



Draft specification form for proposed standards

I. General information

Submitted by (Country or Organization)	IPPC Contracting Party
IPPC Official Contact Point or RPPO	Japan
Supported by	IPPC Contracting Party
Email of the IPPC Official Contact Point or the regional plant protection organization	ippc_contact@maff.go.jp

2. Standard information

Title	The revision of ISPM 23 (Guidelines for inspection)
Reasons	Reason for the revision of the standard
Provide the reason	<p>ISPM 23 deals with the inspection of consignments adopted by the Seventh Session of the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in April 2005. Since its adoption, ISPM 23 has been used by many contracting parties to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) for "the inspection of consignments of plants and plant products moving in international traffic and, where appropriate, the inspection of other regulated articles, particularly with the object of preventing the introduction and spread of pests." However, since the adoption of ISPM 23 almost two decades ago, the definitions of inspections and other relevant terms, i.e., 'compliance procedure (for a consignment),' 'identity,' and 'integrity' have been modified or newly added, a gap has been created between the requirements of ISPM23 (especially the interpretation of 'inspection') and the definition of these relevant glossary terms. In addition, new ISPMs for concepts available to the inspection have been developed (ISPM45) or are being developed (new Annex to ISPM23). In a series of discussions on revising the definition of the Glossary term 'inspection,' the Standard Committee (SC) and Technical Panel Glossary (TPG) have identified that there are two different uses of 'inspection' that appear within the requirements of the ISPM 23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the definition of 'inspection' in its current narrow sense, i.e., referring only to the official visual examination of plants, etc., is being used widely in many other ISPMs, including most cases within ISPM 23. The definition of the Glossary term 'inspection' was modified with some minor for consistency with other Glossary terms and has been confirmed by two rounds of

	<p>country consultations and is pending final steps. Still, this modification will not affect the parts in many ISPMs even after the CPM approval.</p> <p>- the definition of 'inspection' in its broad sense, i.e., inspection is taken to include the processes of examination of documents and verification of identity and integrity of the consignment in some parts of ISPM 23. The Glossary term 'compliance procedure (for a consignment),' whose revised definition was adopted by CPM in 2023, could fit instead of 'inspection' in those parts of ISPM 23 where the latter has been used inconsistently with its Glossary definition. The SC in November 2018 discussed whether this definition should consider the interpretation of 'inspection' in the broad sense in the requirements of the ISPM23 and requested the TPG to consider this issue. Subsequently, based on the revision of the Glossary term 'compliance procedure (for a consignment)' in CPM17 2022 and the conclusion of the TPG in November 2022, the SC in May 2023 agreed that the definition of 'inspection' in the glossary should be in the narrow sense and that the parts of ISPM23 in a broad sense need to be revised. The SC discussed whether the proposed changes should be carried out through ink amendments, as part of a focused or general revision of the standard, or by any other procedure.</p> <p>On the other hand, the steward of new Annex (field inspection) (in development under specification 74) to ISPM23 felt that some parts of the main body of ISPM23 needs to be revised to make the annex link completely to it and it needs to propose the revision. The SC in May 2023 agreed that the appropriate mechanism for addressing the consistency issues regarding ISPM23 was for a proposal to be submitted during a call for topics for a new topic on the revision of ISPM23 and noted that the amendments proposed by the TPG could be considered during the development of that revision if the topic was added to the work programme by the CPM.</p>
Scope	<p>There are two types of inspection for phytosanitary purposes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the inspection of consignments of plants, plant products, and other regulated articles at import and export - the inspection of plants in the place of production, production site, or field (However, the above inspection of consignments may also need to be conducted for plants that have undergone inspection in a field and so on) <p>The main body of the revised ISPM23 provides requirements about the inspection for consignments of plants, plant products, and other regulated articles at import and export.. Annex to the standard focuses on the requirements for the inspection of plants in the place of production, production site, or field in relation to plants destined for international trade (in development under specification 74). The main body should also focus on items common to both types of inspection, e.g., compliance procedures and documentary checks, and each responsibility by different positions (e.g., exporting or importing countries and NPPOs and authorized entities).</p>

	<p>In the present ISPM23, the 'inspection' when used in its broad sense beyond its glossary definition, needs to become 'compliance procedure' in the revised ISPM, and as a logical consequence the 'visual examination' need to become 'inspection'.</p> <p>In addition, the items not addressed enough in the present ISPM 23 should be covered in the main body of the revised version, such as the regulatory framework for inspection, resources for inspection, requirements for inspections specific to respectively export or import, responsibilities of the NPPO and authorized entities at export or import, notification of non-compliance, documentation, and record-keeping, information management systems and communication, taking into account whether the items are specific to consignment inspections or the items common to both types of inspection (i.e., consignment and field inspections).</p>
Purpose	<p>The revision of ISPM 23 is to ensure consistency between the requirements in ISPM 23 and the definitions of relevant glossary terms to provide a better description of the requirements that are consistent with glossary terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The definition of 'inspection' is currently under revision, and the definition of 'compliance procedure (for a consignment)' and the definitions of 'identity' and 'integrity' included in that definition were revised last year. - In the present ISPM 23, the term 'inspection' is used in its broad sense beyond the definition of the Glossary term, as it covers 'compliance procedure' as well as 'visual examination.' - Therefore, the current, narrow sense definition of 'inspection,' i.e., the definition of the Glossary term) should be retained (although slightly modified for other consistency reasons), but the cases in ISPM 23 where 'inspection' had been used beyond its glossary definition should be revised by referring instead to 'compliance procedure' to become more explicit on its wide scope. <p>In addition, ISPM 23 should be revised by reorganizing the structures of the requirements to address the recent trend of new or revised ISPMs and by complementing guidance on issues for inspection. For example, the requirements of the ISPM should be modified along the actual process and the responsibilities of phytosanitary actions by a different position, such as regulatory framework, resources, responsibilities of the NPPOs of the exporting or importing country, responsibilities of authorized entities, documentation, and record-keeping. The revision of ISPM 23 should link the contents to the newly developing Annex "field inspection" to ISPM 23, which is being developed by the Expert Working Group established by specification 74.</p>
Task	<p>The expert drafting group (EDG) should undertake the following tasks:</p> <p>(1) Review the present contents of ISPM23 and identify the parts that can be substituted for 'inspection' when used in its broad sense beyond its definition to become 'compliance procedure' and can be substituted for 'visual examination' to</p>

	<p>become ‘inspection’ as a logical consequence.</p> <p>(2) Revise the contents in parts identified in task No 1.</p> <p>(3) Consider the current requirements, and describe the requirements for items needed, with the reorganization and modification of the present texts and the addition of new texts. The items needed as the revising requirements, and the sections of the present ISPM 23 (i.e., the numbers and titles of sections in brackets) related to the items are:</p> <p>a. inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -(1.1 Inspection objectives) -(1.2 Assumptions involved in the application of inspections) -(1.5 Other considerations for inspection) -(2.3 Visual examination) -(2.4 Inspection methods) -(2.5 Inspection outcome) <p>b.compliance procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -(2.1 Examination of documents associated with a consignment) -(2.2 Verification of consignment identity and integrity) -(2.3 Visual examination) -(2.6 Review of inspection systems) -(2.7 Transparency) <p>c.pest risk analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -(1.6 Inspection in relation to pest risk analysis) <p>d. regulatory framework</p> <p>e. resources</p> <p>f. responsibilities of the NPPOs in the exporting or importing country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -(1.3 Responsibility for inspection) -(1.4 Requirements for inspectors) -(2.5 Inspection outcome) <p>g. responsibilities of authorized entities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -(1.3 Responsibility for inspection) -(1.4 Requirements for inspectors) <p>h. documentation and record-keeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (2.5 Inspection outcome) <p>i. others specific to inspection</p> <p>(4) Consider the contents with the linkage to the newly developing Annex “field inspection” to ISPM 23 based on the comments from the Expert Working Group established by specification 74.</p> <p>(5) Consider whether the ISPM could affect in a specific way (positively or negatively) the protection of biodiversity and the environment. If this is the case, the impact should be identified, addressed, and clarified in the draft ISPM.</p> <p>(6) Consider implementation of the standard by contracting parties and identify potential operational and technical implementation issues. Provide information and possible recommendations on these issues to the Standards Committee (SC).</p> <p>(7) Review all references to the ISPM under revision in other ISPMs to ensure that they are still relevant and propose consequential changes if necessary.</p>
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Expertise	Participants should have collective knowledge and experience in inspection, compliance procedure, pest risk assessment and pest risk management.
References	<p>IPPC Secretariat. 1997. International Plant Protection Convention. Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/governance/convention-text</p> <p>IPPC Secretariat. 2022. Explanatory document on ISPM 5 (Glossary of phytosanitary terms). Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. www.ippc.int/en/publications/87049</p> <p>ISPM 5. Glossary of phytosanitary terms. Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/622/</p> <p>ISPM 23. 2019. Guidelines for inspection. Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. Adopted 2005. www.ippc.int/en/publications/598</p> <p>ISPM 45. 2022. Requirements for national plant protection organizations if authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions. Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. Adopted 2022. https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/89734/</p> <p>IPPC Secretariat, 2019. 2018-11 Report of the Standards Committee, Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/86854/</p> <p>IPPC Secretariat, 2023. 2023-05 Report of the Standards Committee, Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. (under development)</p> <p>IPPC Secretariat, 2023. 2022 December TPG Meeting Report (Santiago, Chile). Rome, IPPC Secretariat, FAO. https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/92027/</p> <p>EFSA Information sheet 2.01 Inspection and trapping</p>