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# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Ninth Session

Rome, 31 March - 4 April 2014

## National Reporting Obligations

## Agenda item 12

Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat

1. The International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP: [www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)) was established by CPM as the preferred tool for the exchange of official phytosanitary information, including both national information and information provided by the IPPC Secretariat. The IPP helps IPPC national contact points to communicate with each other as well as providing a site for the IPPC Secretariat to post meeting documents, distribute publications and phytosanitary information, and for helping the Secretariat meet many of its reporting obligations under the IPPC.

### I. National Reporting Obligations Advisory Group (NROAG)

2. The Eighth Session of the CPM (2013) agreed to review the National Reporting Obligations (NROs) programme under the guidance of an NRO Advisory Group (NROAG) composed of 11 representatives and the Secretariat. This group took longer to establish than intended but is now operational. Nominated members of the NROAG as agreed by the CPM Bureau are:

<b>Africa</b>	<b>Ms. Séraphine MINKO</b>
<b>Asia</b>	<b>Ms. Tasanee PRADYABUMRUNG</b>
<b>CDC Chair</b>	<b>Mr Corné VAN ALPHEN</b>
<b>CPM Bureau</b>	<b>Mr. Lucien KOUAME KONAN</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>Mr. Steve ASHBY</b>
<b>Latin America and Caribbean</b>	<b>Mr. Ezequiel FERRO</b>
<b>Near East</b>	<b>Vacant (nomination needed)</b>
<b>North America</b>	<b>Ms. Lottie ERICSON</b>
<b>SBDS Chair</b>	<b>Ms Mennie GERRITSEN-WIELARD</b>

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**SC Chair** **Ms Jane CHARD**

**South-West Pacific** **Mr. Pila KAMI**

3. FAO Near East region is still to nominate a representative to NROAG.
4. Terms of Reference as agreed by the CPM Bureau can be found in Annex 1. NROAG will largely work remotely with physical meetings as needed when resources are available.
5. NROAG will hold a physical meeting during the first week of July 2014. Preparatory work will be via e-mail.
6. The expected timeframe remains for the preliminary plan to be completed by October 2014 for CPM Strategic Planning Group (SPG) consideration and possible submission of the national reporting obligations plan to CPM-10 in 2015.

## II. Reporting Obligations

7. During 2013, the IPPC contact points were updated as an increasing number were out-of-date. Again over 90% of the details for IPPC contact points have changed, with most of the changes being in contact details.
8. Those contracting parties that have not nominated their IPPC Contact Points correctly (i.e. unofficial contact points) are: Cambodia, Kazakhstan and the Bahamas. South Sudan, the most recent contracting party, is yet to nominate an IPPC contact point.
9. The number of contracting parties (CPs) meeting their national reporting obligations still needs substantial improvement, although this has improved slightly in the past 12 months for some countries – see Table 1.
10. Detailed analyses of the reporting on the IPP are being dealt with by the NROAG. Some statistical information can be found at: <https://www.ippc.int/countries/nro>
11. The Secretariat would like to remind contracting parties that meeting WTO-SPS notification requirements in no way means they have met their IPPC reporting obligations as they are independent legal agreements. A recent study through 17 February 2014 shows that only 1.7% of SPS notifications (that could also be reported to the IPPC to meet reporting obligations) were in fact reported through the IPP – see Table 2. Most of these notifications are changes to legislation and regulations, but also include notifications on emergency action and pest reports. It is hoped that contracting parties will improve this situation as the data is already available to be reported through the IPP and only need minor modification in most cases.

**Table 2.** A comparison of data that could be used to meet IPPC reporting obligations that is reported to the WTO.

Year	WTO-IMS	IPP Reports	# of common reports
2008	349	64	3
2009	145	54	2
2010	262	109	2
2011	232	112	3
2012	225	106	10
2013	198	137	4
2014	32	12	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1443</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>24 (1.7%)</b>

### III. Pest Reporting

12. Pest reporting on the IPP has finally (this was planned for the past 3 years) gone through a migration to address two points:
  - a) Improve accuracy of pest names by relying on the EPPO EPPT;
  - b) Improved presentation of data through mapping and great flexibility in extracting pest reports e.g. search by pest, country or date.
13. The method and content of a pest report stays the same. Any further refinements will only take place after NROAG has completed its work.
14. The Secretariat is continuing to liaise with EPPO to enable the IPP to automatically receive official pest reports from the EPPO reporting system for those countries that authorise pest reporting through EPPO. A testing phase is active and contracting parties will be notified when this becomes fully operational.
15. The CPM is invited to:
  - 1) *encourage* contracting parties to meet their reporting obligations,
  - 2) *encourage* contracting parties to ensure information in the WTO notifications, that could be used to meet IPPC reporting obligations, are also reported by the IPPC contact points on the IPP,
  - 3) *request* the FAO Near East region to nominate a representative for the NROAG.

	REGIONS						
	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America & Caribbean	Near East	North America	Pacific
<b>BASIC REPORTING</b>							
NPPO structure	48	39	57	56	6	100	31
Entry points	46	37	39	62	19	100	50
List of regulated pests	17	27	52	53	6	100	25
Phytosanitary restrictions	42	33	54	44	25	100	25
<b>EVENT-DRIVEN REPORTING</b>							
Non compliance	4	3	0	3	0	0	6
Emergency actions	4	3	7	3	0	100	13
Pest report	19	23	30	41	0	100	44
<b>REQUEST-DRIVEN REPORTING</b>							
NPPO function	12	7	3	9	0	0	12
PRA (rationale phytosanitary requirements)	0	3	7	6	0	0	13
Pest status	4	7	4	3	0	0	13

Update: 03 February 2014 (IPP: <https://www.ippc.int>)

## ANNEX 1

### ToRs and RoPs for NRO Advisory Group

#### Background

1. The Eighth Session of CPM (2013)<sup>1</sup> agreed to establish an IPPC national reporting obligations (NRO) advisory group to provide advice with the review of the IPPC NRO programme and development of a revised work plan aimed at improving members' capacity to meet their NROs under the IPPC.

#### Objectives

2. The NROAG provides advice to the IPPC Secretariat with the objective of:
- assisting with the development of a revised NRO work program for presentation to CPM-10 (2015), including a suggested prioritized and stepwise approach, and
  - specifically working with the Secretariat and contracting parties to ensure increased reporting of pests and lists of regulated pests.

#### Tasks

3. NROAG will provide advice to the Secretariat in the review of the existing IPPC NRO programme, including:
- a) identify barriers and issues which have been the cause of limited reporting in the past, particularly the limitations inherent in developing comprehensive regulated pest lists;
  - b) in the review background documents and papers submitted by contracting parties (CPs) (e.g. IRSS surveys and conclusions) to ensure consideration of CPs' views, experiences, and evolving needs as they relate to pest reporting and developing regulated pest lists
4. NROAG will provide advice in developing a new IPPC NRO programme to help CPs meet their national reporting obligations while reviewing:
- a) the legal basis for the mechanisms of reporting, including through Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs), and possible role of the IPPC Secretariat in ensuring the accuracy of data on the IPP – location, format and quality of data;
  - b) Appendix XV of ICPM-3 report on NRO provisions in the convention, including all ISPMs adopted since 2002 – this review should identify gaps and possible improvements for existing ISPMs and the IPPC;
  - c) whether it is appropriate to prioritize the provision of reporting data as determined by the IPPC;
  - d) identifying the underlying competencies and functions required of an NPPO in order for it to effectively fulfil its reporting obligation under the Convention;
  - e) how data is provided and relevant timeframes;
  - f) value added services the IPPC Secretariat could provide in addition to those already being developed for reporting;
  - g) existing and new mechanisms so that contracting parties can readily provide the same or similar information to other international organizations, such as the WTO and RPPOs and with them to ensure consistency of reporting and reduce duplication;
  - h) the most appropriate way for CPs to consistently meet their national reporting obligations;

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<sup>1</sup> Relevant CPM papers include: CPM 2013/INF/16 and CPM 2013/CRP/11

- i) the most appropriate way of strengthening the role of RPPOs in ensuring contracting parties meet their national reporting obligations; and
- j) the most appropriate way of communicating the reported information to stakeholders, other than NPPOs and RPPOs.

5. After the review of the current NRO work programme, NROAG will provide advice to the Secretariat and contracting parties to ensure increased reporting of pests and lists of regulated pests.

6. NROAG will provide advice on a NRO outreach work plan, as a component of the NRO programme, to improve IPPC NRO by CPs.

7. NROAG will provide advice during the development on the NRO report and draft workplan, including priority and stepwise actions with timeframes, for SPG review in 2014 and subsequent consideration at CPM-10 consideration in 2015. The report will specifically address:

- a) the benefits of meeting NROs;
- b) the challenges which have been limiting factors in the implementation of the IPPC information exchange provisions;
- c) CP needs for improving pest and regulated pest lists reporting; and
- d) Possible solutions, with alternatives, to assisting countries meet their NROs, with specific reference to pest and regulated pest listing.

#### Membership

8. NROAG participants shall be from contracting parties and should have extensive working knowledge of the IPPC, its objectives, its reporting obligations, and ISPMs.

9. The NROAG will consist of:

- One expert from each of the seven FAO regions (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East, North America, and Southwest Pacific).
- Members from other bodies: One (1) Bureau member, CDC Chair, SBDS Chair, and SC Chair.
- Experts will be coopted as necessary for specific tasks.

10. The IPPC Secretariat will consider funding assistance for participants from developing countries with extra-budgetary resources.

11. The NROAG will work virtually and a physical NROAG meeting is subject to the IPPC Secretariat receiving extra-budgetary funds.

12. The role of the Advisory Group will be re-considered once the revised NRO programme is finalized