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منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Eleventh Session
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Report on Implementation, Review and Support System (IRSS)
Agenda item 10.3
Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat

1.   The Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) has integrated work activities within both the implementation pilot project on surveillance and the work programme of the IPPC Secretariat focusing on challenges and opportunities of contracting parties' implementation of the Convention and International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs).

2.   The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) in its tenth session (CPM-10)[1] requested the IPPC Secretariat to integrate the IRSS project further into the implementation pilot project on surveillance and the IPPC work programme. The Secretariat has worked on this over the year and analyzed the ways that it can support implementation within the IPPC work programme, the Convention and the ISPMs, as well as specifically for the implementation pilot.

3.   To facilitate the IRSS work activities a consultant was hired at the beginning of 2015 and will continue to work until the end of its second cycle in April 2017.

4.   The IRSS is a mechanism to:

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- provide key strategic and analytical support to various IPPC Secretariat Units and the implementation pilot work plan activities;
- conduct case studies on emerging issues related to thematic areas such as food security, climate change, trade facilitation, among others;
- define the future implementation priorities through a prioritization methodology to be tested during the implementation pilot project on surveillance;
- provide support and assistance to contracting parties seeking help in implementation of the Convention and ISPMs, through management of the IRSS Help desk.

5.   The actions of the IRSS across the Secretariat and in support of the implementation pilot project on surveillance for the remainder of the second cycle (until April 2017) are outlined in the general categories below, sub-bullets are the activities that have been initiated:

- Establishment of a monitoring and evaluation framework to allow for responsiveness and continuous improvement in the pilot project on surveillance as well as the IPPC implementation facilitation programme:

    o   The IPPC Secretariat through the IRSS programme participated with other FAO technical units (IPPC, FAO Food Safety (AGDF), Animal Health (AGAH) and Fisheries (FIPM)) foresight meeting to work towards developing methodologies to identify emerging issues and their impacts, and explore potential strategies to mitigate associated risk, thus enhancing organization foresight.

- Development of indicators to measure the success of the implementation pilot project on surveillance and broader implementation issues of the IPPC and ISPMs:

    o   The IPPC Secretariat through the IRSS programme participated in the Ad Hoc Technical Group Meeting (AHTEG) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to ascertain synergies between CBD's strategic plan and IPPC's strategic objectives to identify relevant environmental protection and biodiversity related indicators that can be used by IPPC's contracting parties to measure implementation in these areas. This is a preparatory activity for more specific work on monitoring and evaluation.

- Desk studies: As agreed at CPM-10, the IRSS would conduct case studies, preparation of technical papers among other products as well as make key contributions to the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) and the corresponding IPPC flagship publication on the State of Plant Health in the World (expected publication in 2020). Desk studies on emerging plant protection issues and other necessary IRSS studies that are under preparation in 2015 include:

    o   Diversion from Intended Use by IPPC contracting parties
    o   Finalization of the review of the Application of Equivalence of pest risk management measures
    o   A study on the review and evaluation of biosecurity approaches being applied in various countries; this work is being undertaken in collaboration with the FAO Food Safety Capacity Development team (AGDF) and Animal Health (AGAH) Department as part of its Strategic Objective 4 work programme. This work will help in understanding future challenges that contracting parties may face to manage phytosanitary activities in the face of changing circumstances particularly the implementation of new agreements such as those that may be brought about by the ratification of the World Trade Organization agreement on trade facilitation.

- o The IPPC Secretariat through the IRSS programme participated in a United Nations ECE Conference on Traceability of Agricultural Produce working towards achieving harmonization in agricultural produce traceability systems; this will potentially link with future IPPC work on the topic, already being considered by the Standards Committee and other work areas.

- IRSS Help desk functionality:

  - o The IPPC Secretariat through the IRSS programme has analyzed the current use of the IRSS Help desk and related implementation as well ascapacity development online resources and tools to work towards enhancing contracting party user experience.

- IPPC Recommendations: There is a need to analyze further CPM-9 (2014) recommendations on the IPPC Coverage of Aquatic Plants[2] and the Internet Trade (eCommerce) in Plants and other Regulated Articles[3] as well as other IPPC recommendations that may have implications for implementation facilitation. This work will be further developed under the appropriate oversight framework established by CPM for implementation activities.

6.   The CPM is requested to:

1) *note* the 2015 IRSS work activities that will contribute to the success of the implementation pilot project on surveillance and the IPPC work programme.

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[2] https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/governance/cpm-recommendations/ippc-aquatic-plants/
[3] https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/governance/cpm-recommendations/ippc-aquatic-plants-trade-commerce/