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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Twelfth Session

Incheon, Republic of Korea , 5-11 April 2017

Emerging Issues

Agenda item 8.4

Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat on previous Bureau paper

I. Background

1. During the Bureau meeting in June 2016 discussions included several agenda items relevant to establishing a means for dealing with emerging issues requiring global action, including funding, following the request by CPM-11 that the Bureau, in consultation with SC and CDC, urgently establish such a means (ref. recommendations agenda item 8.3, CPM report, 2016).

2. The Bureau subsequently provided the SPG a summary of Bureau discussions which took place in June 2016 to progress establishment of a means within the IPPC for dealing with emerging issues requiring global action. The Secretariat advised that the Convention requires the CPM to (ref IPPC ARTICLE XI 2(a): ‘review the state of plant protection in the world and the need for action to control the international spread of pests and their introduction into endangered areas’). This indicates both a mandate and potential scope for emerging pest activities under the authority of the IPPC.

3. During the SPG discussion a suggestion was made that this process be from the bottom up; Contracting Parties (CPs) bring an issue to the CPM, but have to follow certain criteria before the IPPC Secretariat starts engaging in the issue. The need to start small was emphasized as the IPPC is competing for limited resources. The need to prioritize what should be funded, and how to prioritize was also discussed. The SPG was informed that regional meetings have been collecting some of this information already. The SPG appreciated the inclusion of emerging issues and recommended that the topic of emerging pests continues as a standing agenda item to the TC-RPPO, as it may be best positioned to address this topic. It was noted that dealing with emerging pests has to be subject to available resources, including new sources of revenue. However, the SPG wondered how the topic

would fit within IPPC priorities. It was proposed that a follow-up discussion be centered on what can be done in the short, medium and long term.

4. The Secretariat regularly receives requests for advice on pest outbreaks. In such cases it is important to be able to respond quickly through access to immediate support mechanisms for emergency activities. There is an implication that a mechanism beyond side sessions at CPM, or drafting of international standards may be of benefit to CPs and others. Information exchange can be facilitated by the IPPC Secretariat by way of the IPP, in the case of news or pest reports and the phytosanitary resources pages for related technical information (e.g. manuals and materials). The RPPOs also hold material and information that could be used to respond to new and emerging pest issues.

II. Proposed action

5. Given the intent of the CPM to firmly establish the IPPC as a global focal point for plant protection and plant health through CP support for the International Year of Plant Health, Secretariat advocacy and resource mobilization actions, there appears to be a general consensus that some activities could be addressed within the short term, but that a principal decision on this matter should fall within the boundaries of the Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and the ministerial CPM planned for 2020. In the short term, the IPPC Secretariat could assist actions on emerging issues through the expanding information collection and sharing to assist CPs plan, undertake and report actions and outcomes on more than surveillance. This could be a low cost/low resource action that could be implemented by the Secretariat with materials provided by CPs.

6. To assist the development of a framework for information sharing, five areas of information that could be shared to support NPPOs identify, prepare for and respond to emerging pests cover:

- Intelligence
- Analysis
- Awareness
- Information sharing
- Response action

7. The CPM is requested to:

- 1) *endorse* the proposed short term approach,
- 2) *request* the Bureau dedicate an appropriate portion of the June meeting to establish priority ranking as well as criteria and/or rules for this effort in the budget and work plan for the Secretariat, and,
- 3) dependent on the priority *request* that the Bureau includes allowance of sufficient resources for this activity in the sustainable funding model for the IPPC.