



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## IPPC Regional Workshop for the Near East and North Africa Region

14-17 September, 2015

Amman, Jordan



## INTRODUCTION

The 2015 IPPC Regional Workshop for the Near East and North Africa was held on 14-17 September in Amman, Jordan. Forty (40) participants from 14 contracting parties and West Bank and Gaza Strip participated in the workshop. The workshop was organized by the FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa (FAO-RNE), the Jordan Plant Protection Organization and the IPPC Secretariat; and it was funded by FAO-NRE as well as from the IPPC Trust Fund (list of participants Annex 2).

The objectives of the workshop were:

- (1) to learn how to analyse draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and to formulate productive comments using the examples of draft ISPMs for member consultation in 2015;
- (2) to build phytosanitary capacity, raise awareness on all activities related to the IPPC and among others, and updates on ISPM 15 symbol registration, submission of formal objections to standards, WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, International Year of Plant Health and e-Phyto; and
- (3) to exchange experiences at the regional level on surveillance, emerging pests and other issues of joint interest.

## OPENING REMARKS

The workshop was officially opened by the Jordan Ministry of Agriculture, H.E. Dr. Akef Al Zoubi, who mentioned that “the legislation on plant quarantine is continuously modernized in order to upgrade this important sector which is the first line of defense for plant health”. In his allocution, the IPPC Secretary, Mr. Jingyuan Xia indicated the importance of such regional workshop for the IPPC and highlighted that phytosanitary capacity development is essential for the good performance of NPPO activities. Mr. Shoki AlDobai, the Regional Crop Protection Officer for the Near East & North Africa Region, welcomed the participants on behalf of the FAO Assistant Director General and Regional Representative (ADG/RR) for the Near East & North Africa, followed by Mr. Talal Al Fayez and Mr. Nasreddin Al Ameen representing the FAO Jordan Office.

Dr. Mekki Chouibani, Executive Director of NEPPO, made a presentation highlighting the role and history of NEPPO under the framework of the IPPC, as well as the challenges of the Near East Region and the different pest of economic importance to the region and their effect on international trade.

The Workshop was facilitated by the FAO-RNE Regional Crop Protection Officer, Mr. Shoki AlDobai, the Executive Director of the Near East Plant Protection Organization, Mr. Mekki Chouibani and the IPPC Secretariat representative, Ms. Sarah Brunel.

## Programme of the IPPC Regional Workshop and Logistical information

Local and logistical information and other workshop arrangements were presented by Ms. Heba Tokali (Technical Programme Assistant, FAO RNE).

**The programme of the workshop included the below topics** (*See agenda of the workshop in annex 1*)

### 1-IPPC overview presentations

- Introductory presentation on objectives of the workshop
- Update on CPM10 and current projects

## 2-Review and discussion of new draft ISPMs

- Draft ISPM: appendix to ISPM 20 on Arrangements for verification of compliance of consignments by the importing country in the exporting country (2005-003) (Appendix XX)
- Draft ISPM: revisions to ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade) Annex 1 and 2 for inclusion of the phytosanitary treatment Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material (2006-010A) and the revision of the dielectric heating section in Annex 1 of ISPM 15 (2006-010B)

## 3-Discussion on IPPC-related topics

- International Year of Plant Health
- Phytosanitary Resources Page and IPPC technical resources
- E-phyto update
- ISPM 15 Registration: Updated table on situation of countries
- Submission of Formal Objections: Process and justification
- Dispute settlement in the IPPC
- Exercise on National Reporting Obligations (NROs): Collection, verification and provision of information
- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: Update and comments
- Experiences of countries in surveillance
- Pilot program and surveillance, and IPPC surveillance manual

## 4-Emerging pests

- Olive decline disease - *Xylella fastidiosa*
- Aquatic weed - *Pistia stratiotes* – Morocco experience
- Date Palm Green Pit Scale Insect (*Asterolecanium phoenicis*) – Sudan experience

## **Election of the chairpersons and rapporteur**

### **Chairpersons:**

- Ms Fidaa Al Rawabedeh, Head of the NPPO of Jordan, was elected as Chair of the workshop.
- Mr Saad Moussa, Head of Egyptian Plant Quarantine - was elected as Vice-Chair.

### **Rapporteur:**

- Ms Shaza Omar, Phytosanitary Specialist- central administration, was elected as rapporteur of the workshop.

## Draft ISPMs analysis and discussion

A short introduction to the use of Online Commenting System “OCS” was presented by Mr. AlDobai; underlying the main components of the system and the types and categories of comments.

An appendix and two draft annexes were reviewed as follows:

- Appendix to ISPM 20 on Arrangements for verification of compliance of consignments by the importing country in the exporting country (2005-003) (Appendix XX).
- Revisions to ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade) Annex 1 and 2 for inclusion of the phytosanitary treatment Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material (2006-010A) and the revision of the dielectric heating section in Annex 1 of ISPM 15 (2006-010B).

The comments on draft ISPMs were discussed and placed into the Online Comment System (OCS) through the account of the Near East IPPC Workshop. The comments were later verified

and shared through OCS with NEPPPO and all IPPC contact points in NENA countries for their further processing by Mr. Al Dobai.

Before the review of the drafts standards, a brief explanation regarding the differences between what is an annex and what is an appendix in the framework of the International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures was provided By Ms. Brunel.

Agreed comments on each draft ISPMs on the draft Standards imported from the OCS are provided below:

**2005-003: Draft Appendix to ISPM 20 – Arrangements for verification of compliance of consignments by the importing country in the exporting country**

Com m. no.	Par a. no.	Comme nt type	Comment	Explanation	Author	Status
1.	8	Editorial	The arrangement may only include procedures to verify compliance of consignments in line with ISPM 20 ( <i>Guidelines for a phytosanitary import regulatory system</i> ). Consignments should not be subjected to these verification procedures again at the point of entry. <del>However, t</del> he NPPO of the importing country may, <del>however,</del> perform other verification procedures, such as document and identity checks, at the point of entry.	Adds more clarity.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pendi ng
2.	8	Substan tive	The arrangement may only include procedures to verify compliance of consignments in line with ISPM 20 ( <i>Guidelines for a phytosanitary import regulatory system</i> ). Consignments <del>may</del> <del>should</del> not be subjected to these verification procedures again at the point of entry. The NPPO of the importing country may, however, perform other verification procedures, such as document and identity checks, at the point of entry.	The importing country may or may not implement this verification.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pendi ng

3.	9	Substantive		This paragraph is not clear and creates confusion. Information provided is common sense and the paragraph could be removed.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
4.	24	Technical	When an arrangement is in place, minimal <del>of</del> <u>phytosanitary</u> procedures should be carried out upon entry of the consignment in the importing country to verify compliance with phytosanitary import requirements.	Extensive discussions on this article for "'minimal or no procedure'. There should be at least minimum procedures applied at the entry point. Phytosanitary procedures should be included everywhere instead of procedure, consistency across the document needs to be ensured.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
5.	28	Substantive	The arrangement <u>may</u> <del>should</del> be subjected to regular review.	May is a lighter word as this needs to be based by the bilateral agreement.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
6.	32	Technical	The NPPO of the importing country may propose an arrangement to the NPPO of the	More clarification is requested for the word	IPPC Regional Workshop Near	Pending

			exporting country. The proposal should be assessed by the NPPO of the exporting country to determine whether the proposed arrangement would meet the requirements of this appendix. The initiative to establish an arrangement may also come from the NPPO of the exporting country. Regardless of the origin, the proposal may be in response to a need identified by the initiating NPPO or by industry representatives.	"industry" as it is ambiguous and creates confusion.	East**	
7.	64	Editorial	inspection and testing <del>systems</del> regimes of the NPPO of the importing country	It is more relevant technical term	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
8.	76	Editorial	An arrangement should aim for the lowest possible intensity of activities to be carried out by the NPPO of the importing country.	Editorial correction	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
9.	84	Editorial	If the reasons for establishing an arrangement are no longer valid (e.g. because of changes in trade logistics between the two countries) or if the arrangement is no longer needed, the arrangement should be scaled down (and eventually concluded).	Editorial correction	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending

**2006-010A and B: Draft revisions to ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade) - En**

Com m. no.	Par a. no.	Comment type	Comment	Explanation	Author	Status
1.	G	Substantive	<u>- The participants of the workshop appreciated the</u>	Common position on the new	IPPC Regional Workshop	Pending

			<p><u>addition of the new treatments with SF. They requested that further guidelines be developed on the application, procedures, and infrastructures for the use of SF.</u></p> <p><u>- The participants considered that the application of the dielectric treatment with radio frequencies is difficult due to the high cost of the necessary infrastructures for the application of this method and the lack of expertise in most countries of the region.</u></p>	proposed treatments and request for assistance/guidance in application of SF treatment.	Near East**	
2.	11	Editorial	For methyl bromide and sulphuryl fluoride treatments, the removal of bark must be carried out before treatment as the presence of bark on the wood may affect treatment efficacy. For heat treatment, the removal of bark may be carried out before or after treatment. When a dimension limitation is specified for a certain type of heat treatment (e.g. dielectric heating), any bark must be included in the dimension measurement.	Plural for treatment	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
3.	67	Editorial	The fumigation of wood packaging material with sulphuryl fluoride must be in accordance with a schedule that achieves the minimum	remove space after reached	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending



			concentration- time product (CT) in the ambient atmosphere over 24 or 48 hours at the temperature and final residual concentration specified in Table 3. Small increases in the treatment time (e.g. – 1-2 hours) may be permitted to achieve the required CT if the minimum final concentration is not reached. The minimum temperature of the wood must be not less than 20 °C and the minimum exposure time must be not less than the time stated for each temperature.			
4.	73	Editorial	# NA: <del>N</del> ot applicable.	Editorial remark to avoid confusion of using coma.	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
5.	75	Editorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fans are used as appropriate during the gas distribution phase of fumigation to ensure equilibrium is reached and positioned to make certain <u>that</u> the fumigant is rapidly and effectively distributed throughout the fumigation enclosure (preferably within the first hour of application).</li> </ul>	Editorial	IPPC Regional Workshop Near East**	Pending
6.	86	Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Instruments used</u></li> </ul>	There	IPPC	Pending



			<p><u>for measuring sulphuryl fluoride may be affected by altitude, water vapour, carbon dioxide or temperature. These instruments need to be calibrated specifically for sulphuryl fluoride.</u></p>	<p>should be a recommendation on the periodicity of the calibration.</p>	<p>Regional Workshop Near East**</p>	<p>ng</p>
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**IPPC-related topics**

**International Year of Plant Health**

The Secretariat indicated that during CPM-9 (2014), Finland proposed to have 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health. The Secretariat highlighted the specific objectives of the International Year of Plant Health:

- a. Raising the awareness of the public and political decision makers on global, regional and national levels about plant health and its contributions;
- b. Promoting strengthening of global, regional and national plant health efforts in light of increasing trade and new pest risks caused through climate change;
- c. Rallying global, regional and national political support for plant health;
- d. Increasing global, regional and national resources for plant health policies and systems.

The major activities could be undertaken at international, regional and national. Mr. Xia insisted on the necessity for countries to get involved and voice their interest.

**Phytosanitary Resources Page and IPPC technical resources**

The Secretariat presented the content of the Phytosanitary resource page and on how to access different resources and latest updates. It was indicated that both IPPC technical resources and contributed resources can be freely consulted: manuals, awareness raising materials, PRA e-learning tool, etc. It was also mentioned that a data bases of projects, events and experts was available. An exercise was conducted to guide the participant in understanding the types of documents available on the page and examining a resource to understand how it can be useful in daily work.

The Secretariat encouraged participants to consult the page frequently, to provide feedback on the resources available, as well as to contribute resources that would be assessed against criteria by the Capacity Development Committee and posted on the page if they were retained.

**E-phyto update**

An update on the E-phyto project, fully supported by the CPM, as well as its content was delivered by the Secretariat. It was clarified that that the electronic certificate is a secured data set using XML for safe electronic transmission between an exporting and an importing NPPO. An electronic phytosanitary certificate is the equivalent of a paper PC, but not a copy of it. The presentation also highlighted the benefits of the system.

NEPPO emphasized the importance of having a representative of the Near East in the ePhyto Steering Group (ESG). The representative of Tunisia stated that they started to apply the single window, but were facing a lot of challenges.

Discussions followed on the application of such electronic system at the national levels. Egypt shared some information about a pilot project for a system resembling the e-phyto was between Egypt and Italy for certain commodity. In light of this experience, the participants supported Egypt to present the region in the IPPC ePhyto Steering Group (ESG).

### **ISPM 15 Registration: Updated table on situation of countries**

The Secretariat provided a brief statement on the registration of the ISPM 15 symbol, and noted that 17 countries of the region should be registered by 2017. It was unclear for the participants in which countries the symbol was registered, its cost, and the validity of the symbol. An official letter should have been sent or will be sent from the IPPC Secretariat to the Ministries of the countries of the regions to highlight the status of the symbol in these countries. The participants requested to receive the list of all countries with the status of registration.

The participants also noted that they face challenges in the application of the treatments stated in the annex, and the proposal of the new treatment in the discussed draft shall also add in the burdens of applying the treatments.

### **Submission of Formal Objections: Process and justification**

A presentation on formal objections and means to avoid them was delivered by the Secretariat. As two draft standards faced formal objection in the 2014 CPM, the purpose of the presentation was to raise the awareness of the participants on how to contribute in the elaboration of a draft standard so as to avoid the formal objection of a draft standard prior to its adoption. It was highlighted that a formal objection should only be used in extreme cases.

### **Dispute settlement in the IPPC**

The Secretariat presented the IPPC Dispute Avoidance and Settlement System. The presentation included means of dispute avoidance, dispute resolution and reasons for disagreement. The IPPC provides an IPPC dispute avoidance and dispute settlement system (DASS) to support contracting parties in resolving phytosanitary disputes.

### **Exercise on National Reporting Obligations (NROs): Collection, verification and provision of information**

Participants were invited to access the page of their countries' contact point on the IPPC portal and demonstrate the data that is uploaded on their pages (see Fig. 1).



Fig.1 National Reporting Obligations categories on the IPPC

The participants were asked about whether they needed additional information and the reason why they did not provide all NROs. Overall, the national reporting obligations of the participants were not adequately met. However, most of the contact points of the NENA countries were up to date as well as their contact information.

**Table 1: Report and inquiries from countries: the following table includes the updates and comments of the participating countries to their National Reporting Obligations**

Country	NROs “Updates and comments”
Egypt	- Inquiry regarding the rationale for phyto- requirements: is it PRA? - Difficulty in pest status, delegate the work to other institutes, now in process of formulating a NPPO. - Data regarding entry points shall be provided.
Yemen	The list of regulated pests shall be posted.
UAE	An editor would be appointed to post all reports.
Mauritania	Need to update the name of the contact point and update data.
Morocco	All requested information is available on the website of the NPPO (ONSSA). The secretariat stressed that different categories of the reporting obligation should be filled on the IPP.
Tunisia	Faced a problem with logins, while all information is available.
Syria	The current unstable situation does not allow a stable workflow
Sudan	An editor shall be appointed to fill in the information
Saudi Arabia	The participants were informed that a new law shall enter into force and will establish a new reform.
Palestine	Considering the current situation of the territory, information is not provided on the IPP.
Oman	Difficulties in posting information were reported and technical assistance was required.
Libya	The current situation in Libya is not stable hindering the active role of the contact point. Technical assistance was required.
Lebanon	The representative of Lebanon would report the need to the country contact point.
Jordan	Some of the categories report information and additional NROs shall be added later.
Yemen	Asked for a technical assistance for posting the required information.

### **WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: Update and comments**

The Secretariat delivered an update on the WTO Trade facilitation Agreement. The presentation emphasized the relationship between the TFA and the SPS, current status of the TFA and recommendation to member countries on how to address the situation. The contact page of the agreement was displayed and the Secretariat recommended that countries should approach and discuss the activities that are undertaken under the TFA with customs and the contacts provided. NPPOs raised their concerns concerning this agreement. NEPPO suggested that the Secretariat may send a formal letter to countries as a follow up on this topic.

## **Experiences of countries in surveillance**

NEPPO delivered a presentation on the results of the questionnaire on the implementation of ISPM 6 in North Africa and the Near East.

Participants were invited to share their country experiences on surveillance.

### **Egypt: Shaza Omar, Phytosanitary Specialist Egyptian Plant Quarantine**

The surveillance activities in Egypt are conducted by agreement between the Egyptian plant quarantine which is considered the *de facto* the NPPO, and the research institutes. It was highlighted that conducting surveillance was not based on systematic planning. The current surveillance programs are organized on *Bactrocera* spp., *Rhyncophorus ferrugineus* and *Monilinia fruticola*.

### **Saudi Arabia: AbdulAziz Al-Sharidi, Agricultural Specialist Deputy Director General Plant Protection Directorate - Ministry of Agriculture**

Saudi Arabia does not have a surveillance program in place. The on-going projects in Saudi Arabia are control programme of *Tuta absoluta* and *Rhyncophorus ferrugineus* and both include surveys. The projects include integrated pest management programs with assistance from FAO on biological control.

### **Morocco: Salah Ritoune, Head of Plant Protection Service - Office National De Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits Alimentaires (ONSSA)**

There are strategic surveillance programmes on certain pests in Morocco:

- *Rhyncophorus ferrugineus* is under official surveillance and control programme, it was recorded in 2008 and is contained in a limited area of Tangier;
- Citrus tristeza virus (CTV) present in North Morocco;
- *Erwinia amylovora*; and
- *Tuta absoluta* that entered Moroccan territories in 2008.

### **Oman: Sulaiman Al-Toubi, Director of Plant Quarantine Department Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries**

The responsibilities of the department include: conducting pest risk analysis, periodical revision to measures to ensure harmonization with phytosanitary standards and coordinating with relevant authorities in conducting surveillance.

### **Palestine: Shadi Darwish, Director of Plant Quarantine & Phytosanitary Measures General Directorate of Plant Protection & Inspection Services (PPIS) Ministry of Agriculture**

The Plant Protection and Inspection Services (PPIS) of the Ministry of Agriculture is the responsible authority for the plant protection issues as well as for the export and import of the agriculture produce. The current duties of the (PPIS) include surveillance of growing plants. The pests under surveillance are *Rhyncophorus ferrugineus*, *Bactrocera zonata* and *Liriomyza sativae*.

### **Sudan: Fadel Hussain ElShaikh, Director of Plant Protection Directorate Plant Protection Directorate**

The scope of work on surveillance of the plant quarantine includes *Rhyncophorus ferrugineus* and *Tuta absoluta* (surveillance, control and trapping).

### **Tunis: Fethia Hellali, Subdirector of Phytosanitary Control General Directorate of Plant Protection and Quality Control of Agricultural Product**

The General Directorate of Phytosanitary Control is responsible for conducting surveillance. The current ongoing extensive surveillance program is on *Xylella fastidiosa* which includes public

and private sector involvement. Tunisia is one of the major exporter of olives seedlings from Italy and initiated the surveillance program after the outbreak in Italy and suspended exports.

**Jordan: Fida'a Ali Al-Rawabdeh - Director of Plant Protection & Phytosanitary Directorate  
Ministry of Agriculture - IPPC Jordanian Contact Point**

There is no strategic planning for surveillance. Ms. Fidaa highlighted that the decisions are taken according to the case and potential spread of pests as for *Xylella fastidiosa*. In this case, trade was suspended and surveillance and monitoring programs were conducted to ensure that the disease is not spread.

**Libya: Ali Amin Ahmed Kafu Researcher Entomologist - National Center for Plant Protection  
and Plant Quarantine**

There is a current surveillance programme in association with the FAORNE, but due to the current unstable situation in Libya, the programme is postponed.

**Lebanon: Georges Saad, Head of Plant Quarantine Center/Beirut Port Ministry of  
Agriculture**

The NPPO is responsible for surveillance and surveys are conducted on pests of stone fruits, citrus, potatoes.

**Yemen: Gamil Anwar Mohammed Ramadhan, Director of Plant Quarantine IPPC Contact  
Point, SC & SC7 member General Directorate of Plant Protection Plant Quarantines  
Department**

Enhancing surveillance is very important to Yemen currently in terms of training of staff. FAO assistance was provided through a surveillance programme launched in 2012 which is on hold due to the current political situation.

## Emerging pests

**Olive decline disease - *Xylella fastidiosa* by: Luigi Catalano – Agronomist - Agrimeca  
Grape and Fruit Consulting National Coordinator – CIVI-Italia Bari, Italy**

The presentation underlined the situation of *Xylella fastidiosa* in the Apuglia region in Italy, which is determined as representing a serious threat to the countries of the Mediterranean region.

The history of the invasion was detailed, the symptoms were illustrated, the transmission through insect vectors that have sucking-piercing mouth-parts and feed on xylem sap mainly belongs to family Cicadellidae and called “sharpshooters” was explained. The ecology and feeding preference of the vector was also presented.

Different strains of *X. fastidiosa* have shown large variability in terms of disease epidemiology, host range, virulence, optimum growth conditions, and genetic make-up.

The control of *X. fastidiosa* in countries of origins (the Americas) has proved to show low efficiency after the pathogen establishment. Authorities therefore rely mainly on preventive actions and in applying internal quarantine measures, in addition to eradication programmes in case of recent and limited introduction. Control programmes usually depend on eradication of possible hosts and the control of vector populations. As the host range is very wide, and as many polyphagous vectors were identified, eradication programmes are successful only in limited cases.

The presentation is available on the IPP.

**Aquatic weed - *Pistia stratiotes* – Morocco experience Presentation by : Rachida Drissi El Bouzaidi Sanitary and Food Safety National Office (ONSSA)**

The presentation provided a general overview on *Pistia stratiotes* L and the situation in Morocco. This aquatic plant has serious impacts: it prevents sunlight to reach the water; the causing loss of biodiversity in invaded habitats, it serves as a breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes and is an obstacle to fishing activities.

The management measures taken by ONSSA were presented, and included physical control, monitoring and evaluation of the release of biocontrol agents.

The first measures deployed are summed up in:

- Delimitation of the physical area affected by invasive plant;
- Installation of two mesh downstream of the affected area by the Sebou Basin hydraulics Agency to limit its spread;
- Mechanical control by a shovel from the bank of the river according to the accessibility and reach of the excavator; and
- Manual collecting of plants and depositing along for drying.

The presentation is available on the IPP.

**Date Palm Green Pit Scale Insect (*Asterolecanium phoenicis*) – Sudan experience presentation by: Mahdi Abdelrhman Ahmed Mohamed Director, Shambat Research Station IPM Entomologist Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC) Shambat Research Station Khartoum, Sudan**

The presentation highlighted the importance of the date palm production in Sudan and its deterioration in the last years as a result of biotic and abiotic factors, including the Green Pit Scale. The Green Date Palm Insect appeared in Golid area in 1974. No appropriate control measures were taken against it, therefore, the infestation steadily increased by the years. In 2000, an integrated pest management (IPM) program was conducted initiating with cultural or sanitary practices, supplied with chemical control using systematic pesticides. A large scale experiment was conducted in Elgaba (April-June 2004) and resulted in the treatment of 200,000 palm trees and excellent results were obtained. The Plant Protection Directorate conducted a comprehensive program during 2008-2014 in six different locations in Sudan. Resistant varieties were also introduced after research had been conducted on this issue. Integrated Pest Management program also included the control through bio-control agent.

The presentation is available on the IPP.

## Challenges and Recommendation

**Challenges: the following challenges were identified by the countries of the region:**

- Lack of awareness on plant health within countries
- No understanding by decision makers and officials of the purpose of the workshops and meetings held by IPPC and other regional entities leading to improper nominations
- Difficulty in building long term and sustainable knowledge and capacities within NPPOs (problem of turnover of staff)
- Deficiency in ability to enter NROs
- Lack of coordination among countries and exchange of information
- Climate change as a challenge

**Recommendations:**

- Gender aspects should be reflected within the topics of the International Year of Plant Health in 2020 and within all cross cutting issues
- Countries should prepare for the International Year of Plant Health in 2020.
- Communication material should be prepared (videos, brochures, etc.) to raise awareness.
- Continue IPPC regional workshop and regional meetings
- Continue raising awareness on new standards to all NPPOs (leaflet, brochures, etc.)
- Send formal letter periodically to decision makers for nominating experts to the IPPC to contribute to IPPC activities
- The countries are encouraged to share the CVs of national experts with the IPPC Secretariat through the phytosanitary page to be involved in different expert panels and expert working groups (e-phyto, CDC)
- Egypt is a good candidate to represent the region in the IPPC ePhyto Steering Group (ESG).
- Emphasize the need on continuity of organizing emerging pests sessions in the IPPC regional workshop at the regional and global level.
- Improve the provision of NROs on the IPP (training, tutorial, etc.)
- Create a network for exchanging information among Mediterranean countries, an alert system.
- Organize a workshop on invasive alien aquatic plants
- Raise awareness on the impacts of climate change on plant health.

**Emerging pest session – Recommendations**

- Address regionally *Xylella fastidiosa*
- A symposium to be organized on the possible management measures on *Xylella fastidiosa* including south European countries
- Preparing contingency plans on *Xylella fastidiosa*
- Available information on *Xylella fastidiosa* to be spread to the participants.



# IPPC Regional Workshop for the Near East and North Africa Region

**14-17 September, 2015  
Amman, Jordan**

## Agenda

Monday 14 September 2015		
Morning Session: 9:00 – 13:00		
Time		Facilitator
8:00-9:00	<b>Registration of the participants</b>	
9:00 -9:30	<b>Opening of the session</b> - Welcoming remarks of the organizer of the workshop (FAO RNE) - Opening statement of the IPPC Secretary - Opening statement of FAO Representative in Jordan - Opening statement of HE Dr. Akef Al Zoubi, Minister of Agriculture in Jordan	
9:30-10:00	- Introductory presentation on objectives of the workshop - Update on CPM10 and current projects	IPPC Secretariat
	- NEPPO Presentation and updates	NEPPO Executive Director
10:00– 10:30	<b>Group photo</b> <b>Coffee break</b>	
10:30-10:40	Local and logistical information and arrangements - election of chair - election of rapporteur - adoption of agenda	
10:40-11:00	Short introduction to the use of OCS	RNE/IPPC Secretariat
Analysis and discussion on draft ISPMs		
11:00-13:00	- Draft ISPM: appendix to ISPM 20 on Arrangements for verification of compliance of consignments by the importing country in the exporting country (2005-003) (Appendix XX)	RNE/IPPC Secretariat
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch break</b>	
Afternoon Session: 14:00 – 17:00		
14:00-15:30	<b>Continue:</b> Draft ISPM: appendix to ISPM 20 on Arrangements for verification of compliance of consignments by the importing country in the exporting country (2005-003) (Appendix XX)	RNE/IPPC Secretariat
15:30-15:45	<b>Coffee break</b>	
15:45-17:00	- Draft ISPM: revisions to ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade) Annex 1 and 2 for inclusion of the phytosanitary treatment Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material (2006-010A) and the revision of the dielectric heating section in Annex 1 of ISPM 15 (2006-010B)	RNE/IPPC Secretariat

<b>Tuesday 15 September 2015</b>		
<b>9:00-9:30</b>	International Year of Plant Health	IPPC Secretariat
<b>9:30-11:00</b>	- Continue: Draft ISPM: revisions to ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade) Annex 1 and 2 for inclusion of the phytosanitary treatment Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material (2006-010A) and the revision of the dielectric heating section in Annex 1 of ISPM 15 (2006-010B)	RNE/IPPC Secretariat
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>11:30-13:00</b>	Continue: Draft ISPM: revisions to ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade) Annex 1 and 2 for inclusion of the phytosanitary treatment Sulphuryl fluoride fumigation of wood packaging material (2006-010A) and the revision of the dielectric heating section in Annex 1 of ISPM 15 (2006-010B)	RNE/IPPC Secretariat
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	
<b>Discussion on IPPC-related topics</b>		
<b>14:00-15:00</b>	Phytosanitary Resources Page and IPPC technical resources	IPPC Secretariat
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	E-phyto update	IPPC Secretariat
<b>15:30-15:45</b>	Coffee break	
<b>15:45-16:00</b>	ISPM 15 Registration: Updated table on situation of countries.	IPPC Secretariat
<b>16:00-17:00</b>	Submission of Formal Objections: Process and justification	IPPC Secretariat
<b>17:00-17:30</b>	Dispute settlement in the IPPC	IPPC Secretariat
<b>Wednesday 16 September 2014</b>		
<b>Exercise on National Reporting Obligations</b>		
<b>9:00-10:00</b>	Exercise on National Reporting Obligations(NROs): Collection, verification and provision of information	IPPC Secretariat/Participants
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>11:30-12:30</b>	<b>Continue:</b> Exercise on NROs	IPPC Secretariat/Participants
<b>12:30-13:00</b>	WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: Update and comments	
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	
<b>14:00-15:30</b>	Experiences of countries in surveillance	Participants
<b>15:30-15:45</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>15:45-16:15</b>	Pilot program and surveillance, and IPPC surveillance manual	IPPC Secretariat
<b>16:15-16:45</b>	Online evaluation survey of the workshop <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/regional_ippc_workshops_2015">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/regional_ippc_workshops_2015</a>	
<b>16:45-17:00</b>	Recommendations from Contracting Parties and RPPOs to the IPPC Secretariat	
<b>17:00-17:30</b>	<b>Adoption of the report</b>	

<b>Thursday 17 September 2015</b>		
<b>Emerging pests:</b>		
<b>09:00-10:00</b>	Olive decline disease - <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>	Mr. Luigi Catalano
<b>10:00-10:20</b>	<i>Discussion</i>	
<b>10:20-10:50</b>	Aquatic weed - <i>Pistia stratiotes</i> – Morocco experience	Ms. Rachida El Bouzaidi
<b>10:50-11:00</b>	<i>Discussion</i>	
<b>11:00-11:20</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>11:20-12:00</b>	Date Palm Green Pit Scale Insect ( <i>Asterolecanium phoenicis</i> ) – Sudan experience	Mr. Mahdi A. Mohamed
<b>12:00-12:20</b>	<i>Discussion</i>	
<b>12:20-14:00</b>	Countries experiences on implementing ISPM 15 (registration, use of treatments, operation system)	
<b>14:00</b>	<b>Closing and lunch</b>	

# IPPC Regional Workshop for the Near East and North Africa Region

14-17 September, 2015

Amman, Jordan

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