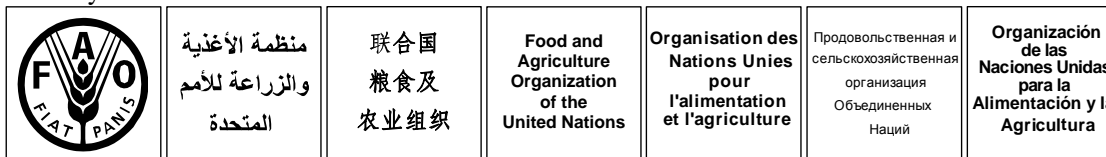


February 2012



COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Seventh Session

Rome, 19 - 23 March 2012

International Atomic Energy Agency Statement

Agenda item 12.4 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), through its Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, has been actively supporting the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) for the last eight years to develop and review International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and to improve phytosanitary capacity of IPPC Contracting Parties.
2. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division has participated in the development of the following adopted ISPMs:
 - ISPM 3. 2005. *Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms*
 - ISPM 18. 2003. *Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure*
 - ISPM 26. 2006. *Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*
 - ISPM 28. 2007. *Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*
 - ISPM 30. 2008. *Establishment of areas of low pest prevalence for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*
3. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division has also contributed to the development of the following draft ISPMs:
 - *Systems approaches for pest risk management of fruit flies*
 - *Protocol to determine host status for fruits and vegetables to fruit fly (Tephritidae) infestation*
 - *Phytosanitary procedures for fruit fly (Tephritidae) management*
 - *Establishment of fruit fly quarantine areas within a pest free area in the event of an outbreak.*
4. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division has organized and funded the last five annual meetings of the IPPC *Technical panel on pest free areas and systems approaches for fruit flies (TPFF)*, including the last meeting in Recife, Brazil in August 2011, to draft the above mentioned annex to ISPM 26:2006 *Establishment of fruit fly quarantine areas within a pest free area in the event of an outbreak.*

This document is printed in limited numbers to minimize the environmental impact of FAO's processes and contribute to climate neutrality. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and to avoid asking for additional copies. Most FAO meeting documents are available on the Internet at www.fao.org

5. In support of the IPPC *Technical panel on phytosanitary treatments*, the Joint FAO/IAEA Division provided technical expertise and helped review supporting data to facilitate the successful adoption of 14 irradiation phytosanitary treatments for pests of quarantine importance as part of ISPM 28:2007 *Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*.
6. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division is also continuing its Coordinated Research Project on the Development of Generic Irradiation Doses for Quarantine Treatments. The Second Research Coordination Meeting under the project was held at Texas A & M University in College Station, Texas, from 11-15 April 2011. This research network is determining generic and specific doses for pests and pest groups of quarantine importance (29 insect species from 13 arthropod families). The research is providing additional technical information and data in response to the IPPC request for the development of further phytosanitary treatments and will help reduce technical barriers and facilitate international trade in agricultural produce.
7. The Joint Division has also finalized Guidelines for the Audit and Accreditation of Irradiation Facilities used for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Treatment of Food and Agricultural Products through the FAO/IAEA Asia and Pacific Regional Technical Cooperation Project on Enhancing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Treatment of Regional Products for Export by Irradiation. These Guidelines will help facilitate trade in irradiated products by providing a common approach to official approvals of food irradiation facilities. The Guidelines have already been used to train food control and quarantine officials in the Asian Pacific region and have also been forwarded to the Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) for consideration as a regional standard.
8. In terms of development of technical materials to support the implementation of the ISPMs, the Joint Division upon the request of Member States and with the financial and technical support of USDA, is developing the '*FAO/IAEA Guidelines for Implementing Systems Approaches for Pest Risk Management of Fruit Flies*'. These guidelines will be further adjusted to align with the *Systems approach for pest risk management of fruit flies* (Tephritidae) (2004-022) standard after it has been adopted by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures. One of the main topics included are quantitative methodologies to assess the efficacy of systems approaches.
9. In terms of capacity building, the Joint FAO/IAEA Division has devoted part of its technical assistance delivery to the implementation of ISPMs in developing countries through regional workshops and technical meetings. In 2011, a FAO/IAEA regional training course on "*Taxonomy, Ecology and Control of Fruit Flies of Quarantine Importance*" was organized. During 2012, three FAO/IAEA regional training courses on *Quarantine and Pest Risk Analysis*', "*Fruit fly surveillance, taxonomy and identification*", and "*Fruit fly detection*" are scheduled. Additionally, the Joint Division is funding each year the participation of fellows to regional fruit fly training courses in Latin America (Mexico and Brazil) as well as lecturers on the regulatory aspects of fruit commercialization and implementation of insect pest control programmes.