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للأمم المتحدة

# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

<b>Tenth Session</b>
<b>Rome, 16-20 March 2015</b>
<b>Recommendations - Proposed recommendation on the importance of pest diagnosis</b>
<b>Agenda item 15</b>
<b>Prepared by the European Union</b>

## I. Background

1. Pest diagnosis is an issue that underpins most IPPC activities, including export certification, import inspections, pest surveillance and eradication programmes. As requested by CPM-9 (2014), the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) discussed strategic issues associated with pest diagnosis in October 2014. The SPG discussed the importance of pest diagnosis and the links with the IPPC's 20 year vision, the Framework for IPPC standards and implementation and the pilot implementation programme which will focus on surveillance.

2. The SPG supported that a CPM Recommendation on the importance of pest diagnosis in underpinning phytosanitary activities be prepared and asked EPPO/EU to prepare the statement for presentation to the CPM, and which could be used to encourage contracting parties to devote appropriate resources to pest diagnostic activities.

3. A proposed draft Recommendation for consultation is included as an Annex 1 to this paper. Elements for the Recommendation could include:

- further investigating how far international standardization could help to contribute to the acceptability of diagnostic services and results, and investigating how pest diagnosis could become a future implementation programme.
- encouraging contracting parties and NPPOs to: develop and maintain adequate management systems, facilities and expertise, share knowledge and expertise, contribute experts to the IPPC and regional standard setting processes and consider strategic needs in taxonomy and classical diagnostic skills.

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- encouraging RPPOs to: develop diagnostic protocols relevant to their region and guidance on laboratory requirements, support knowledge exchange and training, facilitate means of enhancing expertise and capacity in the region for example through development of centres of expertise.
  - encouraging the IPPC Secretariat to: secure funding and develop work on diagnostic support, liaise with RPPOs and research and educational organizations, and publicise developments on the phytosanitary resources pages.
4. During the adoption of the CPM 10 (2015) agenda, the EU intends on adding an item to consider strategic issues associated with pest diagnoses.

## **II. Recommendations for the CPM**

- *Agree to develop a CPM Recommendation on the importance of pest diagnosis following the process agreed to by the CPM.*

**Annex 1****Proposed draft CPM Recommendation on the importance of pest diagnosis****Background**

Pest diagnosis is a cross-cutting issue that underpins most IPPC activities. Contracting parties regularly undertake pest diagnoses, for example to support export certification, import inspections, pest surveillance and eradication programmes.

The results of the general survey of implementation of the Convention and its standards by the IRSS and other IRSS surveys indicate there is a general problem with access to diagnostic support. This undermines the ability of some countries to undertake surveillance, determine pest status, undertake pest risk analysis etc. This is a fundamental issue that countries and the IPPC should address.

In addition to problems within countries, many regions have identified a general trend in reduced expertise in core scientific disciplines, such as the taxonomy of pests, and classical diagnostic skills.

**Recommendation**

The CPM agrees to:

- further investigate how far international standardization could help to contribute to the acceptability of diagnostic services and results, and investigate how pest diagnosis could become a future implementation programme.

The CPM encourages **Contracting Parties and NPPOs** to:

- ensure there are adequate laboratory facilities and expertise to support pest diagnostic activities underpinning phytosanitary activities
- allocate sufficient resources to develop and maintain such capability
- share knowledge and expertise with other countries where possible, for example by making places available on training programmes, opening access to proficiency testing or publicising examples of best laboratory practice
- encourage experts to contribute to the IPPC standard setting processes for DPs
- consider strategic needs for expertise in taxonomy of pests and classical diagnostic skills, and either fund this within the country or, where necessary, pool resources with other countries to ensure sufficient diagnostic capacity and capability is in place to meet future demand.

The CPM encourages **RPPOs** to:

- Develop diagnostic protocols relevant to their region
- Develop or endorse guidance on laboratory requirements for pest diagnosis
- Undertake knowledge exchange and training on diagnostic methods and laboratory capability
- Facilitate other means of enhancing expertise and capacity within the region, such as through staff exchanges, exchange of samples and proficiency testing, mentoring schemes and work shadowing
- Identify and encourage the development of centres of expertise that contracting parties within the region can access.

The CPM encourages **the IPPC Secretariat** to:

- Secure funding for capacity development on diagnostic support and ensure pest diagnosis issues are included in work programmes wherever relevant
- Liaise with RPPOs and research and educational organizations on pest diagnosis issues
- Publicise developments in pest diagnosis and diagnostic protocols on the phytosanitary resources pages.