



COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

TWENTIETH SESSION

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (SC) AND IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (IC) FROM THE IPPC CALL FOR TOPICS: STANDARDS AND IMPLEMENTATION

AGENDA ITEM 9.3

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

Background

- [1] At its nineteenth session (CPM-19, 2025), the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) discussed the proposed changes to the submission forms for the Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation. Following CPM-19's decisions, the call for topics is now open throughout the entire year. This new approach is being implemented on a two-year trial basis, after which an assessment will be presented to CPM-21 (2027) to determine whether the year-round call is more effective than the previous biennial process.
- [2] The call for topics provides contracting parties, regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) and relevant stakeholders with an ongoing opportunity to propose new or revised topics for International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), implementation resources, and IPPC Observatory studies and surveys.
- [3] Topic proposals may include proposals for:
- **standards:** new topics for ISPMs, new components to existing ISPMs (such as supplements, annexes, appendices, or glossary terms), or revisions and amendments to adopted ISPMs and related documents;
 - **implementation resources:** proposals for new implementation materials (e.g. guides, e-learning courses, or training kits) or revisions to existing IPPC implementation resources; and
 - **IPPC Observatory:** topics for conducting surveys or studies on phytosanitary-related issues of strategic relevance.

Submissions received

- [4] As of November 2025, the IPPC Secretariat received six topic submissions under the ongoing Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation.

Topic Number	Title	Submitted by
2025-010	Revision of ISPM 3 (<i>Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms</i>) (standard)	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization
2025-011	Inclusion of additional terms in ISPM 5 (<i>Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms</i>) related to wood packaging material (standard)	Canada
2025-012	Survey on the current regulatory status and current use of phytosanitary systems approaches to facilitate safe trade in plant products (IPPC Observatory topic)	Australia
2025-013	Tomato mottle mosaic virus (diagnostic protocol)	Japan
2025-014	Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus (diagnostic protocol)	Japan
2025-015	Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system (implementation resource)	Canada

SC November 2025 meeting

- [5] At its November 2025 meeting, the Standards Committee (SC) reviewed and discussed submissions received under the ongoing call for topics¹. The SC assigned priorities and provided additional comments on several proposals.

Standards

- [6] **2025-010: Revision of ISPM 3 (*Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms*), priority 1**
- [7] The SC recommended this topic to CPM-20 (2026) for inclusion in the *List of topics for IPPC standards*.
- [8] The SC also agreed that, in anticipation of the CPM adding the revision of ISPM 3 (*Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms*) (2025-010) to the *List of topics for IPPC standards*, the European members of the SC would refine the draft specification so that is ready for potential SC consideration in May 2026.
- [9] **2025-011: Inclusion of additional terms in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*) related to wood packaging material**
- [10] The SC reviewed this proposal and agreed that potential confusion over the meaning of the terms “shipborne dunnage”, “crate”, “case”, “pallet” and “spool” would be more appropriately addressed by a revision of the IPPC *Guide to the regulation of wood packaging material* rather than adding definitions to ISPM 5.
- [11] The SC encouraged the submitter to prepare a submission to the IC under the ongoing call for topics, proposing the revision of the IPPC *Guide to the regulation of wood packaging material* to explain these terms, and investigate whether documentation being produced by a North American Plant Protection Organization project on categorization of wood packaging materials could be submitted as a contributed resource to provide further support

¹ Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation: <https://www.ippc.int/en/calls/call-for-topics-standards-and-implementation/>

Diagnostic protocols

- [12] The SC reviewed the recommendations from the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) and invited the TPDP to clarify the host material that would be tested using the two new diagnostic protocols (seeds, plant material, or both).
- [13] The SC *added* the following diagnostic protocols to the *List of topics for IPPC standards*:
- **2025-013: Tomato mottle mosaic virus, priority 1,** and
 - **2025-014: *Begomovirus solanumdelhiense*, priority 2.**

IC November 2025 meeting***2025-015: Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system***

- [14] Canada submitted an implementation topic on *Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system*. Members of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) provided preliminary assessments through an online form, with concerns raised about whether the proposal aimed to develop a new guide or update the existing IPPC guide on import verification. It was clarified that the proposal seeks to update the existing guide and subsequently develop an e-learning course based on the updated version. The IC agreed to add the topic to the list and review the specification during the May 2026 IC meeting.

2025-012: IPPC Observatory topic – Survey on the current regulatory status and current use of phytosanitary systems approaches to facilitate safe trade in plant products

- [15] The IPPC Observatory topic submission from Australia on *Survey on the current regulatory status and current use of phytosanitary systems approaches to facilitate safe trade in plant products* (2025-012) was under review by the subgroup; however, not all subgroup members had provided their assessments. IC members suggested that it would be better to wait for the outcomes of the workshop on systems approaches, which could be helpful for a better overview of the topic and the survey.
- [16] The IC agreed to postpone the review of the topic submission to the May 2026 meeting, so that the outcomes of the IPPC systems approaches workshop could be taken into consideration.

Recommendations

- [17] The CPM is invited to:
- (1) *note* the submissions received in response to the ongoing Call for topics: Standards and Implementation up to and including September 2025;
 - (2) *note* the outcome of the SC's and IC's review of the submissions and the resulting decisions taken by the CPM at this meeting under agenda items 9.1 and 9.2; and
 - (3) *encourage* contracting parties and RPPOs to actively participate in the ongoing Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation by submitting well-prepared and globally relevant proposals for standards, implementation resources, and IPPC Observatory studies.

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