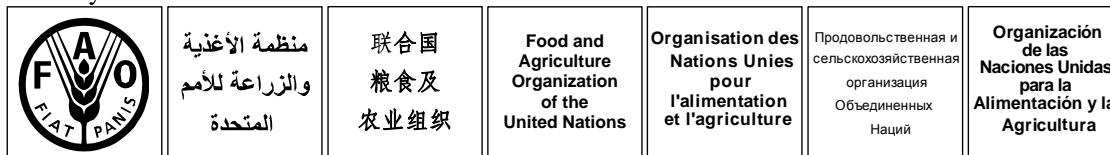


February 2012



# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Seventh Session

Rome, 19 - 23 March 2012

### Summary Report of the Twenty-Third Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations

#### Agenda item 12.2 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The 23rd Technical Consultation among regional plant protection organizations (TC-RPPOs) was hosted by the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) in collaboration with the Viet Nam NPPO in Hanoi, Viet Nam, from 28 August to 2 September 2011. Present at the Consultation were representatives of the IPPC Secretariat, the CPM Bureau and six RPPOs: Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC), Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE), European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA), and Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO).
2. The Andean Community (CA), Caribbean Plant Protection Organization (CPPC), Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC), and Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) were not represented at the meeting.
3. The full report of the meeting is available at:  
[https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1111027&tx\\_publication\\_pi1\[showUid\]=2183109&frompage=1111027&type=publication&subtype=&L=0#item](https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1111027&tx_publication_pi1[showUid]=2183109&frompage=1111027&type=publication&subtype=&L=0#item)

### I. Review of RPPO's Activities

4. Each participating RPPO presented their activities over the past year within their region related to the following:
  - the development of work plans, regional standards and guidelines for phytosanitary measures
  - involvement in the organization of the regional workshops (draft ISPM, pest eradication, etc.)
  - information exchange including pest reporting

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- improvement of phytosanitary capacity through capacity building projects
- development of contingency plans and eradication programmes
- major pest issues.

## II. Status of CAFHSA and Consideration of NEPPO's request to become an RPPO

5. The current situation regarding the creation of the *Caribbean* Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) remains unchanged and there is no likelihood of a new RPPO in the Caribbean in the short term.
6. As a result of the Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) having an intergovernmental status it is eligible for being recognized as an RPPO by the IPPC.
7. The TC agreed that NEPPO meets the minimum functional requirements, taking into account its functions as stated in the Agreement for the Establishment of NEPPO and in the Minutes of the First Conference of NEPPO's Governing Council. The 23rd TC recommends the recognition of NEPPO as an RPPO by CPM under Article IX of the IPPC.

## III. IPPC Secretariat Updates

8. The IPPC Secretariat provided updates for each of its core activities including standard setting, information exchange, reporting to the IPPC through RPPOs, Implementation Review and Support System (IRRS), capacity building, and dispute settlement.
9. As regards **standard setting**, it was reported that a new Online Comment System (OCS) has been put in place for preparing member comments. In response to concern expressed about some features of the system, the TC requested the Secretariat to make improvements to the system to allow countries to share comments without submitting them to the Secretariat, taking into account limitations of the system.
10. On **information exchange**, the TC was informed of the updated IPP as well as IPPC's recent information exchange and capacity building activities. In particular, the APPPC recently organized a workshop on information exchange in the region and launched its new website.
11. A report was given on the advances of the **IRSS**, in which the RPPOs were reminded of their key role. The TC was informed about APPPC's recent publication on the implementation information obtained from its members. The publication was available on the APPPC website.
12. The TC was informed on the developments of the 2nd IPPC EWG on phytosanitary **capacity building** and on the finalization of the work plan analysis, as well as the decision of the EWG to propose the creation of a specific structure on capacity building for the IPPC. The RPPOs agreed to the proposal that they act as partners in a project proposal that will be presented to a donor to hold a workshop in all regions for training of trainers in IPPC issues and facilitation of the PCE tool.
13. In response to last year's request to help **resolve a phytosanitary trade dispute**, the Secretariat is in the process of selecting the technical expertise to represent both parties.

## IV. CPM-6 Follow-Up

14. Most points from CPM-6 requiring follow-up have been addressed. Recent actions and changes included the grain workshop activity, IPPC's development of a comprehensive strategy, and the Secretariat's staff situation, development of a document on resources mobilization for the IPPC, and FAO's withdrawal of the proposal to send the members a questionnaire on the IPPC as an Art. XIV body.

## V. CPM Business Plan - Role/Activities of RPPOs

15. On CPM topics for external discussion at the scientific session, the TC suggested the issue of aquatic plants as pests and as crops to be protected from pests. It also suggested holding a workshop or a side-event at CPM time to raise awareness on potential significant impacts of the future sea containers standard.

## VI. TC among RPPOs Work Plan for 2010 - 2012

16. The TC examined its previously approved 2010-2012 work plan (Appendix I) and decided to revise the section on the 2012 work plan, based on the adopted IPPC strategy and the following criteria:

- maintain the strategic objectives adopted by CPM-6
- open sub-activities related to the roles and functions of RPPOs
- establish for each sub-activity the desired outcome, responsible body and timing

17. It was agreed that a basic structure and introductory text should be sent to NAPPO, EPPO and OIRSA for comments by July 2012.

## VII. Developments for PRA, e.g. Climate Change and Pest Introduction Potential, PRATIQUE, Invasive Species, Pathways Risk Analysis

### Current and emerging major pest issues

18. The TC agreed to analyze the cases of Huanglongbing (HLB), *Tuta absoluta* and Cassava pink mealybug at its next meeting to serve as a platform for exchanging information between the regions and identify possible joint initiatives to deal with the emerging pests.

19. NAPPO informed that a draft document on climate change and its implications for PRAs is under peer review. Its position paper on invasive alien species is now available while the draft standard on Guidelines for Pathway Risk Analysis (RSPM 31) is undergoing last reviews. EPPO reported that the EU PRATIQUE project was successfully finalized, with focus on the performance of PRA to test the results. Other activities include conduct of a study on plants for planting to create a pre-import screening systems scheme and the work programme on invasive alien plants as well as its prioritization for PRAs. APPPC mentioned a number of projects being implemented and the follow up to PRATIQUE in the framework of a STDF project for five Asian countries. COSAVE is working on procedure standardization for national PRA and will hold a regional workshop for PRA in 2012. OIRSA said that IAS are of interest, especially those that possess potential environmental risks. PPPO said that additional training is being organized to improve their countries' capacity to conduct PRAs.

### Electronic certification

20. It was noted that electronic phytosanitary certification is now officially a part of the work programme of IPPC. In March 2011, the CPM adopted the revised version of ISPM 12, explicitly mentioning electronic certification. A Working Group meeting was hosted by the Republic of Korea from 7-10 June, 2011 in Seoul. There were 43 participants from 23 countries and two regional organizations.

21. While the general objective of the meeting was to determine what needs to be developed to define a standardized phytosanitary electronic certification system for implementation, there were several specific objectives, including the determination of standardized contents of the electronic

phytosanitary certificate and the determination of the standardized way of secure and authentic transmission of an electronic phytosanitary certificate from an exporting NPPO to an importing NPPO.

22. Some highlights of the meeting included the agreement to change the commonly used term “eCert” or “eCertification” to “ePhyto”, progress updates, and discussion groups that provided an opportunity for exchange of experiences and ideas on standardization required to facilitate worldwide exchange of ePhytos.

23. These in turn led to the establishment of three working groups on: (i) IPPC XML Schema and ISPM 12 mapping, (ii) harmonization of ISPM 12 code lists, and (iii) harmonization of data exchange and security protocols respectively. The working groups discussed their topics and defining a work programme which will lead to a draft Appendix to ISPM 12 by early 2012.

24. EPPO informed the TC about a meeting to be held in October on this subject, and possibilities to use EPPO Codes for e-phyto for international harmonization.

### **Emergency response and contingency planning**

25. As contingency plans are an important activity of the TC, it was suggested that the plans be posted on the IPP’s resources page.

26. APPPC reported on the developments for the contingency plan for South American Leaf Blight (SALB). COSAVE was preparing a regional plan for HLB, on specific surveillance activities for *Lymantria dispar*, *Thaumastocoris peregrinus* and a regional control plan for *Anthonomus grandis*. EPPO reported that in their workshop on eradication last year, attendees learned how to manage eradication campaigns and make decisions analysis, using a component developed in PRATIQUE. PPPO helped some NPPOs develop contingency plans. OIRSA kept elaborating contingency plans: *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense*, Tropical Race 4 and Banana Bunchy Top Virus (BBTV).

### **RPPO input into the implementation review and support system: systems approaches and pest reporting**

27. On systems approaches, COSAVE presented its document on identifying implementation difficulties at the next TC meeting. On pest reporting, the Secretariat was working on a paper for the next CPM. EPPO was working on a new pest reporting form to help members fulfil obligations under the IPPC. Having to report on behalf of its members, PPPO mentioned difficulties in getting information from them.

### **Economic impact- cost of eradication**

28. In addressing pressure from the industry to decide quickly on eradication without adequate assessment of eradication costs, PPPO plans to hold a regional workshop on how to plan properly and respond to pest incursions. OIRSA was helping Panama eradicate *A. grandis*.

### **OIRSA’s report on the possibility to charge levies for the issuance of phytosanitary certificates**

29. OIRSA explored the possibility to charge levies for phytosanitary certificate issuance in one of its member countries. Exporters requesting the issuance of a PC make a bank transfer. The income for issuing 75 000 PCs was a little over half a million dollars. For possible funding support to the IPPC, OIRSA’s agreement could be complemented by a memorandum of understanding to transfer funds to the IPPC, calculation of which is based on the number of PCs issued.

### **Grains workshop**

30. The TC proceeded under the agreements at the meeting during CPM-6. Agreements were reached on participation, the expectations of the RPPO and IPPC, the programme, the suggestions of speakers, as well as the composition of the organizing committee.

## VIII. Other Business

### Brainstorming on the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IPPC

31. Below are some suggestions made:
  - IPPC Secretariat designs a special logo and posts it on the IPP.
  - IPPC Secretariat prepares a list of highlights that picture the evolution during 60 years.
  - Negotiate with the Italian post office to issue celebration products.
  - Make a big side event at CPM time.
  - Try to sell what IPPC does, creating interest in the long term.

### IX. Date and location of the twenty-fourth TC-RPPOs

32. It was agreed that the next TC-RPPOs would be held during the period of 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012, in Fiji (or alternatively in Samoa or Cook Islands). NAPPO, and EPPO shall co-organize the meeting. The following rotation for TC organization was provisionally agreed: 2013 – COSAVE, 2014 – OIRSA, 2015- NAPPO and 2016- NEPPO/IAPSC (under consultation).

33. The CPM is invited to:
  - 1) *note* the report.

**Appendix 1****WORK PROGRAMME OF THE TECHNICAL CONSULTATION  
AMONG RPPOS FOR 2010 – 2012**

	<b>Activity / Topic</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
1	Include RPPOs databases as an active avenue for reporting under the IPPC	Secretariat
2	Should NEPPO and CAHFSA enter into force, then they should be made aware of the requirements for recognition as RPPOs.	Secretariat
3	Increased involvement by RPPOs in regional workshops on draft ISPMs available for country consultation	All RPPOs
4	Possible increased involvement by RPPOs in the training of IPP editors if appropriate	All RPPOs
5	Emergency response and contingency planning – exchange	All RPPOs
6	Electronic certification	All RPPOs
7	RPPO input into the implementation review and support system in regard to ISPMs on pest reporting (EPPO) and the systems approach (NAPPO, COSAVE)	EPPO, NAPPO COSAVE
8	Developments for PRA, e.g. Climate change and pest introduction potential, PRATIQUE, invasive species, pathway risk analysis	COSAVE, EPPO, NAPPO
9	Management of preparations for TC-22 – periodic email communication to provide updates and reminders	APPPC/Vietnam
10	Update regarding regional pest lists, provided that new information is available	All RPPOs
11	Provide NAPPO with a contact point for the E-certification steering committee by the end of 2010.	All RPPOs

