



**Terms of Reference of the
SEA CONTAINERS TASK FORCE (SCTF)
(IC Sub-group)**

1. Purpose

- [1] The Sea Containers Task Force (SCTF) will supervise the actions contained in the Sea Container Complementary Action Plan¹ for Assessing and Managing the Pest Threats Associated with Sea Containers, under the oversight of the IC.

2. Duration

- [2] The SCTF will operate until a final report is submitted to CPM-16 (2021).

3. Membership

- [3] SCTF members should have experience relevant to the pest risks on sea containers and their management. The SCTF members may be drawn from contracting parties, RPPOs, international organizations, as follows:

- Up to three representatives of contracting parties
- One representative from the CPM Bureau
- One Lead from the IC
- One representative of the SC
- One representative from the International Maritime Organisation (normally the CTU-Code manager)
- One representative from the RPPOs

4. Invited experts

- [4] The SCTF may invite experts, upon approval by the IC, from the following organizations:

- One former Sea Container Expert Working Group (EWG) member
- One expert from the Container Owners Association (COA)
- One representative from industry, importer/export trading community
- One representative from World Shipping Council (WSC)
- One representative from World Customs Organization (WCO)
- One representative from Global Shippers Forum (GSF)

- [5] Experts from national plant protection organizations (NPPOs), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) may be invited where expertise such as on risk management, implementation experience, economic and financial analysis, is needed to implement the Sea Container Complementary Action Plan.

¹Sea Containers Complementary Action Plan endorsed by CPM 12 (2017) - https://www.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2017/05/CPM-12_Report-2017-05-30_withISPMs.pdf

5. Tasks

[6] The SCTF operates under the guidance and supervision of the IC, and will undertake the following tasks:

1. Measuring the impact of the CTU shipping code through:
 - 1.1. The development of a joint IPPC/International Maritime Organization (IMO)/industry protocol for the collection of data related to contamination of sea containers to be completed by CPM-16 (2021)
 - 1.2. Monitoring the uptake and implementation of the IMO/ILO/United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units through:
 - 1.2.1. Industry reporting
 - 1.2.2. NPPO monitoring
 - 1.3. Verifying the efficacy of the CTU shipping code in ensuring the arrival of clean sea container through:
 - 1.3.1. Monitoring for pest contamination and freedom of soil by NPPOs;
 - 1.3.2. Assisting NPPOs manage pest risks associated with sea containers,
2. Increasing awareness of pest risks of sea container through:
 - 2.1. Publication of the data of the Sea Container Task Force;
 - 2.2. A request for countries having data on contamination of sea containers to make it publically available;
 - 2.3. Calling for and publication of pest risk management guidance material for sea containers;
 - 2.4. Encouraging NPPOs to inform industry on the risks and possible international actions to manage pest risks associated with sea containers;
3. Providing information on pest risks of sea containers and their management;
4. Coordinating with contracting parties, regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs), industry and other international organizations;
5. Establishing a mechanism for contracting parties to report to Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) on their progress and achievements;
6. Providing advice on how the Cargo Transport Unit (CTU) shipping code or any other instrument could be updated;

6. Reporting

[7] The SCTF reports to the IC annually and if necessary, upon request. A final report of the SCTF will be prepared in time to be reviewed and approved by the IC to submit it to CPM-16 (2021).

7. Rules of Procedure

[8] The IC Sub-group Rules of Procedure will apply to the SCTF.

8. Amendments

[9] Amendments to these Terms of Reference, if required, shall be adopted by the IC.