Name of Country:\_\_Australia\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Submission form for IPPC standard setting work programme topics**

This completed form must be submitted by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Official Contact Point, preferably in electronic format, to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org) no later than **14 August 2015**. Please use one form per topic. This submission form[[1]](#footnote-1) is also available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP, www.ippc.int).

Save and submit the completed submission form as: 2015\_TOPIC\_SUBMISSION\_Country or organization Name – Proposed title of topic.doc.

Refer to the IPPC Standard Setting Procedure[[2]](#footnote-2) for an explanation of the hierarchy of terms for standards (technical area, topic and subject). The current List of topics for IPPC standards is available on the IPP[[3]](#footnote-3).

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| **Submission form for IPPC standard setting work programme topics** | | |
| **Proposed by:** (Name of IPPC Official Contact Point)[[4]](#footnote-4)  Dr Kim Ritman | | |
| **Contact:** (Contact information of an individual able to clarify issues relating to this submission)  Name: Bruce Hancocks  Position and organization: Assistant Director, Plant Division, Department of Agriculture, Australia  Mailing address: 7 London Cct Canberra City ACT 2615 Australia    Phone: +61 2 62723826 Fax:  E-mail: bruce.hancocks@agriculture.gov.au | | |
| **Type of topic:** (Choose one box only) | | |
| A. New ISPM:  [ X ] Concept  [\_\_] Pest specific  [\_\_] Commodity specific  [\_\_] Reference | B. New component  to an existing ISPM:  [\_\_] Supplement  [\_\_] Annex  [\_\_] Appendix  [\_\_] Technical Panel (technical area)  [\_\_] DP: Diagnostic protocol (subject)  [\_\_] PT: Phytosanitary treatment (topic)  [\_\_] Glossary term (subject) | C. Revision/Amendment of:  [\_\_] ISPM  [\_\_] Supplement  [\_\_] Annex  [\_\_] Appendix  [\_\_] Glossary term |
| **Proposed title of new ISPM or component: PRA for Commodities** | | |
| **Summary justification for the proposal (two sentences maximum):** An overarching commodity standard will provide the guidance on the necessary requirements and criteria for developing and assessing commodity standards. | | |
| Submissions should address the applicable criteria for justification of the proposal (as listed below). Where possible, information in support of the justification and that may assist in the prioritization should be indicated.  **All core criteria must be addressed; supporting criteria should be addressed if applicable.** | | |
| **Core criteria:** | | |
| Contribution to the purpose of the IPPC as described in Article I.1.  This concept standard provides guidance for the development of commodity class standards. In time, specific commodity class standards, for example wooden articles, will be added as an annex to this overarching concept standard, as has been done for ISPM 28 - Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests.  This standard will provide guidance to contracting parties and NPPOs on the identification of critical phytosanitary risk elements that justify development of a commodity class standard, and the criteria for including the commodity class standard in the annex. It will also provide guidance on drafting and approving commodity class standards. | | |
| Feasibility of implementation at the global level (includes ease of implementation, technical complexity, capacity of NPPOs to implement, relevance for more than one region).  This standard will provide the content requirements, procedures and the criteria that all current and future commodity class standards would be assessed against to allow a decision to be made by the Standards Committee as to whether the commodity should progress as an annex or appendix for adoption at CPM. | | |
| Clear identification of the problems that need to be resolved through the development of the standard.  Commodity class standards as International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) have been a recent development in the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). There are now several commodity standards in the drafting or planning stages, including the international movement of wood, cut flowers, wood handicrafts, grain and seeds.  Achieving consensus by contracting parties to the IPPC on what should be included in these standards, or whether they can even be considered standards has been difficult. A formal objection received prior to the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) – 10 (2015) on the draft ISPM on the International movement of wood highlighted this.  CPM10 agreed that there was a need for further discussion and analysis on the concept of a commodity standard. A small expert working group was established and met in July 2015. They were asked to complete the tasks in their terms of reference and produce a report for the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) and Standards Committee (SC). The SC would then provide recommendations to CPM 11 (2016) for consideration.  This standard will help harmonise understanding on the content requirements for commodity class standards. | | |
| Availability of, or possibility to collect, information in support of the proposed standard (e.g. scientific, historical, technical information, experience).  Information to support this proposed standard are the formal objection made on the draft standard for the International movement of wood at CPM 10 and the 2015 report of the expert working group on the concept of a commodity standard. | | |

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| **Supporting criteria (Practical)**   * Feasibility of adopting the proposed standard within a reasonable time frame.   This standard will be easy to adopt as it will aid the call for topic process under a criteria to consider a proposals for new commodity class standards and provide guidance to the Standards Committee.   * Stage of development of the proposed standard (is a standard on the same topic already widely used by NPPOs, RPPOs or a relevant international organization).   There are no standards on this topic already in use.   * Availability of expertise needed to develop the proposed standard.   The expertise required to draft this standard is readily available as it would largely consist of anyone with pest risk analysis experience with commodity classes. |
| **Supporting criteria (Economic)**   * Estimated value of the plants protected. * Estimated value of trade affected by the proposed standard (e.g. volume of trade, value of trade, the percentage of Gross Domestic Product of this trade) if appropriate. * Estimated value of new trade opportunities provided by the approval of the proposed standard. * Potential benefits in terms of pest control or quarantine activities.   The development of this standard will provide indirect economic benefits by providing guidance on the development of commodity class standards that will harmonise phytosanitary measures for trade. |
| **Supporting criteria (Environmental)**   * Utility to reduce the potential negative environmental consequences of certain phytosanitary measures, for example reduction in global emissions for the protection of the ozone layer. * Utility in the management of non indigenous species which are pests of plants (such as some invasive alien species). * Contribution to the protection of the environment, through the protection of wild flora, and their habitats and ecosystems, and of agricultural biodiversity.   The development of this standard will provide indirect environmental benefits by providing guidance on the development of commodity class standards that will harmonise phytosanitary measures that prevent the movement of pests into environmentally sensitive areas. |
| **Supporting criteria (Strategic)**   * Extent of support for the proposed standard (e.g. one or more NPPOs or RPPOs have requested it, or one or more RPPOs have adopted a standard on the same topic).   This is an Australian NPPO proposal.   * Frequency with which the issue addressed by the proposed standard emerges as a source of trade disruption (e.g. disputes or need for repeated bilateral discussions, number of times per year trade is disrupted).   This standard will provide criteria to assess whether there is a need for commodity class standards to provide guidance not provided in existing standards. Commodity class standards can support the harmonisation of phytosanitary measures for trade. For example, the seed industry is strongly supportive of the standard on the international movement of seed to address phytosantary issues specific to seed trade.   * Relevance and utility to developing countries.   This standard will support the development of commodity class standards. Commodity class standards such as the grain standard, have were proposed by developing countries.   * Coverage (application to a wide range of countries/pests/commodities).   An overarching commodity class standard will have a broad range of application.   * Complements other standards (e.g. potential for the standard to be used as part of a systems approach for one pest, complement treatments for other pests).   This standard is consistent with ISPM 27 and ISPM 28 by providing guidance and criteria for annexes under the standard.   * Foundation standards to address fundamental concepts (e.g. treatment efficacy, inspection methodology). * Expected standard longevity (e.g. future trade needs, suggested use of easily outdated technology or products).   It is expected that this standard will require minimal revision as it will not contain information on technology of other information that could outdate.   * Urgent need for the standard.   CPM10 agreed that there was a need for further discussion and analysis on the concept of a commodity standard. A small expert working group was established and met in July 2015. They were asked to complete the tasks in their terms of reference and produce a report for the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) and Standards Committee (SC). The SC would then provide recommendations to CPM 11 (2016) for consideration.  The report from the working group makes it clear that differing positions on a number of issues remain. These include the need for a commodity or a commodity class standard, their particular purpose and whether resources should be directed to the development of standards based on commodity rather than to address a defined phytosanitary risk or harmonise processes for a defined outcome. |
| **Diagnostic protocols are subject to additional criteria. For proposals for DPs, please elaborate on the following criteria to help the future consideration of the subject proposed:**   * Need for international harmonization of the diagnostic techniques for the pest (e.g. due to difficulties in diagnosis or disputes on methodology). * Relevance of the diagnosis to the protection of plants including measures to limit the impact of the pest. * Importance of the plants protected on the global level (e.g. relevant to many countries or of major importance to a few countries). * Volume/importance of trade of the commodity that is subjected to the diagnostic procedures (e.g. relevant to many countries or of major importance to a few countries). * Other criteria for topics as determined by CPM that are relevant to determining priorities. * Balance between pests of importance in different climatic zones (temperate, tropics etc) and commodity classes. * Number of labs undertaking the diagnosis. * Feasibility of production of a protocol, including availability of knowledge and expertise. |

CPM-7 (2012) agreed that all submissions of proposed topics for the IPPC Standard Setting work programme should be accompanied by a draft Specification and a literature review. This provision would not apply to proposals for diagnostic protocols, phytosanitary treatments or glossary terms.

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| **Draft Specification**  (SC approved specifications are posted on the IPP (https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/approved-specifications/) and may be referenced for examples.) |
| **Proposed Title: PRA for Commodities** |
| **Reason for the standard** (justification as to why the standard is needed, some of this can be copied from the above submission):  Commodity class standards are a relatively recent development in the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). There are several commodity standards in the drafting or planning stages, including the international movement of wood, cut flowers, wood handicrafts, grain and seeds. This development has stimulated discussions on what the purpose, status and content of ISPMs should be and whether these commodity class standards should be ISPMs. This came into focus when a formal objection was received prior to the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) – 10 (2015) on the draft ISPM on the International movement of wood. At CPM 10 it was agreed that there was a need to have further in depth discussions and analysis on the concept of a commodity standard.  A commodity class standard should be a means to encapsulate the requirements needed to address a unique phytosanitary risk inherent to the particular commodity class. However, without proper guidance or criteria, if a commodity class represents a phytosanitary risk that is addressed in existing ISPMs, there is the potential for a commodity class standard to be a repetition and citation of requirements from existing standards. An overarching commodity standard will provide the guidance on the necessary requirements and criteria for developing and assessing commodity standards. |
| **Purpose** (explain what issue will be addressed and/or harmonized once this standard is put in place):  This standard is a concept standard and provides guidance for the development of commodity class standards. In time, specific commodity standards, for example wooden articles, will be added as an annex to this overarching concept standard, as has been done for phytosanitary treatments. This is outlined in the following table.  The main purpose of the standard will be to provide guidance to contracting parties and NPPOs on the identification of critical phytosanitary risk elements that justify development of a commodity class standard, and the criteria for including the commodity class standard in the annex section of this concept proposal. It will also provide guidance on drafting and approving commodity class standards.   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Title | Purpose | Status | Annex | Appendix | Support material | | Guidance for development of commodity class standard | Framework and criteria for determining if a commodity class standard is justified | Concept standard | Commodity class standards eg. Cut flowers, wood, wood handicrafts | Interpretation guide and examples | Nil | | Commodity class standards  eg. Cut flowers, wood, wood handicrafts | Standards for managing risks in a defined commodity | Prescriptive | Nil | Case studies or examples | Methods for implementation |   The development of this overarching standard will provide the necessary requirements and content that a commodity class standard should contain. The commodity class would need to demonstrate posing a unique phytosanitary risk that could not be addressed in existing standards, and include harmonised requirements (including treatments and phytosanitary measures). Consequently, where commodity phytosanitary risks are addressed by existing standards, any guidance material could be included as an appendix to the over arching commodity standard.  This differentiation between commodity classes under the standard will help contracting parties understand when a commodity class represents a unique phytosanitary risk that requires harmonised requirements (IPSM or Annex) and where commodity associated risks are already covered by existing standards but useful information could be provided to help contracting parties with implementation (Appendix). Although some commodity classes may not represent a unique pathway, there may still be benefit in providing additional specific guidance information for National Plant Protection Organisation’s (NPPOs) to consider when establishing phytosanitary measures.  The development of commodity class standards under the framework of this standard could potentially minimise SPS disputes between contracting parties due to the adoption of commodity class standards which provide an agreed suite of phytosanitary measures for the particular commodity as an international benchmark for safe trade.  This standard will provide the content requirements, procedures and the criteria that all current and future commodity class standards would be assessed against to allow a decision to be made by the Standards Committee as to whether the commodity should progress as an annex or appendix for adoption at CPM. |
| **Scope** (this provides the boundaries or limits to what the standard should cover):  The standard will apply to commodity classes to identify and assess the associated phytosanitary risks and the development of specific phytosanitary measures or guidance material. |
| **Tasks for the expert drafting group** (this will help direct the work of the experts):  The expert working group should:  1. Consider the report of the expert working group on the concept of a commodity standard.    2. Review adopted ISPMs in the context of guidance already available to identify commodity phytosanitary risk and available phytosanitary measures (including these used by contracting parties).  3. Identify phytosanitary measures currently applied by NPPOs to address phytosanitary risk on a commodity basis.  4. Draft a standard on requirements for developing an overarching concept commodity class standard taking into account at least the following:   1. Critical elements and requirements to be included 2. Factors influencing the development of potential commodity specific annexes or appendixes   5. Identify the critical criteria necessary to assess whether there is a unique phytosanitary risk associated with a particular commodity class.  6. Consider examples of commodity (class) based guidance material currently under development and whether this could be an annex or an appendix to the overarching commodity standard.  7. Consider whether the ISPM could affect in a specific way (positively or negatively) the protection of biodiversity and the environment. If this is the case, the impact should be identified, addressed and clarified in the draft ISPM.  8. Consider implementation of the standard by contracting parties and identify potential operational and technical implementation issues. Provide information and possible recommendations on these issues to the Standards Committee.  9. Recommend, where appropriate, the development of supplementary material to aid implementation by contracting parties. |
| **Expertise** (this will provide the basis for screening nominations):  Experts in phytosanitary regulation of a commodity or commodities according to the risk pathway for quarantine pests and the application of phytosanitary measures. Collectively, the group should have expertise in phytosanitary regulation for a broad range of commodity pathways and the regulation of associated quarantine pests.  1 to 2 industry experts to gain a perspective from relevant industries to ensure the trade environment is accurately considered. |
| **References** (Relevant ISPMs and national, regional or international standards on the same topic and any specific references that would be relevant during drafting):  The IPPC, relevant ISPMs and other national, regional and international standards and agreements as may be applicable to the tasks, and discussion papers submitted in relation to this work. |
| **Literature review** (this section will provide a **summary of the topic** based on scientific and technical publications, including a referenced **listed of literature reviewed.** This will help provide the scientific basis for the content of the standard to be used by the selected experts during the development of the standard): |

**Send submissions to:**

ippc@fao.org (Title message: Call for Topics – 2015)

**Mail:**

IPPC Secretariat (AGDI)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00153 Rome, Italy

1. Link to this submission form on the IPP: https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/calls-topics/ [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Link to the IPPC Standard setting procedure: https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Link to the List of topics for IPPC standards: https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards/ [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Text in brackets () given for explanatory purposes. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)