



NEPPO



Regional IPPC Workshop for the Near East and North Africa Region



**Agadir, Morocco
28 October – 1 November, 2013**

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Introduction:

The Annual Regional Workshop of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) was organized by FAO-RNE and the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) in collaboration with FAO-SNE, the Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO), FAO-Morocco and ONSSA Morocco. The workshop was held during the period 28 October – 1 November, 2013 in Agadir Beach Club Hotel.

The workshop acted as a forum to develop the capacities of IPPC contracting parties on key issues for the implementation of the Convention and its standards, and other IPPC related issues. This includes the exchange of national and regional perspectives on topics in development in the standard setting process.

The workshop aimed at reviewing and discussing the new draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) approved by the Standard Committee (SC) this year to ensure full involvement of the member countries in developing of these standards; and to ensure that the opinions and comments of the Near East countries are incorporated in the drafts before final revision and approval by the governing body of the IPPC- Commission on Application of Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), The workshop also aimed to include a broader scope of other topics related to phytosanitary and IPPC issues, such as:

- National reporting obligations,
- Information on expert consultation on cold treatments,
- Update on electronic certification,
- Single windows and customs unions,
- IRSS Helpdesk and provision of answers to IRSS questionnaires,
- Update on use and management of the phytosanitary resources page,
- Invasive Alien Species and the IPPC.

1. Opening session

The workshop was officially inaugurated by FAO Representative to Morocco Mr. Michael Hage and Mr. Rahel Mohammed Amal, Head of Plant Protection Division at the National Office for Food Safety (ONSSA) in Morocco. The opening session was moderated by Mr. Mekki Choubani, the Executive Director of NEPPO. The workshop was launched with the opening remarks of the host country delivered by Mr. Amal who welcomed all participants and thanked FAO and NEPPO for choosing Morocco to hold the workshop. Mr. Amal highlighted the importance of application of the IPPC international phytosanitary standards and their essential role in facilitating agriculture international trade.

He added that the attendance of the consultation for reviewing the drafts of standards is important for countries to contribute in the standard setting process. He outlined that standards affects the member countries thus their participation and inputs are key elements to ensure their compliance for the implementation.

These concerns were reinforced in the opening statement of the Mr. Hage, FAO Representative to Morocco, who highlighted the role that the IPPC is playing in facilitating the international trade to minimize trade obstacles with plant products. Moreover, he emphasized the role of the IPPC to assist the NPPOs of the member countries to update their national regulations to be in line with the IPPC standards and to enhance their opportunities to access regional and international markets.

Mr. Hage emphasized on the importance of the active participation in such consultation events that also enhance the communication between the countries and FAO and IPPC to identify the areas of assistance needed to develop the capacity for effective implementation of the ISPMs at national level. He also briefed the participants about FAO contribution to the Moroccan agricultural sector with more than 30 projects managed by the FAO among them is the Integrated Pest Management Programme in the Near East. At the end of his speech, Mr. Hage greeted the participants and wished them a fruitful workshop.

The opening remarks were followed by introductory remarks of Mr. Shoki AlDobai, FAO Regional Plant Protection Officer for the Near East, who welcomed the participants and acknowledged the tangible efforts of ONESSA & NEPPO for their assistance in the organization of the workshop. Mr. Al Dobai highlighted that the title of the workshop was changed to be more comprehensive in order to include discussions of more topics beside the review of draft standards. He outlined that there are eight draft standards, in total, which were endorsed by the SC this year. Only five of them will be reviewed during the consultation workshop, the rest are for Diagnostic Protocols. He reassured the importance of participating in the member consultation and standards setting process and pointed out to the weak interaction and contribution of the countries against the commenting activity and other basic IPPC obligations.

The workshop was facilitated by IPPC representatives, Ms. Adriana Moreira, IPPC Secretariat/Standard Setting and Ms. Johanna Gårdesten/Capacity Development, IPPC Secretariat; and the Regional Plant Protection Officer for NE. The meeting was attended by 21 participants representing 18 countries in addition to NEPPO Executive Secretary and Mr. Noureddine Nasr, Sub-regional Crop Production and Protection Officer (SNE) (list of participants Annex 2).

Agenda Item 2: IPPC update info presentation

The IPPC Secretariat made an overview presentation on the latest updates on the IPPC activities since this year's CPM-8. The presentation highlighted updates on the new process for determining Bureau Chair, the new rules of procedure for the Bureau, two new ISPMs adopted by CPM and the improvement of the process for registering the IPPC symbol (ISPM 15: 2013). Furthermore, the Secretariat also underlined that the FAO had restructuring places of IPPC Secretariat reporting direct

line to the Assistant Director General. The Secretariat also informed that relationships are being strengthened with the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD), Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux International (CABI) and World Customs Organization (WCO).

Agenda Item 3: NEPPO presentation

A brief presentation on the NEPPO was delivered by Mr. Mekki Choubani, Executive Director – NEPPO. The presentation included history of NEPPO, structure and the role of the organization. The presentation emphasized that among NEPPO functions there are information exchange, capacity building as well as standard setting.

Purpose of the workshop - local and logistical information:

The workshop arrangements, the purpose of the workshop, draft standards to be discussed during the workshop and other topics to be addressed by the workshop were introduced by the Regional Plant Protection Officer Mr. Shoki Al Dobai. He outlined that one of the purposes of this workshop is to provide participants with a regional forum to discuss the drafts International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) approved by the Standards Committee (SC) for member consultation for this year. This forum would help the participants to gain a better understanding of the national and regional impact of these proposed Standards and provide bases for the development and submission of national comments.

Five draft ISPMs were reviewed during the workshop as follows:

- Draft ISPM: Management of phytosanitary risks in the international movement of wood (2006-029),
- Draft ISPM: Preliminary draft: Minimizing pest movement by sea containers (2008-001),
- Draft ISPM: Movement of growing media in association with plants for planting in international trade (2005-004),
- Draft ISPM: Phytosanitary procedures for fruit fly (Tephritidae) management (2005-010),
- Draft ISPM: Amendments to ISPM 5 (Glossary of phytosanitary terms) (1994-001).

Agenda item 4: Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was discussed and adopted as presented (Annex 1).

Election of the chair and rapporteur

The workshop was conducted through four day sessions with field visit on the 5th day. Each day was steered through two sessions. It was agreed by the workshop that each day will be chaired by one of country representative as follows:

- First day: Mr. Khidir Gibril Musa, (Sudan)
- Second day: Mr. Imad Nahhal, (Lebanon)
- Third day (shared): Ms. Fethia Hleli (Tunisia) and Mr. Basim Khalil (Iraq)
- Forth day: Mr. AbdulAziz Mohamed, (Bahrain)

Ms. Shaza Omar (Egypt) has been chosen as rapporteur.

Agenda item 5:

- *Presentation on how to participate in the standard setting process*

The Secretariat made a presentation on how the member countries can participate in the standard setting process. The presentation described detailed steps of the four main stages of the standard setting process that begins with call for topics and Development of the List of Topics for IPPC Standards, Drafting Stage, Member consultation for draft ISPMs Stage and ends with Adoption and Publication Stage of the ISPM. It was mentioned the current structure and mandate/task of the SC, which is composed by 25 members representing the 7 FAO regions and that Technical Panels (TPs), currently 5 TPs, and Expert Working Groups (EWGs) work under the supervision of the SC in order to improve quality and efficiency in the development of ISPMs. It was also alluded the importance of IPPC members contribution and participation in each stage of the standard setting process.

The opportunity for IPPC members to review and comment on draft ISPMs and commenting process, via the online commenting system (OCS) and the period, which now lasts 150 days (from July 1st to November 30th) were explained. After consolidating the countries comments on the draft standard, the SC revises each draft during its SC-7 meeting and then the draft is submitted to the Substantial concerns commenting period (SCCP). After this step the draft should be recommended to CPM for adoption. The draft standard is made available online on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) at least six weeks prior to the CPM and all draft ISPMs presented to the CPM are subject to formal objections. Once a draft ISPM is adopted by CPM, the adopted ISPM is made publicly available with possible review of the adopted ISPM by the Language Review Group(s).

- *Update on the new standard setting process*

The Secretariat presented the main updates of the new standard setting process. A background information on the standard setting process was given, and it was mentioned that CPM-7 (2012) developed 24 CPM decisions on improving the standard setting process and that the CPM decisions will be implemented over the course of 4 years and it will be reviewed by CPM-11 (2016). Further more, the Secretariat added that six main steps were implemented along this year in the new Standard Setting process in the different stages of the process: Stage 1- Developing the List of topics (LOT): during the call for topics, which happens in every 2 years in odd years, contracting parties (or TPs) when submitting a topic it is desirable also to submit a draft specification, a literature review and letters of support by other contracting parties; Stage 2-Drafting: more specifically for drafting a Diagnostic Protocol (DP), the Secretariat has implemented a new additional step: The Expert Consultation System on draft DPs with the objective to ensure improvement on quality for the development of a draft DP, through inputs and feedback, in a scientific basis, from a wider number of experts worldwide not part of the DP drafting group in earlier stages of development; Stage 3- Member consultation for draft ISPMs: the member consultation period now lasts 150 days (from 01 July to 30 November); Stage 4 – Adoption and Publication: more specifically for adoption of DPs. The SC now adopt DPs on behalf of CPM. Once the SC approves the DP for adoption the Secretariat makes it available for the notification period, a 45 days to contracting parties to review the approved DP and submit a formal objection. The

DPs notification periods are twice per year on fixed dates: 1 July - 15 August and 15 December - 30 January.

The participants inquired about the revision of standards after the adoption and she addressed that every five years the revision of adopted standard is made considering the input of the member countries. Also, participants asked if the same process follows the diagnostic protocols and the Secretariat stated that the same process applies to the diagnostic protocols, however the SC in its 2013 May meeting, developed some criteria for technical revisions, under the auspicious of the SC. Major revisions of DPs need to be subject to the normal DP adoption process, i.e. member consultation, redrafting, SC approval, formal objection period, SC adoption on behalf of CPM. One participant expressed that the once the drafting group for a DP, more images illustrating symptoms and signs of the pathogens or pest should be considered.

Agenda item 6: National Reporting Obligation

The presentation on the National Reporting Obligations (NRO) highlighted the scope of the International framework for protection of plants from pests which is composed of 3 main pillars; one of them is the National Reporting Obligation (NRO). The other two are Standard Setting and Capacity development. A brief history on the reporting within the IPPC context was outlined by the Secretariat. The benefits of the “NRO” was emphasized such as facilitation of safe trade, increasing the ability to undertake risk assessment and management, minimizing delays and improving accuracy of data, transparency, etc. NRO could also be used in reporting the non-compliance, organizational arrangements of plant protection operations as well as pest status through surveillance and rational for phytosanitary requirements PRA/scientific justification.

The IPPC official contact point is the one who is responsible for the National Reporting Obligations in a country (usually the NPPO). The role of RPPOs is to disseminate information, facilitate countries meeting obligations and, in some cases, reporting on behalf of countries written authority and automated mechanism built - e-mail (XML).

Concerns/comments raised by the country representatives:

- The RPPO clarified that it is the contracting parties that should submit the pest reports.
- Bahrain and Oman: the reporting should be based on pest surveillance which requires staff competences and resources that lack in many countries. Bahrain added that surveillance has been carried out for some crops, but there is a problem with the identification of the collected pest to be reported properly.
- Oman: there are some obstacles hindering the reporting into the IPP website due to change of the usernames and passwords.
- Jordan: added that continuous change of the trained IPPC contact points by the Government is one of the obstacles.
- Participants: there is a need for training on the reporting obligation procedures, especially many of the IPPC contact point in the countries have been replaced recently.

- Algeria: brought to the attention the participants some examples on NRO made recently by the country.
- The Plant Protection Officer, RNE mentioned that they are planning with the IPPC to have regional training on National Reporting Obligations and are seeking for funding for this.

Agenda item 7: *Presentation on the Online Comment System*

A brief presentation was delivered on the Online Comment System (OCS) by the Secretariat and the requirements needed by the member countries to use the system successfully was highlighted. . The presentation included a demonstration on the homepage after the login and the setting tab, as well as how to add, modify and verify comments. Also, means to share comments and create a summary screen or a report was explained.

Agenda item 8: *Review of the draft standards*

The drafts of the standards have been presented by the Session Chairman, paragraph by paragraph, and a time has been giving for commenting on each paragraph. The comments of the participants have been captured by the Workshop Organizer, the Regional Plant Protection Officer and the IPPC Secretariat Representatives and were presented at the end of the workshop and endorsed by the participants.

The final endorsed regional comments have been inserted into the IPPC Online Comment System (OCS) by the comment categories and shared with IPPC Contact Points of the member countries in the region and the Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) for further review, endorsement/amendment/addition and submission to the IPPC Secretariat through the OCS by November 30th 2013.

1- Draft ISPM: Management of phytosanitary risks in the international movement of wood (2006-029),

After deep discussion and exchange of views between the participants on the paragraphs of the draft, the participants agreed on the below comments showed in the below table exported from the OCS.

Table 1: Draft ISPM: Management of pest risks associated with international movement of wood (2006-029).

Comm. no.	Para. no.	Comment type	Comment	Explanation	Author	Status
1.	G	Substantive	Suggest Annexes for ISPM 28 with better guidance for the applications, as the case of heat treatment of wood.	More guidance for the application	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
2.	G	Technical	Request for capacity building (CDC) in the countries for Detection methods such as acoustic and sensory for woods (as expressed in parag. 174).	Assistance for better application	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
3.	7	Technical	This standard describes phytosanitary measures intended to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests associated with the international movement of wood (with or without bark). This standard covers the fibre products of gymnosperms, angiosperms (i.e. dicotyledonous species) and monocotyledons species , such as palms . The standard does not cover bamboo products.	Angiosperms includes dicotyledonous and monocotyledons species, so does not need to be separated in examples. Also delete "such as palms" since it is already included in the angiosperms taxonomic definition	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
4.	21	Editorial	ISPM 11. 201304. Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests including analysis of environmental risks and living modified organisms . Rome, IPPC, FAO.	Change the reference to the new title	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified

5.	61	Editorial	Insects		Fungi and nematodes		The insects group comprises the entire second column	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verify
			Pest group	Examples within the pest group	Pest group	Examples within the pest group			
			Bark beetles	Scolytinae	Rust fungi	Cronartiaceae, Pucciniaceae			
			Wood flies	Pantophthalmidae	Decay fungi	<i>Heterobasidion</i> spp.			
			Wood-boring beetles	Cerambycidae, Curculionidae, Buprestidae	Canker fungi	Cryphonectriaceae			
			Wood moths	Cossidae	Deep-penetrating blue-stain fungi	Ophiostomataceae			
			Wood wasps	Siricidae	Surface blue-stain fungi	Ophiostomataceae			
			Powder post beetles	Anobiidae, Bostrichidae	Vascular wilt fungi	Nectriaceae			
			Termites and carpenter ants	Rhinotermitidae, Kalotermitidae, Formicidae	Nematodes	<i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i> , <i>B. cocophilus</i>			
			Moths	Lymantriidae					
			Aphids, adelgids	Adelgidae					
			Scales	Diaspididae					
6.	93	Technical	Commodity	Pest groups likely to be associated with the commodity	Pest groups less likely to be associated with the commodity	Inclusion of "wood flies" once these insects are associated to wood chips with bark and greater than 3 cm in two dimensions.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verify	
			Wood chips with bark and greater than 3 cm in two dimensions	Bark beetles, wood flies , wood-boring beetles, wood moths, wood wasps, rust fungi ⁴ , decay fungi ⁵ , canker fungi, deep-penetrating blue-stain fungi, surface blue-stain fungi, vascular wilt fungi, nematodes	Moths, aphids and adelgids, scales				
			Wood chips without bark and greater than 3 cm in two dimensions	Wood-boring beetles, wood moths, wood wasps, rust fungi ⁴ , decay fungi ⁵ , canker fungi, deep-penetrating blue-stain fungi, surface blue-stain fungi, vascular wilt fungi, nematodes	Bark beetles, moths, aphids and adelgids ⁶ , scales				
			Wood chips with bark and less than 3 cm in two dimensions	Bark beetles, wood-boring beetles, rust fungi ⁴ , decay fungi ⁵ , canker fungi, deep-penetrating blue-stain fungi, surface blue-stain fungi, vascular wilt fungi, nematodes	Wood flies, wood moths, wood wasps, moths, aphids and adelgids, scales				

			Wood chips without bark and less than 3 cm in two dimensions	Powder post beetles, termites and carpenter ants, rust fungi ⁴ , decay fungi ⁵ , canker fungi, deep-penetrating blue-stain fungi, surface blue-stain fungi, vascular wilt fungi, nematodes	Bark beetles, wood flies, wood-boring beetles, wood moths, wood wasps, moths, aphids and adelgids, scales				
			Wood residue with or without bark	Bark beetles, wood flies, wood-boring beetles, wood moths, wood wasps, powder post beetles, termites and carpenter ants, moths, aphids/adelgids, scales, rust fungi ⁴ , decay fungi ⁵ , canker fungi, deep-penetrating blue-stain fungi, surface blue-stain fungi, vascular wilt fungi, nematodes					
7.	102	Editorial	The NPPO of the exporting country is responsible for monitoring <u>and supervision</u> the application of phytosanitary measures before export to verify compliance with phytosanitary import requirements and the phytosanitary certification of export consignments. Some phytosanitary measures, such as limitations on the intended use of the commodity to reduce pest risks, may be applied after import.			For better comprehension of the text, supervision is also done by NPPOs of the exporting country on the application of phytosanitary measures before export.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verify	
8.	103	Editorial	The NPPO of the importing country may monitor the application of specific methods of processing or handling that render the imported commodities free of pests; for example, the <u>import and</u> use of <u>imported</u> wood chips within a prescribed, low-risk time frame; the use of sawn wood in building construction; and the appropriate disposal of waste.			For better comprehension of the text, since here covers both, the import and the use.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verify	
9.	115	Technical	When wood is debarked, small pieces of bark may remain. Depending on the number and size of pieces remaining, pests associated with the bark may be removed (e.g. bark beetles, <u>aphids</u> , adelgids, scales). The incidence of some wood borers which live close to the cambium may also be reduced in debarked wood compared with wood before debarking. Depending on the moisture content of the wood and the size of the bark pieces remaining on the wood, debarked wood may still present suitable conditions for infestation or maturation of certain pests.			some species of aphids might be associated with bark and would be removed with it	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verify	
10.	159	Editorial	Biological controls may be used in achieving the requirements for an area of low pest prevalence.			the word should be in single form	IPPC Regional Workshop Near	Verify	

11.	160	Technical	Areas of low pest prevalence (ISPM 8:1998; ISPM 22:2005; ISPM 29:2007) may <u>established while be-used</u> in controlling all pests and potentially used with all wood commodities.	Areas of low pest prevalence are established and maintain to the control of pests, not really “used in controlling pests”.	East IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
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2- Draft ISPM: Preliminary draft: Minimizing pest movement by sea containers (2008-001),

The agreed comments made by the participants are in the below table.

Table 2: Draft ISPM - Minimizing pest movement by sea containers (2008-001)

Comm. no.	Para. no.	Comment type	Comment	Explanation	Author	Status
1.	G	Substantive	<p><u>We agreed to move forward with the development of this draft standard, once it is intended to prevent the movement of pests, but clarifications in some points still need to be addressed:</u></p> <p><u>1. It is noted that it needs more orientation on how the implementation of this standard will be performed and by whom;</u></p> <p><u>2. The minimum requirements of audits, accreditation and authorization need to be clarified.</u></p> <p><u>3. The outcomes of the survey to the NPPOs, currently under development, may provide better clarification on the implementation of this standard, and might promote more discussions at national level.</u></p> <p><u>4. Better clarification on a system for cleaning sea containers (inside the container and the examination for external contamination of the sea</u></p>	Need for further development with more clarifications	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified

			<p>container and then cleaning) and better determination when the cleaning should be performed, if prior to export and import;</p> <p>5. Also, this standard still needs to contain more information on the activities that will be performed by the shipping companies and the NPPOs. The differentiation and real clarification on the responsibilities of each different players still need to be clarified very carefully and be prescriptive. This should be made very clear, due the NPPOs obligations and the complexity of the worldwide logistics of sea containers, especially when measuring the impacts of the implementation of this standard (including auditing, accreditation and / or authorization). Also, this standard still lacks the information on operational activities involved.</p>			
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3- Draft ISPM: Movement of growing media in association with plants for planting in international trade (2005-004),

Table 3: Movement of growing media in association with plants for planting in international trade (2005-004)

Comm. no.	Para. no.	Comment type	Comment	Explanation	Author	Status
1.	17	Editorial	ISPM 11. 2013 04 . Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests including analysis of environmental risks and living modified organisms . Rome, IPPC, FAO.	Change the reference to the new title	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
2.	37	Editorial	For the evaluation of pest risks of growing media accompanying plants for planting, the NPPO of the importing country should carry out PRA in accordance with ISPM 2:2007 and ISPM 11:20 04 13, including the consideration of pest risk factors of various growing media described in this standard. It should be noted that pests carried with growing medium accompanying a plant may be pests of other plants.	Change the reference to the new title	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
3.	47	Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> degree of geographical similarity (i.e. countries with high degree of geographical similarity shall influence the establish of the pest), of, or distance between, country of origin and country of import (e.g. pest risk related to soil originating in different continents versus adjacent countries within one ecoclimatic region) 	More clarification	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
4.	90	Technical	<p>Bacteria and phytoplasmas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Agrobacterium</i> 	Because other organisms can transmit virus, for example some fungi as <i>Olpidium</i> spp.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ralstonia</i> 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Streptomyces</i> 		
		Fungi		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tilletia</i> 		
		Phytophthora and other oomycetes		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Synchytrium</i> 		
		Nematodes		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bursaphelenchus</i> 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyst nematodes, root knot nematodes 		
		Viruses and virus-like organisms transmitted via nematode and other vectors		
		Insects and mites		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anastrepha</i> 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Diabrotica</i> 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rhagoletis</i> 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agromyzidae 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other fruit flies 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thrips (below ground part of life cycle) 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bark beetles 		

			Molluscs			
			Plants (beyond the intended plant)			
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeds and other propagules 			

4- Draft ISPM: Phytosanitary procedures for fruit fly (Tephritidae) management (2005-010),

Table 4: Phytosanitary Procedures for Fruit Fly (Tephritidae) Management (2005-010)

Comm. no.	Para. no.	Comment type	Comment	Explanation	Author	Status
1.	G	Substantive	In this standard needs a better clarification on the term economic threshold.	It can cause confusion if it is referring to “economic threshold” or “management threshold”.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
2.	1	Editorial	Phytosanitary Procedures for Fruit Flyies (Tephritidae) Management (2005-010)	Editorial change - Have it in plural since there are several species under Tephritidae. The term should be changed in the whole document to be in plural form	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
3.	6	Editorial	ANNEX Y: Phytosanitary procedures for fruit flyies (Tephritidae) management (Year)	Have it in plural since there are several species under Tephritidae.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
4.	7	Editorial	This annex provides guidelines for the application of phytosanitary procedures for fruit flyies management.	Have it in plural since there are several species under Tephritidae.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
5.	8	Editorial	Various phytosanitary procedures are used for fruit fly suppression, containment, eradication and exclusion. These procedures may be integrated to establish, verify and maintain fruit fly-pest free areas (FF-PFAs) (ISPM 26:2006) and areas of low pest prevalence for fruit flies (FF-ALPPs) (ISPM 30:2008), as well as to develop systems approaches to manage fruit flyies systems approaches (ISPM 35:2012).	More clarity and to be in consistence with the plural term of flies	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
6.	10	Editorial	1. Objectives of Fruit Flyies Management Strategies	Editorial changes to have “fruit flies” in plural	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
7.	65	Editorial	Aeroplanes are usually used for aerial application on flat terrain in continuous host areas, whereas helicopters are usually used in areas difficult to access or where hosts are scattered. Once the treatment area is selected, it should be defined using a georeferencing device (e.g. global positioning systems (GPS)) and recorded in	For a better and non-directive naming system. Also, this change was done for other draft ISPMs as to draft ISPM on FF host outbreak as it is the SC-7 report (2013).	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified

			digitized maps using geographical information systems (GIS) software: this will ensure the efficient application of bait sprays, reducing the environmental impact.			
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5- Draft ISPM: Amendments to ISPM 5:Glossary of phytosanitary terms (1994-001).

Table 5: Draft Amendments to ISPM 5: Glossary of Phytosanitary terms (1994-001)

Comm. no.	Para. no.	Comment type	Comment		Explanation	Author	Status
1.	38	Technical	point of entry	Airport, seaport, <u>land port</u> , or any other location land border point officially designated for the importation of consignments , and/or the entrance of passengers	Adding land port as one of main point of entry in most countries, to be in accordance with other ports described	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified
2.	114	Substantive	naturally occurring organism	A component of an ecosystem or a selection from a wild population, not altered by artificial means [ISPM 3:1995] Any biotic entity capable of reproduction or replication in its naturally occurring state [ISPM 3:1995; revised ISPM 3:2005]	1. Not agreed to delete this term ("organism") since it is used in ISPM 3 and at national legislations. Also, the 2 drafts standards (Movement of growing media in association with plants for planting in international	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified

				<p>trade (2005-004) and Management of Pest Risks Associated with the International Movement of Wood (2006-029)) that are current under MC have this term organism. 2. Proposed a new revised term for organism as "Any biotic entity capable of reproduction or replication in its state". 3. Once keeping this term "organism" it needs a revision to be in accordance and updated. For the term "naturally occurring": this term is part of the definition of "organism". With the</p>	
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				<p>proposition of keeping the term “organism” and the proposition for a revision of this term, subsequently the term “naturally occurring” can be deleted. Agreed to be deleted if it’s not part of the definition of the term organism.</p>		
3.	139	Substantive	<p>4. UNDERSTANDING OF “PLANTS” IN THE IPPC AND ITS ISPMs AND CONSEQUENTIAL REVISION OF THE SCOPE OF ISPM 5</p> <p><u>General comment</u></p> <p><u>Agreed with the taxonomic classification of plants and that the TPG should go forward with this definition.</u></p>	<p>All organisms as Plants as classified as Fungi and Algae that are important to trade should be included in the IPPC definition of plants. However, the link between micro and macro organisms, as mentioned in the draft standard and the difference</p>	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East	Verified

				between them is not clear. This needs to be carefully taken in consideration		
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Agenda item 9: Information on expert consultation on cold treatments

The presentation gave brief information on the Expert Consultation on Cold Treatments that it is going to be held in December 2013 in Argentina. It also stated the history of cold treatments development, main scientific works in development of cold treatments; products that mainly used cold treatments against pests, the objectives of the consultation and criteria for selection of participants in the consultation.

The representative of Jordan gave examples of the cold treatment practiced on Mango fruits imported from Yemen and Egypt and citrus from South Africa.

Agenda item 10: Update on the electronic certification

The Secretariat provided updated information on the e-phyto system for issuing the electronic certificates. The presentation highlighted that ePhyto is not mandatory; it is an option for issuing phytosanitary certificates. The benefits of using the electronic certificates in the international trade are: the international standardization that ensures consistent data interpretation and conformance, fraud prevention – reduces the likelihood of fraudulent certificates and illegal entry of commodities. Furthermore, the presentation compared between having a bilateral agreement where each country would need a separate agreement with each trading partner outlining the terms of the exchange of e-phyto; and the international standardized system where countries could enjoy using a single internationally recognized messaging structure, such as ISPM 12.

Some comments raised by the participants:

- NEPPO: Better background information on the e-phyto is needed. The Near East region doesn't have a representative in the e-phyto committee; therefore, there is a need for appointment of a candidate for this post from the Region.
- Tunis: has some experience of the e-phyto where they started to work with the custom, but there are some problems with the information sharing. The e-phyto is important and better, it is also faster and it prevents fraud.
- Jordan and Iran: taking into consideration that the e-phyto is a more effective and confidential system, the developing countries will face problems with its establishment, operation and sustainability due to shortage of capacities and resources. Therefore, it is recommended to support the countries for establishment of the e-phyto system.

Agenda item 11: Single windows and customs unions

The presentation described the concept of single windows in the international trade. Single window is an approach to bring together the many ministries and agencies involved in export certification and import verification. There are multiple windows for each consignment at least an average of four documents are needed for export of commodities. The multiple requirements of documents create overlaps and cause gaps between agencies, inefficiency increases prices for consumers. These complex processes can be a significant barrier to trade. The aims of the approach are to; reduce duplication of work (such as inspections), reduce delays to import/export of goods and avoid unnecessary increases in costs for trade.

Comments raised by the participants:

- Many countries mentioned that they have single-windows systems initiated or established (e.g. Bahrain, Lebanon, Algeria, Yemen, Jordan, Morocco, Tunis, Egypt, Tunis and Iran). Some of the experiences shared were: challenges with failure of the system and for some of the parties to give up their authorities, timely efforts, NPPO needs to be involved to speed up the clearance, avoid corruption etc.
- Jordan mentioned a TCP project on a joint database between custom agency and NPPO.
- Algeria stated that the departments of trade, customs and agriculture try to unite and work together on the single window system.
- Bahrain added that during this week, there is a workshop on Single Window GCC and the process of applying the approach in the six countries is on-going and will include all the relevant authorities.
- Mr. Suleiman Altoubi, Omani representative raised an enquiry regarding the feedbacks of countries applying this system and the secretariat, and pointed out that Jamaica represented a very successful and positive experience in this regards at a side event session during the CPM 8.

Agenda item 12: IRSS helpdesk and provisions of answers to IRSS questionnaire

The presentation tackled the primary objective of the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS), which is to facilitate and promote the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs. The IPPC sourced funds for IRSS in 2011 with EU funding until March 2014. The presentation demonstrated how the system works and the main tasks of the system. An overview on the components of the IRSS, the products and the helpdesk was highlighted.

The following questions were put for discussion:

- ***What has been your experience with IRSS activities?***
- ***Has your NPPO participated in an IRSS Survey? Why/Why not?***
- ***How do you think the IRSS project could help your NPPO?***

Comments of the participants:

- Both Yemen and Lebanon recommended countries to apply the PCE to find gaps and needs in their countries, to better focus on where capacity development is needed.
- Lebanon: These surveys are very useful, of course that the system is not only for filling surveys, but to help countries on the implementation. Lebanon has experience with Citrus pest survey.
- Bahrain: Experience with date palm pests survey, but have problems with species identification.
- Yemen: 2 projects in 2007 supported by FAO, but due to the political situation in the country the second phase was stopped. There was an update of the List of Pests and they have problems with diagnosis.
- Bahrain: countries need more support as well as commitment for the implementation, and there are some ISPMs that need more guidance.

Agenda item 13: Update on use and management of the phytosanitary resources page

The IPPC Secretariat gave a presentation on the phytosanitary.info web page which is a useful resource page developed through the IPPC Capacity Development activities as an output for the support component of the Implementation Review and Support System, and to host products developed under specific projects. The phytosanitary.info provides an opportunity to find and contribute phytosanitary technical resources from and to the world's plant protection community. Around 400 resources are currently available on the page including manuals, guidelines, links, reports, pest information, diagnostic protocols, E-learning course on Pest Risk Analysis, project and activities databases, in addition to the newly launched Roster of Consultants

The IPPC encourages all contracting parties, RPOs to contribute with phytosanitary technical resources (in any language), to review the data for their countries and update the projects and activities databases regularly, and to upload country's best expertise profile to the Roster of Consultants.

Agenda item 14: Country's reports /presentations

Countries' representatives were requested to prepare and present the current phytosanitary status in their countries. The participants had an opportunity through country presentations to share the success stories in pest management, implementation of the ISPMs, and the development and updates on the plant protection and Phytosanitary situation in their respective countries, in addition, to identify the gaps and weaknesses hindering the application of the ISPMs.

Morocco: Presented by Mr. Abaha Lahcen- Regional Director of Sanitary and Food Safety National Office of Sous-Massa Drâa Region.

The plant protection system in Morocco has 37 phytosanitary centers; out of this 17 land, air and sea borders' control. The presentation highlighted the current phytosanitary status listing the pests that are under surveillance and control. Key pests in Morocco are: Red palm weevil recorded in 2008 and is contained limited area of Tangier and is under official surveillance and control program; citrus tristeza virus (CTV) in North Morocco, as well as fire blight and *Tuta absoluta* that entered Moroccan territories in 2008. Many control methods were used to limit the distribution of the control methods which includes mass trapping, predators and proper chemical control *Tuta absoluta*. Lately *Pistia stratiotes* has been detected and a FAO project is being developed to control it.

Algeria: Presented by Mr. Arezki Graba - Sous Directeur Des Controles Techniques

The presentation stated that phytosanitary authority is affiliated with the Directorate of Plant Protection and Technical Control (DPVCT) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Mr. Graba highlighted the mission of the authority as well as the structure. The presentation also included the regulatory framework and inspection procedures, emphasizing the inspection at borders as well as the internal control. There are 48 phytosanitary inspectors, mainly at the borders. List of quarantine pests includes 288 pests, divided in A1 and A2. The presentation also pointed out to the programmes for surveillance of key pest and diseases such as *Tuta absoluta*, *Erwinia*, *Fusarium oxysporum* and *Rynchophorus ferrugineus* and the

technical assistance given by FAO to Algeria in combating the *Tuta absoluta* and *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*. The list of the ISPMs implemented in the country included the ISPMs (1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19).

Iran : Presented by Mr. Akbar Ahangaran - Advisor to the Director and Head of International Affairs

The presentation highlighted the background of the plant quarantine in Iran, the structure and demonstrated the organizational chart as well as the responsibilities of the plant quarantine in Iran. There are total of 28 quarantine centers in the country with 67 quarantine centers in the points of entry. The responsibilities of the plant quarantine; issuance of phytosanitary certificates, surveillance of growing plants, inspection of import, export & transit consignments, disinfestations of consignments, conduct of pest risk analysis, issuance of phytosanitary regulations, conduct of pest eradication, regulated pests rapid identification as well as training and development of staff. The pest situation in Iran was also tackled describing that there are total of 607 agents where 50% of which are insect and mite, 27% diseases and 23% weeds. Pictures of inspection of the imported consignment were demonstrated as well as export regulations.

Additionally, he also mentioned that the internal system of combating the pests includes aviation system especially in controlling the palm tree pests.

Jordan: Presented by Ms. Fida'a Rawabdeh - Director of Plant Protection & Phytosanitary Directorate

The presentation described the structure of plant protection and characterized the main tasks of each division and highlighted the phytosanitary regulatory framework which is in line with the international and regional agreements (WTO, IPPC, EPPO and recently NEPPPO). The phytosanitary regulations are based on the Interim Agriculture Law No. (44) of the year 2002 and the Directives of Plant Quarantine which is based on the different articles and provisions of the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary of the WTO. The law considers sanitary requirements of plant and plant products, announcing of pest free areas, quarantine pest list etc... The strategic goals also were stated as well as the practical goals of the plant protection directorate. New invasive species infested the territories of Jordan such as the *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*, *Tuta absoluta* and *Solanum elaeagnifolium* have been detected in the recent years. The weakness points of the plant protection system are inadequate of facilities (plant health examination facilities, plant health equipment, inspector communications, computerization of all units and internet). Moreover, absence of a structured induction and professional development programmes for border inspectors (and managers) is also considered as a lack of specialized human resources.

Some enquiries were raised related to phytosanitary issues in Jordan such as:

- How the linkage between the phytosaintary system and biosafety in Jordan is accomplished. Ms. Fida'a pointed out that by protecting the territories of Jordan and preventing pest quarantine the biosafety is attained.
- An enquiry was raised regarding the ISPM that are applied frequently in Jordan. Ms. Fida'a indicated that the mostly applied standards are ISPM 15, ISPM 26, as well as specification of pest free areas

Kuwait : Presented by Mr. Abdulmir Al-Qallaf - Public Authority of Agriculture & Fish Resources (PAAF)

The presentation demonstrated the history and mission of the Plant Quarantine as well as the different quarantine points at entry ports which are five at different places in Kuwait. There are three main legislations regulating the phytosanitary activities and plant quarantine issues. The plant quarantine law for the Gulf Countries (GCC) issued in 2003, is the main regulatory framework for plant quarantine in Kuwait. It has been emphasized that Kuwait is an importing country rather than exporting country. The ISPM 15 is the widely implemented ISPM in the country due to the oil industry and its byproducts. An example was given for the internal plant quarantine measure with red palm weevil control.

Bahrain: Mr. AbdulAziz M.A. Mohamed - Director of Plant Wealth Directorate, Agriculture Affairs.

The presentation outlined the organizational chart of the plant quarantine system in Bahrain where the plant quarantine falls under the plant protection and agriculture quarantine. The mission of the plant quarantine is to provide efficient and professional services in plant quarantine, in order to safeguard the plant wealth and facilitate trade and commerce. Mr. AbdulAziz stated the main responsibilities of Department of Plant Protection and Agricultural Quarantine as well as the duties that are carried out by the plant quarantine unit. Among these duties: issuing import permission for agricultural consignments; implementing agricultural quarantine measures on imported/exported consignments; issuing Phytosanitary Certificates; applying agricultural quarantine measures on the violated consignments as well as conducting a periodical review of the agricultural quarantine procedures to ensure their correspondence with the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures.

The regulatory for plant protection and quarantine was indicated which is mainly relying on the GCC laws (Law no. (5) on the plant quarantine regulation and Law no. (37) of 2005 on the pesticide regulation in the GCC countries) and set of 15 ministerial decrees for the implementation of the plant quarantine measures and pesticide policies. The presentation also emphasized import permission request, process of plant production as well as the process of inspection of imported agriculture consignment and the process of inspection of re-exported agriculture consignment, taking into consideration that Bahrain is mainly an importing country. The experience with pest surveillance, particularly date palm pest, was shared with the participants and the diagnostic problem of the collected pest was highlighted. ISPM15 is widely implemented in Bahrain through 7 registered companies MB: 4 and HT: 3.

Lebanon: Presented by Ms. Nadine Jaffal - Head of Plant Quarantine Dept. Ministry of Agriculture

The presentation defined the structure of the NPPO in Lebanon, the mandate of the organization and key imported and exported commodities from the 6 different quarantine check points and the total sum of commodities. The presentation included a description of the mandate of the different entities working in the phytosanitary system including: the Plant Resources Directorate legislations on import, export control and plant quarantine service; the Lebanese Research Institute "LARI", and Law on the Plant Protection Service Decree. List of pests prepared by the

NPPO including pest list for potatoes, fruits, seedlings and wheat was also included in the presentation. The NPPO is responsible for surveillance; surveys are conducted on pests of: stone fruits, citrus, potatoes. The presentation highlighted the gaps identified by the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) in the phytosanitary system in Lebanon. The gaps were identified under each element of the NPPO including national phytosanitary legislation, the mission and strategy of the NPPO, structure and processes, pest diagnostic capacity, pest surveillance and pest reporting capacity. The identified gaps comprised pest eradication capacity, phytosanitary import regulatory system, pest risk analysis, pest free areas and export, re-export, transit certification.

Libya: Mr. Ali Amin Kafu – Entomologist - National Center for Plant Protection & Plant Quarantine

The plant quarantine services in Libya are affiliated with the Food and Drugs Control Center located in Tripoli with 7 branches distributed in the main country's districts. The presentation highlighted that the Plant quarantine services will be soon operated under the newly established National Centre for Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (NCP PQ) which is according to the new structure of the Ministry of Agriculture. Tasks of the plant quarantine were emphasized which include: enforcement of legislation and development of technical systems required for responsibility of the center, conduct surveillance and provide data and consulting, planning and implementation of pest management programs, planning programs for humans resource capacity building as well as following up and implementation of the international conventions. Legislative framework was demonstrated whereas Phytosanitary measures in Libya was in the plant protection law issued in 1958, amendment in 1968, further amendments were made on the executive regulations of the 1968 plant protection law in 1989 in order to cover all aspects related to plant quarantine and amended further in 2012 to comply with the IPPC requirements. The plant quarantine in Libya is responsible for developing pest list which was last updated and published in 2002.

The constrains facing the plant quarantine systems are outlined as follows:

- Very high level of institutional instability.
- Outdated legal frameworks for plant protection and phytosanitary control
- Lack of technical staff capable for ISPMs implementation.
- Shortages in laboratory facilities both in central & entry points.
- Shortages of trained plant protection personnel in the country's entry points.
- No linkages among institutions for shared resources and joint solutions to problems.
- Weak information exchange and dissemination in addition to lack of awareness rising among the general public.

Moreover, an overview on the new invasive species infesting Libya was stated. Among the invasive species were; Citrus Virus Tristeza (Citrus spp); Red Palm Weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*) – 2010; Tomato leaf miner (*Tuta absoluta*) – 2009; Peach Fruit Fly (*Bactrocera zonata*) 2005.

An inquiry was raised about the reasons of the introduction of *Tuta absoluta* and *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*, Mr. Ali Kafu responded that the entrance of tomato leaf minor was

due to poor plant quarantine measures, smuggling of seedlings and red palm weevil most probably entered due to the planting of palm trees especially from Egypt entering for ornamental purposes.

Iraq: Presented Mr. Basim Khalil - Director Plant Protection Directorate Ministry of Agriculture

The presentation introduced a brief history on the plant protection system in Iraq and stated its tasks and responsibilities. Some of the responsibilities cover the issues related to plant protection and pesticides. The responsibilities of the plant protection directorate related to phytosanitary are: conducting the surveillance programmes, enforcement plant quarantine regulation to protect territories from the introduction and spread of the quarantine pests and pest control programmes for key pests such as tomato borer and date palm pests' programmes.

Oman: Presented by Mr. Suleiman Altoubi - Director of Plant Quarantine - Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries Wealth

Some information regarding Oman was given at the beginning of the presentation followed by a brief history on the establishment of the plant quarantine in Oman. The structure was demonstrated as well as the responsibilities of the Plant quarantine. Plant quarantine department falls under the general department for agriculture development and is subdivided to divisions among them is the phytosanitary division, one division for import permit and one for pest risk analysis. The responsibilities of the department include: conducting pest risk analysis, periodical revision to measures to ensure harmonization with phytosanitary standards, coordinating with relevant authorities in conducting surveillance, organizing periodical workshops and training programs to provide guidelines review updates on phytosanitary status and raise awareness of the public on the importance of the phytosanitary. The main invasive pests/diseases in the country are Red pal weevil, *Tuta absoluta*, *Fusarium oxysporum f.sp. cubens* (Panama Disease), Pomegranate moth *Virachola livia* and date palm wilt *Ceratocystis sp.*

The presentation pointed out the technical cooperation needed with FAO:

- Training of the technical personnel on PRA,
- Strengthening of the post entry phytosanitary control,
- Diagnostic capabilities,
- Capacity building in pest surveillance
- ePhyto establishment

Mr. Altoubi highlighted that there are some projects developed recently for establishment of reference laboratory and database for plant quarantine with network linking between quarantine points and that the cost of the project was 10 million RO.

Mauritania: Presentation by Mr. Moussa Mamadou Sow - Chef - Plant Protection Service Directorate of Agriculture - Ministry of Rural Development

The presentation highlighted the structure of the phytosanitary system, the personnel working in the system. The scope of work of the plant quarantine includes; control programs for birds, locust, stem borer, invasive plants (*Salvinia molesta* and *Typha*), pesticide management, phytosanitary control, Red Palm Weevil, *Tuta absoluta* (surveillance, control and trapping).

The presentation underlined the legislative framework and the main imports and countries of importation. The main concerns included lack of some important regulations, very low levels of training of staff, and in the number of staff themselves (strengthening operational positions and opening new positions); lack of material and financial resources.

The entry points are not under the plant quarantine control as four only are operational out of 31.

The participants asked about the importation of palm trees to Mauritania and the presence of *T. absoluta*. Mr. Sow clarified that date palm trees are prohibited to enter the Mauritanian territories and *T. absoluta* there wasn't recorded in Mauritania even though it is present in Morocco.

Palestine: *Presentation by Mr. Shadi Darwish Director of Agricultural Quarantine & Plant Health*

The Plant Protection and Inspection Services (PPIS) of the Ministry of Agriculture is the responsible authority for the plant protection issues as well as the export and import of the agriculture produce. The Plant Protection and Inspection Services is a competent authority, entitled to issue international certificates which are required for trade in agriculture produce, such as plant health certificates. The current duties of the (PPIS) are: issuing of certificates, surveillance of growing plants, inspection of consignments of plant and plant products moving in international trade, designation, maintenance and surveillance of pest free areas and areas of low pest prevalence. The service is responsible, as well, for pesticide registration and regulation for handling pest control and management including implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Surveillance programs include pests like: Red Palm weevil, Peach fruit fly and Tomato Leaf minor. The presentation highlighted the success stories in the area of pest management as in the case of success in the control of (*Ceratitis capitata*) on Guava and in the control of field vole in Nablus district. Based on gap analysis the requirements needed in the (PPIS) are 1. *Establishment of Diagnostic Laboratories*, 2. *Strengthen the existing capacity for pest and disease surveillance*, 3. *Establishment of Inspection stations (Post Entry Quarantine Stations)*, 4. *Establishment of Pesticide Analytical Laboratory (PAL)* and 5. *Establishment of a Central Database for registered pesticides*. The presentation demonstrated the pest list present in Palestine.

In the discussion there was an inquiry regarding the infestation and spread of the red palm weevil in Palestine. Mr. Shadi stated that there is a very limited distribution for the RPW in the west bank as well as there was an interception in Gaza.

Saudi Arabia: *Presented by Mr. Saud Al Hegail - Agricultural Researcher - Animal and Plant Quarantine Dept. Ministry of Agriculture*

Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine in the Ministry of Agriculture represent the competent authority approved for the implementation of international standards for phytosanitary measures in Saudi Arabia. The responsibilities of the department are to develop rules and measures for regulating phytosanitary issues, supervise the land, air and sea ports, control the internal quarantine, and develop plans for pest control or eradication and pest reporting. Twenty five agricultural (plant and animal) quarantine stations in the entry points of

the country. The on-going projects currently in Saudi Arabia are control program of *Tuta absoluta* and Red Palm Weevil. The project comprises integrated pest management programs with assistance of the FAO in biological control. Full strategy for combating RPW in Saudi Arabia was demonstrated in the presentation.

Sudan: Presentation by Mr. Khidir Gebril Musa - Director General – Plant Protection Directorate

The presentation included brief history and information on Sudan. The geographical location of Sudan has a great impact on the phytosanitary issues, whereas, the country is surrounded by eight countries; Egypt, Libya, Chad, Central Africa, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Saudi Arabia, accordingly too many entry points are scattered on this very long border. The entire previous factors demonstrate the important role of the phytosanitary system in Sudan. The Plant Quarantine Department is one of five Departments in The Plant Protection Directorate. The presentation underlined the different sections of the plant quarantine. Plant quarantine regulations were discussed and the history of the establishment was tackled. The constraints included are; difficulty to inspect and intercept all items crossing the long borders, passengers do not declare plants or plant products carried with them, lack of specialized labs and equipment for post entry quarantine areas.

Tunis: Presented by Ms. Fethia Hleli - Sub Director of Phytosanitary Control & Quarantine General Directorate of Protection and the Control of Agricultural Production Quality

The presentation outlined the structure, legal framework, and activities undertaken by the general directorate of protection and control of the quality of agricultural products. The gaps and weakness were identified including: absence of emergency action plan for invasive species, shortage in the human resource in the point of entry, lack of motivations to the staff and also lack of websites and database related to surveillance. Furthermore, there are strength points that are considered in the organization such as; continuous review of the regulations to be in line with international standards conducting PRA, application of ISPM 15 as well as applying standards related to import and export ISPMs No. 2,3,11,21,23,31 and 33.

Yemen: Presented Mr. Gamil Ramadan Director of Plant Quarantine Dept. in the General Directorate of Plant Protection - Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation

The presentation highlighted the important role of the plant quarantine in preventing pests introduction associated with trade activities in agriculture products in compliance with international and regional agreements. Moreover, the presentation underlined the responsibilities of the plant quarantine including PRA, import permit as well as the interior quarantine. Mr. Gamil emphasized that at 2011 that there was an update to the quarantine regulation and replaced with new quarantine law. The stated some obstacles as; lack of trainings especially in pest diagnosis, post entry treatment and pest risk analysis, lack in equipment and the absence of network connections between ports. The main challenges facing the plant quarantine currently were lack of suppression or control methods that were used against the *Tuta absoluta* which entered the Yemeni territories in 2012 although farmers used pheromone traps and adopted to its presence in addition to FAO contribution in raising the awareness. Furthermore, a project for surveillance program was launched in 2012, but due to the current political situation it was postponed.

Egypt: Presented by Ms. Shaza Omar- Phytosanitary Specialist, Egyptian Central Plant Quarantine Administration

The presentation showed the services, organizational chart and the legal framework of the administration, in addition to the description of compliance between the responsibilities of article IV “the responsibilities of the NPPO” of the IPPC and the Egyptian plant quarantine. It was brought to the attention that there is an on-going project to enhance the performance of the plant quarantine administration.

The presentation outlined that the central administration for the plant quarantine is working as the NPPO but there is no legal basis for the presence of the organization. The organization doesn't undertake surveillance neither distribution of information or research investigation in the field of plant protection. The responsibilities undertaken by the organization include inspection & disinfection of consignments, pest risk analysis, and certification as well as issuance of phytosanitary regulations. The presentation demonstrated the twinning project with EU in a step to enhance the capabilities of the phytosanitary system.

Agenda item 15: Invasive Alien Species and the IPPC

The IPPC presentation described the relation between the IPPC and Invasive Alien Species (IAS) including:

- The cooperation between IPPC and CBD contact points results in better prevention of pest/IAS introduction and spread and progress towards Aichi Target 9
- the NPPO has the authority and responsibility to regulate the pest/IAS in cases pests of plants
- Advantages of the IPPC for dealing with IAS as an International agreement to protect plants from pests, working over 60 years with 179 contracting parties and 10 Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPO); and recognized by the World Trade Organization as the only international standard setting body for plant health.

The presentation also described NPPO responsibilities against IAS such as: pest surveillance, pest risk analysis, pest management and reporting. The ISPMs related to the IAS were also listed in the presentation. The recommendation for strengthening the cooperation with NPPO and CBD contact points at the national level were presented as well.

At the end of the presentation the below questions were presented to the open discussions with the participants:

- Is contact, joint activities or integration between the NPPO and the national environmental service an issue promoted in your country?
- Could it work well? What would challenges be?
- Is your NPPO involved in your country's procedures for establishing lists of IAS?
- If the contact is in place, what are your experiences?

The outcome of the general discussions was:

After a long debate and exchange of views and facts in countries, the participants came to the below conclusions:

- **General comment:** Lack/weak of coordination/cooperation between plant protection and environmental in the NE region.
- **Recommendation:** Activate and encourage the coordination at national level, so needs a better implementation for this coordination.

Agenda items 16 and 17: *Organization of future IPPC Regional Workshops (2014) and other business:*

- Final Report will be finalized ASAP and shared with the participants via email.
- The participants were requested to fill in the Survey on line with the link in the agenda (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/IPPCregionalworkshops>).
- Next workshop 2014: Sudan has offered to host the next workshop for 2014.
- All participants to ensure that their contact point submit the final comments before 01 December.
- Encourage contracting parties to complete the IRSS survey on ISPMs 17/19.
- Encourage contracting parties to use the help desk at the IRSS web page (<http://irss.ippc.int/helpdesk/>).

Agenda item 18: *Adoption of the report with comments*

The participants have reviewed the comments on the draft ISPMs generated during the workshop and endorsed them.

Agenda item 19: *Seminar on Citrus greening - Huanglongbing (HLB) disease*

A technical seminar on the threat of the Citrus Greening (Huanglongbing (HLB) Disease) on the Near East and Mediterranean citrus production was held as a side event during the last day of the workshop. The seminar aimed at sharing experience among infested countries in the region (three countries so far), and mainly raising the awareness on serious threat of the cure-less Citrus Greening disease on the citrus production among the disease free countries in the region.

The countries were urged to apply appropriate phytosanitary measures and mobilize their resources to prevent the introduction of the disease to their countries taking into consideration that the region is one of the biggest producers of the citrus in the world.

International experts from different regions have been invited to present their experience with the disease in their regions/counties. Many presentations were presented as follows:

- Situation of HLB in COSAVE region – *Mr. Pablo Cortese, COSAVE, Argentina.*
- Situation of HLB in OIRSA region - *NEPPO on Behalf of OIRSA*
- Situation of HLB in Saudia Arabia – *Mr. Hani AbdelRahman Altuwirigi, MoA, KSA*
- Situation of Trioza erytrae in Canarias Islands – *Ms. Estrella H. Suárez, Dpto. Protección Vegetal Instituto Canario de Investigaciones AgrariasIles Canaries, Espagne.*
- Threat of HLB in the Mediterranean region – *Ms. María M. López, Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias, Espagne*

Beside the countries' representatives, many researchers, plant protection professionals, and fruit and vegetable procedures from Morocco attended the seminar.

Agenda item 20: Closing the workshop

The workshop along with the seminar was officially wrapped up in Friday November 1st 2013 at noon.

Agenda item 20: Field visit

The field visit took place on the last day of the workshop November 1st, 2013 at noon after the official closing of the event. The field visit included two sites. The first site was SAOAS group, a company for producing the vegetables, mainly tomato under IPM and GAP condition with a unit for commercial production of various species of the natural enemies, and experimental and research facilities (green houses) for testing the products such seeds and application of integrated pest management techniques.

The second site visited was a citrus packaging house in which the participants were acquainted on the process and procedures for citrus packaging including, cold treatment, post-harvest treatment, quality control and application of the ISPM 15 on the wood packaging materials.

The packing house is established in a huge area around 400 ha in Souss region, with most recent and cutting-edge machinery and packaging technologies in Morocco. The packing process and procedures applied are in compliance with GAP as well as bilateral agreements with importing countries.

Conclusions and recommendations:

The participants of 18 countries in the region actively participated in the workshop, provided their views, comments and recommendations for further development of the new draft ISPMs. The workshop as well created a forum for discussion, and information and experience exchange on the latest developments on the plant pests, particularly new invasive pests.

The participants have as well discussed and identified some main weaknesses in the pest management and phytosanitary systems, and came out with the below recommendations to be addressed by FAO, IPPC and NEPPPO to strengthen the phytosanitary systems in the region for better implementation of the ISPMs:

- Strengthen the NPPO capacities for better understanding and effective implementation of the ISPMs, especially the new ones through training and workshops.
- Assist the countries in the region for developing and application the ePhyto system (capacity building and work tools).
- Strengthen national capacities for pest surveillance, PRA, national reporting obligations, pest diagnosis and identification, including plant viruses, phytoplasmas and viroids.
- Assist in establishment of reference labs within the region for the identification of the pests.
- Encourage countries that are not NEPPPO members to become a member and support the coordination within FAO and NEPPPO for exchange of information and training for capacity development.

- Encourage and support countries for establishment of single window system with sharing success stories from other countries.
- Support the implementation of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) within the region to assess the Phytosanitary capacity and identify the gaps and the recommendations for improvement the Phytosanitary systems.

Annex 1.



NEPPO



**IPPC Regional Workshop for Near East and
North Africa Region
Agadir, Morocco 28 October – 1 November,
2013**

Provisional Agenda

Monday 28 October 2013			
Morning Session: 9:00 – 13:00			
Item	Time		Facilitator
	8:00-9:00	Registration of the participants	
1.	9 -9:30	Opening of the session - Host country opening statement (MoA Morocco) - FAO opening statement (FAO Morocco) - Introduction to the workshop - purpose and programme of the workshop (FAO RNE)	
2.	9:30-10:00	- IPPC overview presentation	IPPC Secretariat
3.	10:00-10:15	- NEPPO Presentation	NEPPO
	10:15– 10:30	Group photo Coffee break	
4.	10:30-10:45	Local and logistical information and arrangements Adoption of agenda - election of chair - election of rapporteur - any other business	
5.	10:45-12:00	- How to participate in the IPPC standard setting process - Update on the new standard setting process	IPPC Secretariat-
6.	12:00 – 12:	- National reporting obligations	IPPC Secretariat
7.	12:30- 13:00	- Presentation and Exercise on the Online Comment System	IPPC Secretariat
	13:00- 14:30	Lunch & Coffee break	
Afternoon Session: 14:30 – 17:00			
8.	14:30-17:00	Review and discussion on draft ISPMs: - Management of phytosanitary risks in the international movement of wood (2006-029),	
	15:30-15:45	Coffee break	
Tuesday 29 October 2013			
8.	9:00-10:40	Review and discussion on draft ISPMs: - Preliminary draft: Minimizing pest movement by sea containers (2008-001),	
	10:40-11:00	Coffee break	
8.	11:00-13:00	Review and discussion on draft ISPMs: - Movement of growing media in association with plants for planting in international trade (2005-004),	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch & Coffee break	

8.	14:30-17:00	Review and discussion on draft ISPMs: - Phytosanitary procedures for fruit fly (Tephritidae) management (2005-010), Priority 2	
	15:30-15:45	Coffee break	
Wednesday 30 October 2013			
8.	9:00-10:40	Review and discussion on draft ISPMs: - Amendments to ISPM 5 (Glossary of phytosanitary terms) (1994-001)	
	10:40-11:00	Coffee break	
9.	11:00-13:00	- Information on expert consultation on cold treatments	IPPC Secretariat
10.		- Update on electronic certification	
11.		- Single windows and customs unions	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch & Coffee break	
12.	14:30-15:30	- IRSS Helpdesk and provision of answers to IRSS questionnaires	IPPC Secretariat
13.		- Update on use and management of the phytosanitary resources page	
	15:30-15:45	Coffee break	
14.	15:45 -17:00	Country reports - Update of the plant protection and phytosanitary situation in the participating countries	Country participants
Thursday 31 October 2013			
15.	9:00-09:40	- Invasive Alien Species and the IPPC	IPPC Secretariat
14.	09:40-10:40	Country reports <i>- Update of the plant protection and phytosanitary situation in the participating countries</i>	Country participants
	10:40-11:00	Coffee break	
14	11:00-13:00	Country reports <i>Update of the plant protection and phytosanitary situation in the participating countries</i>	Country participants
	13:00-14:30	Lunch & Coffee break	
14	14:30-15:40	Country reports <i>Update of the plant protection and phytosanitary situation in the participating countries</i>	Country participants
	15:40-16:00	Coffee break	
16.	16:00-16:20	Organization of future IPPC Regional Workshops (2014) - tentative date and venue 2014 consultation (between July – November 15, 2013) - identification of sponsors - funding strategy and action plan	
17.		Any other business Participant survey (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/IPPCregionalworkshops)	
18.	16 :20-17 :00	Adoption of the report with comments	
Friday 1 November 2013			
19.	08:00-11:30	Seminar on Citrus greening - Huanglongbing (HLB) disease	
20.	11:30	Closing the workshop	
		Coffee break	
21.	13:00 – 17:00	Field visit to Plant Quarantine & treatment facilities (to be identified by ONSSA and NEPP0).	

Annex 2: list of participants



NEPPO



REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Near East Regional IPPC Workshop Agadir, Morocco 28 October – 1 November, 2013

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