



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fifth Session

Rome, 7-11 April 2003

Asia Concerns about the Composition of the Standards Committee

Agenda Item 6.1.2 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The Fourth Session of the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (ICPM) established the Standards Committee following the decisions made the ICPM in its Third Session. Specifically, the ICPM agreed that the Standards Committee would be comprised of three representatives from each of the seven FAO regions except for North America that has two representatives. At the time, Members from the Asian region expressed concerns over the adequate representation of the region in the Standards Committee. The Asia region Members requested that the Fifth Session of the ICPM reconsider the composition of the Standards Committee.
2. The Secretariat requested that the Asia region Members propose an alternative and describe the rationale for their position for consideration by the ICPM. In this regard, the Chairperson of the Asia region noted decisions made in the First Meeting of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture acting as the Interim Committee for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, held in Rome from 9-11 October 2002 with respect to its Expert Group on the Terms of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement. Appendix D of the Report of the meeting states:

The Expert Group shall comprise 24 members, as follows: four members each from Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and Caribbean, and the Near East, and two members each from North America and South West Pacific. Each region will appoint, in addition, an equivalent number of advisors to the members of the Expert Group. It is suggested that advisors may include inter alia, representatives from governments, industry, academia and civil society.

3. The ICPM is informed that the Members of the Asia region are proposing that the ICPM adopt this formula for the composition of the Standards Committee rather than the formula adopted at the Fourth Session of the ICPM.
4. The ICPM is invited to:
 1. *Consider* the proposal from the Members of the Asia region.
 2. Decide if the composition of the Standards Committee should be changed following this proposal.