



COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

NINETEENTH SESSION

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT AGENDA ITEM DEVELOPING GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF THIRD-PARTY ENTITIES

AGENDA ITEM 12.4

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

1. Governance and financial considerations

- [1] Developing guidance on the use of third-party entities is one of eight development agenda items (DAIs) in the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030. Oversight of this development agenda was transferred from the Standards Committee (SC) to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) at CPM 17 (2023), with coordination by the Implementation and Facilitation Unit. In May 2023, the IC established an IC Team¹ to provide guidance on this development agenda.
- [2] All activities delivered under this development agenda, to-date, have been supported by the in-kind staff contribution from Canada. Canada has also provided financial resources, although additional funds are needed to initiate the key activities in the implementation plan. Deep gratitude is expressed to Canada for its support.
- [3] This paper provides an update on the status of activities related to authorizing third-party entities.

2. IPPC guides on authorizing entities and audits in the phytosanitary context

- [4] The main activities proposed within this DAI are the development of two IPPC guides. The guide, on *Authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2018-040), was submitted during the 2018 Call for Topics. The draft specification went for consultation in 2022. The draft specification was revised considering comments submitted during the consultation and the final specification² was approved by the IC later that same year.
- [5] The proposal to develop the guide to *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009) was submitted during the 2021 Call for Topics. The draft specification was distributed for consultation in 2023. The IC Team met in March 2024 to review the comments arising from the consultation. The IC approved the specification³ in May, with modifications.
- [6] The IC recommended that because of the close linkages, the guide, *Authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2018-040) and the guide, *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009) should be developed in coordination. Both guides are a high priority for the phytosanitary community, however, work to develop these guides has not been initiated because resources were not available.
- [7] The guide on phytosanitary audits is partially funded by Canada through the Multi-donor trust fund. However, additional resources are needed before the work can be initiated.

¹ IC Team membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/92982/>

² Specification *Authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions*: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/91844/>

³ Specification for *Audit in the phytosanitary context*: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/93804/>

- [8] The guide on authorization of entities is unfunded but should also be initiated when sufficient financial and secretariat resources are available to undertake this work.

3. Investment prospectus

- [9] A key part of the overarching implementation plan for IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2030) is an investment prospectus for each of the development agendas. The investment prospectus for the development agenda, *Guidance on the use of third-party entities*, was presented to CPM-18 (2024) and approved by CPM Bureau in June 2024.

Recommendations

- [10] The CPM-19 is invited to:
- (1) *note* the update on the IPPC development agenda, *Guidance on the use of third-party entities*.
 - (2) *thank* Canada for its in-kind staff contribution and financial contribution to the IPPC development agenda, *Guidance on the use of third-party entities*.
 - (3) *encourage* contracting parties to contribute the funds needed to develop both guides: *Authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2018-040) and *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009).