

December 2004



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

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

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

### Seventh Session

Rome, 4 – 8 April 2005

### Procedures for the Development and Adoption of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (Including Criteria for Determining the Need for Further Rounds of Consultations on Draft Standards)

### Agenda Item 7.2.6 of the Provisional Agenda

1. In 2004, ICPM-6 adopted improvements to the standard setting procedure of the ICPM. ICPM-6 agreed that the Standards Committee (SC) should initiate a further round of consultation on standards that have undergone extensive changes as a result of formal country consultation (Report of ICPM-6, Appendix IX, paragraph 1). In such cases the SC should report to the ICPM their justification for sending a standard for a second round of consultation but could use its judgement in regard to this matter. ICPM-6 also decided that the SC should draw up criteria/guidance that it proposes to apply in determining the need for a further round of formal consultation on a draft standard.
2. A working group of the SC which met in July 2004 discussed the criteria for further rounds of consultation. It identified three possible reasons for submitting a draft to an additional formal round of consultation. First, the group felt that when technical issues arise about a draft standard, it should be sent back to the expert working group concerned. Second, if the SC, by incorporating country comments, had made substantial changes and made the draft standard unrecognizable compared to the version sent for country consultation, then the draft could be sent for another round of formal consultation. These substantial changes would cover both the content and/or the structure. Thirdly, another round of formal consultation might be recommended if the draft standard contained too much or too little information on certain points, or included controversial changes.
3. The working group of the SC proposed to revise Annex 1 to the Rules of Procedure of the ICPM, which lay down the procedures for the development and adoption of ISPMs (adopted at ICPM-2; see also IPPC Procedural manual; First edition, 2004; Section 5.1.1 *Outline of procedures for elaboration of international standards for phytosanitary measures*) to include text on an additional round of formal consultation. A

revised procedure was agreed by the SC working group and submitted to the SC in November 2004.

4. The SC agreed to the proposed revision of the Annex to the Rules of Procedure of the ICPM. It amended the proposal by the working group, taking into account other recent changes in the standard setting procedure. It also decided that a separate set of guidelines would be needed for the fast-track process, and asked the Secretariat to draft such guidelines for consideration by the SC in May 2005.

5. The amended version (Annex I) of the Annex to the Rules of Procedure of the ICPM was agreed on by the SC and is recommended for adoption by the ICPM-7.

6. The ICPM is invited to:

1. *Consider* the amended Annex to the Rules of Procedure of the ICPM on the development and adoption of ISPMs
2. *Adopt* the amended Annex to the Rules of Procedure of the ICPM as shown in Annex I

**Annex I****PROCEDURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES*****(Annex I of the Rules of Procedure of the ICPM)******Step 1***

Proposals for a new International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) or for the review or revision of an existing ISPM are submitted to the IPPC Secretariat using a submission form for ICPM work programme topics.

***Step 2***

A summary of proposals is submitted by the Secretariat to the ICPM. The ICPM identifies the topics and priorities for standard setting from among the proposals submitted to the Secretariat and the others that may be raised by the ICPM.

***Step 3***

Specifications for the standards identified as priorities by the ICPM are drafted by, or under the auspices of, the Secretariat. The draft specifications are submitted to the Standards Committee for approval/amendment and subsequently made available to Members and RPPOs for comment (60 days). Comment is by written submission to the Secretariat. Specifications are finalized by the Standards Committee taking into account the comments.

***Step 4***

The standard is drafted or revised by a Working Group designated by the Standards Committee and in accordance with the specification. The resulting draft standard is submitted to the Standards Committee for review.

***Step 5***

Draft standards approved by the Standards Committee are distributed to Members and RPPOs for consultation (100 days). Comment is by written submission to the Secretariat. Where appropriate, the Standards Committee may establish Open-ended Discussion Groups, as fora for further comment. Comments are summarized by the Secretariat and submitted to the Standards Committee.

***Step 6***

The draft standard is revised by the Secretariat in cooperation with the Standards Committee taking comments into account.

When the SC agrees on a final version of the draft standard it is submitted to the ICPM for adoption.

Based on comments the draft standard may be substantially changed (structurally and/or technically). In these cases the Standards Committee may decide to submit the draft for another round of consultation. In addition, when comments indicate a substantial disagreement over a part

of the draft standard, the Standards Committee should decide whether to submit the draft to another round of consultation, return it to the Expert Working Group for redrafting, or to forward it to the ICPM for its consideration.

*Step 7*

The ISPM is established through formal adoption by the ICPM according to Rule X of the Rules of Procedure of the ICPM.

**Step 8**

The ISPM is reviewed by the specified date or such other date as may be agreed upon by the ICPM.

Circumstances may arise where it would be appropriate to vary this procedure. These circumstances should be brought to the attention of the ICPM as soon as they arise, enabling the ICPM to assess them and to take action accordingly.