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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Tenth Session

Rome, 16-20 March 2015

Adoption of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures - Japan's position on use of the voting for adoption of ISPMs and proposal to review the process of standards setting

Agenda item 8.2

Prepared by Japan

English only

CPM-10 (2015)
STATEMENTS FROM JAPAN

Japan's position on use of the voting for adoption of ISPMs and proposal to review the process of standards setting

Agenda

➤ **8.2 Adoption of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures**

Introduction

1. According to the CPM/2015/06 prepared by the IPPC Secretariat, the following one draft ISPM and three draft phytosanitary treatments are presented to the CPM for adoption by vote with no option for formal objections:
 - **CPM 2015/06_01:** Draft ISPM on *Determination of host status of fruit to fruit fly (Tephritidae)* (2006-031)
 - **CPM 2015/06_06:** Draft Annex to ISPM 28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests on regulated articles*) on *Cold treatment for Bactrocera tryoni on Citrus sinensis* (2007-206E)
 - **CPM 2015/06_07:** Draft Annex to ISPM 28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests on regulated articles*) on *Cold treatment for Bactrocera tryoni on Citrus reticulata x C. sinensis* (2007-206F)
 - **CPM 2015/06_08:** Draft Annex to ISPM 28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests on regulated articles*) on *Cold treatment for Bactrocera tryoni on Citrus limon* (2007-206G)

2. The current standard setting procedure (Appendix 5 to CPM-7 (2012) Report) provides an option to adopt standards by vote, with no option of a formal objection in case the draft ISPM was previously subjected to a formal objection.

IPPC Standard Setting Process

Step 7: Adoption

All draft ISPMs presented to the CPM are subject to a formal objection...

If the draft ISPM had been previously included on the agenda of the CPM and was subjected to a formal objection, the SC may decide to forward the draft ISPM to the CPM for a vote with no option for a formal objection.

Issues

3. In many occasions, the view was almost unanimously shared that consensus is always preferred way to adopt standards, and voting should be used only after all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted, as stated in the CPM Rules of Procedure¹.
4. Remembering the discussion on the current standard setting process at the CPM-7 (2012), adoption of standards by vote with no option for a formal objection was introduced in order to avoid continual blocks by formal objections with technical justification².
5. It should be recalled that the concerns were expressed by contracting parties at CPM-9 (2014) on voting on PTs. There have been also voices questioning whether the science-based international standards should be adopted by voting.
6. In addition, it is not clear that all efforts have been made to reach a consensus, including consultations with the technical panel, the SC, and contracting parties involved.
7. With the understanding that the CPM does not have to follow a SC recommendation, the CPM may want to seek any other way than adoption by vote with no option for a formal objection.

Proposal

8. Japan would like to propose the CPM to:
 - i. consider the way to deal with the issue before a vote, and to seek adoption of four standards mentioned above by consensus.
 - ii. request relevant CPM bodies to review the standard setting procedure, and make recommendations to CPM-11 with a draft amendment to the current procedure with a view to clarifying criteria and steps for use of voting for adoption of standards.
 - iii. refrain from using voting for adoption of standards until the above-mentioned review of the standard setting procedure completes.

¹ Rules of Procedure of the Commission on Phytosanitary (adopted at CPM8, 2013)

² CPM-7 Report, Appendix 5