



# REPORT

## Regional Workshop of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) / Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia 2017

With the special support of the FAO-China South-South  
Cooperation Programme



**Tbilisi, Georgia**  
**5-8 September 2017**  
**IPPC Secretariat**

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## **Regional workshop of the international plant protection convention (ippc) / food and agriculture organization of the united nations (FAO) for Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia 2017**

### *With the special support of the FAO-China South-South Cooperation Programme*

- [1] The Regional Workshop was held on 05 - 08 September in Tbilisi, Georgia. The Workshop was organized in cooperation with FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, Subregional Office for Central Asia and, with the participation of the National Food Agency of Georgia, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) and with special support of the FAO-China South-South Cooperation Programme. The Workshop was attended by 36 participants from 15 National Plant Protection Organizations, representatives of EPPO, Bureau of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) and IPPC Standards Committee. (List of participants in Annex 1).

## **1. Meeting arrangements**

### **1.1. Opening remarks**

- [2] The Workshop was opened with a welcoming speech by Mr Mamuka Meskhi, Assistant at the FAO Representation in Georgia. Mr Nodar Kereselidze, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Georgia, addressed the participants of the Workshop with a welcoming speech and stressed the importance of the Workshop for the countries of the region in terms of developing their phytosanitary services, exchanging information and knowledge in the field of plant health.
- [3] Participants were also welcomed by Mr Jingyuan Xia, Secretary to the IPPC, Mr Hafiz Muminjanov, Plant Production and Protection Technical Officer, FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia, Mr Martin Ward, EPPO Director General.

### **1.2. Organizational matters**

- [4] Mr Ringolds Arnitis, representative of Latvia, was elected Chairman; Ms Svetlana Lungu, National Agency for Food Security Moldova, was elected Rapporteur.
- [5] The Regional Workshop agenda is available in Annex 2.

## **2. Analysis and discussion**

### **2.1 General Information**

- [6] Ms Ketevan Lomsadze gave a brief overview of the aims of the Workshop. It was noted that the objectives of the Workshop included improvement of skills in the analysis of draft ISPMs, formulation of constructive comments using the examples of draft ISPMs for consultation with member countries; phytosanitary capacity-building; raising awareness on IPPC related activities and exchanging experiences at the regional level. Ms Lomsadze also provided information on the Standards Committee (SC) and the Capacity Development Committee (CDC).
- [7] Mr Jingyuan Xia, Secretary to the IPPC gave an overview of the IPPC Project on Capacity Development with Support from FAO-China SSC Programme. The core activities and budget of the project were presented.
- [8] Mr Zhongwei gave an overview of FAO's Strategy on South-South Cooperation (SSC) and FAO-China SSC Programme. The Programme implies trilateral cooperation; mutual exchange of solutions for development; equilateral relations, that are complementary to traditional cooperation; exchange of practical technologies at all levels prior to political interaction. High priority was given to cooperation with FAO, key achievements, features of capacity building, experiences and lessons learned, examples for international trade promotion.
- [9] Mr Kongming Wu presented the programme "One Belt One Road (OBOR)" aimed at collaboration of different countries and participants on the basis of mutual recognition and cooperation. It was noted that

this project does not have a geographic orientation and the concept can be extended to different countries.

- [10] Mr Corné Van Alphen (CPM Bureau Member for Europe) presented to the participants of the Workshop results of CPM-12, creation of the new Subsidiary Body of the IPPC - Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC); state of discussion of the IPPC Development Agenda 2020-2030. He also announced the celebration of International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) and other activities of IPPC. Participants noted the work of the Secretariat, and its success in promoting information on the activities of the IPPC.
- [11] Mr Orlando Sosa informed the participants of the Workshop about the programme for sustainable funding of the IPPC, the IPPC work programme and future budget.
- [12] Mr Martin Ward gave a brief overview of activities of European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization, its structure, work programme, projects and activities of Euphresco.
- [13] Mr Hafiz Muminjanov presented the activities of FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia on Plant Protection in Central Asia. Mr Artur Shamilov presented the activities of FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia during last year.

#### **a. Draft ISPMs**

- [14] Mr Nico Horn informed the participants about the IPPC standards development process, the list of topics, the schedule for the development and approval of standards, the participation of contracting parties in the process, participation in discussions, the timing of the topics and consultations.
- [15] He also presented the IPPC Online Comment System and innovations of the year 2017. Participants noted improvements in the Online Comment System.
- [16] The following draft ISPMs were reviewed:
- International movement of cut flowers (2008-005)
  - Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure (2014-004)
  - Draft Amendments to ISPM 5 (1994-001)
- [17] Comments approved by the countries were submitted to the OCS and sent to the participants. Countries were once again called upon to send comments on the draft standards to the OCS before the deadline of the IPPC first consultation (September 30<sup>th</sup>) or, if they have no comments, indicate in the OCS that they agree with the submitted drafts or with comments of the RW or EPPO. The participants were informed by the IPPC Secretariat that, after the Workshop, each official contact person should consider the final comments of the Workshop and determine if their organization, accept, change or does not accept them. If comments are accepted without changes, contact persons should respond by simply typing "I agree" below the comment.

#### **b. IPPC-related topics**

- [18] Ms Ketevan Lomsadze informed on the use of integrated measures in a systems approach for pest risk management (ISPM14) and the « Beyond compliance » tool for achieving safe international trade and for pest risk management.
- [19] An overview of the « Beyond compliance » programme included the following features: project tools; production chain framework; decision support system; efficacy and implementation from stakeholder/expert elicitation; control point Probabilistic Production Chain, - all of them designed to meet phytosanitary import requirements.
- [20] Mr Orlando Sosa informed about the current problems in the field of plant health and its consequences, based on the results of surveys, and about future plans.

- [21] Ms Ketevan Lomsadze also presented a project « Call for phytosanitary treatments » and online submissions for the Phytosanitary Resources page.
- [22] Ms Olga Lavrentjeva presented the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) tool; the countries where the PCE was conducted; the case study of Azerbaijan; project on the Training of PCE Facilitators. Representatives of Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Moldova, Georgia informed about their experience of the phytosanitary capacity evaluation.
- [23] Mr Andrei Orlinski and Mr Ringolds Arnitis shared their opinion on the usefulness of the PCE and the training of PCE facilitators.
- [24] Mr Ralf Lopian, Chair of the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) Steering Committee, provided information about the preparation of IYPH on both regional and national levels. He emphasized that the IYPH Steering Committee will get and assess feedback received from all Regional Workshops. Special attention should be paid to informing political decision makers of the significance of plant health.
- [25] Ms Ketevan Lomsadze presented the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP); the web page of phytosanitary resources and technical resources of IPPC. The need to confirm the data on the IPPC official contact points of the countries was emphasized. The Workshop participants stressed the importance of the availability of updated information on the National Reporting Obligations to promote safe trade. The IPPC Secretariat informed that five Regional Workshops on National Reporting Obligations are planned, including in this region.
- [26] Mr Orlando Sosa provided information on the emerging issues in plant health. The Workshop participants were interested in more information on the issue. The Secretariat informed participants that further study of the emerging issues was planned within the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS).

### 3. Experience and information exchange

- [27] Success stories of implementation of pests control or management from CPs:
- [28] Mr Alexander Pavlovich, representative of Belarus, presented information on phytosanitary measures used in Belarus against tomato leaf miner moth *Tuta absoluta*. The work was based on the results of the scientific research carried out by the National Academy of Science, the experience of other countries was considered.
- [29] Mr Nikoloz Meskhi, representative of Georgia, informed the participants of the Workshop about the monitoring and the management strategy of *Halyomorpha halys* in Georgia. Representatives of Turkey noted that this information is very valuable for preventing the pest spread in neighboring countries.

### 4. National surveillance information frameworks and pest data-collection system

- [30] Representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Montenegro, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan provided information on the implementation of phytosanitary surveillance and pest data collection systems. The representative of Georgia informed participants about the FAO locust control programme.
- [31] Mr Martin Ward presented EPPO tools available to assist countries in phytosanitary surveillance and data collection.
- [32] Mr Orlando Sosa presented the IPPC pilot programme on surveillance. He also shared plans for surveillance and information already collected on three example pests: *Xylella fastidiosa*, *Bactrocera dorsalis* and invasive ants.

## 5. Conclusion and recommendations

- [33] The participants expressed their gratitude to the All-Russian Center for Plant Quarantine (VNIIKR) for translating the presentations into Russian and additional materials of the Workshop, as well as to EPPO, for translating the draft standards discussed at the Workshop into Russian.
- [34] Participants of the Regional Workshop and EPPO Panel on CPM Affairs expressed gratitude to National Food Agency and to Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia for the well-organized meetings.
- [35] Participants suggested that the IPPC Standards Committee shall consider introducing the terms "plant protection", "plant health", "phytosanitaria" into ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms. To do so a CP has to submit a proposal for this topic to the IPPC Secretariat. For the term "vegetation period", it was also suggested that the Standards Committee shall consider that some plants are grown for several years, while the cargo moves only in a certain period of the year, and the term 'vegetation period' does not cover several years but a period within one year.
- [36] A general comment on the draft 'Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure' was that legal aspects and administrative responsibility of the parties carrying out fumigation should be carefully considered.
- [37] Wishes were expressed to improve the functioning of the OCS to allow for the exchange of comments in subgroups, since the Workshop participants had problems accessing the comments made in the Regional workshop account.
- [38] To conclude the discussion on draft standards, the participants appreciated the fact that they were able to submit comments in advance. However, within the framework of the Regional Workshop, not enough time was allocated to discussion of the proposed draft standards. It was suggested that at least two full days be allocated for the discussion of draft standards. In future, the number of standards to be discussed and of comments received should be considered when defining the time for discussion.
- [39] Participants were invited to participate in a training on stem rust that will take place in Kenya, as well as on a survey of soil diseases.
- [40] The representative of Montenegro proposed to provide the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool to all interested parties in open access without facilitation by or a need to request access to the IPPC Secretariat.
- [41] To create a comprehensive body of data, participating countries should actively provide information on phytosanitary treatments that will be posted on the page of the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).
- [42] Countries should consider participating in the Global project « Beyond Compliance Global: integrated systems approach for pest risk management » for a more effective application of the systems approach and for conducting market negotiations.
- [43] In terms of supporting the IYPH several issues were raised:
- The IPPC Secretariat and IYPH Steering Committee were called to send letters to the governments of the contracting parties so that they take an active part in the IYPH events.
  - Link the goals of the IYPH with the FAO sustainable development goals
  - The following topics were proposed for conferences at regional / national levels:
    - New technologies
    - Food safety
    - Plant health: use of plant protection products
    - Biosafety / biotechnology - pressures for GMOs
    - Emphasize the importance of phytosanitary policy as distinct from such areas as food safety and animal health

- Threat of the spread of pests
  - Development and role of phytosanitary services
- The following possible activities for the regional / national level were identified:
- Use national fairs and symposia, agriculture, and trade and commodity shows and cultural events to promote plant health issues
  - Plant health bus - at the next Workshop in 2018 to consider the concept of the bus
  - Involving a national celebrity as IYPH Ambassador , including the use of social networks to promote plant protection issues
  - Photo contests on pests
  - Establish hotlines for the public to communicate information on pests
- It is recommended to develop a plan of events for the organization of conferences for the celebration of the International Year of Plant Health in 2020 with the involvement of various groups of people (politicians, business representatives, farmers, children, etc.)
- It is recommended to take part in already planned conferences to raise awareness on the IYPH
- [44] It is recommended that Belarus uses the information accumulated in the framework of the “One Belt One Road (OBOR)” project to monitor the tomato miner moth and to use invertebrate biological control agents and biopesticides/products.

[45] For the next Workshop, to be held in 2018 participants proposed to discuss:

- New tools for phytosanitary inspectors
- Invasive plants
- Conduct a course for Heads of NPPOs on the use of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool.
- To raise awareness on the implementation of standards the following standards were proposed to be considered:
  - ISPM 15 Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade
  - ISPM 38 International movement of seeds
  - ISPM 3 Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms
  - ISPM 04 Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas

[46] Participants are asked to send to the IPPC Secretariat by October 1, 2017:

- Proposals on topics for the regional Workshop in 2018
- Topics on relevant pests to be discussed at a regional Workshop in 2018

[47] It was decided to hold the next regional Workshop on September 3-7, 2018.

[48] Regarding the venue, three proposals were received: the Russian Federation, the Republic of Moldova and Tajikistan. The IPPC Secretariat will make a final decision on the venue of the Workshop in close consultation with the organizers and co-organizers and depending on the financial resources available and cost of the Workshop.

**Annex 1 – List of participants**

Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



International  
Plant Protection  
Convention



NATIONAL  
FOOD  
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**List of Participants**  
**2017 IPPC/FAO Regional Workshop for**  
**Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia**

**With the Special Support of the China-FAO South-South Cooperation Programme**  
**Tbilisi, Georgia**  
**5-8 September, 2017**

**2017 IPPC Theme: Plant Health and Trade Facilitation**

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**Annex 2 – Agenda of the Regional Workshop**

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International  
Plant Protection  
Convention



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**Agenda**  
**2017 IPPC/FAO Regional Workshop for**  
**Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia**

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Tbilisi, Georgia  
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**2017 IPPC Theme: Plant Health and Trade Facilitation**

First Day (5 September, Tuesday)		
Time		Presenter
8:00-9:00	<b>Registration of the participants</b>	
9:00 -9:40	<b>Opening of the session</b> - Welcoming remarks of the organizer  - Host country opening statement  - Other co-organizer's openings  - Introductory presentation on FAO-IPPC-China South-South Cooperation project and the IPPC 2017 annual theme	- <b>Jingyuan Xia - Secretary to the IPPC</b> - <b>Avetik Nersisyan - Agricultural Officer, FAO REU</b>  - <b>Nodar Kereselidze - Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia</b> - <b>Zurab Chekurashvili - Head of the National Food Agency of Georgia</b>  - <b>Martin Ward - Director-General, EPPO</b>  - <b>Hafiz Muminjanov - Plant Production and Protection Technical Officer, FAO SEC</b>  - <b>Jingyuan Xia - Secretary to the IPPC</b>
9:40-9:50	Local and logistical information and arrangements	- <b>NFA</b>
	- election of the Chairperson	- <b>IPPC/FAO</b>
	- election of the Rapporteur	- <b>IPPC/FAO</b>
	- adoption of the Agenda	- <b>Chairperson</b>
9:50-10:50	- Objectives of the workshop  - One Belt and One Road Initiative	- <b>Ketevan Lomsadze - Programme Officer, IPPC Secretariat</b>  - <b>Dr Wu Kongming - Vice President of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China-FAO South-South Cooperation</li> <li>- Updates from CPM-12 (2017) and on IPPC Secretariat activities</li> <li>- Sustainable funding</li> <li>- Update on FAO regional activities</li> <li>- Update on EPPO activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Zhongwei Liu - Programme Officer, Operations Policy and Country Services Division, FAO HQ</li> <li>- Corné Van Alphen - CPM Bureau Member for Europe</li> <li>- Orlando Sosa - Implementation Officer, IPPC Secretariat</li> <li>- Avetik Nersisyan - Agricultural Officer, FAO REU</li> <li>- Martin Ward - Director-General, EPPO</li> </ul>
<b>10:50– 11:10</b>	<b>Group photo Coffee break</b>	
<b>Section 1: Reinforce the capacity of Contracting Parties to formulate productive comments on draft standards</b>		
<b>11:10-11:30</b>	Online Comment System (OCS) and the latest developments	- Nico Horn – Standards Committee Member for Europe
<b>11:30-11:45</b>	Overview of the Standard Setting process	- Nico Horn – Standards Committee Member for Europe
<b>11:45-13:00</b>	Discussion on draft ISPMs (with presentation of the standard and focus on substantive and technical comments gathered prior to the workshop) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International movement of cut flowers and foliage (2008-005)</li> <li>- Requirements for the use of fumigation treatments as a phytosanitary measure (2014-004)</li> <li>- 2017 Amendments to ISPM 5 (1994-001)</li> </ul>	- Nico Horn – Standards Committee member for Europe - Laurence Bouhot-Delduc - Standards Committee Member for Europe
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	
<b>14:00-15:30</b>	Continued: Discussion on draft ISPMs (with presentation of the standard and focus on substantive and technical comments gathered prior to the workshop)	- Nico Horn - Standards Committee Member for Europe
<b>15:30-15:45</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>15:45-17:00</b>	Continued: Discussion on draft ISPMs (with presentation of the standard and focus on substantive and technical comments gathered prior to the workshop)	- Nico Horn – Standards Committee Member for Europe
<b>Second Day (6 September, Wednesday)</b>		
<b>9:00-11:00</b>	Continued: Discussion on draft ISPMs (with presentation of the standard and focus on substantive and technical comments gathered prior to the workshop)	- Nico Horn – Standards Committee Member for Europe
<b>11:00-11:20</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>11:20-13:00</b>	Continued: Discussion on draft ISPMs (with presentation of the standard and focus on substantive and technical comments gathered prior to the workshop)	Nico Horn – Standards Committee Member for Europe
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	

<b>Section 2: Implementation and awareness raising in the framework of the IPPC/FAO/RPPOs</b>		
14:00-15:00	ISPM 14 <i>The use of integrated measures in a systems approach for pest risk management</i> , and the beyond compliance tool	Ketevan Programme Secretariat - Lomsadze Officer, IPPC Secretariat
15:00-15:30	FAO/IPPC Foresight and the questionnaire on emerging issues in plant health: discussion on conclusions for the region	- Orlando Implementation Officer, IPPC Secretariat - FAO/EPPO/Participants
15:30-15:40	Presentation on the Secretariat Call for Phytosanitary Treatments	Ketevan Programme Secretariat - Lomsadze Officer, IPPC Secretariat
15:40-15:55	<b>Coffee break</b>	
15:55-16:40	FAO phytosanitary capacity development activities	FAO regional office
<b>Third Day (7 September, Thursday)</b>		
<b>Section 3: Moving together from ideas to action (Facilitated sessions)</b>		
9:00-10:10	Benefits of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE): experiences from trainees of the 401 project and case studies.	- Olga Lavrentjeva – the IC member for Europe IPPC Secretariat/ - FAO/EPPO/Participants
10:10-11:00	2020 International Year of Plant Health: updates and latest achievements and follow up from last year Regional Workshop from countries	- Ralf Lopian - IYPH Steering Committee Member
11:00-11:20	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11:20-12:00	Demonstration of the IPP and of the phytosanitary.info webpage: facilitated exercise	- Ketevan Programme Secretariat - Lomsadze Officer, IPPC Secretariat - FAO/RPPO/Participants
12:00 -13:00	Success stories of implementation of pests control or management from CPs (continued)	- IPPC Secretariat/ - FAO/RPPO/Participants
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch break</b>	
15:00-19:00	<b>Field trip - 'Djigaura' the Research Base of the Scientific-Research Center of Agriculture</b>	
<b>Fourth Day (8 September, Friday)</b>		
<b>Section 4: Regional plant protection issues</b>		
9:00-11:00	National surveillance information frameworks and pest data-collection system"	<b>All participants</b>
11:00-11:20	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11:20-13:00	Continued: National surveillance information frameworks and pest data-collection system"	<b>All participants</b>
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch break</b>	
14:00-14:30	EPPO tools available to help countries in surveillance and data collection	<b>EPPO Secretariat</b>
14:30-15:30	IPPC implementation pilot programme on surveillance: aggregated information and plans: <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> , <i>Bactrocera dorsalis</i> complex, invasive ants or other species (at the discretion of each region)	- Orlando Implementation Officer, IPPC Secretariat - FAO/RPPO/Participants
15:30-15:45	<b>Coffee break</b>	
15:45 – 16:45	Conclusions of the workshop	<b>Chair</b>
16:45-17:10	Adoption of the report	<b>Chair</b>

<b>17:10-17:30</b>	Online survey of the workshop	<b>All participants</b>
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