

International Plant Protection Convention CPM-18 side session on e-commerce programme

CPM-18 SIDE SESSION ON E-COMMERCE

When: Tuesday 16 April 2024 | 13:00-14:45 (CET)

Where: Red Room (A121), FAO Headquarters

Live-streaming link: http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/6521/icode/

This side session will focus on the pest risks associated with e-commerce, the movement of plants and plant products via postal and courier services and possible strategies for minimizing these risks. Additionally, it will provide an opportunity for countries to exchange experiences and solutions for dealing with the challenges brought about by the rapid expansion of e-commerce and the ever-changing landscape of digital technologies.

Programme

Title / Description	Time	Speakers
1. Opening	5 min	Osama EI-Lissy, IPPC Secretary
2. Managing the pest risk posed by e-commerce	5 min	IPPC E-commerce video
3. IPPC capacity development resources on e-commerce	8 min	Thorwald Geuze, The Netherlands
4. E-commerce: Spread the word, not the pests	8 min	Bruno Gallant, Canada
5. Collaborative approaches for effective pest risk management	8 min	Peter Thomson, New Zealand
6. The challenge of overseeing e-commerce	8 min	Rosina Leicht Ziegler, Argentina
7. Addressing agricultural smuggling in the United States	8 min	Julie Hong-Sakowski, U.S.A.
8. Universal Postal Union Postal Security Group and Illicit Goods Mitigation	15 min	Susan Patnode, Universal Postal Union
9. Panel / Question and Answer	30 min	All speakers
10. Closing	5 min	Sarah Brunel, Implementation and Facilitation Team Lead, IPPC Secretariat

Speakers

Thorwald Geuze



Bruno Gallant



Peter Thomson



Rosina Leicht



After completing his studies in Tropical Forestry at Wageningen University, Thorwald Geuze worked as an agro-forester in Guyana and Burkina Faso for eight years. In 2001, he joined the Plant Protection Service of The Netherlands, eventually serving as team manager at the Port of Rotterdam and then as a regional manager. Following the 2012 merger to form the Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority of The Netherlands (NVWA), Thorwald became the manager responsible for implementation of legislation and development of supervision and enforcement. Since 2018, he has served as a specialist advisor to the NPPO Director and the official IPPC contact point for The Netherlands. He also oversees the export certification system and plays a key role in electronic certification processes. Thorwald is actively engaged in the Implementing and Capacity Development Committee of the IPPC, where, among other things, he serves as vice-chair and leads efforts on e-commerce.

Bruno is a Senior Legislative Officer with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Invasive Alien Species and Domestic Programs section. Since joining the CFIA in 2006, he has been involved in designing, developing, and implementing plant health programs, as well as engaging in national, regional, and international initiatives related to CFIA's plant protection mandate. In recent years, one focus of Bruno's work has been e-commerce, exploring means for addressing risks to plant health, fostering collaboration among CFIA's areas of business, and working with domestic and international partners and industry stakeholders. Bruno was a member of the working group that drafted the 2023 IPPC E-commerce Guide.

Peter Thomson serves as the Chief Biosecurity Officer for New Zealand in the Ministry for Primary Industries. His responsibilities include whole-of-system strategy, oversight and assurance, and leading multilateral engagement on plant health. He has previously held roles in the Ministry with accountability for setting import regulations for animal and plant health, facilitating exports of plant and animal products, and managing national surveillance, eradication, and long-term pest management programmes across plant, animal and marine sectors. Peter has been actively involved in the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) since 2003. He co-led the development of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and played a key role in the establishment of the IPPC ePhyto Solution.

Rosina Leicht began her professional career in 2000, initially working in a consulting firm specializing in agricultural matters. Two years later, she made the transition from the private sector to the public sector, joining the Presidency Unit of National Service for Agri-Food, Health and Quality (SENASA). In 2019, SENASA established a reciprocal cooperation agreement with Latin America's largest e-commerce platform. Rosina was responsible for overseeing the operational implementation of this agreement and coordinating the activities carried out within its framework. Building on this experience, she spearheaded the design of a broader institutional project, which evolved into SENASA's Digital Media Monitoring and Control Programme. Since May 2020, Rosina has served as the manager of this programme, assuming responsibility for strategic planning, project development, and implementation. In this role, she collaborates closely with both public and private sectors to promote responsible e-commerce trade of products regulated by SENASA.

Julie Hong-Sakowski



Susan Patnode



Moderator

Barbara Peterson



Barbara Peterson has a Master's degree in pest management, more than 20 years of experience as a plant health officer with the national plant protection organization of Canada and 10 years as an integrated pest management consultant in the horticulture sector. Barbara has been working with the IPPC secretariat for the last five years, as an in-kind contribution from Canada. Her responsibilities include leading the IPPC secretariat's work on e-commerce and managing the development of IPPC guides and training materials.

Julie Hong-Sakowski is the National Operations Manager of the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance (SITC) program. SITC targets smuggling and enforces U.S. agricultural import regulations, including in the e-commerce environment. Julie held various field positions within USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine before assuming a leadership role within the SITC program. Julie is also the Team Lead of the Plant Health Quadrilateral (QUADS) E-Commerce Working Group and contributed to the 2023 IPPC E-commerce Guide. She holds a Master's degree in bioterrorism and emerging infectious diseases from Georgetown University and is currently completing a six-month long detail as an Advisor for the White House

Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

Susan Patnode represents the Universal Postal Union as an expert focused on safety and security matters relating to the international postal service. In this role, she leads expert teams and drives initiatives that aim to ensure the safety and security of the global postal supply chain. Much of this work is accomplished in collaboration with international posts, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and private business. Susan brings extensive leadership experience from her long career with the U.S. government, where she held positions in aviation security, hazardous materials, physical security, investigative support operations, and emergency management. She holds a certificate in Business Analytics from Harvard University and was a Fellow at the University of Illinois at Chicago's Mid America Public

The IPPC Secretariat is grateful to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee, North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE) and European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) who partnered with us to co-organize this side session.

Health Leadership Institute.







