

25 May 2015

## Re: National Reporting Obligations (NROs): a description of the NPPO

Dear IPPC Official Contact Point,

As you will recall, the New Revised Text of the International Plant Protection Convention (1997) established several reporting obligations (NROs) which are the legal responsibility of the contracting parties to the Convention. Central to meeting these NROs are the Official Contact Points (OCPs) designated by the contracting parties – they are responsible for official communication under the Convention, and are in practice responsible for providing reports via the International Phytosanitary Portal – the IPP (<u>https://www.ippc.int/</u>) as agreed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM).

In July 2014, during the first meeting of the National Reporting Obligations Advisory Group (NROAG), it was agreed that every year would be dedicated to a different national reporting obligation. In March 2015 during the CPM-10, it was announced that the period leading up to CPM-11 would become the NRO Year of the "Organization of the NPPO".

Given this context, the IPPC Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind you that contracting parties should at least report on *a description of its official national plant protection organisation* (Art. IV 4 of the IPPC). This can be done by either providing it for the first time on the IPP, or updating the existing record to reflect the current status. You can find further information regarding this national reporting obligation in the April and May 2015 "NROs UPDATE" <u>https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/information-exchange/nro/the-year-of-the-organization-of-the-nppo/</u>

To facilitate this process, the CPM has agreed that meeting NROs *via* the IPP is the preferred method of official reporting under the IPPC. All OCPs, and their appointed IPP editors, have been given rights to upload reports on the IPP. The IPP data entry manual has been prepared by the Secretariat to assist you in reporting issues and is available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish and can be downloaded from the IPPC website: <u>https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/80405/</u>

At the same time, the Secretariat would like to remind you that once your country has uploaded any of the NROs on the IPP, the information should be updated regularly, and in a timely manner, by the contracting party.

We would greatly appreciate your cooperation on updating or meeting this NRO. We will be monitoring progress and provide these updates through the monthly "NRO Update".

In case you experience problems or have queries while uploading the information, please do not hesitate to contact the IPPC Secretariat (David Nowell <u>dave.nowell@fao.org</u> or Dorota Buzon <u>dorota.buzon@fao.org</u>).

Yours faithfully,

Jingyuan Xia Secretary International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

cc: FAO regional and sub-regional technical officers Fedchock, Nowell, Buzon – IPPC Secretariat