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农业组织

FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

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ORGANIZACION
DE LAS NACIONES
UNIDAS PARA
LA AGRICULTURA
Y LA ALIMENTACION

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Our Ref.: AGP/729

Your Ref.:

19 January 2007

Subject: Support for Developing Country Attendance at the Second Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, Rome 26-30 March 2007

Dear IPPC National Contact Point,

I refer to the letter from the Director-General, dated 19 December 2006 (ref.G/X/AGP-729), inviting Contracting Parties to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to participate in the Second Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)..

The European Union has again made funds available to support least developed and developing country participation in IPPC-related activities. Some funds have been made available from this special trust fund and from the Trust Fund for the IPPC **to assist with Member (contracting party) participation in the CPM meeting**. Consequently FAO is able to consider providing a financial contribution for the attendance of a limited number of delegates from developing countries at the second session of the CPM. **Highest priority will be given to those developing countries that have not been represented at a previous Commission meeting.** As funds are limited, and the number of contracting parties from developing countries has increased markedly, it is likely that funds will only be available to assist members from the low-income economies and lower-middle-income economies (using the world bank country groupings see web link:

http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/DATASTATISTICS/0,,contentMDK:20421402~pagePK:64133150~piPK:64133175~theSitePK:239419,00.html#Low_income)

and within these, priority will be given to those countries which are prepared to contribute to the cost of attendance (e.g. contracting party pays either their airfare, per diem, or part thereof). Countries that intend to send more than one participant (other than their permanent representative to FAO) will be given low priority for financial assistance. Should funds still be available, consideration will be given to funding upper-middle-income economies on a shared basis. Please note that this assistance:

- (a) is subject to the continued availability of funds with first preference being given to attendance at the CPM by developing countries;
- (b) is available for only **one delegate per country**, to be designated by the Government;
- (c) will consist of:
 - a pre-paid economy class round-trip air ticket,
 - a per diem contribution towards living expenses (to help cover hotel costs) for each day of the five-day meeting, plus one day of travel time, where applicable, which will be made available to the delegate upon arrival at FAO Headquarters in Rome
- (d) will be considered only after formal nomination of the national delegate and at the specific request of the national authorities,

The deadline for receipt of any such request for financial assistance is 15 February 2007. Requests received after this date may not be considered. Requests for assistance should be sent to the IPPC Secretariat as soon as possible (email address: Dolores.boland@fao.org; fax: +39-0657054819).

cc Permanent Representatives to FAO
FAO Representatives
IPPC non-contracting parties for information

Please note that the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention is unable to make hotel arrangements for participants attending the meeting. Participants coming from countries with Permanent Representations in Rome are advised to contact them for assistance in this matter.

Attention is drawn to the strict provisions in force regarding entry into Italy, including the refusal of entry to persons not having the required visas. Participants requiring entry visas must obtain these from the Italian Consulate or Diplomatic Mission in their country before leaving for Rome. It should be noted that, since Italy's adherence to the Schengen Agreement, the issuance of an Italian entry visa may require up to three weeks. Those participants travelling from a country where there is no Italian Consulate or Diplomatic Mission may obtain a visa on arrival in Rome provided that they advise the FAO Protocol Branch, Rome, by fax of their arrival. Participants must provide their full name, date and place of birth, nationality, passport number, flight number, date of arrival and their travel itinerary. This information must reach FAO at least three weeks before the arrival of participants to permit the Protocol Branch to request the issue of an entry visa at Rome airport or other point of entry into Italy. Participants failing to comply with the above will not be allowed by the Italian authorities to enter Italy.

Yours sincerely,

Shivaji Pandey
Acting Secretary
International Plant Protection Convention