| | 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
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة |

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fourteenth Session
Rome, 1-5 April 2019
Task Force on Topics and 2018 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation - TFT Recommendations to CPM for Submissions for 2018 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation
Agenda item 9.1
Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat and TFT

I.   Background

1.   The CPM-13 (2018) adopted the process of the biennial Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation, the criteria for justification and prioritization and the Terms of reference (ToR) for a Task Force on Topics (TFT)1. Accordingly the TFT was established consisting of representatives from the CPM Bureau, the SC and IC[2].

---

1 CPM-13 (2018) Report, appendices 7, 8 and 9; available at: https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85963/

2 TFT membership list: https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/86326/

II.   2018 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation

2.   A Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation was open from 1 May to 31 August 2018. The Secretariat received 36 submissions[3] from ten Contracting Parties (CPs) and four Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs), comprising:

23 submissions for Standards:

- 2 glossary terms
- 10 diagnostic protocols
- 1 commodity standard
- 2 pathway standards
- 4 new concept standards

4 annexes or revisions to existing standards

- 13 submissions for Implementation materials:
- 10 implementation guidance
- 1 symposium on implementation
- 1 advocacy material
- 1 surveillance tool

III.   2018 October TFT meeting

3.   The Task Force on Topics (TFT) met in Rome 1 - 3 October 2018 to review the submissions[4].

A.   Process for TFT assessment of topic submissions

4.   In preparation for the meeting TFT members were each assigned several specific submissions and requested to provide a preliminary assessment against the *Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics[5]*. In addition, each member assessed all topic submissions against three questions for comparative scoring and commenting. The questions were:

1) relevance from an IPPC perspective;
2) relevance from a global perspective; and
3) adequacy of the material presented.

5.   These assessments were used as a starting point for the TFT discussion.

6.   Additional criteria were identified and used to review and prioritize proposals for diagnostic protocols (DPs). These included the significance of the pest and its impact on food security, the environment and economy; the value of harmonizing diagnostic methods; relevance to multiple regions;

---

[3] All topic submissions are publicly available on the Call for Topics website: https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-and-implementation/call-for-topics-standards-and-implementation/

[4] TFT October 2018 meeting report available at: http://www.ippc.int/en/publications/86749/

[5] Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics: https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85790/

and whether the pest is regulated. A checklist[6] comprising a number of questions was used to structure the analysis of all other topics, which supported a consistent and objective approach. The TFT discussed each topic and allocated a score from 1 (low) to 5 (high) based on the assessed merit and fit with the *Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics*, and an indicative priority from 1 (high) to 4 (low) as in the Standard Setting Process ranking topics on feasibility and urgency.

B.   General recommendations on topic submissions

7.   The TFT noted that several submissions did not provide sufficient information or clarity to enable the TFT to make a recommendation. To address this problem in the future, the TFT proposed the submission form be reviewed and revised. They also noted that a template for a draft outline for implementation resources should be developed in order to facilitate evaluations of submissions for implementation topics in future calls. They requested the Secretariat to revise the submission form and to develop a separate form for DPs, which the TFT would review during an e-forum. Some members felt that additional training on how to fill out the submission form should be offered to representatives from CPs and RPPOs and that raising their awareness of what resources are already available could be used to address some of the issues raised in the submissions.

8.   Some members suggested that IPPC Regional Workshops would be a good opportunity to provide information and training to CPs and to gather support for topic submissions at the regional level, for example the submission from PPPO had been developed during the IPPC Regional workshop in the Pacific. The TFT agreed that the IPPC Regional Workshops should have a standing agenda item on topic proposals and that regional IC and SC representatives attending the workshops should promote and facilitate discussions. This would increase the understanding of the process, develop capacities of CPs, strengthen regional collaboration and allow global support to be generated for topic submissions. Some members reported that IPPC Regional Workshop participants had voiced their concern about the timing of the call for topics, as for some regions the workshops in 2018 were held after the call had already closed.

9.   In general, the TFT reviewed the submissions considering the draft IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and recognized the need to balance available resources and the current SC and IC work plans. Topics for commodity or pathway standards were not considered in detail, pending outcomes from CPM-14 (2019), to be discussed under Agenda item 8.4. Similarly, topics addressing issues related to e-commerce were deferred to the ongoing development of a project proposal for e-commerce, which is also being presented to CPM-14 (2019) under Agenda item 8.7.

10.   The TFT did not feel that they had the expertise to evaluate the technical merit of submissions for Diagnostic Protocols for regulated pests. They considered the global impact of the pests as outlined in the assessment process and suggested that the Technical Panel for Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) be involved in the technical evaluation.

11.   The TFT identified synergies between topics, highlighting the value of regional coordination when submitting topics, and the need for collaboration between standards setting and implementation and capacity development activities of the IPPC community.

12.   For some submissions, the TFT recommended the development of materials other than the proposed standard or implementation material, as those were considered more appropriate or practical to better address the issue raised by the submitter.

13.   Some topics were not recommended to be considered by the IC or SC, as the TFT felt that they did not fall within the remit of the SC or IC work programmes. Furthermore, the TFT felt that some of

---

6 Checklist for Evaluating topic submissions: Appendix 6 of 2018 Oct TFT meeting report, available at: https://www.ippc.int/en/core-

activities/governance/cpm/cpm-focus-group-reports/

the topics could be addressed through bilateral agreements between individual CPs and did not require global harmonization.

14.   The TFT considered the Framework for Standards and Implementation when reviewing submissions as requested by the CPM-13 (2018). However, they did not review recommended positions for the proposed topics as they felt this should only be applied to final recommendations, noting also that the Framework is currently being revised by SC and IC Framework champions.

15.   The TFT also reviewed the list of implementation and capacity development (ICD) topics currently being worked on by the IPPC Secretariat, which had been presented to the IC May 2018 meeting and agreed by the IC[7]. The TFT felt that additional information on the ongoing projects outlined in the list should be provided for in-depth review and noted that several items seemed to be duplicated on the list. The TFT noted the list of ICD topics and recommended the IC to consider it when reviewing topic submissions. For transparency purposes, the list of ICD topics is presented to the CPM in a separate paper (CPM 2019/24).

C.   TFT Recommendations to the Standards Committee and Implementation and Capacity Development Committee

16.   The summary assessment of the TFT, along with a score and recommendation for appropriate material and proposed priority were presented to the IC and SC at their November 2018 meetings[8]. TFT recommendations on submissions for Glossary terms and Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests were reviewed by the SC as these topics fall within their remit (subjects for work by Technical Panels). TFT recommendations on submissions for Standards or Implementation resources were reviewed by both committees, with specific requests from the TFT indicated. Several topics were highlighted as providing opportunities for joint work of the SC and IC for developing materials and should be discussed in that context.

IV.   SC November 2018 meeting

17.   The SC in their November 2018 meeting discussed the TFT recommendations on the submissions in response to the Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation. Full details of the discussions are in the report of the SC meeting[9]. The SC agreed with most of the recommendations made by the TFT and had additional comments on some topic submissions.

18.   The SC discussed the process of the TFT and considered that the normal standard setting procedures should still apply regarding the SC's responsibility for decisions on addition or amendment of subjects (Glossary terms, DPs and PTs) to the *List of topics for IPPC standards*. Thus, recommended terms and DPs have been included in the *List of Topics for IPPC Standards* and highlighted in Table 1 of Appendix 1. (See document CPM 2019/05 and Agenda item 10.3).

V.   IC November 2018 meeting

19.   At their November 2018 meeting[10], the IC reviewed the TFT recommendations on the submissions considering the inputs from the SC the week before. The IC agreed to most of the TFT recommendations and provided their comments on some topics.

---

7 List of implementation and capacity development topics: https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/86844/

8 11_SC_Nov_2018, 08_IC_Nov_2018

9 SC November 2018 meeting report available at https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/standards-committee

10 IC November 2018 meeting report available at https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/capacity-development-committee/

20.   Furthermore, the IC agreed that:

- Submitters should be encouraged to submit complete sets of relevant information to facilitate the TFT work and increase efficiency
- Relevant organizations should be identified that might be in a better position to develop implementation resources for submitted topics. Those might be submitters themselves.
- An approach should be implemented that IC decisions and selection of topics are backed up with funds identified by CPM
- Once agreed, the costing for topics should be developed.

VI.   TFT January 2019 meeting

21.   The TFT met virtually in January 2019 to finalize their recommendations to the CPM. Full details of the discussions are in the report of the meeting[11].

22.   The TFT noted the discussions of the SC and IC, and the proposal of the CPM Bureau to hold a training session on topic submissions during CPM-15 (2020). The TFT also noted that the SPG agreed to present to CPM-14 (2019) proposals for the IPPC Trade Facilitation Action plan and a project based proposal on e-commerce, which may be relevant for topic submissions related to these activities. The TFT suggested that these submissions be considered by CPM in context with the project proposals and that the material developed may be included in the project deliverables. The TFT noted the SC decisions for including subjects on the *List of Topics for IPPC Standards* as outlined in Table 1 in Appendix 1, which is included for information purposes (see also CPM 2019/05).

23.   The TFT agreed with suggestions from SC and IC to change the recommended priority of two topic submissions, noting that they should reflect the importance of the issue and the urgency in initiating their development.

24.   Several topics were assessed as important, but it was not clear to the TFT how they could be progressed because they are emerging issues, or additional thought or information was needed to identify the IPPC outcome that they would progress or achieve. For example, the proposal for managing phytosanitary risks through mail (2018-014) was supported but the TFT felt that it was unclear whether this would be best done as a pathway standard, or as an element of e-commerce – both of which are still evolving.

25.   The topics recommended by TFT, in agreement with SC and IC, are presented to CPM for adoption as outlined in Table 2 of Appendix 1. Topics for the SC should be reflected in the *List of Topics for IPPC Standards*[12], see CPM 2019/05) and for the IC, in the List of implementation and capacity development topics[13], see CPM 2019/24).

26.   The TFT agreed not to recommend some topics to CPM because they were considered outside the scope of the SC or IC. The TFT discussed what materials should be under the remit of the committees and what topics could be better addressed by other IPPC bodies (e.g. symposium and outreach materials). The TFT felt that the Bureau might be in the best position to help determine how to handle these submissions. The TFT agreed that the scope of the call should be reviewed and the kinds of activities solicited during the call needed to be clarified. As the Call for Topics specifically focused on Standards and Implementation, it should identify topics to be developed by the SC and IC. They agreed

---

11 TFT virtual meeting January 2019, report available at https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-and-implementation/call-for-topics-standards-and-implementation/task-force-on-topics/

12 *List of topics for IPPC standards*: http://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/

13 List of implementation and capacity development topics: https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/86844/

to ask the Bureau for guidance on the scope and proposed to consider this in their review of the process of the call.

27.   For some topics that were not recommended to the CPM, the submissions did not provide sufficient information. The TFT encouraged submitters to consider resubmitting strengthened proposals during the next call, noting also the planned training sessions on the call for topics during the IPPC Regional Workshops and CPM-15 (2020). The topics not recommended by the TFT are outlined in Table 3 of Appendix 1.

28.   The TFT recalled the request to consider the Framework for Standards and Implementation when developing their recommendations but noted that the document is currently undergoing revision. The TFT therefore suggests that the SC and IC incorporate the adopted topics into the revised Framework once available.

29.   Detailed summaries of TFT recommendations and feedback to submitters can be found in Appendix 4 of the TFT January 2019 virtual meeting report[11].

VII.   Conclusions and Lessons learned

30.   The TFT considered that the joint assessment of topic submissions by members of SC, IC and Bureau was beneficial as it provided different points of view on how to best approach a certain topic. They recommended alternative approaches for some topics and invited the SC and IC to work together and coordinate the development of materials for several topics.

31.   The TFT noted the importance of developing the capacity of CPs not only in the implementation of ISPMs but also in the normative work during their development, including the submission of topic proposals.

32.   The TFT considered that the processes for the Call for Topics should be reviewed to integrate lessons learned from this first call. In addition considerations should be given on how to present prioritised topics in a meaningful way after adoption by CPM.

33.   The TFT noted that the development of ICD topics is largely project-funded and recommended that IC should focus their activities on high priority topics and that resource mobilization efforts be targeted to these topics.

34.   The new process of a call for topics has worked well and will be refined in the future to reflect the experience gained. The TFT agreed to review their Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure and the process of the call for topics during 2019 accordingly and present any proposed changes to the CPM Bureau. They also agreed to contribute to the Secretariat's work on training sessions and revision of documents (e.g. submission form) to develop an efficient and transparent process for identifying topics of global relevance in future calls.

35.   The CPM is invited to:

1)   *Note* the TFT recommendation on SC subjects outlined in Table 1 Appendix 1
2)   *Adopt* recommended topics and priorities in response to Call for topics: Standards and Implementation as presented in Table 2 of Appendix 1
3)   *Request* SC and IC to integrate the adopted topics in their respective lists of topics with the associated recommended priorities
4)   *Encourage* contracting parties, Regional Plant Protection Organizations and other interested parties to consider providing support and resources for the delivery of high priority topics on the lists of topics
5)   *Request* the Bureau to provide guidance to the TFT on the scope of the call for topics and the activities that should be solicited during the call for topics
6)   *Request* the Bureau to discuss and propose a way forward for topics not recommended by the TFT or where a priority is recommended but the next steps are not clear.

APPENDIX 1. TFT RECOMMENDATION TO THE CPM ON PROPOSED TOPICS FROM 2018 CALL FOR TOPICS: STANDARDS AND IMPLEMENTATION

For detailed information on TFT discussions please refer to TFT meeting reports available at: https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-and-implementation/call-for-topics-standards-and-implementation/task-force-on-topics/. Abbreviations used: N/A, not applicable; TBD, to be determined

Table1: Topics that were recommended by TFT, discussed and included by the SC in *List of Topics for IPPC Standards[1]*:

Row No.	Topic No.	Title	Submitter (Support)	TFT recommended material	TFT recommended priority
1	2018-010	Amendment to ISPM 5. Revision on the term "Incidence".	USA (Australia, New Zealand, Canada)	Glossary term (deletion)	N/A
2	2018-006	*Mononychelus tanajoa*	CAHFSA	Diagnostic Protocol	1
3	2018-025	*Citrus leprosis viruses*	CAHFSA	Diagnostic Protocol	1
4	2018-030	Psyllid vectors of *Candidatus* Liberibacter solanacearum	Japan	Diagnostic Protocol	1
5	2018-031	Pospiviroid species (except *Potato spindle tuber viroid* (DP 7))	Japan	Diagnostic Protocol	2
6	2018-032	*Acidovorax avenae* subsp. *Citrulli*	Japan	Diagnostic Protocol	2
7	2018-019	*Meloidogyne mali*	China	Diagnostic Protocol	3
8	2018-015	*Cronartium comandrae* Peck	China	Diagnostic Protocol	4

Table 2: Topics for Standards and Implementation recommended by TFT to CPM for adoption and to be added to the IC and SC lists of topics

Row No.	Topic No.	Title	Submitter (Support)	TFT recommended material	TFT recommended priority
9	2018-008	Development and implementation of regulations and legislation to manage phytosanitary risks on regulated articles for NPPOs	Australia	Implementation (Guide)	1
10	2018-009	ISPM 38- International movement of seeds: Annex 1 - Design and use of systems approaches for phytosanitary certification of seeds	NAPPO (Australia, Chile, USA, CAHFSA, OIRSA, ASTA, ISF, CSTA, SAA)	Standard (Annex)	1
11	2018-026	Safe Import of Food and Other Aid	PPPO	CPM Recommendation (for adoption during ministerial CPM in 2020)	1
12	2018-028	Developing Phytosanitary Security Procedures	New Zealand	Implementation (Guide)	1
13	2018-036	Guidance on assessing the risk of introduction of pests with seeds	EPPO	Implementation guide for ISPM 11	1
14	2018-037	Guidelines for surveillance of *Xylella fastidiosa*	EPPO	Implementation (Guide)	1

---

[1] https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/

Row No.	Topic No.	Title	Submitter (Support)	TFT recommended material	TFT recommended priority
15	2018-038	Guidelines for inspection of consignments for *Xylella fastidiosa* at points of entry	EPPO	Implementation (Guide)	1
16	2018-012	ISPM 15 implementation guidelines for non-compliance	USA	Implementation (Guide)	2
17	2018-017	Guidelines for the management of plants and plant products carried by entry passengers	China	Implementation materials (Awareness materials)	2
18	2018-027	Managing non-compliant treated consignments	New Zealand	Implementation (Guide)	2
19	2018-040	IPPC Guide on the development and implementation of programmes for the authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions	Canada (USA)	Implementation (Guide)	2
20	2018-007	Implementation of official control (ISPM 5; Supplement 1) and pest free areas (ISPM 4).	Australia	Implementation (Guide)	3
21	2018-011	Criteria for the determination of host status for fruit flies based on available information (Annex to ISPM 37).	USA	Standard (Annex)	3
22	2018-022	Risk based inspection of imported consignments	Republic of Korea (NAPPO)	Implementation material	3
23	2018-013	Guidelines for designing of plant quarantine laboratories	China	Implementation (Reference material)	4
24	2018-014	Guidelines for Phytosanitary of International Mail Items	China	TBD within e-commerce action plan	4
25	2018-021	Requirement for phytosanitary certificate on cross-border online-shopping plants, plant products and other regulated articles.	China	TBD within e-commerce action plan	4
26	2018-023	Smart phone application to monitor *Xylella fastidiosa* for all relevant stakeholders and a mapping system to follow up on its global distribution	Libya	Tool available on the IPP[2]	4

Table 3: Topics not recommended by TFT

Row No.	Topic No.	Title	Submitter
27	2018-005	ISPM 5 definition of term "Harmful Organism"	Sri Lanka
28	2018-016	ISPM 27 Annex DP: *Cernuella virgata* (Da Costa, 1778)	China
29	2018-018	ISPM 27 Annex DP: *Hylotrupes bajulus*	China
30	2018-020	ISPM 27 Annex DP: Pathogenic fungus of Bull's-eye rot on apple （*Neofabraea* spp.）	China
31	2018-024	Pest free olive plants (*Olea europaea*) for international trade	Libya
32	2018-029	Guidelines for field inspection	Japan
33	2018-033	Symposium on implementation of the Convention and ISPMs	Japan
34	2018-034	Advocacy materials on ePhyto	Japan
35	2018-035	Revision of ISPM26 : Establishment of Pest Free Areas for Fruit Flies (Tephritidae)	Japan
36	2018-039	Amendment to ISPM 39 to address wooden logs with bark	India

[2] IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Guides and training materials:

https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/guides-and-training-materials/