

January 2001



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

### Third Session

Rome, 2-6 April 2001

### Work Programme for Harmonization Standard Setting

### Agenda Item 8.1 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The following international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPMs) have been adopted to date:

- No. 1: Principles of plant quarantine as related to international trade, 1995
- No. 2: Guidelines for pest risk analysis, 1995
- No. 3: Code of conduct for the import and release of exotic biological control agents, 1995
- No. 4: Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas, 1995
- No. 5: Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms, 1996 (revised 1999)
- No. 6: Guidelines for surveillance, 1997
- No. 7: Export certification system, 1997
- No. 8: Determination of pest status in an area, 1998
- No. 9: Guidelines for pest eradication programmes, 1998
- No. 10: Requirements for the establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites, 1999.

2. The work programme for the establishment of ISPMs has expanded and accelerated substantially in the past year. This was because additional time was available due to rescheduling of the ICPM and also because certain Members provided additional resources. The addition of resources was manifest in three forms:

- 1. Savings realized by the Secretariat as a result of developed countries covering the expenses of their experts participating in standard-setting activities. These savings

For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.

- allowed the Secretariat to organize two meetings of the Interim Standards Committee rather than only one per year as previously.
2. Direct assistance provided by Members and RPPOs in the form of funding and/or the provision of venues and assistance with local arrangements. The addition of these resources allowed the Secretariat to organize many more expert meetings and consultations than is possible within the regular programme budget provided by FAO.
  3. Secretariat staff support provided by an Associate Professional Officer (APO). The addition of this professional officer, funded by the United States, provided essential support to standard-setting and other activities undertaken by the Secretariat in support of both ICPM and FAO initiatives.
3. The following lists the activities in 2000 related to standard setting and acknowledges sources of additional support:

Expert Working Group on the notification of non-compliance and emergency action  
December 1999 in Helsinki Finland  
Collaboration with EPPO and the Finnish Plant Protection Service

Expert Working Group on pest listing  
January 2000 in Pretoria, South Africa  
Collaboration with the Directorate of Plant and Quality Control (South Africa)

Glossary Working Group  
February 2000 in Paris, France  
Collaboration with EPPO

Open-ended Working Group on official control  
February 2000 in Bordeaux, France  
Collaboration with EPPO and the Plant Protection Service (France)  
Developing country participants funded by the United States

Expert Working Group on non-manufactured wood packing  
June 2000 in Ottawa, Canada  
Collaboration with NAPPO  
Meeting costs and developing country participants funded by NAPPO

Exploratory Open-ended Working Group on GMOs, Biosafety, and Invasive Species  
June 2000 at FAO in Rome  
Developing country participants funded by the United States

Second Expert Working Group on regulated non-quarantine pests  
July 2000 in San Jose Costa Rica  
Collaboration with IICA

Expert Working Group on systems approaches for risk management  
July 2000 in Brisbane, Australia  
Collaboration with Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS)  
Meeting costs and developing country participants funded by AQIS

Regional Technical Consultation on ISPMs  
August 2000 in Bangkok, Thailand  
Collaboration with APPPC  
Meeting costs and developing country participants funded by New Zealand

Expert Working Group on pest reporting  
September 2000 in Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Collaboration with EPPO

4. In addition, the work programme was supported by two meetings of the Interim Standards Committee. The first regular meeting of the Interim Standards Committee in May 2000 resulted in the approval of four documents for distribution to Members for consultation:

- *Notification of non-compliance and emergency action;*
- *Guidelines for regulated pest lists;*
- *Guidelines on the interpretation and application of the concept of official control;* and
- *Amendments to the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms.*

This was in addition to two standards that were distributed late in 1999 but only received by some Members early in 2000:

- *Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates;* and
- *Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests.*

5. It was originally intended that comments on these two standards would be collected before the regular meeting of the Interim Standards Committee in May 2000. However, after consultation with the Bureau, the Secretariat extended the consultation period through August 2000 after many countries requested additional time. This resulted in comments being collected for six draft documents to be considered by the Interim Standards Committee at its second meeting in November 2000. The Committee was able to consider comments and approve five of the documents for submission to the ICPM for adoption as follows:

- *Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates;*
- *Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests;*
- *Notification of non-compliance and emergency action;*
- *Guidelines on the interpretation and application of the concept of official control;* and
- *Amendments to the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms.*

6. Despite a tremendous effort by the Interim Standards Committee, there was not the opportunity to consider comments on the draft standard *Guidelines for regulated pest lists*. Therefore, this draft standard is being held for consideration of the Committee at its next meeting in May 2001. If approved, the standard would be submitted to the ICPM for adoption at its Session in 2002.

7. Other draft standards the Committee may consider at its next meeting in May 2001 include:

- *Guidelines for surveillance for specific pests: citrus canker;*
- *Guidelines for an import regulatory system;*
- *Inspection methodology;*
- *General considerations and specific requirements for regulated non-quarantine pests;*  
and
- *Systems approaches for risk management.*

8. Any of these standards that are approved by the Committee will be distributed to Members for consultation in June 2001. It is anticipated that the Committee will have the possibility to meet again in November 2001 and will therefore be able to review comments and approve several more new standards for adoption of the ICPM in 2002.

9. The Secretariat notes that the first meeting of the Standards Committee also reviewed and adopted a format for the preparation of specifications for new standards according to the new standard setting procedures adopted by the ICPM at its Second Session. It was anticipated that the first draft specifications would be reviewed and approved at the subsequent meeting in

---

November 2000, however the heavy agenda for that meeting made it necessary to postpone the review of specifications.

10. The Secretariat notes that the following ISPMs are due for review and revision:
- ISPM No. 1 *Principles of plant quarantine as related to international trade*;
  - ISPM No. 2 *Guidelines for pest risk analysis*.

There was no opportunity in the work programme during 2000 to organize these reviews. Therefore, this task is carried forward into the future work programme and has been raised by the Secretariat under other agenda points.

11. As a further note, the Secretariat advises the ICPM that the development of the draft standard for non-manufactured wood packing has received considerable attention in the work programme. In addition to the Expert Working Group organized in June 2000 with assistance from NAPPO, an ad hoc meeting was also held at the time of the NAPPO Annual Meeting, October 2000 in San Diego, California, United States. An additional meeting of the Working Group, set for February in Mexico City may be summarized by the Secretariat.

12. The Expert Working Group for the standard on wood packing is unique because it is larger than normal (12 phytosanitary experts) and includes representatives of key industries that would be most affected by the adoption of the standard. The group was enlarged by the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, to accommodate the high level of interest in the topic by phytosanitary officials. Industry representatives were invited to help the Working Group understand implications of the standard for the private sector and to identify and/or provide information from the private sector, in particular related to treatment. To date, the group has functioned well despite its unorthodox configuration.

13. In summary, the Secretariat has met all of the objectives identified by the ICPM at its Second Session and further advanced the work programme to the extent that additional resources were available.

14. The ICPM is invited to:
1. *Comment* on the work programme for standard setting.