Report of the Communications Sub-group to thE CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers

(Prepared by James Hookham)

The Sub-group on Communications agreed five outputs at its meeting in Rome on 11 December 2024.

These have been progressed as follows:

1. **Compile an inventory of existing IPPC and Industry guidance on managing pest risks in the sea container pathway**

A draft document has been compiled for consideration as an IPPC publication suitable for distribution to NPPOs, and for use as a reference document to support awareness-raising activities. (See Annex A)

1. **Compile a ‘Stakeholder Engagement Plan’**

A template for use as a Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been prepared and circulated to the sub-Group. However, so that it may completed satisfactorily, the sub-group has also discussed broader aspects of the scope and timing of the overall Communications Plan for the Focus Group, and these matters await clarification, possibly by the Focus Group itself.

1. **Publish a syndicated interview with Greg Wolff**

An interview with Greg was published in several leading trade journals ahead of his valedictory meeting as Chair of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in March 2025. (See Annex B)

1. **SCFG Webinar for NPPOs**

This was intended as a means of briefing NPPOs on the content and significance of the CPM Recommendation 06: *Minimizing the pest risk associated with the sea-container pathway.* However, these plans were paused upon the decision to proceed with the Symposium being held in Copenhagen on 7 & 8 October, to which NPPOs will be invited and be briefed on the CPM Recommendation.

1. **Extract of the phytosanitary provisions of the CTU Code**

Revised provisions on container cleanliness and pest contamination avoidance were compiled by the Focus Group in 2024 and submitted for inclusion in the revised edition of the Code of Practice for the Packing of Cargo Transport Units (the CTU Code). It is intended to consolidate the provisions that were submitted as a stand-alone document containing the finalised text appearing in the revised CTU Code. This could be considered for use by NPPOs and for use as a reference document to support awareness-raising activities. A draft document has been compiled but awaits the emergence of the official amended texts of the CTU Code against which its completeness and accuracy can be checked. This is expected before the end of 2025.