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منظمة  
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للأمم المتحدة

# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

<b>Thirteenth Session</b>
<b>Rome, 16-20 April 2018</b>
<b>Written reports from relevant international organizations - Phytosanitary Measures Research Group (PMRG)</b>
<b>Agenda item 14.3</b>
<b>Prepared by the PMRG</b>
<b><i>English only</i></b>

## I. Phytosanitary Measures Research Group (PMRG)

1. The Phytosanitary Measures Research Group (PMRG) was initially established at the Expert Consultation on Cold Treatments (ECCT) in December 2013<sup>1</sup> as the Phytosanitary Temperature Treatment Expert Group (PTTEG). The group was created to be an independent group that will consider all temperature related phytosanitary treatments and serve as a forum where critical phytosanitary treatment issues can be addressed through discussion and collaborative research and where scientific analysis and review of global phytosanitary treatments issues and new information can be provided. The IPPC Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT) have already utilized PMRG in obtaining answers to key science questions. During 2015, the PTTEG advanced several phytosanitary assignments and had its first meeting in South Africa, at which the name was changed to reflect the broadened scope

<sup>1</sup> ECCT 2013 meeting report:

<https://www.ippc.int/en/partners/phytosanitarymeasuresresearchgroup/publications/2014/11/2013-december-ecct-meeting-report/>

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[www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

of the group<sup>2</sup>. The second PMRG meeting was held in Wageningen, Netherlands in July 2017, and the meeting report is available at the PMRG webpage<sup>3</sup>.

2. The PMRG currently has 71 active members from 27 countries (up from 58 members from 23 countries last report) collaborating on research and analysis addressing phytosanitary issues. Summaries of activities for 2017 follow:

- 1) Guidelines for vapour heat treatment research have been developed and circulated to the group for comment.
- 2) Guidelines for cold treatment research have been developed and circulated to the group for comment.
- 3) Guidelines for fumigation treatment research are being developed.
- 4) Guidelines for controlled atmosphere treatment research, including controlled atmosphere heat treatments are being developed.
- 5) Studies on how *Bactrocera dorsalis* populations from different geographical regions of the world responded to vapour heat treatments. In collaboration with the Joint FAO/IAEA Division and MAFF-Japan (Research Center Yokohama), converging to the work of the PMRG, these studies concluded that there is no evidence to support that there are significant differences in vapour heat tolerance among populations of *B. dorsalis* from geographically separate regions. These results were presented to the IPPC TPPT and supported their work to move forward on the development of international phytosanitary treatments.

3. For the next PMRG meeting (2019 in Cairns, Australia) the group is developing working papers on research and operational issues covering generic cold treatments, modelling phytosanitary treatments, documenting existing phytosanitary systems, treatment of mixed loads, heat treatments and non-target organisms as well as the use of systems approaches.

4. The PMRG elected the new following members for the Executive Committee to serve for the next two face-to-face meetings, starting in 2017, as outlined in the PMRG Terms of Reference: Chairperson: Mr Peter Leach (Australia), Secretary: Ms Joanne Wilson (New Zealand), Operations Coordinator: Mr Vaughan Hattingh (South Africa) and Research Coordinator: Mr Scott Myers (USA and TPPT member).

5. For more information on PMRG or to find out how to become a member, please check the PMRG web page on the IPP (<https://www.ippc.int/en/liason/organizations/phytosanitarymeasuresresearchgroup/>).

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<sup>2</sup> PTTEG 2015 meeting report:

<https://www.ippc.int/en/partners/phytosanitarymeasuresresearchgroup/publications/2016/02/ptteg-meeting-report-2015/>

<sup>3</sup> PMRG webpage: <https://www.ippc.int/en/liason/organizations/phytosanitarymeasuresresearchgroup/>