**Reporting through RPPOs**

1. A number of years ago countries and RPPOs requested CPM to consider ways in which RPPOs could undertake official IPPC reporting on behalf of countries.
2. FAO Legal Office agreed this was possible as RPPOs have a formal facilitation role in the convention, provided contracting parties authorize, in writing, that a given RPPO will report on their behalf. Organizations other than RPPOs will not be permitted to report on behalf of IPPC contracting parties.
3. To facilitate the granting of authority to RPPOs to report on behalf of contracting parties and was developed & distributed at CPM – this form has been available on the IPP for a number of years at [https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1110798&frompage=13363&tx\_publication\_pi1[showUid]=215756&type=publication&L=0](https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1110798&frompage=13363&tx_publication_pi1%5bshowUid%5d=215756&type=publication&L=0)
4. The Secretariat held discussions with some RPPOs as to how to enter the information into the IPP. It was decided this would be achieved by submitting the data in XML format by e-mail (to a dedicated e-mail address) and uploading would be automated provided appropriate authorization had been received from the contracting party.
5. It was also agreed that manually providing an RPPO password access to an NPPO page on the IPP was not practical or desirable as some countries indicated that only specific official information would be reported to through an RPPO e.g. pest reports.
6. There are other RPPOs that have indicated their interest in using this system once it was shown to be functional and reliable e.g. PPPO.
7. In addition, to get the system working it was decided to start with IPPC pest reports *and then* expand into other official IPPC reporting obligations.
8. The XML format for pest reporting was finalized by the Secretariat (this was largely determined by ISPM 17 and it already existed electronically on the IPP, and was distributed to both NAPPO and EPPO in 2009.
9. In addition, the IPPC Secretariat has developed the mechanism in the IPP to automatically accept pest reports, check the delegation of authority, and upload the data in 2009. It still needs to be more extensively tested with live data once the RPPOs have configured there IT systems appropriately.
10. Further discussions were held with the IT people involved with NAPPO (2009) and EPPO (2010) about enabling their websites to undertake the automated transmission of official IPPC pest reports. The Secretariat was informed this process should technically be relatively easy and quick to implement. There appears to have been no progress since then.
11. A small number of countries have already indicated that their official pest reporting would take place through an RPPO. However, the Secretariat is in no position to promote this option or to activate such actions.
12. The Secretariat would greatly appreciate a timeline to:
	1. complete this development with EPPO and NAPPO;
	2. conduct appropriate testing,
	3. operationalize pest reporting for contracting parties, and
	4. then to expand the system to all official IPPC reporting (if a contracting party so wishes) to increase the content and usefulness of IPP information (this will take more time as XML schema’s will need to be developed for each category of reporting – however, based on the engagement from RPPOs so far, the Secretariat has no intention of undertaking this work until there is significant progress with pest report given the resources available to them).
13. The Secretariat has also undertaken some development on displaying pest reporting that would ensure added value in the pest reports countries provided. Although it was intended that this would all be deployed at the same time, the revised display for pest reporting information will be loaded in the near future as waiting for reporting through RPPOs is delaying it deployment.
14. The TC for RPPOs is requests to:
	1. Indicate current challenges regarding the automatic reporting of official pest reports and what is planned to be done to alleviate them;
	2. Propose a RPPO / Secretariat work programme, with timeline, to actively test and deploy this pest reporting system; and
	3. Propose a RPPO / Secretariat work programme, with timeline, to develop, actively test and deploy this system for all other reporting obligations.