**What is the OCS?**

The OCS, or Online Comment System, is an online tool that IPPC contracting parties and relevant international organizations can use to insert, share, and submit their comments in a safe and secure online environment. The OCS enables to compile comments with the click of a button and provide data for analysis in a more efficient manner.

**Who can use it?**

The OCS can be used by NPPOs, RPPOs and relevant international organizations having an IPPC contact point.

**What are the benefits?**

The OCS ensures confidentiality and safe submission of comments by the IPPC Official Contact Points. It implements a common commenting format and it facilitates inclusivity in the IPPC standard setting process being an efficient, user-friendly and accurate system. Finally, it accelerates and simplifies the compilation process while significantly reducing human error.

**How can I login?**

You can access the OCS through all major browsers and devices. In order to log in, IPPC Contact Points must possess a Username and Password that have been assigned by the IPPC Secretariat. Once the Username and Password are received via email, visit <https://ocs-new.ippc.int/> and insert your log in information. In order to prevent OCS emails from entering junk or spam folder, please add the OCS email address into your email address book.

[**I have not yet received my username and password for the OCS. Can you please send it to me?**](https://www.ippc.int/en/faq/#OcsUsernamePassword)

The IPPC Secretariat only manages OCS user accounts for the IPPC Contact Points. Your Contact Point has already received his/her username and password and can create a user account for you. Please request an account from your Contact Point. Each NPPO has up to five licenses: one (mandatory) “power license” per each contact point; one (optional) “power license” for an OCS Deputy; up to three (optional) “standard licenses” for reviewers.

[**I can't remember my password. Can you please send it to me?**](https://www.ippc.int/en/faq/#OcsForgotUsernamePassword)

If you are already an OCS user and have forgotten your password, please go to <https://ocs-new.ippc.int/> and click on **"Reset password"**. Enter your email address in the field and click **"Send Email"**. You will receive an email with a link to reset your password.

Note that some email systems may consider messages from the IPPC OCS (IPPC-OCS@fao.org) as spam. If you do not receive the login information please check your email software’s spam folder.

**What are the comment categories in the OCS?**

The classification of comments and their definitions are below:

⋅ EDITORIAL: This type of comment clarifies or simplifies the text without changing the meaning. This includes spelling or grammatical corrections, suggestions of different but equivalent words, and simplification of sentence structure.

⋅ SUBSTANTIVE: This type of comment takes into account conceptual changes and the addition of new aspects or ideas. This class of comments contains additions or extensions as well as changes, reorganization of the text or deletions resulting in alteration of the content of a sentence / paragraph / section of the draft. It is that this point is addressed in the revision process in some way.

⋅ TECHNICAL: This type of comment takes into account scientific corrections and technical adjustments. It aims at further clarification and improvement of the standard and sometimes at conformity with other standards from the technical viewpoint. These comments are incorporated unless there is disagreement or some misunderstanding.

⋅ TRANSLATION: This type of comment corrects points that are considered to be inaccurately translated into another language version of the text.

General comments can also be sent to comment on the draft document overall.

[**Where**](https://www.ippc.int/en/faq/#OcsTechSupport) **can I find help?**

Either go to the OCS at <https://ocs-new.ippc.int/> and click on Contact Us: here at the bottom of the page or send an email to IPPC-OCS@fao.org. More information about the OCS is also available on the OCS resource page on the IPP at <https://www.ippc.int/en/online-comment-system/>, where you can access the [OCS User Manual](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/codexalimentarius/doc/OCS/Codex_OCS_UserManual_Summary_2016-06-16.pdf) and other training material.