspension of fruit fly pest free area status

If a breeding population has established (i.e. if any of the triggers specified in section 7.1 of the core text of this standard have been reached), the FF-PFA status of the affected area should be suspended or withdrawn. The whole or part of the FF-PFA may be suspended or withdrawn. In most cases, the affected part of the FF-PFA may be delimited by applying a suspension radius that depends on the biology and ecology of the target fruit fly. The same radius may apply for all FF-PFAs for a given target fruit fly unless scientific evidence supports a deviation.

2.3 Application of control measures in the affected area

As per ISPM 9, specific corrective actions to eradicate the target fruit fly from the affected area should be implemented immediately in the area and adequately communicated to the community. These actions may include:

- total harvest and destruction, treatment or removal of host material;
- destruction of infested host material;
- soil treatment (chemical or physical);
- insecticide application, including selective insecticide bait treatments;
- male annihilation technique;
- sterile fly release; or
- mass trapping.

Measures should be immediately enforced to control the movement of regulated articles that can host the target fruit fly. These measures may include the cancellation of consignments of host commodities from the affected area and, as appropriate, host disinfestation and the operation of roadblocks to prevent the movement of infested host commodities from the affected area to the rest of the FF-PFA. Other measures may be adopted if agreed by the importing country, such as increased surveys or supplementary trapping to provide assurance of fruit fly freedom or phytosanitary treatment of host consignments for export. Interim measures (e.g. phytosanitary treatments, systems approaches) may be agreed with importing countries before an incursion occurs to minimize disruption to trade.

2.4 Criteria for reinstatement of fruit fly pest free area status and actions to be taken

The criteria for determining that eradication from the area has been successful are specified in section 7.2 of the core text of this standard and should be included in the corrective action plan for the target fruit fly. The length of time before eradication may officially be declared successful will depend on the biology and ecology of the species, the prevailing environmental conditions, and the effectiveness of the surveillance used to confirm area freedom. Once the criteria have been fulfilled, the NPPO of the exporting country should reinstate the FF-PFA and surveillance levels for the maintenance of the FF-PFA.

2.5 Reporting of changes in fruit fly pest free area status

Relevant NPPOs or competent authorities delegated by the NPPO of the exporting country should be kept informed of changes in FF-PFA status, as appropriate, and IPPC pest reporting obligations should be observed (see ISPM 17).

This annex is a prescriptive part of the standard.

ANNEX 3: Control measures for an incursion within a fruit fly pest free area

An eradication area (see Figure 1) and related control measures may be established with the intent to eradicate the target fruit fly and restore the FF-PFA status, protect the surrounding FF-PFA, and, where applicable, meet the phytosanitary import requirements of the importing country. In particular, control measures are needed because movements of regulated articles from and through an eradication area pose a potential risk of spreading the target fruit fly.

1. Establishment of an eradication area

The NPPO of the exporting country should declare an establishment event in accordance with this and other relevant ISPMs (e.g. ISPM 8, ISPM 9, ISPM 17). When a target fruit fly incursion is detected within an FF-PFA, an eradication area based on technical evaluation may be established. The FF-PFA status of the eradication area should be suspended. If control measures cannot be applied to establish an eradication area, then the FF-PFA status of the whole FF-PFA should be withdrawn in accordance with this standard.

The eradication area should cover the infested area. In addition, where necessary a buffer zone should be established in accordance with this standard and as determined by delimiting surveys, taking into account the factors listed in section 5.1 of the core text of this standard.

A circle delimiting the minimum size of the eradication area may be drawn, centred on the actual target fruit fly detection and with a radius large enough to comply with the above considerations, as determined by the NPPO of the exporting country. In the case of several pest detections, several (possibly overlapping) circles may be drawn accordingly, as illustrated in Figure 1.

If necessary for the practical implementation of the eradication area, the NPPO of the exporting country may adjust the eradication area to correspond to administrative boundaries or topography, or to approximate the circle with a polygon.

A map with geographical coordinates should be used for delimiting and enabling recognition of the eradication area. Signposts may be placed along boundaries and on roads to alert the public, and notices may be published to facilitate public awareness.

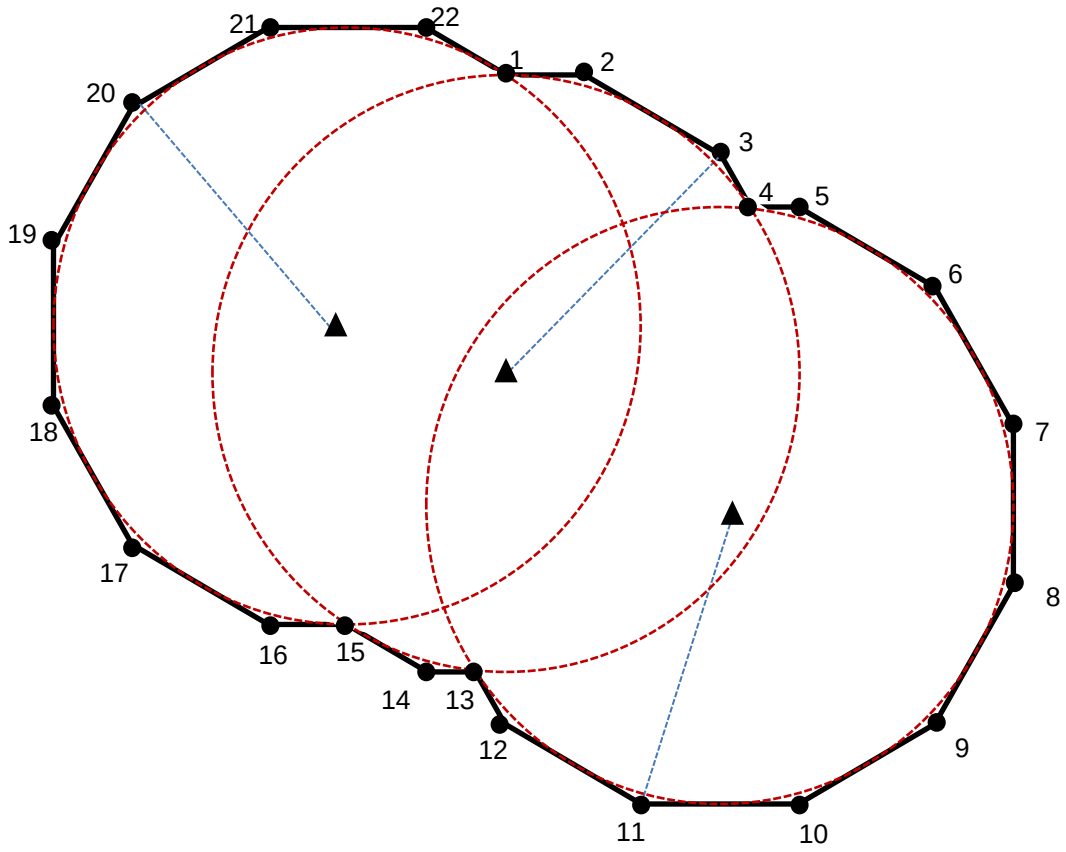

Figure 1. Example of delimiting circles and approximating polygons to determine the eradication area around three pest detections.

Notes: Solid triangles (▲), pest detection; solid circles (●), geo-referenced coordinates; red dotted line, delimiting circles; black line, approximating polygons.

2. Control measures

Each stage of the production chain (e.g. growing, sorting, packing, transporting, dispatching) may lead to spread of the target fruit fly from the eradication area into the FF-PFA. This does not apply, however, to any facilities located within the FF-PFA at which only host material from the FF-PFA is handled. Appropriate control measures should be applied to manage the pest risk to which the surrounding FF-PFA and any importing countries are exposed.

Control measures applied at each stage of the production chain are described in the following sections.

2.1 Production

During the production period within the eradication area, the NPPO of the exporting country may require the application of control measures to avoid infestation, such as mechanical and cultural controls, insecticide bait application technique, bait stations, male annihilation technique, mass trapping, sterile insect technique and biological control.

2.2 Movement of regulated articles

To prevent the spread of the target fruit fly, regulated articles (e.g. soil, host plants, host fruit) being moved from, through or within the eradication area should be transported in a way that prevents infestation and contamination. This also pertains to moving regulated articles for phytosanitary certification.

2.3 Packing and packing facilities

Packing facilities may be located within the eradication area or in the FF-PFA and may pack host material grown in the eradication area or in the FF-PFA. Control measures to prevent spread of the target fruit fly should be considered in each case.

The NPPO of the exporting country should as necessary:

- register facilities located within the FF-PFA and eradication area;
- require the application of appropriate control measures to prevent the target fruit fly from entering or escaping facilities;
- require and approve methods of physical separation of different lots of host material (e.g. by using insect-proof packaging or separate pest-proof packaging locations within facilities) to avoid the transfer of the target fruit fly between different lots;
- at each stage of the packing process (e.g. at the reception, processing, storage and dispatch stages), require the application of appropriate control measures to maintain the segregation of host material originating from areas of different pest status;
- require the application of appropriate measures for the handling and movement of host material through facilities to prevent the mixing of host material originating from areas of different pest status (e.g. flowcharts, signs, staff training);
- require and approve methods of disposal of host material from the eradication area that has been rejected (e.g. material rejected as a result of inspection or quality-assurance activities);
- require ongoing checks for the presence or absence of the target fruit fly in and outside facilities and, if relevant, in the surrounding FF-PFA;
- require that packing material, containers and conveyances are insect-proof and clean;
- require the application of appropriate control measures to eradicate the target fruit fly from facilities when it is detected; and
- audit the facilities.

2.4 Storage and storage facilities

Storage facilities may be located within the eradication area or in the FF-PFA. The NPPO of the exporting country should register and audit such facilities and require the storage providers running the facilities to apply control measures to prevent the spread of the target fruit fly. As a minimum, these storage providers should:

- maintain traceability and separation between host material originating from the eradication area and from the FF-PFA;
- use an approved method of disposal of host material from the eradication area that has been rejected (e.g. material rejected as a result of inspection or quality-assurance activities);
- conduct ongoing checks for the presence or absence of the target fruit fly in and outside facilities and, if relevant, in the surrounding FF-PFA;
- apply appropriate control measures to eliminate the target fruit fly from their facility when detected; and
- comply with NPPO requirements for audit of their facility.

2.5 Processing and processing facilities

If the processing facility is in the eradication area, host material destined for processing (such as juicing, canning and puréeing) may not pose an additional pest risk to the area.

If the facility is in the FF-PFA but processes host material from the eradication area, the NPPO of the exporting country should require measures to be applied within the facility to ensure that reception, storage and processing areas are insect-proof and hence prevent the escape of the target fruit fly.

Ongoing checks for the presence or absence of the target fruit fly may be conducted at the facility and, if relevant, in the surrounding FF-PFA. Appropriate control measures should be applied to eliminate the target fruit fly from the facility when it is detected.

The NPPO of the exporting country should specify and require the approved method or methods for disposal of host material from the eradication area that has been rejected as a result, for example, of inspection or quality-assurance activities. Rejected host material should be disposed of in such a way that the target fruit fly is demonstrated to be absent or rendered non-viable.

2.6 Treatment and treatment facilities

Treatment facilities should be registered and audited by the NPPO of the exporting country.

Post-harvest treatment (e.g. cold treatment, heat treatment, fumigation, irradiation), or in some cases pre-harvest treatment (e.g. bait spray, fruit bagging), may be required for host material moving from the eradication area into the FF-PFA or being exported to countries where the target fruit fly is a quarantine pest.

Control measures preventing the escape of the target fruit fly may be required for treatment facilities located within the FF-PFA, if treating regulated articles from the eradication area. The NPPO of the exporting country may require such articles to be physically isolated within the facility.

The NPPO of the exporting country should specify and require the approved method or methods of disposal of rejected host material from the eradication area to reduce the risk of spread of the target fruit fly. Disposal methods may include double bagging followed by deep burial or incineration.

2.7 Sale inside the eradication area

Host material sold within the eradication area may be at risk of infestation if exposed before being sold (e.g. placed on display in an open-air market) and may therefore need to be physically protected, when feasible, to avoid spread of the target fruit fly while on display and being stored.

3. Documentation and record-keeping

The control measures, including corrective actions, used in the eradication area should be adequately documented, reviewed and updated (see also ISPM 4) and should be retained for at least 24 months. Such documents should be made available to the NPPO of the importing country on request.

4. Termination of control measures in the eradication area

To be considered successful, eradication of the target fruit fly in the eradication area should meet the requirements for reinstatement of FF-PFA status after an incursion, in accordance with this standard (see section 7.2 of the core text of this standard).

The control measures should remain in force until eradication is declared. If eradication is successful, the control measures in the eradication area may be terminated and the FF-PFA status may be reinstated. If eradication is unsuccessful, the FF-PFA delimitation should be modified accordingly. The NPPO of the importing country should be notified as appropriate.

Appendix 5: DRAFT ANNEX TO ISPM 23: Field inspection (2021-018)

Status box

This is not an official part of the standard and it will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat after adoption.	
Date of this document	2024-05-16
Document category	Draft annex to ISPM 23
Current document stage	*To* first consultation
Major stages	2022-04 CPM-16 added topic *Field inspection (including growing season inspection) (Annex to ISPM 23: Guidelines for inspection)* (2021-018) with priority 2. 2022-11 Standards Committee (SC) approved Specification 74 (*Field inspection*). 2023-10 Expert working group drafted the annex. 2024-05 SC revised and approved for first consultation.
Steward history	2022-04 Masahiro SAI (JP, Lead Steward) 2022-05 Mariangela CIAMPITTI (IT, Assistant Steward)
Notes	This section will remain on the drafts going for consultation but will be deleted before adoption. 2022-11 SC removed reference to growing season from the title of the specification 2023-11 Edited 2024-05 Edited

This annex was adopted by the [XXX] Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in [XXX 20XX].

The annex is a prescriptive part of the standard.

ANNEX 1: Field inspection

1. Concept of field inspection

Field inspection is the inspection of plants in fields (including plants in open fields, in nurseries, under protected cultivation and in controlled environments). Field inspection is a phytosanitary measure applied to detect regulated pests, or signs or symptoms of regulated pests, and to verify conformity with phytosanitary requirements.

For the purposes of this annex, the term "field inspection" applies to the inspection of plants during the growing period or dormant stage. The term "pest" may refer to a single species or multiple species.

Field inspection may be required as a phytosanitary measure with the aim of reducing, directly or indirectly, the pest risk associated with the international movement of plants. However, it should be required only if technically justified according to a pest risk analysis or a comparable examination and evaluation of available scientific information. Field inspection may also be used in voluntary export-inspection programmes in exporting countries and in certification programmes for the production of plants for planting for export.

2. Scope

This annex describes inspections in the field in relation to plants being produced for international trade. It provides requirements for field inspection conducted by, or on behalf of, a national plant protection organization (NPPO) as a stand-alone phytosanitary measure, as one component of a systems approach, or in combination with another measure or measures, to verify conformity with phytosanitary requirements. The annex outlines assumptions involved in the application of field inspection as well as the requirements for the field-inspection process and the associated documentation.

3. Difference between field inspection and specific surveillance

The objectives of field inspection and specific surveillance differ. Field inspection is applied to detect regulated pests, or signs or symptoms of regulated pests, on or in the plants, and to verify conformity with phytosanitary requirements. Specific surveillance, on the other hand, is an official process to determine the presence or absence of pests in an area (by detection survey), to establish the boundaries of an area considered to be infested by or free from a pest (by delimiting survey), or to verify the characteristics of a pest population in an area (by monitoring survey).

4. Assumptions involved in the application of field inspection

In addition to section 1.2 of the core text of this standard, the use of field inspection to detect the presence of pests or to determine or verify pest incidence in a field is based on the following assumptions:

- Pests of concern may be present on or in the plants, and the pests are visually detectable at the appropriate time (in terms of their presence, signs or symptoms).
- Field inspection can be operationally more practical or effective than inspection of consignments (e.g. rootstocks, seeds).
- If a pest is detected on or in the plants, the commodity for international trade derived from those plants may be infested.

5. Other considerations for field inspection

While some factors from section 1.5 of the core text of this standard are applicable to field inspection, the following may also be considered when making decisions on the use of field inspection as a phytosanitary measure:

- pest status;
- pest prevalence;
- pest biology;
- phenological stage of plants;
- inspection method, including timing and frequency;
- field size and configuration;
- difficulty of pest detection on a specific plant;
- other biotic factors (e.g. other pests, natural enemies) and abiotic factors (e.g. climate);
- cultural practices and control measures; and
- the specific objectives of the field inspection.

6. Specific requirements for field inspection

The specific requirements for field inspection relate to the following components of the field-inspection process:

- examination of relevant documents (section 6.1 of this annex);
- verification of identity of the field and plants (section 6.2 of this annex); and
- visual examination for pests and conformity with other phytosanitary requirements (section 6.3 of this annex).

Certain aspects of field inspection may differ depending on whether the phytosanitary requirements specify a tolerance level for regulated non-quarantine pests.

6.1 Examination of relevant documents

Officially acceptable documents should be examined to ensure that they are:

- complete;
- consistent;
- accurate; and
- valid and not fraudulent.

Examples of documents that may be associated with field inspection include the following:

- field maps, site plans, field-identity documents;
- producer records;
- documents confirming registration of the field;
- previous inspection reports;
- previous test reports;
- treatment documents or certificates;
- certificates of origin of plants and plant material;
- certification-programme documentation (e.g. from certification programme for seed potatoes), import permits;
- commercial invoices; and
- records that ensure traceability (e.g. the necessary information to allow trace-back of plants).

6.2 Verification of identity of the field and plants

The identity of the field and of the plants that are subject to inspection (e.g. location of field; species, varieties and cultivars, phenological stage of plants) should be verified to ensure that they match the identity provided in the corresponding documents.

6.3 Visual examination for pests and conformity with other phytosanitary requirements

6.3.1 Detection of pests

To determine whether the pest targeted by the inspection is present, or whether it exceeds a specified tolerance level, an inspection method should be selected that meets the following requirements.

The method, including the intensity of inspection, should allow the target pest to be detected with the desired confidence level. The ability of the method to do this will depend on practical and statistical considerations, such as the probability of detecting the pest, the growing conditions, and the number of plants or size of the field.

The method should take into account the specific objectives of the field inspection; the pest's biology, signs or symptoms, and likely distribution pattern in the field; and the suitability of conditions for detection.

The method should be based on transparent technical and operational criteria, and it should be applied consistently.

6.3.2 Verification of conformity with phytosanitary requirements

Field inspection may be conducted to verify conformity with phytosanitary requirements other than those addressed by pest detection, such as:

- growing medium and substrate requirements for the plants;
- required growth stage of the plants;
- requirements in the vicinity of the field (e.g. absence of alternative hosts);
- conditions in the vicinity of the field (e.g. pest-management practices, the distance between the field boundary and the location of the growing plants);

- specific production conditions; or
- sanitation and hygiene requirements.

7. Planning a field inspection

7.1 The field-inspection process

The field-inspection process should include consideration of the specific objectives of the field inspection, the circumstances when field inspection may be used and field-inspection methods.

7.2 Specific objectives of field inspection

The specific objectives of the field inspection should be considered at the outset of the field-inspection process. Examples of specific objectives include, but are not limited to, the following:

- to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of an importing country;
- to manage the pest risk of a regulated pest that is difficult to detect during inspection of consignments;
- to provide greater effectiveness compared with inspection of consignments (e.g. for high-value plant material such as seeds or plants for planting);
- to verify that plants in a field are free from the target pest or to verify that infestation of plants in a field by the target pest has not exceeded a specified tolerance level; or
- to contribute to a systems approach (ISPM 14 (*The use of integrated measures in a systems approach for pest risk management*)) or to support establishment and maintenance of a pest free place of production or production site (ISPM 10 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites*)).

7.3 Circumstances when field inspection may be used

The field-inspection process should take into account the circumstances under which field inspection may be technically justified.

Field inspection may be carried out when it is:

- selected as a pest risk management option to detect the target pest and inform decisions on pest risk management;
- applied for plants at the appropriate time for observation of signs or symptoms of the target pests;
- conducted in combination with a test to confirm the suspected presence of the target pest in cases where symptoms of the pest are unreliable; or
- conducted in the vicinity of the field (if the vicinity needs to be inspected), based on the likely the distribution of the target pest and its capacity to spread.

In some circumstances, equivalent measures, such as sampling and laboratory testing, may be more suitable than field inspection to provide assurance that plants are free from the target pest, or visual examination of plants in the field may not be sufficient to confirm presence or absence of the pest. Examples of such circumstances include the following:

- the pest is known to exhibit latency;
- infested plants can be asymptomatic;
- the phenological stage of the plants is not appropriate for pest detection (e.g. young plants);
- suspicious signs or symptoms cannot be immediately identified; and
- the life stage of the pest at the time of inspection is difficult to detect.

When selecting the timing and frequency of field inspection, the characteristics of the target pest and the plants should be taken into account:

- The field inspection should be timed to coincide with a life stage of the pest that is suitable for detection.
- The field inspection should be timed to coincide with the optimum time for the plants to show signs or symptoms, which varies between pest and plant species.
- Field inspection may be conducted periodically, depending on pest biology.

7.4 Field-inspection methods

When selecting the method for a field inspection, section 5 and section 6.3.1 of this annex and the phytosanitary import requirements of the importing country should be taken into account. The field-inspection method should be designed to detect the target regulated pest. The method should be reviewed as necessary to take account of experience gained and new technical developments. The method may include one or more of the following:

- a general visual assessment of the relevant part of a field to check the physical condition of the plants, looking first for anomalies within the crop and then for any noticeable, poorly growing plants or those with more obvious symptoms, such as abnormal growth, differences in colour, a paler colour, or with types of patches of a different colour (if no such plants are apparent, then a representative number of plants should be examined);
- inspection of the entire field, the entire field and (where appropriate) land in its vicinity, or a part of the field, depending on phytosanitary requirements, using an inspection pattern appropriate for the plants being inspected and the target pest;
- an inspection pattern that ensures that relevant parts of the field are adequately and proportionally represented in the plants inspected within the field;
- inspection of individual plants or plant parts that may show signs or symptoms, and any other parts, if necessary; and
- sampling of selected plants for pest detection and identification as appropriate, because in some cases, pests or signs or symptoms of pests that have been detected may require identification or testing in a laboratory or by a specialist.

The method should include ways of ensuring the integrity, traceability and security of samples.

8. Field inspection outcome

The result of the field inspection may contribute to the decision about whether the plants meet phytosanitary requirements.

If the target pest is detected or conformity with phytosanitary requirements is not verified, further actions should be taken. These actions may be determined by the nature of the findings, considering the pest or other objectives, and the circumstances.

9. Documentation

National plant protection organizations should develop official documentation for conducting field inspections and managing or accessing inspection records and outcomes. Documentation is essential for promoting consistency, improving the interpretation and reliability of results, and facilitating the audit and verification of field-inspection activities.

The NPPO, or entities authorized to conduct field inspection on behalf of the NPPO, should retain all records about each field inspection for as long as is needed to allow trace-back from a non-compliant consignment or to facilitate the later review of results if necessary. Such records should be made available for audit by the NPPO, or entities authorized to conduct audits on behalf of the NPPO, and to the NPPO of an importing country on request.

10. Responsibilities of national plant protection organizations

The responsibilities of NPPOs that conduct field inspection, or authorize entities to do this on their behalf, should include the following:

- train personnel to ensure that their skills and expertise are maintained at an adequate level to plan and conduct field inspections effectively and consistently;
- ensure that inspectors can fulfil the requirements described in section 1.4 of the core text of this standard;
- ensure that inspectors have the right of access and the practical possibility to conduct inspections in fields and in the vicinity of fields;
- review and evaluate field-inspection processes as needed; and
- determine the roles and responsibilities of producers with regard to field inspections.

Potential implementation issues

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.

Appendix 6: DRAFT SPECIFICATION FOR ISPM: Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis ISPM (2023-037)

Status box

This is not an official part of the specification and it will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat after approval	
Date of this document	2024-05-20
Document category	Draft specification for an ISPM
Current document stage	*To* first consultation
Major stages	2023-11 Standards Committee (SC) recommended to CPM-18 that topic ***Holistic revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard*** (2023-037) be added to the *List of topics for IPPC standards*. 2023-11 SC formed a small working group to develop a draft specification. 2024-04 CPM-18 added topic to the *List of topics for IPPC standards.* 2024-05 SC revised daft specification and approved for first consultation.
Steward history	2024-05 SC Masahiro SAI (JP, Lead Steward) 2024-05 SC Stavroula IOANNIDOU (GR, Assistant Steward)
Notes	This section will remain on the drafts going for consultation but will be deleted before adoption. 2024-03 SC small group revised the title to *Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis (PRA) ISPMs* 2024-05 Edited

Title

Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis ISPM (2023-037).

Reason for the revision of the draft reorganized standards

Pest risk analysis (PRA) is a core process within the scope of the IPPC and an important science-based evaluation tool for national plant protection organizations (NPPOs). It is used to identify pests and pathways of concern, determine whether pests qualify as regulated pests, and identify the options for phytosanitary measures that are appropriate to manage the risk of introduction and spread of pests in a specified PRA area.

In 2022, the expert working group (EWG) on *Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001) reorganized the ISPMs related to PRA – ISPM 2 (*Framework for pest risk analysis*), ISPM 11 (*Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests*) and the draft ISPM on *Pest risk management for quarantine pests* (2014-001) – into one draft overarching ISPM with annexes for each stage of PRA. The reorganization removed redundancy in the text without substantial modifications. The draft reorganized ISPM was reviewed by the Standards Committee (SC) and submitted to first consultation in 2023. However, general comments submitted during the consultation supported a full, comprehensive revision of the reorganized ISPM. The reasons supporting a comprehensive revision were as follows:

- The draft reorganized ISPM is based on old versions of ISPMs that have not been reviewed in their entirety for several years. ISPM 2 and ISPM 11 were last revised in 2007 and 2013, respectively.
- The draft reorganized ISPM includes a combination of requirements (i.e. obligations) and detailed guidance on the process of conducting a PRA that may be challenging for countries to read, understand and implement.
- There is a need to include the requirements identified during the first consultation and to address new phytosanitary challenges (e.g. the inclusion of climate-change considerations in PRA; consideration of direct and indirect pest effects in terms of economic, environmental and social consequences).

Scope

The comprehensively revised, reorganized ISPM should outline the core principles and requirements for PRA: determining if an organism is a pest and assessing the risk of introduction and consequences within the scope of the IPPC. The ISPM should also clearly describe the relationship between the pest risk and phytosanitary measures, and the strength of these measures at managing this risk, based on the principles outlined in ISPM 1 (*Phytosanitary principles for the protection of plants and the application of phytosanitary measures in international trade*) and ISPM 24 (*Guidelines for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures*).

The standard should not include guidance on regulated non-quarantine pests, which is provided in ISPM 21 (*Pest risk analysis for regulated non-quarantine pests*).

Purpose

The purpose of the comprehensive revision of the draft reorganized PRA ISPMs is to streamline the text to emphasize the requirements and obligations for PRA in the context of the IPPC and to provide greater clarity for all contracting parties, making the standard easier to understand and use.

Tasks

The EWG should undertake the following tasks:

(89) Review existing standards and guidelines for risk analysis developed by other standard setting organizations named in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (World Organisation for Animal Health, Codex Alimentarius Commission) and the WTO principles for the development of international standards (WTO, 2000) and discuss the potential relevance of the best practices to the IPPC PRA framework.

(90) Consider recommendations made by the EWG that drafted the reorganized PRA ISPM in 2022, such as considering whether the requirements relating to environmental impact should be addressed as part of the requirements on economic consequences as described in Supplement 2 of ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*).

(91) Review the text of the draft reorganized PRA ISPM as developed by the steward of the topic *Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001) after the consultation in 2023 (including the annexes) to identify the core principles, steps and requirements for PRA and identify those parts of this draft reorganized ISPM that may be moved to implementation material.

(92) Consider the recommendations made by the above steward related to comments submitted during the consultation in 2023.

(93) Streamline and clarify the text to describe the principles and core requirements of PRA.

(94) Formulate recommendations to the SC on the content of a potential IPPC guide on PRA, with consideration of existing IPPC implementation material.

(95) Consider whether the comprehensively revised, reorganized ISPM could affect in a specific way (positively or negatively) the protection of biodiversity and the environment. If this is the case, the impact should be identified, addressed and clarified in the draft ISPM.

(96) Consider implementation of the comprehensively revised, reorganized ISPM by contracting parties and identify potential operational and technical implementation issues. Provide information and possible recommendations on these issues to the SC.

(97) Review all references to PRA in other ISPMs to ensure that they are still relevant and propose consequential changes if necessary. Review all references to other ISPMs in the draft, comprehensively revised, reorganized ISPM and amend as necessary.

Provision of resources

Funding for the meeting may be provided from sources other than the regular programme of the IPPC (FAO). As recommended by ICPM-2 (1999), whenever possible, those participating in standard setting activities voluntarily fund their travel and subsistence to attend meetings. Participants may request

financial assistance, with the understanding that resources are limited and the priority for financial assistance is given to developing country participants. Please refer to the *Criteria used for prioritizing participants to receive travel assistance to attend meetings organized by the IPPC Secretariat* posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) (see https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities).

Collaborator

To be determined.

Steward

Please refer to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* posted on the IPP (see https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards).

Expertise

Members with a combined and wide knowledge and experience in:

- pest risk assessment, preferably with experience in conducting and implementing PRA in accordance with ISPM 2 and ISPM 11;
- the development of PRA methodologies for NPPOs or regional plant protection organizations (desirable);
- pest risk management, including experience in evaluating and selecting pest risk management options according to the pest risk identified through pest risk assessment;
- pest risk communication;
- the consideration of climate-change impacts in PRAs; and
- PRA for beneficial organisms.

Former members of the EWG on *Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001) are encouraged to apply.

Participants

Five to seven members.

In addition, at least one former member of the EWG on *Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards* (2020-001), an expert with practical experience in implementing risk analysis standards from a sister organization to the IPPC (e.g. World Organisation for Animal Health) and a member of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee should be invited to attend as invited experts.

Bibliography

The IPPC, relevant ISPMs and other national, regional and international standards and agreements as may be applicable to the tasks, and discussion papers submitted in relation to this work.

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Further reading

Information to support the development of this standard may be available on the IPP at: https://www.ippc.int/en/about/core-activities/capacity-development/guides-and-training-materials/

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WOAH. 2019. Risk analysis. In: *Terrestrial animal health code – Volume 1, General provisions*, 28th edn, pp. 101–106. Paris. https://rr-europe.woah.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/oie-terrestrial-code-1_2019_en.pdf

Discussion papers

Participants and interested parties are encouraged to submit discussion papers to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org) for consideration by the EWG.

The draft ISPM on Pest risk management for quarantine pests (2014-001) (both the version drafted by the EWG and the one revised by the SC).

Appendix 7: DRAFT ANNEX TO ISPM 38: Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009)

Status box

This is not an official part of the standard and it will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat after adoption.	
Date of this document	2024-05-20
Document category	Draft annex to ISPM 38
Current document stage	*To* first consultation
Major stages	2019-04 CPM-14 added topic *Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (Annex to ISPM 38)* (2018-009) with priority 1. 2020-11 Standards Committee (SC) approved Specification 70 (*Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds*). 2021-10 Expert working group met virtually and drafted the annex. 2022-05 SC deferred and formed small working group. 2022-07 SC small working group revised. 2022-11 SC revised. 2023-02 SC small group revised. 2023-05 SC deferred. 2023-11 SC deferred. 2024-05 SC revised and approved for first consultation.
Steward history	2019-05 SC Marina ZLOTINA (US, Lead Steward) 2024-05 SC Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (AR, Assistant Steward) 2019-05 SC Hernando Morera GONZÁLEZ (CR, Assistant Steward)
Notes	This section will remain on the drafts going for consultation but will be deleted before adoption. 2022-01 Edited 2024-05 Edited

This annex was adopted by the [XXX] Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in [XXX 20XX].

The annex is a prescriptive part of the standard.

1. Introduction

This annex provides a general, standardized framework of requirements for national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) if developing systems approaches for seeds as an option for phytosanitary certification. Recognition of a systems approach by NPPOs may form the basis for phytosanitary certification of seeds, serving as an alternative to single measures such as seed treatment or seed testing when issuing a phytosanitary certificate. This annex describes the role and responsibilities of NPPOs in a systems approach for seeds and, if applicable, the role and responsibilities of participating entities.

Systems approaches may include, in addition to commonly used phytosanitary measures, components of the existing production practices and quality systems used by participating entities, as far as they relate to pest management. These components can be effective at reducing pest risk to a level that is sufficient to meet phytosanitary import requirements as evaluated by NPPOs. When such components are used in a systems approach, NPPOs should collaborate closely with the participating entities, with NPPOs being responsible for identifying the pest risk, setting the acceptable level of pest risk for specified pests, designing the system, evaluating the effectiveness of the production-practice and quality-system components in reducing pest risk, and monitoring whether this effectiveness is being maintained throughout the entire seed supply chain.

In this annex, the following terminology is used:

- "entities" refers to any parties, other than NPPOs, involved in the seed supply chain, such as seed producers and companies performing treatments;

- "seed supply chain" encompasses all steps related to seed production and movement (i.e. from pre-planting processes and procedures in the country of origin, through all subsequent processes and procedures taking place in different countries, as appropriate);
- "exporting country" refers to the country of origin and any countries of re-export; and
- "importing country" refers to any countries of re-export and the final destination country.

1.1 Scope

This annex applies to any seeds being moved internationally for any purpose. It describes the essential elements of a systems approach for seeds, which may include measures and practices already used by entities. The resulting systems approach may be evaluated and approved by NPPOs as a way to meet phytosanitary import requirements and, therefore, as a basis for phytosanitary certification.

According to the core text of this standard, many pest management practices used in seed production may be integrated in a systems approach to reduce pest risk throughout the seed production process, from planting to harvesting, helping to meet phytosanitary import requirements.

The pest risk management options described in this annex may apply to individual or groups of pests and should be considered sufficient to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of importing countries when integrated into a systems approach. This approach is consistent with the concepts and approaches described in ISPM 36 (*Integrated measures for plants for planting*), which does not cover seeds. If the NPPO of the importing country has indications that measures comprising the system approach do not properly address the pest risk posed by a particular regulated pest and therefore do not meet their phytosanitary import requirements, additional measures should be discussed with the NPPO of the country of origin.

1.2 Background

The development of a systems approach is described in ISPM 14 (*The use of integrated measures in a systems approach for pest risk management*) as a bilateral process involving the NPPO of an importing country and the NPPO of an exporting country, which may also involve stakeholders from industry. The NPPOs of several countries may also develop together a systems approach for export from, and import into, their countries. If this leads to the same systems approach for these countries, this becomes a multilateral systems approach, which may suit the multinational character of the seed trade. The benefits of such a multilateral systems approach, which involves multiple exporting and importing countries, are likely to be greater when a larger number of countries participate in it, providing more predictability for seed movement.

As general guidance for developing a systems approach for seeds, this annex does not focus on any particular seed commodity but does address specific characteristics of the seed trade, such as the potentially long periods over which seeds can be stored and delivered to many different customers in different countries.

The framework is based on combining measures that, in addition to commonly used phytosanitary measures, may include components of the existing production practices and quality systems used by participating entities. The resulting systems approaches are developed by NPPOs, considering each critical control point (CCP) along the seed supply chain. One of the requirements of the framework is that each entity participating in the systems approach should be authorized by the NPPO of the country of origin.

A systems approach may be used as an equivalent alternative to stand-alone phytosanitary treatments to manage the pest risk (see ISPM 14) associated with the movement of seeds. Where used, systems approaches should be developed by NPPOs. This annex outlines the responsibilities of NPPOs and, if applicable, the basic requirements for each of the entities participating in the systems approach.

1.3 Purpose of systems approaches for seeds

According to ISPM 12 (*Phytosanitary certificates*), phytosanitary certification is used to attest that consignments meet phytosanitary import requirements and is undertaken by an NPPO. The purpose of systems approaches for seeds is to provide additional options for phytosanitary certification in line with the phytosanitary import requirements of all the NPPOs involved in the international movement of seeds along the seed supply chain. Any individual systems approach for seeds may involve the collaboration of NPPOs with the entities participating in that systems approach to ensure the health of seeds being produced and moved along the seed supply chain of the countries that recognize that systems approach. Elements of a systems approach are outlined in ISPM 14 and some of these may be relevant to a systems approach to seeds.

1.4 Important considerations for systems approaches for seeds

Characteristic aspects of seed production and trade, compared to the production of and trade in other plants and plant products, are the potentially long periods over which the seeds can be stored and delivered and the potential delivery to many different customers in different countries, with multiple re-exports. A systems approach for seeds, especially when including measures and practices used in the seed supply chain, may need to consider whether special requirements are needed for:

- seeds produced before an entity was authorized to participate in the systems approach (such seeds should not be traded under the systems approach);
- seeds produced before the systems approach was approved by the NPPO of an importing country (such seeds should be checked to determine to what extent they comply with the phytosanitary import requirements of the importing country);
- the transport of bulk seed;
- the storage of seeds; and
- the mixing or blending of seeds from different origins or places of production.

Production practices used by participating entities may be included as measures in systems approaches if those practices are recognized by participating NPPOs as effectively managing pest risk. Such measures, in combination with the participating entities' quality systems (including audit and other requirements as outlined in this annex), should be considered as meeting the phytosanitary import requirements of the importing countries.

Systems approaches for seeds may be used to manage pest groups rather than individual pests (based on the concept outlined in ISPM 36). If systems approaches are developed for pest groups, NPPOs should allow additional declarations (see ISPM 12 for guidance) to use more generic wording rather than listing only individual species.

To verify that regulated pests have been eliminated from the seed supply chain, NPPOs should always consider the feasibility of including seed testing as an independent measure within the systems approach or as a verification procedure.

Recognition of the equivalence of measures, which may include pest testing methods and diagnostic protocols, by NPPOs can lead to more efficient implementation of systems approaches.

2. Design of systems approaches

General guidance on the concepts and development of systems approaches by NPPOs is presented in ISPM 14. Systems approaches should be designed to ensure the health of seeds throughout the seed supply chain, integrating measures to reduce pest risk in a defined, clear and simple manner.

2.1 Identification of the commodity

Entities may identify a seed commodity that is of interest for international trade purposes and propose to interested NPPOs of seed-producing countries that a systems approach be developed for that

commodity. A systems approach may be developed in collaboration with participating entities in so far as they can contribute to the reduction of pest risk through the systems approach.

2.2 Identification of individual pests or pest groups associated with the seed commodity

For any particular seed commodity, a pest risk analysis (PRA) should be conducted and the pests or groups of pests expected to be associated with the seeds as a pathway should be identified (see ISPM 2 (*Framework for pest risk analysis*) and ISPM 11 (*Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests*)). A PRA also serves as a basis for the phytosanitary import requirements, taking into account the purpose of seed imports (i.e. intended use) to determine the strength of measures required. When a new pest emerges and a PRA shows that this pest is associated with the seed commodity that is covered by the systems approach, the systems approach should be re-evaluated and adjusted if necessary.

2.3 Measures and critical control points

This section provides examples of the pest risk management options available to NPPOs and participating entities for potential inclusion as integrated measures in a systems approach. Further information can be found in section 1.5 of this annex and Appendix 2 of the core text of this standard.

The effectiveness of production practices in reducing pest risk should be evaluated by NPPOs before including them as measures in a systems approach. National plant protection organizations are responsible for identifying the CCPs at which these measures may be applied. The number of CCPs may vary, depending on the seed commodity.

Example critical control points, and the associated regulatory actions and production practices that may reduce pest risk, are as follows:

(98) pre-planting – site selection and preparation:

- *regulatory actions* – surveillance to determine pest status, establishment of a pest free area, producer registration, review and approval of a system manual,
- *production practices* – use of pest free area, pest free places of production or pest free production sites, use of buffer zones around growing sites, use of pest exclusion (e.g. greenhouse, screenhouse), use of crop rotation, removal of potential host, use of tested or clean water sources, maintenance of documentation, production of a system manual;

(99) pre-planting – seed and plant inputs:

- *regulatory actions* – approval of testing facilities and certification programmes, certification of transplant facilities,
- *production practices* – use of tested or certified seed, application of transplant sanitation, use of resistant or less susceptible cultivars, use of seed treatments, maintenance of documentation;

(100) production – pre-harvest:

- *regulatory actions* – growing-season inspection, audits of facilities or review of their records,
- *production practices* – growing-season examination of plants, growing-season treatments or pest management, plant sampling or testing, application of growing-site sanitation, worker training, maintenance of documentation;

(101) production – seed harvest:

- *regulatory actions* – field inspection at harvest, testing if appropriate,
- *production practices* – disinfection of equipment before use in different fields or on different harvest dates, avoiding the harvest of seeds from sick unhealthy plants, use of harvest windows to avoid infestation, application of sanitation, maintenance of documentation;

(102) post-harvest – conditioning and treatment:

- *regulatory actions* – audits of operational facilities, verification of the efficacy of treatments,
- *production practices* – fermentation to reduce seed residues, washing seeds to reduce the microbial contaminant load, application of seed treatments (e.g. heat, hot water, pesticide) upon receipt, milling and sorting to reduce contaminants on plants and dead seeds, application of sanitation, and maintenance of documentation;

(103) post-harvest – handling and storage:

- *regulatory actions* – facility audits and inspections,
- *production practices* – storage of seeds with safeguards to prevent infestation, storage of seeds to maintain their health and identity, implementation of protocols to prevent the mixing of seed lots (cleaning of equipment), sealing of packaging to exclude pests, application of sanitation, maintenance of documentation;

(104) post-harvest – seed quality testing:

- *regulatory actions* – approval of testing facilities, approval or validation of sampling protocols, proficiency testing,
- *production practices* – use of NPPO approved sampling protocols, use of approved testing facilities, use of approved testing protocols, application of sanitation, maintenance of documentation; and

(105) distribution and transport:

- *regulatory actions* – establishment of phytosanitary import requirements, audit or testing at import, post-entry quarantine, phytosanitary certification,
- *production practices* – labelling to enable trace-back, application of sanitation (e.g. to ensure that conveyances are free from contamination), use of approved testing protocols, maintenance of documentation.

2.4. Issuance of phytosanitary certificates

A systems approach is a combination of measures and, depending on the phytosanitary import requirements, it may be indicated on a phytosanitary certificate as an additional declaration in accordance with ISPM 12.

3. Responsibilities of NPPOs and participating entities in addressing pest risk along the seed supply chain

National plant protection organizations are responsible for systematically determining the measures that comprise a systems approach and verifying their effectiveness at reducing the pest risk posed by potential pests associated with each of the production stages. These measures should be in accordance with international or regional standards for pest risk management and systems approaches and may include existing production practices and quality-system components. To maintain flexibility and innovation in the system, participating entities may propose novel equivalent measures for a particular CCP, which NPPOs should evaluate for their effectiveness and feasibility. Appendix 1 of this annex depicts regulatory and non-regulatory actions performed by NPPOs and entities respectively at each CCP along the seed supply chain.

4. Monitoring

Verification should be conducted at several levels of the seed supply chain. The NPPOs of the exporting countries should monitor the systems approach to ensure that the system is functioning satisfactorily. They should also conduct periodic audits and monitor the effect of any resulting modification to the participating entities' pest risk management plan.

Procedures for monitoring and audit, as well as criteria for determining when a systems approach is re-evaluated, should be put in place by NPPOs before entering a systems approach arrangement with entities (see ISPM 47 (*Audit in the phytosanitary context*)).

5. Establishing performance criteria for authorization of participating entities

When developing a systems approach, NPPOs should incorporate a mechanism, based on performance criteria, for authorizing entities along the entire seed supply chain.

For an entity to be considered as conforming with the systems approach, it should meet the performance criteria for each measure associated with the systems approach that it applies. The entity should implement an approved quality system. The entity's most effective production practices may be evaluated and approved by the NPPO developing the systems approach for integration into the systems approach (see section 2.3 of this annex).

6. Multilateral systems approaches

When the same systems approach is recognized by several importing countries, this becomes a multilateral approach, which may suit the multinational character of the seed trade. In multilateral systems approaches, particular attention should be paid to those elements occurring in the exporting countries after detection of a non-compliance.

7. Evaluation of systems approaches for seeds

National plant protection organizations participating in a systems approach should evaluate its effectiveness. This may be done by conducting pilot studies during the design phase before seeking full recognition of the systems approach for phytosanitary certification.

These evaluations may be carried out on a representative number of consignments for the seed commodity at different stages of its production and over a designated period of time.

With a multilateral systems approach, it may be particularly important to incorporate part of the evaluation into the design phase, when the decisions are made about which measures to include in the systems approach.

When deciding whether a systems approach for a given seed commodity is acceptable, the NPPOs participating in the systems approach should evaluate whether it reduces pest risk to a level that allows the phytosanitary import requirements of all participating countries along the seed supply chain to be met. For importing countries, such evaluation should include consideration of the following information:

- information on pests regulated in the importing countries, for which the systems approach addresses the pest risk;
- a description of the mandatory measures in the systems approach and their effectiveness;
- documentation indicating the components of the systems approach under the control of each NPPO; and
- verification procedures in place.

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 Responsibilities of NPPOs

A systems approach may be developed by the NPPO (or multiple NPPOs) of any importing country along the seed supply cain, in collaboration with the NPPOs of the exporting countries and, if applicable, entities that wish to participate in the systems approach.

The NPPOs of exporting countries participating in a systems approach should communicate the integrated measures of the systems approach to the entities participating in the systems approach in their respective territories for implementation. Each NPPO with participating entities located in its territory

should have a method for registering which of these entities are participating in the systems approach for a specific seed commodity and should communicate that information to other NPPOs as needed.

All NPPOs that participate in, or recognize, the systems approach should establish a channel of communication between themselves on the conformity status of all participating entities, especially when different measures are applied in different countries.

If a nonconformity is identified, it should be reported to the NPPO of the exporting country (country of origin or country of re-export). Identification of nonconformities should trigger the corrective actions for the participating entities specified in the systems approach agreement. It may also trigger a review of any specific measure in the systems approach, any part of the systems approach, or the entire systems approach. The NPPOs of importing and exporting countries should increase monitoring following the identification of critical nonconformities, or if they repeatedly identify other (i.e. non-critical) nonconformities, and immediately suspend recognition of the systems approach until corrective actions are taken (see also ISPM 45 (*Requirements for national plant protection organizations if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions*)).

The responsibilities of importing and exporting countries in relation to systems approaches are described in ISPM 14. In the case of a multilateral systems approach, the responsibilities of each NPPO participating in the systems approach along the seed supply chain should be identified. These responsibilities should, for each of the participating countries, include the harmonization of their lists of regulated pests, the analysis of the associated pest risk, the evaluation and description of the measures that comprise the systems approach, and the identification of the CCPs in the systems approach where those measures are to be applied.

As countries participating in the systems approach develop harmonized requirements, any new NPPO joining the systems approach should evaluate if they are able to meet the phytosanitary requirements for those elements of the systems approach that are applicable to them.

8.2 Responsibilities of entities participating in systems approaches

Entities participating in a systems approach should collaborate with NPPOs on the following:

- Participating entities should identify the countries involved in the seed supply chain for the seed commodity.
- If an NPPO wishes to develop a systems approach, it should identify the list of regulated pests potentially associated with the seed commodity in the seed supply chain. The entities involved should provide all relevant information on production practices and quality systems, including any data related to the effectiveness of the practices in reducing pest risk, to allow the NPPO to evaluate these practices for inclusion in the systems approach. This information may relate to practices during any stage of seed production and distribution and to measures applied in other countries along the seed supply chain.

8.2.1 Quality systems for authorization of entities

The use of a quality system formalizes the processes used to maintain quality and provides the basis for consistency, which can lead to the delivery of a commodity with predictable or reliable quality. A quality system provides the mechanism to align processes and product quality regardless of country of origin.

As a minimum, the components of a quality system for entities should include:

- a quality policy that describes the commitment and goals towards which the entity is working;
- standard operating procedures, which are the detailed methods that are executed to produce the quality commodity;
- systems for training, auditing, and issuing corrective actions;
- record-keeping; and
- continuous improvement.

8.2.2 Reporting and addressing nonconformities

Entities participating in a systems approach should have a procedure, agreed with the authorizing NPPO, for reporting detections of a regulated pest and any corrective actions taken. Critical or multiple other nonconformities may lead to the exclusion of nonconforming parties from the systems approach.

This requirement includes pest detections at the authorized entity's facility or facilities (see ISPM 45 for guidance). The entity's report to the NPPO should include a root-cause analysis to identify how the regulated pest was introduced into the seed supply chain, any proposed adjustments to the systems approach in response to a detection, and how the effectiveness of those adjustments may be verified.

Procedures used to notify the NPPO of nonconformities detected while conducting internal audits in accordance with ISPM 47 and of corrective actions taken should be documented:

- The authorizing NPPO should be notified of any critical nonconformity (see ISPM 45 and ISPM 36 for guidance) during the time frame specified in the authorization agreement. The notification should include official confirmation of the pest identity and determination of the regulatory response.
- The entity should document the procedure by which it notifies the authorizing NPPO of any other nonconformities within the time frame agreed by the NPPO and the entity.

Potential implementation issues

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.

This appendix is for reference purposes only and is not a prescriptive part of the standard.

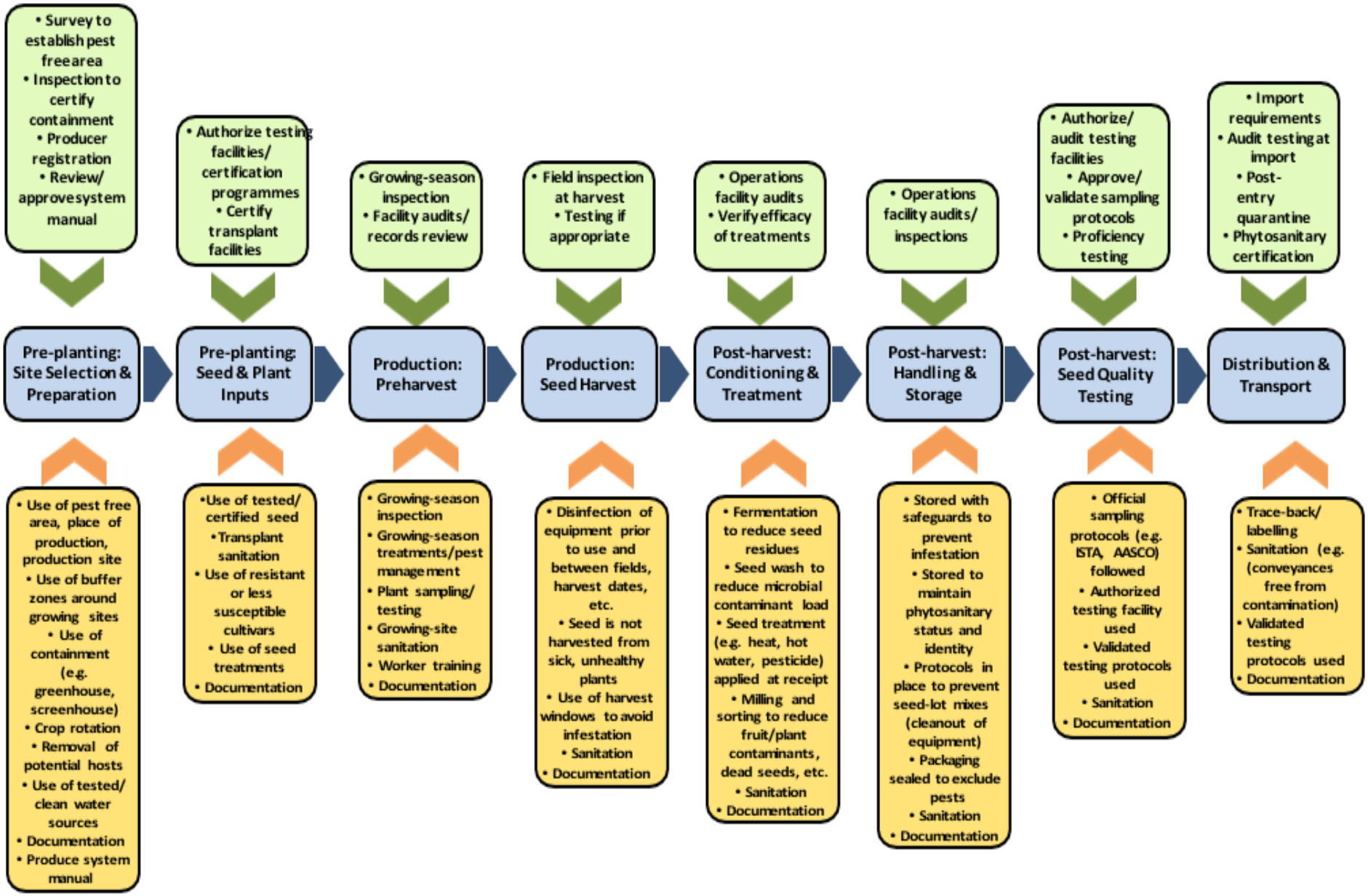
APPENDIX 1 OF ANNEX 1: An example of critical control points along the seed supply chain where seed pest risk considerations exist and pest risk can be managed by the regulatory actions of NPPOs together with the actions of participating entities

(See next page.)

Notes: Blue boxes, critical control points along the seed supply chain; green boxes, national plant protection organization responsibilities; yellow boxes, participating entity responsibilities.

AASCO, Association of American Seed Control Officials; ISTA, International Seed Testing Association.

Source: Adapted from United States Department of Agriculture. 2019. *ReFreSH – A regulatory framework for seed health*, version 4.0. Riverdale, USA, United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. 20 + vi pp. https://www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/refresh-concept-paper.pdf


• Survey to establish pest free area
• Inspection to certify containment
• Producer registration
• Review/ approve system manual
• Use of pest free area, place of production, production site
• Use of buffer zones around growing sites
• Use of containment (e.g. greenhouse, screenhouse)
• Crop rotation
• Removal of potential hosts
• Use of tested/ clean water sources
• Documentation
• Produce system manual
Pre-planting: Site Selection & Preparation
• Authorize testing facilities/ certification programmes
• Certify transplant facilities
•Use of tested/ certified seed
•Transplant sanitation
• Use of resistant or less susceptible cultivars
• Use of seed treatments
• Documentation
Pre-planting: Seed & Plant Inputs
• Growing-season inspection
• Facility audits/ records review
• Growing-season inspection
• Growing-season treatments/pest management
• Plant sampling/ testing
• Growing-site sanitation
• Worker training
• Documentation
Production: Preharvest
• Field inspection at harvest
• Testing if appropriate
• Disinfection of equipment prior to use and between fields, harvest dates, etc.
• Seed is not harvested from sick, unhealthy plants
• Use of harvest windows to avoid infestation
• Sanitation
• Documentation
Production: Seed Harvest
• Operations facility audits
• Verify efficacy of treatments
• Fermentation to reduce seed residues
• Seed wash to reduce microbial contaminant load
• Seed treatment (e.g. heat, hot water, pesticide) applied at receipt
• Milling and sorting to reduce fruit/plant contaminants, dead seeds, etc.
• Sanitation
• Documentation
Post-harvest: Conditioning & Treatment
• Operations facility audits/ inspections
• Stored with safeguards to prevent infestation
• Stored to maintain phytosanitary status and identity
• Protocols in place to prevent seed-lot mixes (cleanout of equipment)
• Packaging sealed to exclude pests
• Sanitation
• Documentation
Post-harvest: Handling & Storage
• Authorize/ audit testing facilities
• Approve/ validate sampling protocols
• Proficiency testing
• Official sampling protocols (e.g. ISTA, AASCO) followed
• Authorized testing facility used
• Validated testing protocols used
• Sanitation
• Documentation
Post-harvest: Seed Quality Testing
• Import requirements
• Audit testing at import
• Post-entry quarantine
• Phytosanitary certification
• Trace-back/ labelling
• Sanitation (e.g. (conveyances free from contamination)
• Validated testing protocols used
• Documentation
Distribution & Transport

Appendix 8: Efficacy calculation method

EFFICACY CALCULATION METHOD

Background

The working procedures of the TPPT are described in section 7.6 of the Standard Setting Procedure Manual, which is available here: https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85024/

The section regarding efficacy calculation needs to be adjusted based on the TPPT decision on the method of calculating efficacy. The proposal is presented below.

General Considerations when Calculating the Level of Efficacy Achieved by a Treatment Schedule

The panel has recommended a number of principles that they should apply when calculating the level of efficacy achieved by a treatment schedule at the 95% confidence level, based on the total number of target pests treated. Further information on the calculation of the level of efficacy is provided in a publication by Couey and Chew (1986). These agreed principles include:

The level of mortality in the controls must be accounted for when calculating treatment efficacy from counts of dead treated pests. The recorded mortality of treated target pests should be adjusted for natural mortality recorded in controls e.g. if there is a 10% level of mortality in the control sample, 10% of the deaths in the treated sample should be attributed to causes other than the treatment.

Greater than expected natural mortality levels (in controls) should be treated with care because they may indicate a target pest population under stress. A population under stress may be more susceptible to the treatment than a natural population. If control mortality is high, evidence should be provided that either indicates pest susceptibility to the treatment is no greater than normal populations or that high control mortality reflects normal conditions.

- Percentage mortality of treated target pests should be adjusted for mortality in the control by the following formula: $Y_a = 100\% - [(X - Y)/X](100\%)$, where Y_a is the adjusted percentage surviving in the treated cohort, X is the percentage surviving in the control and Y is the percentage surviving in the treated cohort (Abbott 1925).
- Greater than expected response levels in controls may indicate a target pest population under stress that may be more susceptible to the treatment than a natural population. If control response is high, evidence should be provided that either indicates pest susceptibility to the treatment is no greater than normal populations or that high control response reflects normal conditions.
- Sample sizes and repetitions should be sufficient to account both for natural variation and achieve significant regressions when extrapolating treatment efficacy. A small number of treatment repetitions can, on analysis, result in statistical errors giving meaningless conclusions (if the SD at 95% is greater than the mean, the lower (worst case) result may be a negative dose e.g. 10 ± 12 gives a range from -2 to 22).
- When the population of treated pests is estimated from control pest populations, the estimation must be based on a statistical analysis of the controls. Where possible, control data should not be grouped together, but should be recorded for each individual test commodity or target pest. Pseudo-replication[41] should be avoided or minimized, as much as possible.

[41] Pseudoreplication is used to test for treatment effects with data from experiments where treatments are not replicated (though samples may be) or replicates are not statistically independent. The error described by this term arises when treatments are assigned to units that are subsampled and the treatment F-ratio in an analysis of variance (ANOVA) table is formed with respect to the residual mean square rather than with respect to the among unit mean square. The F-ratio relative to the within unit mean square is vulnerable to the confounding of treatment and unit effects, especially when unit number is small (e.g. four tank units, two tanks treated, two not treated, several subsamples per tank). The error is avoided by forming the F-ratio relative to the among unit mean square in the

- Researchers need to apply the same statistical rigour to control data as they do to treatment data. Where the infestation rate for each treated regulated article is estimated from the infestation rate of the controls, regulated article infestation rate would be:

$$\text{Mean infestation rate per treated regulated article } (\overline{\mathbf{x}_t}) = \overline{\mathbf{x}_c} - \left(\frac{\mathbf{STD}}{\sqrt{\boldsymbol{r}}} \times \boldsymbol{t}_{\boldsymbol{r-1(0.05)}}\right)$$

Note: **r** is equal to the number of control replicates used to estimate the control mean ($\overline{\mathbf{x}_c}$) and standard error ($\frac{\mathbf{STD}}{\sqrt{\boldsymbol{r}}}$) of the control data. $\boldsymbol{t}_{\boldsymbol{r-1(0.05)}}$ is the **r-1** value from the one-tailed 0.05 probability (95% confidence level) in the t-distribution tables.

With track changes resolved:

- Researchers need to apply the same statistical rigour to control data as they do to treatment data (Wright *et.al* 2024). Where the infestation rate for each treated regulated article is estimated from the infestation rate of the controls, regulated article infestation rate would be:

$$\text{Mean infestation rate per treated regulated article } (\overline{x_t}) = \overline{x_c} - \left(\frac{\text{STD}}{\sqrt{r}} \times t_{r-1(0.05)}\right)$$

Note: r is equal to the number of control replicates used to estimate the control mean ($\overline{x_c}$) and standard error ($\frac{\text{STD}}{\sqrt{r}}$) of the control data. $t_{r-1(0.05)}$ is the r-1 value from the one-tailed 0.05 probability (95% confidence level) in the t-distribution tables.

ANOVA table (tank MS in the example above). Pseudoreplication, as originally defined, is a special case of inadequate specification of random factors where both random and fixed factors are present: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudoreplication.

Appendix 9: Ink amendments to ISPM 5

Location	Current text	Proposal for revised text [additions;~~deletions~~]	Rationale
area of low pest prevalence	An **area**, whether all of a country, part of a country, or all or parts of several countries, as identified by the competent authorities, in which a specific **pest** is present at low levels and which is subject to effective **surveillance** or **control** [IPPC, 1997; revised CPM, 2015]	An **area**, ~~**whether all of a country, part of a country, or all or parts of several countries**~~, as ~~**identified**~~**defined** by the competent authorities, in which a specific **pest** is present at low levels and which is subject to effective **surveillance** or **control**	To avoid redundancy. Deleted text is the current definition of "area". "Identified" replaced by "defined" for consistency with the definition or "area" which is officially defined.
IPPC	**International Plant Protection Convention**, as deposited in 1951 with FAO in Rome and as subsequently amended [FAO, 1990; revised ICPM, 2001]	**International Plant Protection Convention**~~**, as deposited in 1951 with FAO in Rome and as subsequently amended**~~	There is no need to repeat the definition of the term. Consistency with other abbreviatures in the Glossary (See PRA, LMO, etc)
treatment schedule	The critical parameters of a **treatment** which need to be met to achieve the intended outcome (i.e. the killing, **inactivation** or removal of **pests**, or rendering **pests** infertile, or **devitalization**) at a stated **efficacy** [ISPM 28, 2007]	The critical parameters of a **treatment** which need to be met to achieve the intended outcome (i.e. ~~**the**~~ killing, **inactivati**~~**on**~~**ng**~~**,**~~ ~~**or**~~ remov~~**al**~~ing~~ **of pests**~~, ~~**or**~~ rendering ~~**pests**~~ infertile~~,~~ or **devitaliz**~~**ation**~~**ing regulated pests**) at a stated **efficacy**	TPG agreed to the editorial changes to be in line with the definition of "treatment" in ISPM 5

Appendix 10: Draft TPCS working procedures.

PROPOSED WORKING PROCEDURES FOR THE TPCS

(Prepared by TPCS and approved by SC May 2024)

7. TECHNICAL PANELS

[…]

7.4 Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS)

The scope, purpose, tasks and expertise of the TPCS and its members are described in *Specification TP 6 – Technical Panel on Commodity Standards*.

Details of the technical panel membership may be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) at https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/expert-drafting-groups/technical-panels/.

TPCS members are selected by the Standards Committee (SC) for a five-year term. The SC reviews the composition of the panel on a regular basis or as needed. The SC may renew individual memberships for additional terms if supported by their NPPOs.

The TPCS may invite experts, with agreement by the SC, to attend drafting meetings to provide additional expertise, information, data, and insights as needed for the development of a specific commodity standard. Expectations of the invited experts attending TPCS drafting meetings are the same as those for invited experts attending expert working groups outlined in '*Guidelines as for the operation of expert working groups*' (section 6.2).

The development of annexes to ISPM 46 (*Commodity – specific standards for phytosanitary measures*) (hereafter, commodity standards) and where appropriate, other commodity-based ISPMs, can facilitate safe trade and streamline new market access to the benefit of contracting parties.

7.4.1 TPCS working procedures for the development of commodity standards

Call for topics and subjects

The IPPC Secretariat issues a biennial *Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation* for commodity standard subjects. Proposals for commodity standards are submitted by national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) and regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) in response to this call.

A proposal for a new or revised commodity standard requires the completion of:

- a submission form for topics for standards and implementation;
- a *submission form for information materials for commodity standards* which includes a full description of the commodity, its intended use, the scope of the proposal i.e. a new commodity standard or a revision to an adopted commodity standard, and information about pests and measures that can aid the subject evaluation process;

Forms are available through the online submission process described on the *Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation*.

A specification[42] for a commodity standard is not required as the tasks for the TPCS are generally common for all. The submission form for information materials for commodity standards may also be reviewed and updated by the TPCS as needed.

Evaluation of commodity standard proposals

The TPCS evaluates proposals for commodity standards and recommends them to the SC, for inclusion in the *List of topics for IPPC standards* that is approved by the CPM each year.

Commodity standard proposals are evaluated by the TPCS by:

- considering recommendations from the Task Force on Topics (TFT) to the SC;
- considering guidance from the SC;
- assessing proposals and supporting information received from NPPOs and RPPOs against the *Criteria for the justification and prioritization of proposed topics*;
- assessing the scope (commodity, intended use,complexity) of the new commodity standard or scope of the revision of the commodity standard;

Commodity standard proposals are prioritized by the TPCS by assessing against the following criteria.

- the quality and quantity of evidence supporting the inclusion of pests and options for phytosanitary measures;
- trade information;
- the balance between commodity types for development (e.g. tropical and temperate fruits for consumption, seed commodities for sowing, cut flowers, plants for planting);
- the feasibility of combining different species of the same plant type (e.g. citrus) within a standard because of similarities in pest profiles and measures;
- the availability of expertise required within the TPCS to develop the commodity standard.

Once the work programme is approved by the SC, the IPPC Secretariat makes a call for information materials for a minimum of two priority commodities annually. Information materials are collected by the Secretariat and sent to the TPCS for review and development into commodity standard where appropriate.

Drafting new commodity standards

The TPCS develops draft commodity standards using guidance provided in ISPM 46 (*Commodity – specific standards for phytosanitary measures*) on the content of commodity standards, and the criteria for inclusion of pests and options for measures.

Inclusion of pests

The criteria for inclusion of a pest in a commodity standard is that it is regulated by at least one contracting party, and based on technical justification, for that specific commodity. When referring to family or genus level, a note is included to indicate that not necessarily all the specie s in the family or genus level are regulated. This is because of grouping the phytosanitary measures. The TPCS considers the information submitted by NPPOs or RPPOs that supports the regulation of a pest or pest group e.g. pest risk analysis (PRA) or comparable evaluation, but does not make a judgement on the conclusions of such analyses, nor conduct a PRA. The relevance of the list of pests in any commodity standard is assessed by users of the annex for technical justification in their own territory or PRA area.

[42] The Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG), Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) and Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT), Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS) are currently the only technical panels allowed to work on "subjects", which do not have specifications.

Inclusion of phytosanitary measures

The TPCS determines which options for measures to include in a commodity standard based on the criteria listed in ISPM 46 (*Commodity – specific standards for phytosanitary measures*). The ***submission form for information materials for commodity standards*** provided by NPPOs and RPPOs provides the basis for selection of, and confidence in the effectiveness of measures. Not all measures selected for inclusion in commodity standards are supported by research data and where data are not available, the TPCS considers the strength of historical information from use in trade to determine effectiveness.

For transparency, the TPCS retains records of the rationale for the exclusion of any pests and measures from commodity standards. These records are available in a searchable online database (when developed) or available on request.

Implementation

The TPCS develops and updates commodity standards within the framework of ISPM 46 (*Commodity-specific standards for phytosanitary measures*) and identifies potential implementation needs on related aspects. Implementation issues are referred to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee.

Revising or amending adopted commodity standard

The TPCS will amend or revise commodity standards when:

- evidence suggests that a phytosanitary measure is no longer effective;
- there is a change in pest taxonomy;
- new pests and measures are proposed by an NPPO or RPPO for inclusion in an adopted commodity standard.

Where there is evidence that a phytosanitary measure listed in a commodity standard is no longer effective and when there is a change in pest taxonomy that does not affect options for phytosanitary measures, the TPCS will add a footnote to the commodity standard to this effect. Footnoting is a variation to the ink amendment process and is an interim solution until a commodity standard can be revised and consulted.

When new pests and measures are proposed for addition to a commodity standard, the TPCS follows the work programme evaluation process and recommends to the SC to include the revision in the *List of topics for IPPC standards*.

Stewards for commodity standards

Except for the first two commodity standards to ISPM 46 developed by the TPCS, a lead and an assistant lead are selected from the TPCS for each new draft, revision or amendment of an adopted commodity standard. The first two commodity standards are stewarded by SC members.

Please refer to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* posted on the IPP for the list of stewards and TPCS leads.

Consultation on draft commodity standards

Specifications for commodity standards are not needed and are therefore not consulted[43]. This does not compromise quality or transparency as the tasks for the development, revision for commodity subjects are substantively the same for all commodities.

During the first consultation of a draft commodity standard, NPPOs or RPPOs may submit evidence to support the inclusion of additional pests and options for phytosanitary measures in a commodity standard. The TPCS will assess proposed additions and revise the commodity standard as appropriate for second consultation.

7.4.2 Searchable online database of pests and measures[44]

For transparency, the TPCS is tasked to develop and update the technical information in an online database that lists commodities, target pests associated with the commodity in trade, and options for phytosanitary measures, cross-referenced to relevant sources of information (e.g. PRAs). Updates will be based on NPPO or RPPO communications that include information relevant to the standard. All information received, i.e. the pests and phytosanitary measures included and excluded in each specific commodity standard are included in the database. Information is also available on request.

7.4.3 Reporting

The TPCS reports annually through the IPPC secretariat and TPCS stewards to the SC. The report includes TPCS achievements during the year, a proposed work programme and priority of commodity subjects, updates on tasks assigned by the SC and any items requiring a decision by the SC.

[…]

[44] Pending IPPC secretariat resources.

Appendix 11: Summary of Standard Committee e-decisions between 2023 November – 2024 May

SUMMARY ON POLL AND FORUMS DISCUSSED ON E-DECISIONS SITES

2022 NOVEMBER – 2023 MAY

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

Background

[1] This paper provides a summary of the outcomes of the e-decision forums and polls that the Standards Committee (SC) has conducted between 2023 November – 2024 May.

[2] To review the concluded e-decision forums please see this page: https://www.ippc.int/en/forum/category/sc-forum-november-2022-may-2023/. The background documents and other documents (e.g. drafts, complied comments) are posted in the forum.

[3] Visit the following page to review the forum and poll summaries (http://www.ippc.int/en/work-area-pages/background-e-decisions/).

Recommendations to the SC

[4] The SC is invited to:

(106) *agree* that the "Summary of Standard Committee e-decisions between 2023 November – 2024 May" accurately reflects the outcome of the SC e-decisions (Appendix 1).

Appendix 1:

Summary of Standard Committee e-decisions between 2023 November – 2024 May

Table 1: SC e-decisions presented between 2023 November – 2024 May

E-decision number	SC decision	SC members commenting in the forum	Polls (yes/no)
2024_eSC_May_01	Approval for adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28 on Cold treatment for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Citrus sinensis* (2017-029)	17	
2024_eSC_May_02	Approval for consultation period: *Heterobasidion annosum sensu lato* (2021-015)	15	
2024_eSC_May_03	Approval for consultation: *Genus Pospiviroid* (2018-031)	13	
2024_eSC_May_04	Adoption of the 2023 November SC meeting report	10	
2024_eSC_May_05	Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Combination of irradiation and modified atmosphere treatment for *Trogoderma granarium* (2023-032)	17	
2024_eSC_May_06	Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Pseudococcus baliteus* (2023-033)	17	
2024_eSC_May_07	Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Paracoccus marginatus* (2023-034)	17	
2024_eSC_May_08	Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Planococuss Lilacinus* (2023-035)	17	
2024_eSC_May_09	Selection of entomology expert for the TPDP	15	Yes

2024_eSC_May_01: Approval for adoption: Draft annex to ISPM 28 on Cold treatment for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Citrus sinensis* (2017-029)

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[6] During the SC e-decision the SC was invited to approve the responses to the consultation comments and the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Cold treatment for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Citrus sinensis* (2017-029) for adoption.

[7] The SC e-forum was open from the 04 December to the 18 December 2023. 17 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[8] Based on the forum discussions, the SC approved the responses to the consultation comments and the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Cold treatment for *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* on *Citrus sinensis* (2017-029) for adoption.

2024_eSC_May_02: Approval for consultation period: *Heterobasidion annosum sensu lato* (2021-015)

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[9] During the SC e-decision the SC was invited to approve the Draft Annex to ISPM 27: *Heterobasidion annosum sensu lato* (2021-015) for consultation period.

[10] The SC e-forum was open from the 21 December 2023 to the 12 January 2024. 15 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[11] Based on the forum discussions, the SC approved the Draft Annex to ISPM 27: *Heterobasidion annosum sensu lato* (2021-015) for consultation period.

2024_eSC_May_03: Approval for consultation: *Genus Pospiviroid* (2018-031)

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[12] During the SC e-decision the SC was invited to approve the adjustments to the scope and title, to include the *pospiviroid* species Potato spindle tuber viroid (PSTVd) for a complete and accurate diagnosis of the *Genus Pospiriroid* and approve the draft annex to ISPM 27: *Genus Pospiviroid* (2018-031) for consultation period.

[13] The SC e-forum was open from the 21 December 2023 to the 12 January 2024. 13 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[14] Based on the forum discussions, the SC approved the adjustments to the scope and title, to include the *pospiviroid* species Potato spindle tuber viroid (PSTVd) for a complete and accurate diagnosis of the *Genus Pospiriroid* and approved the draft annex to ISPM 27: *Genus Pospiviroid* (2018-031) for consultation period.

2024_eSC_May_04: Adoption of the 2023 November SC meeting report

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[15] During the SC e-decision the SC was invited to adopt the 2023 November SC report.

[16] The SC e-forum was open from the 21 December 2023 to the 07 January 2024. 10 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[17] Based on the forum discussions, the SC adopted the 2023 November SC report.

2024_eSC_MAY_05: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Combination of irradiation and modified atmosphere treatment for *Trogoderma granarium* (2023-032)

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[18] During the SC e-decision, the SC was invited to review the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Combination of irradiation and modified atmosphere treatment for *Trogoderma granarium* (2023-032) to approve it for consultation in 2024.

[19] The SC e-forum was open from the 12 March to the 27 March 2024. 17 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[20] Based on the forum discussions, the SC approved the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Combination of irradiation and modified atmosphere treatment for *Trogoderma granarium* (2023-032) for consultation in 2024.

2024_eSC_MAY_06: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Pseudococcus baliteus* (2023-033)

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[21] During the SC e-decision, the SC was invited to review the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Pseudococcus baliteus* (2023-033) to approve it for consultation in 2024.

[22] The SC e-forum was open from the 12 March to the 27 March 2024. 17 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[23] Based on the forum discussions, the SC approved the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Pseudococcus baliteus* (2023-033) for consultation in 2024.

2024_eSC_MAY_07: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Paracoccus marginatus* (2023-034)

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[24] During the SC e-decision, the SC was invited to review the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Paracoccus marginatus* (2023-034) to approve it for consultation in 2024.

[25] The SC e-forum was open from the 12 March to the 27 March 2024. 17 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[26] Based on the forum discussions, the SC approved the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Paracoccus marginatus* (2023-034) for consultation in 2024.

2024_eSC_MAY_08: Approval for consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Planococcus Lilacinus* (2023-035)

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[27] During the SC e-decision, the SC was invited to review the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Planococcus Lilacinus* (2023-035) to approve it for consultation in 2024.

[28] The SC e-forum was open from the 12 March to the 27 March 2024. 17 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[29] Based on the forum discussions, the SC approved the Draft annex to ISPM 28: Irradiation treatment for *Planococcus Lilacinus* (2023-035) for consultation in 2024.

2024_eSC_MAY_09: Selection of entomology expert for the TPDP

Summary of SC e-forum discussion

[30] During the SC e-decision, the SC was invited to select an entomology expert for the TPDP.

[31] The SC e-forum was open from the 08 April to the 02 May 2024. 15 SC members provided their comments.

SC e-decision

[32] Based on the forum discussion, the SC selected Mr. David Ouvrard (France) as entomology expert for the member of the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP). The selection was confirmed via poll.

Appendix 12: List of action points

Decisions & Actions	Agenda Item (Decision #)	Responsible	Deadline
1. agreed to review the draft specification on Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid (2021-020) at their meeting in November 2024, after analysis of the consultation comments by the CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid, with a view to presenting it to CPM-19 (2025) with a request for the CPM to decide whether to proceed with the development of an ISPM	4 (2)	Secretariat	SC November 2024
2. deferred consideration of the need for further explanation in the ISPM 5 definition of "pest free area" and the distinction between declarations of "absence" and an "official pest free area" until after consultation	5.1 (5)	SC/Secretariat	After Consultation 2024
3. recommended that Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the currently adopted ISPM 26 be moved to guidance material so that they could be updated more easily	5.1 (6)	IC/SC/Secretariat	-
4. approved the **draft revision of ISPM 26 (Establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)) (2021-010)** for submission to first consultation, to be accompanied by a covering note to explain the intended move of Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the currently adopted ISPM 26 to guidance material	5.1 (7)	Secretariat	Before July 2024
5. requested that the secretariat investigate how best to make available Annex 3, Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the currently adopted ISPM 26 in the event of there being a delay between the publication of the revised ISPM 26 and the publication of the associated guidance material;	5.1 (8)	Secretariat	-
6. agreed that sources other than an ISPM or an international agreement may be referenced in ISPMs the following way: • they should not be cited in the text but may be listed in a Further reading subsection, • the Further reading subsection would have an introductory statement giving the URL of the landing page for IPPC guides and training materials, • the Further reading subsection would be the second subsection of a Bibliography section, with the	5.1 (9)	Secretariat	-

Decisions & Actions	Agenda Item (Decision #)	Responsible	Deadline
References forming the first subsection, and • in ISPMs where there are no sources to list in a Further reading section, either the Further reading subsection may be omitted or it may be included with a general statement giving the URL of the landing page for IPPC guides and training materials, as appropriate			
7. agreed to include a Further reading subsection in the draft revision of ISPM 26 (2021-010) and the draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*)	5.1 (10)	Secretariat	
8. approved the draft annex *Field inspection* (2021-018) to ISPM 23 (Guidelines for inspection) for submission to first consultation	5.2 (11)	Secretariat	Before July 2024
9. requested that the secretariat archive the implementation issues identified for the draft annex Field inspection (2021-018) to ISPM 23 until after the first consultation, for consideration by the SC and potential forwarding to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC)	5.2 (12)	Secretariat/IC	After 2024 first consultation
10. approved the draft specification Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis (PRA) ISPMs (2023-037) for submission for consultation	6.1 (14)	Secretariat	Before July 2024
11. approved the draft annex Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds (2018-009) to ISPM 38 (*International movement of seeds*) for submission for first consultation	6.2 (15)	Secretariat	Before July 2024
12. agreed to keep priority 1 for the draft PT Irradiation treatment for Aspidiotis destructor (2021-029)	7.1 (17)	Secretariat	-
13. recommended that CPM-19 (2025) revoke PT 1 (Irradiation treatment for Anastrepha ludens), PT 2 (Irradiation treatment for Anastrepha obliqua) and PT 3 (Irradiation treatment for Anastrepha serpentina), to be superseded by PT 39 (Irradiation treatment for the genus Anastrepha)	7.1 (18)	Secretariat	CPM-19 2025
14. agreed to the proposed changes to the IPPC procedure manual for standard setting section 7.6 regarding efficacy calculation methods	7.1 (19)	Secretariat	-
15. agreed not to recalculate the treatment efficacy, based on the new calculation, in adopted PTs	7.1 (20)	Secretariat	-

Decisions & Actions	Agenda Item (Decision #)	Responsible	Deadline
16. agreed with the TPPT recommendation that the criteria around the ISPM 15 treatment testing process, once developed, should be included in the IPPC framework but do not need to be an annex to an ISPM and should be placed in the TPPT section of the IPPC procedure manual for standard setting	7.1 (21)	Secretariat	-
17. requested that the TPPT draft the criteria around the ISPM 15 treatment testing process, to be presented to the SC for approval to include in the IPPC procedure manual for standard setting, and added this task to the TPPT workplan	7.1 (22)	Secretariat	SC November 2024
18. agreed to recommend to CPM-19 (2025) that the topic *Criteria for treatments for wood packaging material in international trade* (2006-010) be removed from the List of topic for IPPC standards	7.1 (23)	Secretariat	CPM-19 (2025)
19. agreed to issue a call for an expert for the English language for the TPG for a five-year period beginning in 2025	7.2 (30)	Secretariat	January 2025
20. agreed to forward the supplementary paper "Supplementary TPG paper on consistency recommendations on the draft revised PRA ISPMs for quarantine pests" drafted by the TPG for consideration to the potential EWG on the revision of the draft reorganized PRA standards	7.2 (33)	Secretariat	When EWG is formed
21. disagreed with the proposed addition of the terms "irradiation", "fumigation", "pest free area" and "ePhyto" to the TPG's work programme in the List of topics for IPPC standards	7.2 (37)	Secretariat	-
22. agreed that it would be preferable to delete the term "plant protection organization (national)" from ISPM 5 but invited the TPG to first check whether the term is mentioned in any adopted ISPMs, so that the SC could assess the potential impact of deletion and the possibility of applying the change as an ink amendment	7.2 (38)	Secretariat	SC November??
23. requested that the TPPT consider the need for revision of the term "treatment schedule	7.2 (40)	Secretariat/TPPT /TPG	
24. approved ink amendments to the definitions of "area of low pest prevalence", "IPPC" and "treatment schedule", to be presented to CPM-19 (2025) for noting	7.2 (41)	Secretariat	CPM-19 (2025)
25. requested that the secretariat apply a typographical change to the definitions of "contaminating pest", "corrective action plan (in an area)", "debarked wood" and "host pest list", so that "debarked wood",	7.2 (42)	Secretariat	-

Decisions & Actions	Agenda Item (Decision #)	Responsible	Deadline
"infest" and "officially" are presented in bold			
26. noted that the secretariat would apply a typographical change to the term "treatment" so that it is presented in bold in all definitions in ISPM 5 where it is used in the glossary sense of the term	7.2 (43)	Secretariat	-
27. noted that the IPPC brochure Introduction to international phytosanitary terminology would be published in 2024	7.2 (45)	Secretariat	2024
28. agreed to include an index in ISPM 5 (Glossary of phytosanitary terms)	7.2 (46)	Secretariat/TPG	
29. agreed with the recommendation of the TPG and the secretariat not to proceed with applying bold to glossary terms in all ISPMs, apart from ISPM 5	7.2 (47)	Secretariat/TPG	-
30. agreed that the option "noted" be included in the response options when addressing consultation comments on draft ISPMs, including draft amendments to ISPM 5	7.2 (48)	Secretariat	After consultation
31. confirmed that the TPG is allowed to review portions of text in draft ISPMs which were not the subject of consultation comments	7.2 (49)	Secretariat/ TPG	
32. noted that when the annual face-to-face TPG meeting is held outside of FAO premises, the panel would arrange a presentation (capacity-building) session for the host NPPO's employees, demonstrating the work of the TPG, and that this approach would also apply to other meetings organized by the Standard Setting Unit of the secretariat	7.2 (51)	Secretariat/ SSU	
33. agreed to extend the TPDP membership of Juliet GOLDSMITH (Entomology) and Géraldine ANTHOINE (Nematology) for another five-year term	7.3 (54)	Secretariat/TPDP	-
34. agreed to invite Valérie GRIMAULT, the Assistant Director of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), as an invited expert in the next TPDP face-to-face meeting	7.3 (55)	Secretariat/TPDP	Before TPDP Japan meeting
35. agreed to the recommendation of the TPDP to remove DP Moniliophthora roreri (2019-005) from the work programme, as it was of low priority and only one author had been identified after several attempts	7.3 (56)	Secretariat/TPDP	-
36. agreed to undertake an additional consultation period for DPs only, in January 2025, and requested that the secretariat open the consultation period via the OCS (tentative dates: 30 January to 2 May 2025)	7.3 (57)	Secretariat	January 2025

Decisions & Actions	Agenda Item (Decision #)	Responsible	Deadline
37. recommended to CPM-19 (2025) that the Standard Setting Procedure be adjusted to include the January–May consultation period for DPs as a permanent feature of the Standard Setting Procedure (in addition to the consultation period in July–September)	7.3 (58)	Secretariat	CPM-19 2025
38. agreed to raise awareness within their networks to engage experts to participate in the expert consultation;	7.3 (61)	TPDP/Secretariat	-
39. confirmed the selection of David Ouvrard (France) as an Entomologist member of the TPDP for a five-year term starting in 2024	9.2 (83)	TPDP/Secretariat	-
40. (66) recommended that the secretariat open a call for information material for all four priority 1 subjects added to the List of topics for IPPC standards by CPM-18 (2024), for a period to be determined by the secretariat and the steward and to be accompanied by an explanatory statement about the expected time frame for development, and invited the TPCS to then decide in which order to work on these subjects, based on the information received	7.4 (66)	Secretariat / TPCS	-
41. invited the TPCS to consider the suggestion made by the TPPT at their meeting in October 2024 (agenda item 5.2: Draft annex Field inspection) about how the TPPT could input its advice to the TPCS on treatments	7.4 (67)	TPCS / Secretariat	-
42. approved the draft TPCS working procedures and the subsequent inclusion of these procedures in the IPPC procedure manual for standard setting	7.4 (68)	Secretariat	-
43. agreed that a small working group of SC members, comprising David KAMANGIRA (Malawi (lead)), Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana), Steve CÔTÉ (Canada), Nader ELBADRY (Egypt), Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece), André Felipe C.P. da SILVA (Brazil) and Sophie PETERSON (Australia) would develop guidance for lead stewards and assistant stewards in relation to technical panels and also for the "regular" role of assistant stewards, to fill gaps in the current guidance, and report back to the SC in November 2024 or May 2025	8 (73)	David K/ Prudence / Steve / Nader / Stavroula / André / Sophie / Secretariat	SC in November 2024 or May 2025
44. assigned stewards and assistant stewards as agreed at this meeting	8.1 (75)	Secretariat	End of May 2024
45. recommended to CPM-19 (2025) that priority 1 be assigned to the topic Revision of the draft reorganized pest risk analysis standard (2023-037)	8.1 (76)	Secretariat	CPM-19 (2025)

Decisions & Actions	Agenda Item (Decision #)	Responsible	Deadline
46. selected Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece) as an SC representative on the Task Force on Topics;	8.1 (79)	Secretariat	End of May 2024
47. agreed that Matías GONZALEZ BUTTERA (Argentina, lead), Prudence Tonator ATTIPOE (Ghana), Steve CÔTÉ (Canada), Stavroula IOANNIDOU (Greece), David OPATOWSKI (Israel) and Sophie PETERSON (Australia) would form a small working group of SC members to explore mechanisms to address technical issues that are raised about draft ISPMs submitted for adoption but that are not objections, for the SC to consider at its meeting in November 2024	11 (86)	Matías/ Prudence / Steve / Stavroula / David O/ Sophie / Secretariat	SC in November 2024
48. requested that the secretariat open an e-decision to approve the report from this meeting, following approval of the text by the rapporteurs	15 (88)	Secretariat	Within 8 weeks
49. Invite WOAH and CODEX to future SC meetings	-	Secretariat	SC November 2024/SC May 2025
50. OCS upgrade: To have all languages of various paragraphs on one page (For reconciliation report)		Secretariat	2025 (OCS upgrade)