



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

| |
|---|
| Eleventh Session |
| Rome, 4-8 April 2016 |
| ePhyto Update |
| Agenda item 10.6 |
| Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat |

I. The Development of an ePhyto Hub and Generic National System

1. Following endorsement by CPM-10 (2015) with respect to moving forward with the establishment of an ePhyto hub to facilitate the exchange of electronic certificates, the Secretariat submitted a proposal for the development of a hub and supporting infrastructure to produce and receive certificates to the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF). The proposal was fully approved at the STDF's meeting of 12th and 13th October 2015 for funding of USD1 million. Support for the project has also been provided by countries.
2. The Secretariat has engaged with the United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC) to provide development and hosting services for the hub and the generic national system. The UNICC with the support of the Secretariat will review existing technology for use in the system. A pilot of both the hub and generic system is expected to commence in summer of 2016 and expected to be complete by early 2017 at which time full evaluation of the system will be completed and any necessary adjustments made.
3. The project will improve the capacity of all countries, especially developing and least developed countries to facilitate trade in plants and plant products through the establishment of a global hub for exchange of electronic phytosanitary certificates, the establishment of a generic system for national production, sending and receipt of electronic phytosanitary certificates, and an appropriate training program.

This document is printed in limited numbers to minimize the environmental impact of FAO's processes and contribute to climate neutrality. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and to avoid asking for additional copies. Most FAO meeting documents are available on the Internet at www.fao.org

4. A Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will be established to review progress in development of the hub and generic system. The PAC will consist of representatives of other international organizations including the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), CODEX Alimentarius and the STDF (as an observer), which ensures consideration of future integration of electronic systems. In addition, a Project Management Committee (PMC) will be made up of technical specialists including the ePhyto steering group and the UNICC.

5. As noted above, to facilitate the development of ePhyto, the ePhyto Steering Group (SG) established by CPM-8 is supporting the STDF project by providing oversight, guidance, coordination, and advice on the development of the hub and generic national system both as an integral part of the PMC and the PAC. The SG is also assisting with the implementation of ePhyto by overseeing the pilot, providing technical advice to the UNICC and continuing development training and technical resources which have been posted to the IPP at <https://www.ippc.int/en/ephyto/>

II. ePhyto Symposium

6. The Second IPPC Symposium on ePhyto was generously hosted by the Quarantine Inspection Agency of the Republic of Korea in Incheon, Republic of Korea, 9th - 13th November 2015. The symposium was attended by over seventy representatives from all parts of the world; from regional plant protection organizations, other international organizations, national plant protection organizations, plant industry representative organizations (including the seed, grain, timber and flower industries) and firms managing commercial trade documents electronically. The participants provided updates on their use of phytosanitary certification procedures with paper and electronic phytosanitary certificates (ePhytos), and shared their experiences, positive and negative, on the development of ePhyto. The workshop was managed by the IPPC ePhyto Steering Group (set up to provide oversight, guidance and advice on IPPC efforts to facilitate the international exchange of electronic phytosanitary certificates), the IPPC Secretariat, with overall administrative details handled by the QIA. The full report of the Symposium is available at www.ippc.int/ephyto.

7. During 2015 the SG also:

- Completed the development of business rules and requirements for the hub and for the generic national system and further developed the mapping and coding information for the generic national system;
- Completed a survey of countries to identify and recommend to the CPM Bureau those prepared to participate in a pilot of the hub and generic system;
- Raised awareness amongst CPs on ePhyto and its benefits, on the role a hub can play and on the way developing countries can participate by developing a generic national system.

III. Recommendation

8. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *note* the work of the ePhyto Steering Group and the IPPC Secretariat in advancing development of ePhyto;
- 2) *support* the continued work of the Secretariat and the ePhyto Steering Group under the oversight of the CPM Bureau
- 3) *acknowledge* the support provided by the Republic of Korea in hosting the ePhyto Symposium
- 4) *support* the implementation of the STDF project to pilot the hub and the generic national system to promote the use of ePhyto by CPs worldwide including developing countries
- 5) *request* the Secretariat report back to CPM-12 on progress in implementation of the ePhyto project.