**APPPC update summary for the 27th TC-RPPOs**

By

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The main activities of APPPC have focussed on the implementation of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM), strengthening information exchange and development of capacities in pest management. At the same time, the member countries have made progress in improving their own plant protection programmes and made organisational changes, issued new laws and regulations, started up new facilities and equipment, established pest free areas, and strengthened their pesticide management.

The 29th Session of APPPC was convened from 7-11 September, 2015 in Bali, Republic of Indonesia. The meeting was attended by delegation from 21 member countries. The meeting reviewed the activities and progress made since the 28th, agreed the work plan and budget for the coming biennium 2016-2017, the Session also adopted the mandatory financial contribution level of each contracting country for 2016-2017.

It was decided that the work relating to implementation of ISPMs would be main context of the work program of the Standing Committee on Plant Quarantine. It was recommended that ISPM6, ISPM12, ISPM31 and ISPM15 would be main focus of selected ISPMs to enhance the implementation of ISPMs.

It was agreed to implement a six year work plan for surveillance with the first year focus of the fundamentals of surveillance systems and management responsibilities of an NPPO in establishing and maintaining plant health surveillance systems and reporting on surveillance systems as well as the second year focus of fundamentals for designing, planning, coordinating and delivering surveillance activities and programs in accordance with ISPM6 and RSPM7; It was proposed to implement a global ePhyto framework into APPPC countries through a pilot project to assist 6 countries to participate in “ePhyto IPPC Hub” pilot project in the next three years. In addition, the APPPC will follow the international developments in work associated with ISPM 15 implementation; It was proposed during 2016-2017 to consider sampling procedures for different consignments (e.g. seed or commodities for consumption). It is expected to identify critical gaps for full implementation of ISPM31 and to propose amendments of ISPM31 in the revision or to build regional standard of sampling methods depending on type of consignment; A regional phytosanitary measures (RSPM) on hot water treatment of mangoes for fruit fly species will be developed.

The 16th APPPC Workshop on the review of draft ISPMs (2015 IPPC Regional Workshop Asia) was held in Jieju, Republic of Korea from 19-23 October 2015 in collaboration with the NPPO of Korea with participation of 20 countries. The regional comments, prepared by the workshop were shared with all NPPO focal points of member countries and all participants immediately through OCS and distribution of the comments. In addition to the review of draft ISPMs, updates and discussions were made on phytosanitary technical resources, the ePhyto programme as well as the registration status of the ISPM15, the international year of plant health, etc. The exercise on National Reporting Obligations (NROs) was conducted by focusing on collection, verification and provision of information.

The feedback on the survey form on surveillance from 15 countries, which were collected prior to the workshop and shared by participating countries at the meeting, indicated that lack of technical capacity and insufficient internal coordination and collaboration are common problem for countries. In addition, in some countries there are separate institutions on plant protection and plant quarantine with various functions. Involvement of research institutes on surveillance and their backstopping services to the NPPO on the surveillance are not sufficient, while lack of funds is common challenge to countries.

To enhance the use of IPP and APPPC website in terms of country obligation of the information exchange, a quarterly based monitoring of country pages were convened and analytical summaries of the results of the monitoring were sent to each country for their review and necessary follow up action.

A serious outbreak of Yellow-Spined Bamboo Locust, *Ceracris kiangsu,* in Luang Prabang Province and Huaphan Province of Laos was reported in 2015. Several invasive alien species were found in some countries eg. Mango cecid fly, *Procantarinia sp*, in Philippines, Mango pulp weevil, *Sternochetus frigidus, in Maslaysia, etc.*

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