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INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fifth Session

Rome, 7-11 April 2003

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Cooperation

Agenda Item 8.5 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The IPPC Secretariat and Bureau have continued the programme reported at the Fourth Session of the ICPM in strengthening cooperation between the IPPC and CBD Secretariats and continuing the work of the ICPM in regards GMOs, Biosafety and Invasive Species.
2. Members will recall that the Fourth Session of the ICPM included discussions on considering the relationship of phytosanitary certification to the documentation issues arising from Article 18.2 of the Biosafety Protocol. An informal meeting was held during the Fourth Session of the ICPM where members discussed the use of the phytosanitary certificate to address the documentation issues of the Biosafety Protocol. The meeting recommended that the ICPM not pursue this option at the present time.
3. The ICPM is advised of the following documents and developments.
4. The Secretary to the IPPC attended the CBD Sixth Conference of Parties (COP-6). Several members of the ICPM also sent phytosanitary experts to COP-6 as country representatives. Recommendations presented and recorded in COP-6 Decisions are available from CBD web site at: <http://www.biodiv.org/convention/cops.asp>. The decisions of particular interest to the ICPM are:
 - VI/20, Cooperation with other organizations, initiatives and conventions
 - VI/23, Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.
5. In addition, fifteen *Guiding Principles for the Prevention, Introduction and Mitigation of Impacts of Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats or Species* was considered for adoption by COP-6. Some members of COP have expressed concerns that consensus was not achieved during the adoption of these guiding principles.

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6. The IPPC has responded to requests from COP-6 to take account of threats to biological diversity from alien invasive species in particular when undertaking to develop new or revise existing international standards for phytosanitary measures. Currently, there are three draft supplements to ISPMs relating to the joint work between the IPPC and the CBD:

- Supplement No. 2 to the *Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms: Guidelines on the understanding of Potential Economic Importance and related terms including reference to environmental considerations*;
- Supplement to ISPM No. 11 (*Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests*): *Analysis of environmental risks*;
- Supplement to ISPM Pub. No. 11 (*Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests*): *Pest risk analysis for living modified organisms (LMOs)*.

7. The first two have undergone country consultation and been revised accordingly. The Standards Committee has recommended them for adoption by the ICPM at its present session. Both of these supplements are directly relevant to the CBD programme of work for the implementation of Article 8(h) on alien invasive species and the conservation of biological diversity and follows from Decision VI/23 of the COP-6 which provided for the sectoral implementation of Article 8(h).

8. The third was drafted by an Expert Working Group in Ottawa in September 2002 according to the specifications adopted by the ICPM at its Fourth Session. CBD experts were included in the working group. It is anticipated that this draft supplement will be reviewed by the Standards Committee in May 2003 prior to being distributed to governments for consultation. The drafting of this supplemental standard in collaboration with experts from the CBD is directly related to Decision VI/20 of the COP-6 which calls for cooperation between the IPPC and the CBD with reference to the Cartagena Protocol.

9. The Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (SPTA) that met in Rome in October 2002 gave a high priority to collaboration and liaison efforts between the IPPC and CBD Secretariats. The SPTA noted in particular the importance of continued cooperation between Secretariats with a view to developing possible programmes for collaboration on such activities as training and technical assistance, harmonizing terminology, development of risk analysis procedures, and identifying topics and priorities for research on alien invasive species.

10. The IPPC Secretariat represented FAO as an observer at the CBD Workshop on Liability and Redress in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety held December 2002 in Rome. This workshop was organized by the government of Italy with financial support for the participation of experts provided by the European Community. Approximately 60 participants from governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations attended. The meeting is the first to consider issues of liability and redress pursuant to Article 27 of the Cartagena Protocol. As such, it was primarily to identify issues that need to be more fully considered in subsequent discussions. The scope of any initiative by CBD under Article 27 was a key point. The meeting generally supported the idea of creating a legally binding international instrument and suggested that such an instrument could or should be broader than the mandate under Article 27, that is to say that it may not be limited to the scope of the Cartagena Protocol. For instance, the discussions included examples associated with trade and invasive species.

11. FAO held a meeting on Biosecurity in Food and Agriculture in Bangkok in January 2003 which brought together participants from 38 countries and eight international organizations, including CBD, Codex Alimentarius, IPPC and OIE. The consultation recognized the advantages of a more coherent, holistic approach to biosecurity that sought synergies between the sectors at national and international levels, without necessarily creating new or unified structures. The central importance of capacity building and risk analysis were recognized, especially as regards assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition to establish and sustain their biosecurity systems and to meet international standards. Both the IPPC's International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) and the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) were viewed as

models which would help to develop this capacity. International organizations such as Codex, IPPC, OIE, and CBD were requested to consider, where appropriate, applying coherent risk analysis methodologies in different sectors by jointly analysing differences and commonalities in approaches and harmonized terminology. The Secretariat may report to the ICPM on further initiatives under this programme.

12. Following is a listing of CBD-related meetings where the IPPC Secretariat was represented:

- Sixth Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-6), 7-19 April 2002, The Hague, The Netherlands
- Third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 22-26 April 2002, The Hague, The Netherlands
- CBD/BioNet International Third Global Taxonomy Workshop, 8-12 July 2002, Pretoria, South Africa
- Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP) Workshop, Invasive Alien Species: Forging Cooperation through South & Southeast Asia, 13-14 August 2002, Bangkok, Thailand
- Convention on Biological Diversity Workshop on Liability and Redress (in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety), 2-4 December 2002, Rome, Italy
- FAO Technical Consultation on Biological Risk Management in Food and Agriculture, 13-17 January 2003, Bangkok, Thailand.

13. The IPPC Secretariat has continued discussions with the CBD Secretariat regarding the completion of a Memorandum of Cooperation which recognizes the overlapping objectives of the IPPC and CBD and calls for strengthening cooperation between the agreements, and which identifies areas for collaboration, in particular to:

- promote cooperation between the respective secretariats including through regular exchange of information on relevant activities, participation of staff of each secretariat in relevant meetings, and cooperation in the preparation of official documents;
- encourage cooperation and information exchange between the respective focal points of the conventions, and the Cartagena Protocol;
- promote and facilitate mutual technical support to promote capacity building at national and regional levels;
- promote linkages between the information systems established under the IPPC and the CBD;
- facilitate, as appropriate, the participation of technical experts of each convention, and the Cartagena Protocol, in relevant work of the other; and
- facilitate synergy between the work of the CBD Conference of Parties, or the Meeting of Parties of the Cartagena Protocol, and the ICPM in relevant matters, including as appropriate the development of international standards that relate to common interests of the two conventions, and to the Cartagena Protocol.

14. The IPPC Secretariat will be holding a joint meeting with the CBD Secretariat in February 2003 in Montreal, Canada. A report from this meeting will be presented to the ICPM.

15. The Government of Germany has provided resources for a Consultation on the Role of the IPPC for Managing Risks of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) to be held 22-26 September 2003 in Braunschweig, Germany. The IPPC Secretariat, working with the relevant German authority will organize this meeting. Funding will be available for participants from countries requiring assistance.

16. The ICPM is invited to:

1. *Note* recent decisions and developments resulting from COP-6.
2. *Express its appreciation* to the CBD Secretariat and experts for their contributions to the ICPM's work programme.
3. *Support* the strategic directions set out by the SPTA which give a high priority to ongoing collaboration and liaison between the IPPC and the CBD.

4. *Note* that CBD initiatives on liability and redress have the potential to overlap with the IPPC and also WTO Agreements, and *consult* with relevant authorities in their capitals regarding further developments on national positions associated with liability and redress in order to ensure a broad, common understanding of the purpose and need for such initiatives of implications for governments and compatibility with other obligations.
5. *Support* the work of the Secretariat in representing the ICPM at meetings relevant to the CBD.
6. *Note* the work of FAO on Biosecurity.
7. *Encourage* interested Members to participate in the workshop on IAS.