



**Colonia del Sacramento
Uruguay
26 - 30 August 2013**

**Report of the Twenty-Fifth
Technical Consultation
among Regional Plant
Protection Organizations**



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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Note: The papers and Power Point presentations presented at the 25th Technical Consultation among RPPOs are available on the IPPC Website

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opening of the Twenty-Fifth Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations

The meeting was officially opened by Mr. Inocencio Bertoni, Head of the Uruguayan NPPO. He welcomed the participants who were attending the meeting and provided an oversight of the situation of agricultural production in Uruguay, highlighting the importance for the country, as an active agricultural exporter, to participate in international fora, as the Technical Consultation (TC) and the IPPC.

He recognized the importance of phytosanitary issues in market access negotiations and wished a fruitful meeting to the participants.

The COSAVE President, Mrs. Maria Ines Ares, welcomed the participants on behalf of the hosting RPPO and remarked the importance for the RPPO to host this TC, taking into accounts its objectives in promoting regional cooperation.

She encouraged all RPPOs to continue working and interacting, not only through this annual consultation, and expressed the commitment to work hard in order to achieve an effective exchange of information, under the understanding that implementation of ISPMNs at a global level is needed and unfortunately every day there are examples in contrary.

In this sense, she informed that COSAVE, jointly with OIRSA and NAPPO has reactivated the Interamerican Group on Coordination in Plant Health, created more than 20 years ago, with an ambitious work plan with the objective of coordinating amongst all RPPOs of the Americas.

The representative of the IPPC Secretariat relayed the congratulations of the IPPC Secretary, Mr. Yukio Yokoi to the participants and organizers for the 25 successful years of TC meetings and thanked COSAVE, for their efforts in the organization of this second TC in South America. Appendix VI provides the attendance list for this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur

The meeting elected Mrs. Maria Ines Ares, COSAVE President as the Chairperson and Mr. Jimmy Ruiz Blanco (OIRSA), as the Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Josua Wainiqolo, (PPPO) and Mr. Ian Mc. Donnell (NAPPO) were elected as Rapporteurs.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was as agreed during CPM-8 and discussed by mail by the RPPOs. The agenda was adopted as per Appendix I, including modifications of item 12.

It was noted that the report would include the reports from each region in an appendix, while the presentations would be posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) in the Technical Consultation's area.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Matters arising from the 24th Technical Consultation (including post meeting networking and cooperation / Follow up on impacts of the decisions of the 24th TC RPPOs)

Issues arising from the 24thTC were considered under other agenda points. One item arising from the 24th TC was discussed:

Feasibility to draw up list of priority pests (National, Regional, Global and under which modalities)

Last year the TC had different views on the issue and asked for more time to consult members of their regions on this issue. The consultation should focus on quarantine pests and the availability of lists in the regions. RPPOs assumed the commitment to provide updated information on this issue during the current TC.

This year, some RPPOs expressed their opinion on the impossibility to build up these lists. Other RPPOs supported the idea, and finally some asked for more time to consider the issue.

Key recommendations agreed included:

- To think more strategically about these lists
- To study the high priority regulated pests considering cultivated area, volume, and value for the host commodity
- To think about global/regional protection when establishing these lists.

After extensive discussion, the TC agreed:

To include this issue in the agenda for next TC for further consideration.

Follow up on impacts of the 24th Technical Consultation

As established in the Agenda, the TC analyzed the impacts of discussions and agreements during the previous TC. In the future, this is going to be a standing issue in the agenda and a table on impacts is going to be compiled from this year on.

Meeting or activity	Identified impact
Bureau	Strategic decisions on diagnostic protocols, RPPO recognition, how to deal with NROs, studying the feasibility to draw up lists of priority pests Issues to be addressed in the scientific session of CPM
CPM 8	Scientific session on Probit 9 treatments Decisions on ePhyto activities
SC	Usefulness of Diagnostic protocols
CDC	Review of manuals
IPPC Workshops	Coordination and cooperation

AGENDA ITEM 5: Information Exchange Platform on RPPO activities

Each RPPO presented their activities over the past year. Summaries of their presentations are given in Appendix II. The TC suggested that during the next meeting, each RPPO should be granted additional time to demonstrate their Websites. During the presentations the Secretariat requested all RPPOs to contribute the technical resources they had presented, to the phytosanitary resources page. RPPOs kindly accepted the proposal.

In the presentations the RPPOs highlighted a number of regional standards approved or in development. Consequently, some RPPOs recognized the value of sharing information early.

The TC agreed to share information on recently approved regional standards as a normal practice to increase cooperation and interaction.

The IAPSC sent a written report but didn't attend the meeting. Their document is posted in Appendix III to this report but was not discussed.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Results on consultations on a Caribbean RPPO

The TC was informed that Plant Health Directors in CAHFSAs will have a meeting and a decision will be communicated on using or not CAHFSAs as an RPPO. As a first step the existing RPPO (CPPC) should be deactivated.

In relation to the withdrawal of an existing RPPO, the Secretariat informed that the Bureau and the FAO legal office have identified two criteria: (i) RPPO does not exist anymore (ii) RPPO has been inactive in all IPPC activities for a period of time.

The Secretariat consulted the TC about the correctness of the two criteria and the duration of the period of inactivity. The TC advised that a period of 3 years of inactivity would be an appropriate length of time to warrant removal of recognition as an RPPO.

The TC also agreed with the two criteria and highlighted that the inactivity concept should include many activities and not only face to face meetings. The activities should be linked to the roles and functions, as adopted by ICPM 2005.

The Secretariat also informed on the Bureau decision to send a letter to all RPPOs, noting there will be two criteria on the withdrawal of recognition under the Convention. The TC suggested to attach to the letter the adopted document on RPPOs roles and functions and to request to all RPPOs a confirmation of activity.

If an RPPO has been inactive for 3 or more years, the Secretariat should send a letter requesting clarification and the concerned RPPO will be granted a period of 60 days to answer. If a clarification is not received, the Secretariat will inform the Bureau. The TC among RPPOs will then be consulted about the withdrawal and asked to recommend the way forward to the Bureau.

If the TC recommendations support the withdrawal, the Bureau should send the proposal for withdrawal to CPM, for adoption.

The TC agreed:

- *To review the Roles and Functions of the RPPOs, to take into account changes in the IPPC strategies and work plans and to define clearly when an RPPO is active in the IPPC framework*

- *To include this issue in the agenda for next TC for further consideration*
- *To propose the withdrawal of recognition of the CPPC*
- *To support the creation/recognition of a new Caribbean RPPO (e.g. CAHFSA), if necessary*
- *That RPPOs should work together collectively to raise the level of participation in IPPC activities.*

AGENDA ITEM 7: IPPC Secretariat update

7.1 Standard setting

Detailed information on standard setting activities was provided in the updated document presented by the Secretariat.

The TC expressed concern on the non acceptance by the TPPT of experience based phytosanitary treatments and asked the Secretariat to inform on the position of the SC at this respect, considering the text under the first paragraph of item 3.2.2 of ISPM 28.

On the document about engaging experts in standard setting activities, the TC was informed of the future release of a questionnaire on this issue, prepared by the SC.

The Secretariat requested comments on the draft presented for consideration by the TC.

The comments were the following:

- It is necessary to set a timeframe for answering the questionnaire
- The expected answers should vary according to the experience of the NPPO Contact Point or the expert filling the questionnaire
- The issues related to financial support from the RPPOs are going to have different answers according to the RPPO concerned
- The main general reason to don't get proposals of experts is that the NPPOs and RPPOs have an evident shortage of human resources for their own activities
- RPPOs and IPPC are competing for the same human resources
- A realistic approach could involve the reformulation of the standard setting work plan, the consideration of withdrawal of some less relevant EWGs and Panels, or the elimination of activities duplicated with the ones performed by RPPOs.

7.2 Information exchange and

7.3 Reporting through RPPOs

The Secretariat presented a detailed paper entitled: Update on the National Reporting Obligations (NRO) Programme, that contains information about the two items included in the title of this section and addresses the actions initiated since CPM-8 and the next priorities.

The Secretariat encouraged the RPPOs to be active in improving the ability of CPs to meet their NROs.

In this regard, EPPO informed that it has completed the development of an on-line reporting mechanism for its members to facilitate NROs fulfillment and requested the Secretariat to note this fact.

NAPPO reported on its ongoing efforts to engage the IPPC Secretariat in a process to harmonize its regional reporting system with that of the International Phytosanitary Portal. The Secretariat was again requested to collaborate on this topic with NAPPO, based on developments with EPPO

The Secretariat encouraged the RPPOs to help to complete the membership for the NROs advisory group.

It was noted that some RPPOs are proactive in promoting the fulfillment of NROs (e.g. APPPC).

7.4 IRSS

The IRSS officer provided the TC with an update on the IRSS project highlighting the latest initiatives which include the questionnaire on ISPM17/19 released to NPPOs, brainstorming on indicators and a possible monitoring framework for IPPC and ISPMs, discussion on SPG on implementation and role of IRSS and the ongoing development of the Implementation Review Report.

The Secretariat asked the TC to:

<i>Encourage member countries to complete the IRSS questionnaire on ISPM17/19 by September 30.</i>
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7.5 Capacity building

The TC was informed on the developments and recent activities in the area of capacity development and on the works of the Capacity Development Committee. The Secretariat highlighted the possible cooperative actions with the RPPOs attending the 25th TC and encouraged all RPPOs to participate in the process of development, review and testing of the new technical resources produced.

Some RPPOs congratulated the Secretariat for the new developments and all of them committed to provide resources to the phytosanitary resources page.

7.6 Dispute settlement update

The Secretariat reported that on the formal request for assistance in resolving a phytosanitary trade dispute, no new development had happened since both parties agreed to wait for a new PRA for CBS prepared by EFSA. The PRA is currently under public consultation.

7.7 Liaison, cooperation & partnership policy

The Secretariat informed on the development of this policy and remarked that RPPOs were considered privileged partners in the document prepared for presentation to the Bureau and the next CPM.

AGENDA ITEM 8: CPM-8 Follow up

The Secretariat updated the TC on the developments related to e-Phyto, the constitution of a new steering group and the face to face meeting to be held in Auckland, NZ, in September 2013.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Topics for future CPM Scientific Sessions

The TC decided to put forward the following proposals, which are not in any particular order of priority:

- New technologies for diagnostics (Web based technologies, DNA barcoding, etc), describing necessary equipment each technology requires
- Lessons learned from jurisprudence: revisiting the role of science in phytosanitary disputes at the WTO
- Aquatic plants: challenges for regulation.

On side sessions for the CPM, the TC suggested:

- ISPM 15 implementation
- Emerging pests
- ISPM vs. other referential documents (e.g. Global GAP and others)
- ISPM 13 implementation
- Use of terms: invasive alien plants, invasive alien species, pests, etc.

The TC also suggested to change the title of the issue selected by the Bureau for the 2014 scientific session, from “New inspection technologies” to “New technologies and tools for phytosanitary procedures”.

On the scientific session about new developments in PRA, NAPPO and EPPO committed to cooperate in the organization.

On the session about e-Phyto, the TC suggested to present the experiences of China and/or Chile, A member of the new e-Phyto steering committee could be also an invited speakers.

AGENDA ITEM 10: TC Work Plan

The Secretariat was requested to prepare a draft of a standing work plan that could be submitted to annual reviews. The draft was discussed and the 2014 work plan appears in Appendix IV.

AGENDA ITEM 11: TC amongst RPPOs technical discussion

11.1 Current and emerging major pest issues

Each of the RPPOs attending the meeting presented updated information on this issue that is recorded in the presentations available in the IPP. The TC discussed the actions performed by the RPPOs and many of them were identified as possible candidates to generate technical resources of interest for the entire phytosanitary community.

11.2 Developments on invasive alien species that are plant pests

EPPO presented a Power Point with detailed information on activities in Invasive Alien Plants. EPPO started to work specifically on invasive alien plants in 2002, and has a unique role in developing regional collaboration initiatives on this topic.

A main regional cooperation effort consists of exchanging information on invasive alien species (IAS) among EPPO countries. A monthly freely accessible reporting service on pests (including invasive alien plants), which provides the latest information on new outbreaks, management measures, outcomes of research, etc. is published by EPPO and is now received by 2500 subscribers. This is a fundamental part of a regional early warning system. In addition, EPPO profiles emergent invasive

alien plants, and for this purpose, pathway analysis has been undertaken on ornamental aquatic plants imported in 10 EPPO countries.

EPPO dedicates specific attention to building networks of experts through the organization of workshops and training courses on technical and applied issues. These workshops are intended to share experience on the listing of invasive alien plants, early warning, management as well as on communication and were organized with the Council of Europe and the European Environmental Agency.

EPPO, in its regional cooperative role, also provides tools to be easily implemented within countries. This consists of lists of invasive alien plants elaborated according to rigorous and transparent methods of prioritization and of pest risk analyses. EPPO recommends some invasive alien plants for regulation, and the technical justifications to impose preventive measures that may have an impact on international trade are provided to countries (as requested by the SPS agreement and following IPPC guidelines). In addition, to optimize its strategy of action, EPPO involves a large spectrum of stakeholders. As it is estimated that about 80% of invasive alien plants were introduced as ornamental plants in Europe, EPPO and the Council of Europe published a Code of conduct on horticulture and invasive alien plants, intended as a tool to cooperate with the nursery industry. This voluntary initiative has already been implemented in 12 European countries.

NAPPO has developed a number of standards in the past few years that contribute to the prevention of spread of invasive pests. These include both commodity (seeds, Christmas trees, wood and bamboo products) and other regulated articles (ships and cargo). In addition a new Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures was approved in 2012 on Pathway Risk Analysis. This new regional standard complements existing ISPMs on PRA and provides additional guidance related to pathways, beyond the traditional commodity approach.

As a product of the discussion, the TC recommended a side-session for CPM on Use of terms: invasive alien plants, invasive alien species, pests, etc and future possible cooperation action were identified.

11.3 Electronic certification

NAPPO informed on actions performed at the level of the Interamerican Working Group (GICSV) and 3 recent products were identified: a document on Frequently Asked Questions, a survey performed in Latin American countries on capacities for the implementation of e-Phyto and a generic presentation on e-Phyto. The Secretariat requested access to the products for Capacity Development purposes and to inform the recently created steering group.

Some RPPOs expressed their concern on the currently implemented processes on single windows and their compatibility with the future e-Phyto.

OIRSA presented a proposal for TC consideration related to sustainable funding of the e-Phyto Hub and CD activities. It was suggested that a portion of each e-Phyto transaction (e.g. one US dollar) be contributed by the user to the IPPC ePhyto Hub System, using current international financial transaction mechanisms (e.g. e-commerce/ on-line credit cards payment systems). The participants discussed the possibility, finding it interesting and practical. Some RPPOs expressed concern on the practicality for NPPOs, FAO and the IPPC to implement the payment system.

In particular, the Bureau member present in the meeting informed on the advancement of the feasibility study for the Hub and some options have already been discussed by the IPPC Financial Committee but that they will await the results of the feasibility study.

11.4 Contingency planning for Huanglongbing (HLB)

COSAVE, NAPPO and OIRSA presented brief reports on their contingency planning activities. NAPPO reported that 660 persons were attending its Symposium on citrus diseases with particular emphasis on HLB this week in Colima, Mexico.

Many new developments were identified as:

- New approved contingency plan for HLB in the COSAVE region
- A diagnostic protocol and sampling technique for different Citrus propagative materials developed by NAPPO
- Two projects currently active in the OIRSA region for HLB, intended to contain the pest.

11.5 RPPOs input into the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS)

The RPPOs provided an overview of the ways they have used IRSS products or supported other follow-up actions.

The TC recommended that the IRSS determine how countries are using the IRSS products.

The Secretariat informed that in order to do this IRSS products will be translated to other languages to facilitate more engagement by NPPOs. The Secretariat reminded the TC that their support would be needed on the work the IPPC will be initiating on exploring the development of a monitoring framework on the IPPC and possible use of indicators.

The TC agreed to:

1. Provide the Secretariat on their thoughts (including benefits and challenges) on indicators and monitoring implementation. This will contribute to the preparation of a desk study/white paper to be prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Provide case studies other practical examples of ways member countries have applied ISPMs and/or are measuring implementation (IPPC Secretariat will send an email detailing the request post meeting).

11.6 Pests of national concern

COSAVE presented a Power Point containing their proposal to further analyze this concept as an IPPC strategic matter and announced to have presented a proposal to analyze it in the next SPG meeting, answering to the Secretariat's call for strategic topics posted in the IPP.

The RPPOs present in the meeting discussed the concept and expressed diverse opinions,

11.7 Deviation of intended use

This issue was added to the Agenda to understand how PRAs performed in different regions of the world took into account the intended use when conducting the process according to ISPM 11 and on establishing the phytosanitary import requirements. Each RPPO informed on the usual procedures of their member countries and NAPPO informed on a proposal recently submitted by the United States to the call for topics for standards covering the subject. The Secretariat informed that consultations were currently performed on this issue with the SPS Secretariat.

In general all of them expressed that the PRA is initiated for a single intended use. However in some country cases and in some regions, countries establish phytosanitary measures for other intended uses at the end of the PRA. In most part of the cases they reflect problems in capacities to adequately control the deviations, but also trade sensitivities.

The TC considered that:

- Measures should be technically justified and not pose barriers to trade
- The responsibilities on the avoidance of deviations of intended use between importing and exporting contracting parties was not clear
- The right of the importing country to act establishing phytosanitary measures to try to avoid the risk of deviations of use needed to be matched with improvements in its own capacities to control such deviations.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Other Business

a) Mechanism for inter-session communication

The TC agreed that teleconference or videoconference could be a mechanism for periodic communication. Teleconference is the first choice because not all RPPOs have adequate facilities.

About the frequency of the teleconferences it should be before CPM and after the Bureau meeting in June.

The Secretariat should circulate the agenda of the teleconference at least two weeks before and should produce the minutes of the teleconference.

As usual, the TC should meet during CPM and E-mails should be used as a main channel for requesting decisions.

Skype could be also explored as a communications mechanism.

b) Mechanism for requesting the addition of items to the CPM agenda.

The TC could do this through:

- Proposals of member countries
- Sending suggestions to the Bureau before its June meeting.

Proposals could be performed as individual RPPOs or as the TC.

Memoranda should be sent to the Secretariat at least one month before the end of December.

c) Mentoring and cooperation amongst RPPOs

Several actions on this sense were identified, as for instance:

- EPPO/NAPPO annual bilateral meeting
- NAPPO/OIRSA letter of understanding with annual exchange of work plans and joint projects, as for instance: Tuta absoluta surveillance protocol
- GICSV, : NAPPO/OIRSA/COSAVE annual work plan and shared projects: e-phyto workshop
- APPPC/NAPPO planning for ISPM 15 implementation workshop
- APPPC/Brazil on SALB
- Cooperation in the identification of experts for regional projects

- EPPO/NEPPO cooperation for the establishment of the RPPO
- EPPO/NEPPO workshop on ISPM 7 and 12 and surveillance
- EPPO/COSAVE annual meeting before CPM
- EPPO/OIRSA: sharing information on PRA.
- PPPO/APPPC on pest surveillance
- APPPC workshop on surveillance with participation of other RPPOs
- NAPPO workshop on Citrus diseases with participation of other RPPOs
- NEPPO workshop on HLB with COSAVE, NAPPO and OIRSA
- Exchange of more than 14 technical resource documents: protocols, regional standards, PRAs
- OIRSA shared with RPPOs the document in Spanish “Plan de contingencia ante un brote de la raza 4 tropical de *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. cubense en un país de la región del OIRSA”.

For future TCs, this table is going to be compiled and presented to CPM.

d) Study on the utility of the diagnostic protocols

The Secretariat informed that the SC postponed the preparation of a questionnaire on this issue.

e) TC report to CPM 9

The TC suggested to COSAVE that for the report to CPM, two items should be covered: the history and 25th anniversary of the TC, and the accomplishments and cooperation over the years.

f) Requests from the Bureau

The TC addressed all request from the Bureau, as follows:

1. Opinion of the TC RPPOs on the possibilities of IPPC contracting parties to put together and make available their list of regulated pests.

The TC performed the following comments:

- It is a common problem to many IPPC contracting parties, independently of being developing/developed countries
- Many countries have the lists available on their Websites, but in their own languages
- The publication of the list of regulated pests should not be interpreted as a possible technical barrier to trade
- Many contracting parties are concerned on the quality of the information contained in their list of regulated pests
- The capacity to improve and update the lists of regulated pests is variable and needs to be reinforced
- The list of regulated pests has a key value in giving transparency to trade
- Many RPPOs are currently developing regional models for PRA that contribute to the regulation and improvement of lists of regulated pests at the national level.

2. Is it enough to have an annual TC meeting to ensure the due coordination and action between RPPOs and the IPPC?

The TC decided on other mechanisms for coordination that are not face to face meetings and are complementary to the TC.

3. Which is the TC feedback on the periodical news report coming from the Bureau.

The TC suggested that it should be useful to send a notification about the publication (e-mail with the link) and not only the publication in the IPP.

4. New items for future scientific sessions.

This information is included in a specific item in the agenda

g) Communications

The TC requested to consider the involvement of RPPOs in the development and delivery of the IPPC Communication work plan.

The aim will be to ensure consistency of messages and raise the profile of Plant Protection in the regions.

OIRSA proposed the development of promotional/marketing material to promote the IPPC diagnostic protocols and on-line training courses.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Date and location of the 26th TC-RPPOs

The TC-RPPOs agreed that the next TC-RPPOs would be held during the period of 10-14 November 2014 in Antigua, Guatemala. The TC thanked OIRSA for offering to host the meeting. A tentative agenda for the meeting is included in Appendix IV.

COSAVE and NAPPO shall assist OIRSA with the organization of the meeting.

The rotation agreed at the 24th TC was reviewed and reconfirmed as follows:

2015- NAPPO

2016- NEPPO/IAPSC (under consultation)

2017- EPPPO

AGENDA ITEM 14: Adoption of the Report

The meeting provisionally adopted the report with the understanding that the Secretariat would circulate the document for RPPOs final comments. The commenting period would be until September 15th, 2013.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Closure of the meeting

The Chairperson thanked the participants for the active attitude in the discussions of this TC and the enjoyable work environment produced by the many interactions amongst the RPPOs present in the meeting.

The RPPOs representatives thanked the organizers of the 25th TC for the hospitality and referred to the positive experiences and cooperation activities they experienced in this session.

APPENDIX I: Agenda of the meeting

TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS
25th Session
Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay, 26th – 30th August 2013
Agenda

1. Opening of the Technical Consultation
2. Election of the Chairperson, Vice-chair and Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Matters arising from the 24th TC-RPPOs, including post meeting networking and cooperation /Follow up on impacts of the decisions of the 24th TC-RPPOs ¹.
5. Information Exchange Platform on RPPO activities ²
 - 5.1 APPPC
 - 5.2 CA
 - 5.3 COSAVE
 - 5.4 CPPC/CAFHSA
 - 5.5 EPPO
 - 5.6 IAPSC
 - 5.7 NAPPO
 - 5.8 OIRSA
 - 5.9 PPPO
 - 5.10 NEPPO
6. Results of consultations on a Caribbean RPPO
7. Secretariat update

¹ It is requested to all participants to work in the identification of impacts at the level of their regions. The IPPC Secretariat should provide a review of possible impacts in different IPPC bodies and meetings.

² Each RPPO should produce for this section of the Agenda: a short report in Word, intended to be annexed to the report of the meeting and a Power point presentation. Both of them need to be submitted to the Secretariat.

- 7.1 Standard setting
- 7.2 Information exchange
- 7.3 Reporting through RPPOs
- 7.4 IRSS
- 7.5 Capacity building
- 7.6 Dispute settlement
- 7.7 Liaison, cooperation & partnership policy
8. Follow-up from CPM-8
9. Topics for future CPM scientific sessions
10. TC Work Plan (standing work plan with annual reviews)
11. TC among RPPOs technical discussions³, including:
 - 11.1 Current and emerging major pest issues (all NPPOs)
 - 11.2 Developments on invasive alien species that are plant pests (EPPO/NAPPO)
 - 11.3 Electronic certification (NAPPO/EPPO)
 - 11.4 Contingency planning for *Candidatus Liberibacter* spp (HLB) (OIRSA/COSAVE/NAPPO)
 - 11.5 RPPO input into the implementation review and support system (all RPPOs)
 - 11.6 Pests of national concern (COSAVE/NAPPO/EPPO)
 - 11.7 Deviation of intended uses (all RPPOs)
12. Other Business
 - a) Mechanism for inter-session communication
 - b) Mechanism for requesting the addition of items to the CPM Agenda
 - c) Mentoring and cooperation among RPPOs
 - d) Study on the utility of IPPC Diagnostics protocols
 - e) TC Report for CPM 9
 - f) Issues of request from the Bureau
 - g) Communications (promotional kits for the use of diagnostic protocols)
13. Date and location of next TC
14. Adoption of the Report of the 25th TC-RPPOs
15. Closure

³ In brackets, RPPOs producing presentations. It is expected all RPPOs be prepared to interact and discuss the technical issues in the agenda, even if not been charged to produce specific presentations.

APPENDIX II: Item 5 - Review of RPPO activities

5.1 Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)

Timor-Leste has endorsed the Agreement by accepting all amendments (1983/1999) and become member of APPPC since 20 April 2012. Bhutan, Japan and Singapore had expressed their intention of membership and the Secretariat and Legal Service of FAO provided some essential advice to these countries. Now Twenty-five countries are contracting parties to the Plant Protection Agreement for Asia and the Pacific at present.

The 26th Session proposed that a working group be established to investigate how the Commission members can assist in the implementation of standards. The working group would select an ISPM or ISPMs and, if deemed appropriate, examine the development of training materials. The working group on the ISPM15 investigated how the Commission members can assist in the implementation of the ISPM No.15. The feedbacks to questionnaires from countries have been collected and analyzed preliminary.

A global symposium on pest surveillance was held from 29 October to 2 November 2012 in Korea in collaboration with IPPC Secretariat. About 50 experts from 28 countries including delegates from FAO Severn Regions participated in the symposium. The symposium came up with the framework of manuals as base materials for development of manual guides for implementation of ISPM6, and these frameworks contained chapter headings with additional outline material included as appropriate. It was hoped that the proposals would also contribute to IRSS implementation programmes.

The 13th APPPC/Asia Regional Workshop on the review of draft ISPMs was held in Gyeong Ju, Republic of Korea on 3-7 September 2012. The regional comments, prepared by the workshop were distributed to all NPPO focal points of participating countries as well as to all participants immediately, together with operational instructions on how to share/incorporate regional comments with country comments on draft ISPMs. In addition to a review of draft ISPMs, there was a series of discussions on implementation review and support system (IRSS), provision of technical resources, reporting obligations, information exchange through IPP/APPPC website, capacity development, etc. The 14th regional workshop on review of draft ISPMs will be held from 28 October-1 Nov. 2013 in Seoul, Korea.

The APPPC pre-CPM8 meetings were organized in Rome on 18 March 2012 and on 7 April 2013. The meeting provided an opportunity to member countries have better understanding of specific subjects of agenda through sharing their views and stands.

In order to enhance information exchange with IPP/APPPC website among member countries, regular monitoring of country updates are being made at quarterly basis and summary of update status of each country were sent to members for their reference and reminder to accelerate follow up actions for update countries' web pages in IPP/APPPC website where the section of phytosanitary measures is automatically cross linked.

In collaboration with the Brazil NPPO, a training workshop on diagnostics of SALB for development of the capacity concerned was identified based on the proposed training program which was developed during the regional workshop before. APPPC sent 13 delegates from 4 countries to Brazil for participate in the training. Brazil NPPO facilitated the training and provided invaluable assistance and support to the participants. In collaboration with NAPPO, a joint workshop on ISPM15 will be organized in 2014, prearrangements are under discussion.

The apple snail (*Pomacea spp.*) has become a serious pest of rice in Asia and the Pacific region in the past few years. A regional workshop on spread prevention and control of apple snail in rice was convened from 3-7 December 2012 in Malaysia with kind assistance of Malaysia NPPO. The

workshop programme discussed the biology and ecology of the pest *Pomacea spp.* and control strategies. Participants shared their experiences and gained expertise in the field from the experts. The workshop presented the various methods to control *Pomacea spp.* i.e. physical control, cultural control, biological molluscicides, habitat modification, and chemical control.

An STDF project (STDF/PG/329)-Beyond compliance: on an integrated systems approach for pest risk management made some progress. Participating countries improved some capacity in identifying critical control points in production chains, which may more relevant for system approach for risk management, through exercises of using Bayesian Network modelling approach during the implementation of the project.

An APPPC planning workshop was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 13-15 May 2013 to review the status of the implementation of the work plan adopted by the 27th Session and to prepare recommendations for the 2014-2015 biennium work programme. The recommendations were prepared by the meeting and will be presented to this Session for further discussion and adoption. The 28th Session will be convened from 23-27 September 2013 in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea.

5.2 Andean Community (CA)

No representative was present from CA.

5.3 Southern Cone Plant Health Committee (COSAVE)

1. DECISIONS

- √ Decision N° 126/31-13M, agreement on the need of establishing a Permanent_Headquarters for this regional organization based in the city of Montevideo, Uruguay.
- √ In March 2013 ended the formal process for Adhesion of Peru as COSAVE member.
- √ Decision 199/76 - 12D : “Minimal requirements for inspection and transference sites”
- √ Decision 200/76 - 12D: Regional Standard of Phytosanitary Protection 2.12: “Requirements for the authorization of border inspection points (PIF) for regulated articles”

This standard describes the basic requirements that a PIF should met to apply inspection procedures of regulated articles destined to import and export as well as to control international transit, complying with phytosanitary requirements. Consignment identity and integrity will be determined by physical examination, document verification and phytosanitary inspection.

- √ Decision 202/77 - 13D: Regional Standard of Phytosanitary Protection 2.13: “Procedures for Transit of regulated articles among COSAVE countries”

This standard aims to harmonize a procedure to control international transit among COSAVE countries, to facilitate regional trade.

- √ Decision 201/76 - 12D: “Harmonization of Phytosanitary Requirements for importation of wheat and soybean seed”

It establishes options of phytosanitary measures for extra region countries, considering quarantine pests transmitted by seed of each COSAVE country.

- √ Decision 203/77 - 13D: “List of pests present in *Eucalyptus spp.* and *Pinus spp.* in COSAVE Region”

It establishes the lists of pests present in these two forestry species in each COSAVE country.

2. VIRTUAL AND REGIONAL SCHOOL OF PHYTOSANITARY INSPECTION

The “Competitive Fund for Technical Cooperation for Projects of Technical Cooperation” (FonCT) is an initiative with IICA own resources to finance multi-national projects on technical cooperation considering needs identified by countries. A proposal was developed by the IICA specialist on Agricultural Health and Food Safety (AHFS), Ing. Agr. Lourdes Fonalleras, which was presented to the FonCT 2012 call. The Project “Virtual and Regional School of Phytosanitary Inspection” was selected and it will be financed primarily with FonCT resources.

COSAVE supports the definition and future implementation of this Project, through the Technical Working Group on “Sampling, Inspection and Certification”, participating in the Consulting Group of the Project.

General Objective: To contribute to protect the phytosanitary status, and hence improve productivity and competitiveness of the Andean and South Regions’ agriculture, by strengthening the technical capacity of National Plant Protection Organizations to conduct effective phytosanitary inspection and certification.

Countries participating in this Project are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, being the National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO) of these countries the direct counterparties.

The Project gives priority to the virtual modality, which is an innovation, and has a participation strategy in which the needs and views of countries are the basis on which to build the concept of the Virtual and Regional School of Phytosanitary Inspection

In the same way, it is posed an international and regional approach, as well as a national approach that meets the standards and needs of each NPPO in particular.

3. REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Regional Plan for HLB Containment (*Candidatus liberibacter* spp.) in citrus: Basic information from all COSAVE countries was collected and a Course for field inspectors was carried out at FUNDECITRUS, Araraquara, Brazil on April 2013. An activity for the development of a Protocol for safe introduction of germplasm into COSAVE countries, is planned for this year

Regional Plan for Eucalyptus bronze bug (*Thaumastocoris peregrinus*) control: In October 2012, COSAVE TG on Forestry Health together with PROCISUR researchers met in order to agree on the harmonization of procedures for this pest surveillance, as well as procedures for the introduction, rearing and release of its biological control agent.

Regional Program for cotton boll weevil (*Anthonomus grandis*) control: A consultant was hired to prepare a profile and project for submission to the Fund for Structural Convergence of MERCOSUR (FOCEM) to achieve its funding

4. PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Between August 2012-August 2013 COSAVE has been participated in the following regional and international events: Inter-American Group on Coordination in Plant Health (GICSV), Standard Committee, Regional Workshop on Draft ISPM, Technical Panels (Glossary and Phytosanitary Treatments), Strategic Planning Group (formerly SPTA), and Eighth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures.

In particular, GICSV has been restarted its activities, involving the RPPO NAPPO, OIRSA and COSAVE, holding the Secretariat NAPPO.

GICSV agreed on the importance of improving communication and information exchange and met in November 2012, in a face to face meeting where the Work Plan, now being implemented, was approved. In this regard a virtual meeting was conducted before CPM-8 to exchange positions on the main CPM-8 agenda items.

A Regional Workshop on Introduction to the IPPC “e-Phyto” was held on June 2013, for which RPPO previously coordinated a survey among their member countries to harmonize information to be exchanged during the Workshop, in order to know developments in relation to electronic certification in GICSV regions.

5. WORK PLAN 2013

Main activities carried out through the corresponding Technical Groups (TG) are described below:

Plant Quarantine:

- Harmonization of phytosanitary import requirements for festuca, sorghum and lucerne seed
- Revision of adopted list of regional quarantine pests considering the recent adhesion of Peru to COSAVE, to send a proposal for adoption by COSAVE Directive Committee
- Analysis of emergent pests for COSAVE region: the TG on Plant Quarantine analyzed the following emergent pests for COSAVE region: *Drosophilla susukii*, *Helicoverpa armigera*, *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae*, *Trioza erytreae* and *Halymorpha halys*. Potential pathways of introduction were identified and pest risk assessed, concluding that all of them are of medium to high risk, suggesting including them in the regional list of quarantine pests.

CPM Issues: Draft ISPM under member consultation in both periods (normal and substantive comment period) were analyzed and a proposal will be submitted to the Directive Committee, in order to send comments to IPPC on the drafts under member consultation as COSAVE position.

5.4 Caribbean Plant Protection Commission (CPPC)

No representative was present from CPPC.

5.5 European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

The Director-General of EPPO, Mr. Arnitis, highlighted the activities in EPPO which are of most importance for the IPPC.

In June 2013, the Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations (WP PR) approved 17 phytosanitary Standards. These Standards will be presented to the EPPO Council for final approval in September, 2013. The approved EPPO phytosanitary Standards cover a variety of different topics.

The WP PR approved the revision of the EPPO A1/A2 *List of pests recommended for regulation* including the addition of new pests to the A1/A2 lists:

- Pests absent from the region (A1): *Apriona germari*, *A. japonica*, *A. cinerea*, *Oemona hirta*
- Pests present in the region (A2): *Phytophthora kernoviae*, *Phytophthora ramorum*, *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* and *Baccharis halimifolia*
- Transfer from the A1 to the A2 List: *no pests this year*

One new Standard providing guidance on PRA was approved: the *Screening process for the identification of the need of a commodity PRA for imports of plants for planting*.

EPPO has an extensive programme on diagnostics. As result of this activity seven new and revised standards were approved:

- *Fungi: Hymenoscyphus pseudoalbidus*
- *Virus: Tomato chlorosis virus and Tomato infectious chlorosis virus*
- *Insects: Tetranychus evansi, Trogoderma granarium (alignment of IPPC protocol in EPPO format), Bactrocera zonata, Drosophila suzukii*
- *Horizontal diagnostic standards: Standard on nematode extraction*

Four Standards providing guidance for official control including eradication and containment measures on *Agrilus planipennis*, *Anoplophora glabripennis*, *Anoplophora chinensis* and *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* and *M. fallax* were also approved.

EPPO has an Alert list in order to provide a warning about pests possibly presenting a risk to EPPO member countries. Pests are also chosen from the Alert list to be the subject of PRA. Modifications to the list of pests (including invasive alien plants) on the Alert List during the last year are as follows:

- Additions: *Agrilus auroguttatus*, *Ophiomyia kwansonis*, *Thaumastocoris peregrinus*, *Syndrome des basses richesses*, *Cardiospermum grandiflorum*, *Gunnera tinctoria*
- Deletions: *Enaphalodes rufulus*, *Halyomorpha halys*, *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. lactucae*, *Phytophthora pinifolia*, *Tomato torrado virus*

EPPO's strategy and work programme foresees that five PRAs are performed every year including one for an invasive alien plant. The WP PR agreed with the following priorities for PRA:

- *Aromia bungii*
- *Microstegium vimineum*
- *Study on wood chips and wood waste*

One of EPPO's core activities is to organize Workshops and Conferences in the region. This provides a platform for discussion on important new topics for NPPOs in the region. An EPPO/NEPPO Workshop on surveillance, an EPPO/NEPPO Workshop on ISPMs 7 and 12, an EPPO/Q-DETECT Workshop for phytosanitary inspectors, the 2nd Workshop for Heads of Laboratories and an EPPO/FAO Workshop on Pest reporting and exchange of phytosanitary information were organized during 2012/2013.

In order to strengthen collaboration with NEPPO two workshops were organized at the end of 2012. In addition an annual meeting with NAPPO was organized in Cyprus before CPM-8.

In collaboration with the IPPC and FAO regional offices a Regional Workshop was recently held near Moscow (July, 2013). The comments from this Workshop have been very important for all EPPO members to establish their views on the draft ISPMs and help to formulate a common view from the EPPO region.

The EPPO Secretariat has developed a system allowing EPPO member countries to send pest reports (the format is compatible with the IPPC format) electronically (with a possibility to forward them to other bodies such as the IPPC). This allows different levels for security to be created (e.g. one person entering data, another one authorizing publication) and provides the possibility to enter different levels of information.

In order to raise public awareness about phytosanitary issues EPPO continued activities in this field. A poster was prepared to be displayed in airports/seaports to inform travellers about the risks of moving plant material. This has been made available to NPPOs and it is now their responsibility to circulate it and ensure that it is displayed.

5.6 Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC)

No representative was present from IAPSC. See Appendix III.

5.7 Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO)

Introduction

The Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) is the tenth RPPO formerly recognized by the 7th CPM in March 2012. The Agreement has been signed in 1993, and entered into force in 2009. The members are: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Pakistan, Syria, Sudan, and Tunisia. Oman is ongoing process for adhesion. Iran, Mauritania and Yemen signed the Agreement but not yet ratified it. The Executive Committee includes 6 countries elected: Algeria, Jordan, Libya, Pakistan, Syria and Tunisia.

The staff of the Secretariat, until now, includes only the Executive Director and one assistant.

As new RPPO, the Secretariat focused on administrative activities as:

- Headquarter agreement with Kingdom of Morocco
- Recognition of the NEPPO as RPPO
- Establishment of Staff regulation and Financial rules
- Updating of the agreement, to be on line with IPPC (and SPS Agreement)
- Strategic framework to 2020

In the current context, the Secretariat faces a challenge to play its role and to organize activities meeting the Near East NPPOs huge needs on building capacities, sharing information, establishing harmonized phytosanitary measures and procedures and technical assistance.

Activities

Participation in the Regional workshop for the review of draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) held in Cairo, Egypt 09-13 September, 2012.

Participation in the Meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures Standards Committee, in 12-16 November 2012 and in 6-10 May 2013 in Rome (Italy).

NEPPO participated in the regional workshop on strengthening regional cooperation and knowledge sharing in plant protection between the Near East countries, in Cairo, Egypt, 2-4/12/ 2012 and presented an overview on the Organization and the importance of establishing a regional phytosanitary data base through a Near East network linking NPPOs, Universities and Research institute.

NEPPO participated also in the 8th Meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Standards (CPM), and in the Group for Review of French and sending of comments on French versions of ISPMs adopted by the Eight Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in April 2013.

NEPPO participated to Subregional capacity-building workshop to address invasive alien species and to achieve Aichi biodiversity target 9 in the Arab region. Dubai (UAE), 11-14/02/2013 through

presentation “the Role of regional plant protection organization to addressing invasive alien species in harmonized manner at the regional level”.

NEPPO participated to EUPHRESKO Workshop - Exploring plant health problems of concern with special emphasis on Mediterranean partners of EPPO and EUPHRESKO. Monte Estoril (Portugal) 13/03/2013 and made a presentation on “Important phytosanitary pests of concern and threats in the Near East region and in particular problem with pests originating from EU members states. Visions on possible future co-operation between NEPPO and EUPHRESKO”

Exchange information

The website is under construction. The secretariat collects information related to plant protection and share them with the Near East NPPO. The Secretariat is preparing a page in Facebook to post NEPPO activities there.

Building capacities workshop

- Workshop on surveillance jointly with EPPO: To meet the request of the Near East countries during the Regional workshop to review phytosanitary surveillance within the context of the IPPC standard (ISPM No. 6) held in Cairo (Egypt) 16-18 January, 2012, in Algiers (Algeria) from 18-20/09/2012.
- Workshop on ISPM 7 and 12 jointly with EPPO: The aim was harmonize the way these Standards are implemented within the both regions. Antalya (Turkey) 20-22 November 2012.
- Workshop on plant quarantine and phytosanitary measures: the aim was to share information on regulation related to quarantine pests and phytosanitary measures implemented in the participant countries; to establish a draft quarantine lists of the Near East Region; to determine the most important topic (standards, diagnostic, treatment, etc.) on line with the need of the region and to determine the emergent pests within the Near East. Rabat (Morocco), June 24-26, 2013. Process establishing draft regional lists of quarantine pests have been initiated.
- Regional symposium on management of fruit fly on the Near East region: organized jointly with FAO, FAO-IAEA, AAEA, IOBC North Africa Commission, Tunisian NPPO and the Tunisian Association of Plant Protection (ATPP). Hammamet (Tunis) November 4-6; 2012. Participants are aware on the real threat exerted by these pests to production and trade.

Emerging pests of concern for the NEPPO region

- Red Palm Weevil: *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* is of big concern and has potential highly negative environment and socioeconomically impact. Detected on ornamental palm trees in Morocco (Tangier, North) and Tunisia (Carthage), Not yet detected in Algeria.
- Fruit flies: *Bactrocera zonata* and *B. invadens*, North Africa is surrounded by the both *B. zonata* in Lybia and *B. invadens* in Sénégal (Maybe in Mauritania)
- Huanglongbing Citrus disease (HLB) big threat to Citrus production in the Near East and in the Mediterranean region which is until now free from HLB and its vectors.
- *Tuta absoluta* in the Middle East countries.

5.8 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)

2012/13 work plan

NAPPO had another busy year in a number of activity areas as described below.

Standards, Protocols and other Scientific and Technical documents

Standards (new):

- RSPM 36, Phytosanitary guidelines for the movement of seed
- RSPM 37, Integrated measures for the trade of Christmas trees

Standards (revised):

- Appendix 1 (Audit checklist) of RSPM 9, Authorization of Laboratories for Phytosanitary Testing
- RSPM 16, Integrated measures for the movement of citrus propagative material
- RSPM 24, Integrated pest risk management measures for the importation of plants for planting into NAPPO member countries

Standards ready for country consultation:

- RSPM 28, Guidelines for Authorization of Entities to Perform Phytosanitary Services

Protocols (new):

- Surveillance protocol for the tomato leaf miner, *Tuta absoluta*, for NAPPO member countries

Protocols (revised):

- Diagnostic protocol for CTV

Science and technology documents:

- Discussion paper on the efficacy of potato sprout control products to minimize sprout production
- The current state of potato virus Y in North America
- Status of *Rhagoletis* (Diptera: Tephritidae) pests in the NAPPO countries
- Heat treatment for wood products to a temperature of 56C for 30 minutes (with relation to certain pests such as the emerald ash borer that have demonstrated a tolerance to treatments)
- Application of biological control of the emerald ash borer
- Additional documents on *Lobesia botrana*, *Drosophila suzukii*, *Tetranychus* mites and trapping of fruit pests are being finalized.

Collaboration with other international organizations

Regional Plant Protection Organizations

NAPPO and OIRSA scientists collaborated closely on the development of the Surveillance protocol for the tomato leaf miner, *Tuta absoluta*.

NAPPO organized an international workshop on phytosanitary management of citrus pests and diseases, inviting numerous international experts including those from several other RPPOs.

NAPPO and EPPO held their 13th annual bilateral meeting to exchange information on phytosanitary issues of mutual concern.

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)

NAPPO held the Coordinator position for the Interamerican Coordinating Group in Plant Protection and organized a very successful ePhyto workshop with the collaboration of IICA. In addition, NAPPO holds regular semi-annual meetings with IICA Canada to develop projects of mutual interest.

2013/14 proposed work plan

Implementation of the revised NAPPO Strategic Plan

As a result of severe resource constraints in NAPPO member countries over the past several years, we needed to review priorities so that we can focus our resources on the top priority issues. The NAPPO Executive Committee and Industry Advisory Group have drafted a new Strategic Plan for the organization and have held consultations with stakeholders within their countries. The Strategic Plan will be presented at the NAPPO Annual Meeting in October 2013.

Organizational changes

Another impact of the resource constraints has led to a decision to replace the current system of standing Panels in NAPPO to one of project-based expert groups with specific objectives and timeframes. In the coming months we will be transitioning to this new system with established criteria for project proposals from industry, government, academia and other stakeholders.

NAPPO headquarters

NAPPO headquarters have been in Ottawa, Canada since its establishment in 1976. Other member countries have expressed an interest in hosting the Secretariat. During the next year we will conduct a feasibility study of the costs and benefits of rotating the NAPPO Secretariat.

NAPPO-APPPC workshop on implementation of ISPM 15

The objective is to share experiences and best practices among countries in North America and Asia regarding implementation of ISPM 15 in order to reduce non-compliance and minimize pest risk

The target audience includes NPPOs, border agencies, packaging associations, exporter associations, freight/cargo forwarders, exporters, importers, embassy staff, government-owned corporations, appropriate decision-makers/authorities

Carry-over projects:

Currently NAPPO is working on a number of new projects which will carry-over into 2013/14 including the development of standards on:

- The reduction and/or elimination of Oversight programs
- Pest Risk Management
- Determination of host status of pest arthropods and pathogens.

Additional activities:

- Carrying out additional scientific and technical projects following Executive Committee approval of proposals at the Annual Meeting in October, 2013
- Continuing to coordinate the activities of the Interamerican Group
- Supporting the international steering committee on ePhyto

5.9 International Regional Organization for Animal and Plant Health (OIRSA)

Introduction

OIRSA was established by its member countries on October 29th, 1953. Its objectives are, after making the necessary technical studies, to determine which diseases and pests of phytozoosanitary character pose a real or potential threat of economical importance at regional level; to promote

adoption of common policies for Plant and Animal Health, Food Safety and Quarantine in the region, and to take actions intended for prevention, control and/or eradication of pests of regional importance.

Nine countries belong to OIRSA by means of law in each country: Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic,

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. OIRSA is one of the RPPOs partners to the IPPC.

OIRSA also provides advice on and evaluation of the operation of the National Plant Health and Quarantine Services as required by member countries. It keeps member countries informed about the phytosanitary conditions prevailing in the region and abroad. It promotes divulgation of achievements and experiences in sanitary and phytosanitary subjects, as well as the consensus of agreements or arrangements with other agencies or international technical cooperation and development, to fund projects of regional interest.

To these ends, OIRSA has been working with its member countries in improving the phytosanitary status of the entire Region, for better competitiveness of agriculture and food security for the inhabitants of the area of influence. One of the principal concerns is capacity development in the NPPO members.

Our Mission

“To facilitate the Region’s economic and social development through a high-quality, healthy and environmentally acceptable agricultural production to satisfy the needs of the human population”.

Building capacities and activities related with IPPC

- OIRSA convened the XII Meeting of the Technical Regional Group for Revision of ISPMs, with participation of its member countries, on August 21th-23th, 2012
- OIRSA provided financial support to have one delegated from each member country participating in the Regional Workshop for revision of drafts of International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), convened in San Jose, Costa Rica, September 25th to 27th, 2012
- Participation at the Meeting of the Standards Committee (SC), on November 12th-16th, 2012 and May 6th-10th, 2013, in Rome (Italy)
- Participation in the 8th Meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Standards (CPM), on April 8th-12th, 2013
- As a GICSV programmed activity, OIRSA provided financial support for the participation of its member countries in the e-Phyto Workshop, celebrated at Costa Rica, on June 10th-12th, 2013
- OIRSA convened the LVIII Meeting of the Technical Committee of NPPO members of OIRSA, on March, 5th-7th, 2013, to review the Regional Phytosanitary Programs
- OIRSA convened the 1st Meeting of the Technical Expert Panel, to elaborate the Regional Quarantine Pests List, on July 9th-10th, 2013. At present organizing this year’s 2nd meeting
- OIRSA is providing training in the ISPMs most useful for NPPO members. On July 23rd, 2013 OIRSA convened a virtual training in ISPM 02-2007 and ISPM 11-2004

Regional Phytosanitary Programs Working

- Palm trees Phytosanitary Program
- Solanaceae Phytosanitary Program

- Musaceae Phytosanitary Program (Phytosanitary Contingency plan for FOC R4T)
- Pineapple Phytosanitary Program
- Citrus and other Fruits Phytosanitary Program
- Basic Grains Phytosanitary Program
- International and Regional Phytosanitary Standards
- Plant Protection & Quarantine Regional Program
- Coffee Leaf Rust Phytosanitary Campaign
- Pink Mealybug Control Regional Phytosanitary Program
- Locust Control Phytosanitary Program

National Phytosanitary Programs in support to NPPO members

- Pest Surveillance
- Pest Diagnosis
- Plant Protection & Quarantine
- Plant Health Operational Support
- Phytosanitary Campaigns Support
- Plant Health Training

Coordination with Regional Plant Protection Organizations

- OIRSA participated at the 36th NAPPO Annual Meeting, on October 15-18, 2012. OIRSA supported the participation of its member countries: Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Dominican Republic
- OIRSA collaborated with NAPPO on the development of the Surveillance protocol for the tomato leaf miner, *Tuta absoluta*
- OIRSA participated at the meetings of the GICSV, on November 2012 and April 2013. NAPPO also participates in this Coordinating Group

Future activities

- Trainings in ISPMs most useful for the NPPO members (ISPM: 06-1997, 08-1998, 07-2011, 12-2011, 17-2002 and 19-2003)
- Programmed Regional PRAs for: *M. cribraria* and *T. absoluta*
- Programmed Regional PRAs for: Rice, Potato and Onion
- Training course in management for NPPO Directors and Deputy Directors
- E-Phyto Regional Support Project

5.10 Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO)

Overview of the PPPO

The PPPO consists of the Members of the Pacific Community. Currently there are 26 Members of the Pacific Community consisting of twenty two (22) Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) and 4 founding members.

Pacific Island Countries and Territories Members are: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru,

New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Palau, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna.

The four founding countries: Australia, France, New Zealand, and the United States of America. The United Kingdom withdrew at the beginning of 1996 from SPC (at the time the South Pacific Commission), rejoined in 1998 and withdrew again in January 2005.

The Biosecurity and Trade Support Group of the Land Resources Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community is the Secretariat of the PPPO.

Standard Setting process

IPPC Regional Meeting (formerly called ISPM review meeting) was held in September 2012 and attended by its members. At the meeting PPPO actively commented on the ISPM standards for review through the OCS.

Also PPPO members spent time discussing their first RPSM standard: Generic Heat Treatment for fruit fly (Tephritidae) host fruit in the Pacific Region.

There was also a list of possible future regional standards the PPPO members would like to see developed:

- Movement of sea containers - delay
- Movement of sand and gravel – **progress - Cook Islands with Kiribati**
- Ballast water - investigate
- Air containers - delay
- Movement of handicrafts – work with IPPC
- Import of used vehicles and machinery – work with APPPC
- Freezing – treatment – **progress with PHAMA**
- Movement of germplasm (plants) – use FAO manuals
- Preclearance procedures (eg machinery) – **progress – New Zealand with Niue and PNG**
- Waste disposal in vessels – **progress with IPPC – Australia with Samoa**

Three topics are to go forward – with guidance from the three IPPC SC members and leading input from the countries noted. PHAMA will work with the Freezing procedure. It was suggested that drafts be submitted to this meeting in 2013 for further work before being sent out for consultation.

Information exchange

PPPO has web page within IPPC. Each Pacific Island country NPPO has their own national page within the IPP. In saying this, there are also designated Country IPP editors for each NPPO who are responsible for updating national information including pest reports in liaison with NPPO contact point and his approval such as Pest Alerts etc.

SPC - BATS has an e-newsletter. The newsletter is a means of sharing any information where it be training workshops, regional meetings etc to all NPPOs in the PICs. It is also open to any other organisation who would like to share information relating to biosecurity is welcomed to use the e-newsletter.

Another area where information is shared to the NPPO in the region is through the PPPO mailing list. This is web based using Mailman platform. This list comprise of all NPPO contacts of the south west

pacific region and is used as an information exchange platform in keeping abreast with regional topical biosecurity and plant protection issues.

Technical assistance

PPPO assists NPPOs in the PICTs to participate in regional workshops and regional meeting such as PPPO Executive Committee meeting, Draft ISPM meeting, PPPO triennial regional meeting, and training organized by IPPC, Australia or New Zealand.

A Draft ISPM review meeting is scheduled for the 9-11 September 2013. This will be held in Nadi, Fiji. Draft ISPM standards sent out by IPPC will be discussed by participants and comments forwarded to IPPC.

The level of implementation or use of each standard varies from PICT to PICT but generally all PICTs have used some of the standards in the delivery of their phytosanitary measures. SPC has assisted PICTs implementation of these standards and will continue to assist within its means.

The Pest List Database (PLD) for the Pacific is an information system to record agricultural pest occurrences within a country and to provide various reports of those pest occurrences. There are two types of the related but separate operating versions of the PLD which are the national stand-alone PLD and the regional online version of the PLD called the Pacific Islands Pest List Database (PILD).

To date 13 countries have the national PLD set up. The PLD systems have been set up both by the agriculture research and biosecurity (quarantine) services of the Agriculture Ministries in these countries. SPC continues to provide technical support to the national systems through refresher training of the national systems on location, regional training and audits of both the regional and national systems.

The SPC-LRD established a biosecurity helpdesk as part of its technical advisory services to better serve its clients (PPPO Members). The helpdesk predominantly receives and processes email enquiries on matters related to biosecurity, trade facilitation and plant protection including advice on import risk analysis

The helpdesk can be contacted by email at spcbiosecurity@spc.int from outside SPC or alternatively by contacting the Biosecurity and Trade Facilitation Adviser at the SPC.

Dispute issues

PPPO has no disputes settlement process in place. To date there has been no dispute that warrants a process within the NPPOs in the PICTs.

Other activities undertaken by PPPO

PPPO is an intergovernmental organization. It's not a self funding body. It runs from project funds that Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) gets from projects that with the Land Resources Division-Biosecurity and Trade thematic team. Most of the activities of the PPPO is also tied up to work that BATS does for the region.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is the secretariat of the PPPO. The co-ordinator of SPC Biosecurity and Trade looks after that office. The Chair for PPPO is Mr Ngatoko Ngatoko – Director for Quarantine in the Cook Islands. And the Vice Chair is Carol Russell from USDA based in Hawaii.

Activities of SPC BATs is somehow the activities of the PPPO

SPC – Biosecurity and Trade Activities

Around the PPPO workplan that was endorsed by the members and the Heads of Agriculture and Forest Services at its meeting in Fiji in 2012. Funding to implement this workplan has been approved by AusAID for another four years.

APPENDIX III: Document submitted by the IAPSC**AFRICAN UNION****UNION AFRICAINE****الاتحاد الأفريقي****UNIÃO AFRICANA****YAOUNDE, CAMEROUN - P. O. Box 4170****Téléphone: 2221 19 69 Fax: 2221 19 67 E-mail: au-cpi@au-ppo.org****INTER-AFRICAN PHYTOSANITARY COUNCIL CONSEIL PHYTOSANITAIRE INTERAFRICAIN**

TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS
25th Session
Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay, 26th – 30th August 2013
Inter - African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC)

1. Standards setting process

The Pan African consultation workshop on the review of the 2012 draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) was scheduled in Douala, Cameroon on 12-14 September by IAPSC. 43 participants from member states` National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs), IPPC secretariat and IAPSC attended the workshop and reviewed 3 draft standards. Substantive and editing comments were made on the drafts using the Online Comment Systems. Member states representative were highlighted on the implementation problems of ISPM15 and possible actions to improve the current situation; introduced to the IPPC technical resources web page; the Overview of Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) and fulfillment of reporting obligations in the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).

IAPSC supported African member states in reviewing documents and agenda of the eight Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-8) scheduled in Rome Italy; by organizing a technical meeting in Entebbe, Uganda on 11-13, March 2013. 27 National Plant Protection Organizations officials from 23 African member states and IAPSC attended the meeting. 22 working documents to be examined at the 8th CPM meeting; were reviewed, for Africa common position; Recommendations were made on the documents and consensus arrived at how to make intervention at the CPM meeting for effective and efficient participation. At the CPM-8 meeting, IAPSC further coordinated participation of member states to side events, evening sessions and various ad-hoc sub-commissions; it supported NPPOs for their presentation at the CPM plenary; and circulated a synthesis of the comments/positions to NPPOs. The honorable participation of the African group at the CPM-8 meeting in Rome, Italy was acknowledged, thanks to the assistance of IAPSC to the delegates.

In prospect, IAPSC is organizing another pan African consultation workshop in Dakar, Senegal on 28-30 September 2013, to review the 2013 draft ISPMs. Invitations have been sent out to different NPPOs officials for participation.

2. IPP editors

African countries IPP editors for each NPPO who are responsible for updating national information including pest reports in liaison with NPPO contact points do face difficulties to cooperate with IAPSC, despite several attempts. IAPSC does not have any opportunity to train African IPP editors since the two (English and French) that were undertaken some years back by FAO in collaboration with our office. Reflection is on-going to improve the situation which impact of those who were trained is not felt.

3. Pest Reporting/information exchange

IAPSC is made up of 54 member states of the African Union. No effort has been undertaken to reschedule the training on how African member states should improve on countries pest reporting. However within the framework of the 2013 budget program funded by the African Union Commission, IAPSC has carried out a field survey in some countries: Burundi, Chad, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Togo and Tunisia to examine their current situation in Biosafety and germplasm exchange, Fruit flies IPM, Pest list update and policy for the harmonization of pesticides registration in Africa. Problems encountered: not all NPPOs are ready to share their pests list. Its establishment is limited by the insufficient resources being it human, materials and financial. The capacity limitation is also marked by the staff rotation after been trained. At time, other African NPPOs do report directly to the IPPC secretariat without acknowledging IAPSC; thus rendering the RPPO coordination work difficult.

4. Electronic certification

During the last meeting, all NPPOs were encouraged to anticipate in the development and exchange of information in the technical consultation. African countries in their majority are still issued manual phytosanitary certificate to facilitate trade of plant and plant products. Only about 3 to 5 countries have initiated working with electronic certificate, regarding some commodities like cut flowers. Effort consists of promoting this practice.

5. Other activities undertaken by IAPSC

IAPSC is an intergovernmental organization in charge of plant protection and quarantine services in Africa. It has elaborated a 4 years strategic plan (2014-2017) which is being scrutinized. A harmonized document for agricultural and public health pesticides registration was developed and distributed to member states for comments. A survey protocol for early detection of emerging pest issues facing respective countries and enhance reporting is under preparation. Most of these activities under implementation fall in the annual budget program funded by the African Union Commission. For the past years the budget program has been reduced; rendering difficult the implementation of approved activities. IAPSC is preparing a TCP with the FAO on Coconut yellowing disease and at the same time organizing a workshop on Pests Rapid Alert and Response systems in Africa. Elaborating a list of pests that are pressing to gain entry and establishment in Africa or emerging pests of concern for the Africa region constitute a major challenge for IAPSC.

APPENDIX IV: Work programme of the Technical Consultation amongst RPPOs (2014)

Activity / Topic		Responsible body
1	Investigate an operative mechanism for pest reporting through RPPOs	Secretariat All RPPOs
2	a) Should CAHFSA enter into force, then they should be made aware of the requirements for recognition as RPPOs or CPPC arrangements be clarified and b) Cooperate in the technical aspects of the establishment.	Secretariat All RPPOs
3	RPPOs support to Regional IPPC workshops	PPPO APPPC EPPO COSAVE OIRSA NEPPO
4	Contingency planning for emerging pests – exchange of information	All RPPOs
5	Electronic certification: encourage all NPPOs to participate in developments and exchange of information in the TC.	All RPPOs Secretariat
6	RPPOs input into the IRSS (Implementation review and support system)	All RPPOs Secretariat
7	Periodic review and update of the Roles and Functions of RPPOs in the framework of the IPPC.	All RPPOs
8	Management of preparations for further TC meetings – periodic communication to provide updates and reminders	All RPPOs Secretariat
9	Support activities intended to encourage NPPOs to implement the Convention and the standards. a) Possible increased involvement by RPPOs in capacity development activities b) Cooperate with the Secretariat in the fulfillment of NROs c) Support the implementation of the IPPC communications work plan	All RPPOs
10	Discussion on new concepts of strategic value for the Convention	All RPPOs
11	Consideration of specific requests coming from the Bureau and CPM bodies	All RPPOs

APPENDIX V: 26th Technical Consultation among RPPOs 2014 – Tentative Agenda

1. Opening of the Technical Consultation
2. Election of the Chairperson, Vice-chair and Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Matters arising from the 25th TC-RPPOs, including post meeting networking and cooperation /Follow up on impacts of the decisions of the 25th TC-RPPOs
5. Information Exchange Platform on RPPO activities (including presentation of the Web sites)
 - a. APPPC
 - b. CA
 - c. COSAVE
 - d. CPPC/CAFHSA
 - e. EPPO
 - f. IAPSC
 - g. NAPPO
 - h. OIRSA
 - i. PPPO
 - j. NEPPO
6. Results of consultations on a Caribbean RPPO
7. Secretariat update
 - a. Standard setting
 - b. National reporting obligations
 - c. IRSS
 - d. Capacity building
 - e. Dispute settlement
 - f. Others
8. Follow-up from CPM-9
9. Topics for future CPM scientific sessions
10. TC Work Plan (standing work plan with annual reviews)
11. TC among RPPOs technical discussions including:
 - a. Current and emerging major pest issues (all RPPOs)
 - b. E-phyto
 - c. Contingency planning
 - d. RPPO input into the implementation review and support system (all RPPOs)

- e. Pests of national concern
12. Other Business
 - Evaluation of the mechanism for inter-session communication
 - Mentoring and cooperation among RPPOs
 - Report for CPM 10
 - Requests from the Bureau
 - Communications work plan
 13. Date and location of next TC
 14. Adoption of the Report of the 25th TC-RPPOs
 15. Closure

APPENDIX VI: List of Participants and Observers

Participants	
<p>Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)</p> <p>Mr Yongfan Piao Executive Secretary Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission c/o FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific Maliwan Mansion 39 Phra Atit Road Bangkok 10200 Thailand Tel: +66 2 697 4268 - Direct line Fax: +66 2 697 4445 E-mail: Yongfan.Piao@fao.org</p>	<p>Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE)</p> <p>Ms Maria Ines Ares President of Directive Committee Southern Cone Plant Health Committee 4703, Millan Avenue Montevideo - Uruguay Tel. and Fax: +5982 2309 22 19 Email: mares@mgap.gub.uy cosave@cosave.org</p> <p>Ms Beatriz Melcho Secretary of COSAVE 4703, Millan Avenue Montevideo - Uruguay Tel. and Fax: +5982 2309 84 10 E-mail: secretaria@cosave.org bmelcho@mgap.gub.uy</p>
<p>European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)</p> <p>Mr Ringolds Arnitis Director-General European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization 21, Boulevard Richard Lenoir 75011 Paris, France Tel: +33-1 4520 7794 Fax: +33-1 7076 6547 Email: ringolds.arnitis@epo.int</p>	<p>North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)</p> <p>Mr Ian McDonell Executive Director North American Plant Protection Organization 1431 Merivale Rd., 3rd Floor, Room 309 Ottawa, ON KIA 0Y9 Canada Tel: +1-613 221 5144 Fax: +1-613 228 2540 Email: ian.mcdonell@nappo.org Web: www.nappo.org</p>
<p>Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO)</p> <p>Mr Mekki Choubani Executive Director c/o ONSSA. Avenue Hadj Ahmed Cherkaoui. Agdal. Rabat. 10090. Tel: +212 673997808 or +212661309104 Fax: +212 537 0682 049 Email: hq.neppo@gmail.com</p>	<p>Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)</p> <p>Mr Jimmy Ruiz Blanco Representative Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA) Calle Ramon Belloso, Pasaje Isolde, Colonia Escalon, San Salvador El Salvador Tel: +506-2220 0624 or +506-2296 8280 Fax: +506-2232-9943 Email: jruiz@oirsa.org Web: www.oirsa.org</p>

Pacific Plant Protection Organization	
<p>Mr Josua Wainiqolo Co-ordinator Biosecurity & Trade Support Land Resources Division Secretariat of the Pacific Community Luke Street, Nabua Private Mail Bag Suva, Fiji Tel: +679 3370733 Fax: +679 3370021 E-mail: josuaw@spc.int Web: www.spc.int</p>	
IPPC Secretariat	
<p>Ms Ana Maria Peralta IPPC Secretariat Plant Production and Protection Division FAO 00153 Rome, Italy Tel: +39-06 5705 5322 Fax: +39-06 5705 4819 Email: ana.peralta@fao.org</p>	<p>Mr Orlando Sosa Agricultural Officer IPPC Secretariat Plant Production and Protection Division FAO 00153 Rome, Italy Tel: +39-06 5705 3613 Fax: +39-06 5705 4819 Email: orlando.sosa@fao.org</p>
Observers	
<p>Ms Kyu-Ock YIM Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency Department of Plant Quarantine Export Management Division 433-1 Anyang-6 dong, Manan-gu, Anyang City (430-016), Gyunggido Republic of Korea Tel: 82-31-420-7664 / 82-10-8752-3132 Fax: 82-31-420-7605 Email: koyim@korea.kr</p>	<p>Ms Maria de Lourdes Fonalleras Especialista Internacional en Sanidad Agropecuaria e Inocuidad de Alimentos. Oficina del IICA en Uruguay Edificio Mercosur, Luis P. Piera 1992, Piso 3, Montevideo, Uruguay. Tel: +598-2- 4101676 Fax: +598-2- 4101778 Email: lourdes.fonalleras@iica.int</p>
<p>Mr Ngatoko Ta Ngatoko Director Biosecurity Service Ministry of Agriculture Government of the Cook Islands Rarotonga, Cook Islands Tel: + 682 28711 Email: nngatoko@agriculture.gov.ck nngatoko@gmail.com</p>	