



منظمة الأغذية
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Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fifth Session

Rome, 7-11 April 2003

Programme of Work

Agenda Item 8.9 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The Fourth Session of the ICPM considered a programme of work developed by the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (SPTA) for the period April 2002 to March 2003. This work programme was summarized as Appendix XII in the Report of the Fourth Session of the ICPM. The Secretariat has informed the ICPM regarding the implementation of the work programme for 2002 under Agenda Item 4.
2. The SPTA, at its meeting in October 2002, reviewed the mission statement, strategic directions and goals, and considered the outputs of the work programme in 2002 as the basis for formulating a proposal for the work programme of 2003 to recommend to the Fifth Session of the ICPM. It is noted that this programme anticipates the financial limitations of the current biennial budget that were problematic in 2002, but also indicates opportunities for additions that would accommodate supplemental resources if they became available.
3. As in the past, absolute priority has been given to the annual session of the ICPM and two meetings of the Standards Committee (SC). However, it is planned that only the Working Group of the SC will meet at the first meeting (May 2003). The full membership will meet once afterward (November 2003). The SPTA noted that liaison with other organizations, including participation in the SPS Committee and CBD meetings (e.g. SBSTTA and COP) should also be given high priority in the work programme.
4. The following summarizes the recommendations for the work programme based on the strategic directions:

Strategic Direction No. 1: The development, adoption and monitoring of the implementation of international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPMs)

5. The priorities for standard setting in 2003 are:
 - Glossary of phytosanitary terms—including standards scheduled for review

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- Pest risk analysis for regulated non-quarantine pests—prepare draft
 - Surveillance for citrus canker—complete drafting
 - Inspection methodology—draft to be completed
 - Principles of plant quarantine as related to international trade (ISPM No. 1)—to be reviewed and revised
6. The regular programme anticipates resources for two expert working groups plus the Glossary Working Group. Since substantial drafting has already been done on Surveillance for citrus canker and Inspection methodology, it is suggested that the Secretariat explore the possibility of completing one or both of these standards without convening an additional expert working group. It is further suggested that only a small expert group is required for the revision of ISPM No. 1.
7. In the event that additional resources are available, the SPTA suggests the addition of the following topics which have already been identified as priorities for the work programme by the ICPM:
- Low pest prevalence
 - Revision of ISPM No. 2 (Guidelines for pest risk analysis)
 - Equivalence
8. In addition, the need for regional consultations on draft standards is again highlighted as an important aspect of the standard-setting programme that is identified by the ICPM as a high priority but currently depends entirely on the provision of extra-budgetary resources.

Strategic Direction No. 2: Information exchange

9. Recommendations for the work programme of 2003 are:
- continue the development and improvement of the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP);
 - encourage input of official national information.
10. In the event that additional resources are available, the SPTA suggests the addition of the following topics as appropriate:
- one meeting of the information exchange support group;
 - accelerate improvement of the IPP; and
 - initiate regional training programmes for the IPP.

Strategic Direction No. 3: The provision of dispute settlement mechanisms

11. Recommendations for the work programme of 2003 are:
- one meeting of the new Dispute Settlement Body (in connection with ICPM-5).

Strategic Direction No.4: The development of the phytosanitary capacity of Members by promoting the provision of technical assistance

12. Recommendations for the work programme of 2003 are:
- updating and enhancement of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) in each language;
 - creation and distribution of an updated CD-ROM version of the PCE;
 - one coordination meeting of expert facilitators; and
 - workshops for training on the implementation of PCE.

Strategic Direction No. 5: The maintenance of an effective and efficient administrative framework

13. Recommendation for the work programme of 2003 is one meeting of the SPTA.

14. In the event that additional resources are available, the SPTA suggests that an informal working group dedicated to providing specific guidance on technical assistance initiatives and activities be formed and begin providing guidance to the Secretariat and recommendations to the ICPM.

Strategic Direction No. 6: Promotion of the IPPC and cooperation with relevant international organizations

15. Recommendations to the Secretariat for the work programme of 2003 include:
- attend relevant WTO-SPS Committee meetings;
 - attend relevant CBD meetings;
 - attend main CPPC and APPPC meetings (FAO obligation); and
 - organize and attend the Technical Consultation among regional plant protection organizations.
16. In the event that additional resources are available, the SPTA suggests:
- Secretariat attend and contribute to relevant meetings of RPPOs;
 - Secretariat and the Bureau undertake to establish a programme to promote relations with relevant research and academic institutions;
 - Secretariat liaison with other organizations and institutions as appropriate (e.g. World Bank);
 - Printing and updating of guides and advocacy materials.
17. The ICPM is invited to:
1. *Consider and comment* on the topics and priorities recommended by the SPTA for the 2003 work programme.
 2. *Note* the limitations of the work programme and *suggest* possibilities for expanding the work programme.
 3. *Adopt* a work programme *taking account* of the recommendations of the SPTA.