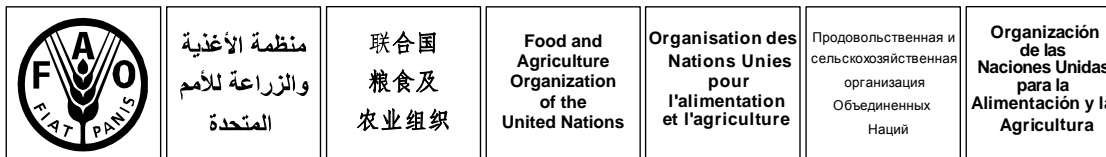


March 2012



# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Seventh Session

Rome, 19 - 23 March 2012

### Report on the Promotion of the IPPC and Cooperation with Relevant Regional and International Organizations

#### Agenda item 12.1 of the Provisional Agenda

## I. Introduction

1. The IPPC recognizes the importance of maintaining strong links with international and regional organizations with which it has common interests to help create synergies and avoid overlapping or contradictory approaches. Cooperation with regional and international organizations also raises the awareness of the IPPC's purposes and objectives and helps to promote the IPPC internationally.
2. The following is a report on the work of the IPPC Secretariat in relation to Goal 6: International promotion of the IPPC and cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations. This report covers work undertaken by the Secretariat or CPM representatives from 1 January to 31 December 2011.

## II. Cooperation with Inter-Governmental Organizations

### A. Codex Alimentarius

3. A representative from the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) participated in the Focus Group to improve the IPPC standard setting process.
4. The IPPC Secretariat has increased the contact with the Codex Secretariat, in terms of interest for both Secretariats, including the use of the recently developed Online Comment System (OCS) and the possible help in the formulation of an assessment tool for food safety similar to the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool (PCE). The Codex Secretariat represented the IPPC in the discussions of the 17th meeting of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards, Committee on Trade, Economic Commission for Europe, during the discussion of document: Seed Potatoes (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2011/23)

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## B. Convention on Biological Diversity

### General

5. Cooperation between the IPPC and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariats is governed by a Memorandum of Cooperation agreed by the two Secretariats and noted by ICPM-6 in 2004. This cooperation is mandated by relevant decisions of the respective governing bodies. The Secretariat continues to liaise with the Secretariat of the CBD.
6. The CBD has established an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) which met in Switzerland in February 2011 to address the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food. The report of this meeting is available on the CBD's web site (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-15/information/sbstta-15-inf-01-en.pdf>). The IPPC Secretariat participated in this meeting. The outcome of this meeting was presented to the CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) in November 2011 which discussed the outcome of the AHTEG and have forwarded a draft recommendation (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/SBSTTA-15/sbstta-15-rec-04-en.pdf>) to the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD to take place in Hyderabad, India in October 2012.
7. A Memorandum of cooperation (MoC) on the implementation of the UN Biodiversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, was sent to the IPPC Secretary inviting him to sign on behalf of the IPPC. The Bureau and the Secretariat felt that the signature could lead to the assumption of commitments under the workplan of another Convention and possible impacts could arise on the feasibility to develop and commercialize biological control agents, as a consequence of the implementation of the Nagoya protocol. It was not clear also if the Secretary could sign the document as the head of an international organization. The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to seek legal advice on these issues.
8. In the meantime, the Director-General (DG) of FAO, together with the heads of many international organizations signed the MoC (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/agreements/agmt-aichi2020-2011-09-20-moc-en.pdf>). Currently it is interpreted that the IPPC is covered under the signature of the DG of FAO.
9. The MoC recalls the findings of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (<http://www.cbd.int/gbo3/>), the UN Biodiversity Strategic plan for 2011 to 2020 (<http://www.cbd.int/sp/>) and the Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources and equitable benefit sharing arising from their utilization (<http://www.cbd.int/abs/text/>).
10. CPM members are encouraged to:
  - 1) *review* these agreements; and
  - 2) *consider* the possible impacts.

### Cartagena Protocol

11. In regards to work related to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CP), the Secretariat had liaised with the Secretariat of the CBD by participating in an Online Forum on Standards for Shipments of Living Modified Organisms (LMO). The CBD Secretariat published the results of this forum which are available on the CBD's website (<http://bch.cbd.int/database/attachment/?id=11612>). The Secretariat continues to provide information on the appropriate use of ISPMs in the context of LMOs.

12. The Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP MOP/6) is scheduled to take place on 1 to 5 October 2012 in Hyderabad, India.
13. In addition, a representative of the CBD Secretariat (Biosafety) attended on the Open ended workshop on the International Movement of Grain.
14. More information may also be provided under agenda item 12.4.

### **C. FAO**

15. Although the IPPC Secretariat is hosted in FAO, interaction with FAO groups outside the Secretariat is very important and time consuming. The following efforts have been made to strengthen collaboration with other teams in FAO:
  - Participation in the management of capacity development activities within the FAO and in particular in the Plant Production and Protection Division (AGPM).
  - Increased contact with the Food Control and Consumer Protection group.
  - Preparation of joint field guidelines for surveillance with AGPM units.
  - Participation in a pilot project for the use of Virtual Facilitation processes and tools. These tools are now being utilized by the Secretariat which has conducted several virtual meetings.
  - The preparation of FAO-AGPM project proposals for different donors.
  - Coordination and support of FAO regional and sub-regional activities (e.g.: review of the plant quarantine manual for the Caribbean, provision of comments for project proposals, etc)
  - Participation in the FAO Programme and Project Review Committee (PPRC).
  - Reviewing projects, questionnaires, forms and publications for AGPMG (seeds).
16. The IPPC Secretariat also worked with the Food Control and Consumer Protection group in terms of discussing strategic issues to be addressed under the SPS Agreement, the STDF partnership and other activities of interest for both Secretariats, including the possible help in the formulation of an assessment tool for food safety similar to the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool (PCE) .
17. A revised MoU was signed between FAO and the Comité de liaison Europe-Afrique-Caraïbes-Pacifique (COLEACP), which included a third thematic group on: « Protection phytosanitaire et mise en œuvre de la Convention Internationale pour la protection des Végétaux (CIPV). These funds can help countries in the three regions to improve their national phytosanitary capacities through the COLEACP-EDES program.
18. All opportunities were utilized, both in and out of FAO, to communicate IPPC needs and advocacy materials were provided to potential donors. Significant time was allocated to participation in the FAO Impact Focus Area (IFA) activities. These attempts may help contribute to the increase of funds and other resources for the IPPC. These efforts will be maintained and enhanced to help securing further sustainable resources for the IPPC.

### **D. Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species**

19. An Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species is facilitated by the CBD Secretariat. The purpose of this group is to facilitate cooperation among relevant international organizations to support measures to prevent the introduction and spread or to help with the eradication of alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species. This group last met 14-15 February 2011 in Geneva hosted at the headquarters of the World Trade Organization. Information on activities related to invasive alien species was exchanged and efforts were put in place to build synergies and facilitate cooperation at the international level. Information on this group and reports of their meetings are posted on the CBD's website (<http://www.cbd.int/invasive/lg/>).

### **E. Inter-American Development bank**

20. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) assisted in the delivery of a Regional workshop for the review of draft ISPMs for Caribbean in Barbados.

### **F. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation of Agriculture**

21. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) assisted (administratively and financially) in the delivery of a Regional workshop for the review of draft ISPMs for Latin America in Costa Rica.

22. Other collaborative work was undertaken with IICA under the framework of a letter of agreement for the development of e-learning material on PRA.

### **G. International Maritime Organization**

23. Regarding the topic of IPPC standard on “*Minimizing pest movement by sea containers and conveyances in international trade (2008-001)*”, representatives of the IPPC visited the International Maritime Organization (IMO) on two occasions to enlist the IMO’s participation in the expert working group on this topic.

### **H. International Organization for Standardization**

24. A representative from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) participated in the Focus Group to improve the IPPC standard setting process, outlining some of the online tools this organization uses in the development of their standards.

25. As reported at CPM-6 (2011), the IPPC Secretariat became an observer of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Subcommittee on horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis (TC34/SC16) and informed the CPM that they would be updated on the development of *ISO/TC 34/SC 16 ISO/DIS 13484 - Foodstuffs — General requirements for molecular biology analysis for detection and identification of destructive organisms in plants and derived products*. As specified in the ISO draft standard “the document specifies and illustrates the criteria governing deployment of the methods for conducting tests for the detection and identification of pathogenic and destructive organisms in plants, including regulated or quarantine pests (for example, bacteria, viruses, fungi, insects, nematodes, etc.). The methods described are methods used in molecular biology, in particular PCR and its variants”. This draft ISO standard has been further developed.

26. A further consultation on this ISO draft opened in October 2011. Some CPM members may use molecular methods and wish to follow the development of this ISO standard and submit comments through their national ISO contact point.

27. CPM members may need to consider this issue further as it could be perceived that ISO standards are mandatory for contracting parties in order to implement ISPMs.

### **I. Joint Division of the Food and Agricultural Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency**

28. The meeting of the Technical panel on pest free areas and systems approaches for fruit flies (TPFF) was again hosted by the Joint Division of FAO and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Brazil in August 2011. The Joint Division also provided administrative support for the organization of this meeting and funded the participation of the panel members requesting assistance, including the travel costs of a staff member of the Secretariat. In addition, a member from the Joint Division continues to serve on the TPFF.

29. In October 2011, the IPPC Secretariat met with representatives of the IAEA to agree on future activities to be included in their workplans. Agreement was reached on the possible joint activities related to standard setting and capacity development. In particular for capacity development in support to implementation, three areas of activity were identified as the priorities for collaborative action:

- workshops and training for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure under ISPM 18. 2003. *Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure*
  - production of technical resources and guidance for the application of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure
  - projects related to the development of capacities for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure, to be considered on a case by case basis.
30. More information may also be provided under agenda item 12.4.

## J. Ozone Secretariat

31. The [Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer](#) and its [Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer](#) are dedicated to the protection of the earth's ozone layer. The Ozone Secretariat is the Secretariat for the Vienna Convention and for the Montreal Protocol. The IPPC Secretariat continues to liaise with the Ozone Secretariat but with reduced IPPC Secretariat resources there have been fewer interactions.

32. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP23), the meeting of the governing body of the Montreal Protocol, met in November 2011 in Bali and adopted some decisions regarding the IPPC, specifically, paragraph 7 of the decision XXIII/5 (Advance copy of the report: [http://conf.montreal-protocol.org/meeting/mop23-cop9/draft-reports/Draft%20Reports/COP9-MOP23\\_%20decisions.pdf](http://conf.montreal-protocol.org/meeting/mop23-cop9/draft-reports/Draft%20Reports/COP9-MOP23_%20decisions.pdf)). This decision requests the Ozone Secretariat to consult the IPPC Secretariat "on how to ensure and improve the exchange of information on methyl bromide uses and alternative treatments between the Convention and Montreal Protocol bodies and on the systems available to facilitate access to such information by national authorities and private organizations". The outcome of the consultation will be reported to 32<sup>nd</sup> Open Ended Working Group ( OEWG) in July 2012. In addition, the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) has also been requested to do some work which includes providing the Parties with guidance on methods to collect data on MB used for quarantine and pre-shipment (paragraph 5b).

33. More information may also be provided under agenda item 12.4.

## K. Standards and Trade Development Facility

34. The Secretariat participated in all the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) working group meetings in 2011 (March, June and October) and provided input, as required, through the provisions of comments and technical support in the formulation of STDF project preparation grants and project proposals (more than 20 cases).

35. The Secretariat has also been the implementing agency for the following STDF projects:

- STDF/ PPG/316: *Strengthening phytosanitary inspection and diagnostic services in Azerbaijan*

Beneficiary: Azerbaijan

Description: Strengthen the capacity of pre-border quarantine inspection points, notably through the provision of laboratory equipment and training of laboratory staff

Implementation dates: Start: 01/12/2010 - End: 31/12/2011

- MTF/MOZ/098/STDF 230: *Establishment of Pest Free Areas regarding CLYD in Mozambique*

Beneficiary: Mozambique

Description: Build phytosanitary capacity to implement international standards to manage LYD in palms and thereby expand market access for coconuts

Implementation dates: Start: 01/07/2009 - End: 31/07/2011

- STDF/PPG/323: *Enhancing the Safety and Quality of Agricultural Products in Senegal*  
Beneficiary: Senegal  
Description: Develop a project proposal to address the issue of pest surveillance and application of good agriculture practices to enhance Senegal's potential of horticultural exports  
Implementation dates: Start: 01/03/2011 - End: 31/08/2011
- STDF/PG/350: *Global Phytosanitary Manuals, Standard Operating Procedures and Training Kits*  
Beneficiary: Côte d'Ivoire, Jamaica, Malaysia and Sudan  
Description: Address the need in developing countries for documented technical resources to enhance their capacity to understand and implement International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)  
Implementation dates: Start: 01/02/2012 - End: 31/01/2014

36. The Secretariat also participated in a workshop organized by the STDF on the use of Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis to Inform Decisions on the Allocation of Resources aimed at Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Capacity held South Africa (August).

37. More information will be provided under agenda item 12.4.2

#### **L. World Bank**

38. The Secretariat visited the World Bank in Washington DC in February, May and June to raise awareness of the IPPC and its programmes and to identify potential areas for synergy and collaboration.

#### **M. World Animal Health Organization**

39. A representative from the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) participated in the Focus Group to improve the IPPC standard setting process.

40. In 2011, the Secretariat undertook many actions dealing with coordination with the OIE in terms of discussing strategic issues to be addressed under the SPS Agreement, the STDF partnership and other activities of interest for both groups.

#### **N. World Customs Organization**

41. The Secretariat recognized needs for collaboration with World Customs Organization (WCO) with regard to E- Certification and verifying cleanness of sea containers through the IPPC e-Certification Open-Ended Working Group and Steering Committee on Sea containers.

#### **O. Secretariat to the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, World Trade Organization**

42. The Secretariat continued to work closely with the Secretariat to the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and attended all formal and informal SPS Committee meetings reporting on the IPPC activities, representing the IPPC in the discussions and providing inputs and collaborating with the capacity development activities undertaken, as for instance the Workshop on SPS coordination at national and regional level held in Geneva (October).

43. The IPPC also directly supported the World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Assistance Program participating as presenters and facilitators in the annual Advanced SPS course held in Geneva (October) and the following four regional workshops: Barbados for the Caribbean region (July), Mali and South Africa for Africa region (November) and Qatar for Arab and Middle East Countries (December).

44. More information will be provided under agenda item 12.4.1 and 12.5

### **III. Cooperation with Regional Plant Protection Organizations**

#### **A. Technical Consultation among regional plant protection organizations**

45. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Technical Consultation among regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) was hosted by Vietnam (July). The meeting addressed, among other issues, consideration of the Near East Plant Protection Organization's (NEPPO) request to become an RPPO. The Secretariat helped with the preparation of the meeting, attended it, elaborated the report and provided pertinent information on the works of the Secretariat to help to undertake the needed liaison activities with the RPPOs.

46. More information is provided under agenda 12.2.

#### **B. Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission**

47. A training workshop on use of IPP and the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission's (APPPC) website was held in Malaysia (July) and the IPPC e-Certification Open-Ended Working Group was held hosted by Korea (June).

#### **C. Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur**

48. El Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE) hosted an e-certification meeting held in Chile (May) with the support of a member of the Secretariat.

#### **D. European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization**

49. The European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) hosted the Focus Group on Improving the IPPC Standard Setting Process in France (July).

50. EPPO has also offered to host the next three meetings of the Technical panel on diagnostic protocols.

#### **E. North America Plant Protection Organization**

51. The North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) provided coordination of the Spanish language review group and helped to coordinate and lead the organization of the Open-ended workshop on the international movement of grain.

### **IV. Other Cooperation Activities**

#### **A. Centre of Phytosanitary Excellence**

52. During 2011, the Secretariat finished its tasks related to the implementation and closing of the STDF project that financed the development of the Centre, but no meeting of the Advisory Board was called.

53. The Secretariat is a member of the Centre of Phytosanitary Excellence (COPE) Advisory Board.

#### **B. European Union**

##### European Food Safety Authority

54. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is broadening its monitoring procedures for identifying emerging risks to all the fields within its mission, including plant health. The Secretariat participated in European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) Scientific Colloquium XVI on Emerging Risks in Plant Health in Parma, Italy (June), whose objective was to debate on key issues related to the identification of emerging risks in plant health.

55. The CPM membership is advised to *pay due attention* to a document under public consultation (till April 16<sup>th</sup>) on the draft guidance on methodology for evaluation of the effectiveness of options to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of organisms harmful to plant health in the European Union (EU) territory under the following link: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/call/120301.htm>.

#### PRATIQUE

56. A representative from the IPPC Secretariat attended a EU conference entitled: “PRATIQUE: Enhancements Pest Risk Analysis Techniques” in May and gave a presentation on “International Standards for Pest Risk Analysis”. It is hoped that PRATIQUE will address three major challenges of PRA:

- 1) the lack of sufficient data required to effectively analyze the risks posed by pests to all member states of the EU
- 2) the need to assess risk and analyze management options in ways that are meaningful, reliable and take account of uncertainty
- 3) the importance of ensuring the PRA process is efficient and practical for end-users.

### **C. International Forestry Quarantine Research Group**

57. The International Forestry Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG) was hosted by Australia (September). The meeting focused on reviewing forest quarantine research, mostly in relation to research work needed to support the development of ISPM 15. 2009. *Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade*. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss issues related to the Criteria for treatments, the revision of Annex 1 to ISPM 15:2009 and dielectric heating. The meeting was attended by forestry scientists, representatives of national and regional plant protection organizations and industry from Asia, Europe, North America and the Pacific. Several scientists presented technical reports on collaborative work carried out in many regions of the world.

58. More information is provided under agenda 12.4.

### **D. Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standard-setting Organizations**

59. The Secretariat participated as a member of the steering Committee in the following two meetings of the Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standard-setting Organizations (PAN-SPSO): PAN-SPSO Phase 2 stakeholders Consolidation Review Meeting (November) and PAN-SPSO Workshop on South-South Cooperation on SPS Related Issues (November). PAN-SPSO is funded by the EU through the African Union.

### **E. Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere**

60. The Secretariat met with Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere (SSAFE) at FAO headquarters (November). SSFAE supports and promotes international science-based Harmonization of Standards such as those referenced in the WTO/SPS agreement i.e. CODEX, OIE and IPPC, as well as ISO 22000, that protect both human and animal health. They also seek to improve the global food system through Capacity Building (stimulating education and improving local infrastructures) and promoting Social Responsibility through economic growth that conserves the environment and natural resources as well as provides decent employment opportunities.

61. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *Note* the report and undertake the necessary consultations or actions suggested.
- 2) *Encourage* contracting parties, the Secretariat and others to promote the IPPC when meeting.