



منظمة الأغذية
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联合国
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et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fourth Session

Rome, 11-15 March 2002

Annotated Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of the Session

Mr. Jacques Diouf, Director General of FAO is expected to open the session and note the 50th anniversary of the IPPC. Mr. Diouf will be followed by two keynote speakers:

- Mr. Kari Bergholm (Finland), retired Ambassador and first Chairperson of the Committee on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee) of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Mr. William Ehlers (Uruguay), current Chairperson of the WTO-SPS Committee.

The speakers are expected to reflect on the current and future position of the IPPC based on their different personal, national, and international perspectives. It is anticipated that they will offer their views on expectations and challenges facing the IPPC and highlight important points for ICPM Members to consider in the present session and for the future.

An anniversary reception hosted by FAO is planned for the evening of the opening day.

2. Adoption of the Agenda (ICPM 02/1)

The Chairperson will invite Members and the Secretariat to consider the Provisional Agenda and to agree on modifications prior to adoption. The Secretariat will propose the addition of the following agenda items:

- 4.4 CBD-IPPC Cooperation (Report of the Secretariat) (ICPM 02/7)
- 4.5 Budget (Report of the Secretariat) (ICPM 02/8)
- 6.4 Establishment of Procedures for Identifying Topics and Priorities for Standards (ICPM 02/19)

The Secretariat will further suggest that discussions on Directed financial assistance for standard setting (Agenda item 6.3: ICPM 02/15) and the Establishment of procedures for identifying topics and priorities for standards (Agenda item 6.4: ICPM 02/19) be combined under Agenda item 6.4 because the topics are closely related.

The Chairperson will note certain practical issues associated with agenda items that require preparation outside the plenary session. In particular, Members will be asked to put forward their nominations for the Standards Committee (ICPM 02/10) and the Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement (ICPM 02/11). Arrangements for delegations to meet in regional groups to confirm their nominations will be described by the Secretariat.

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The Secretariat will identify documents for the meeting and indicate any corrections or additions.

3. Report of the Chairperson (ICPM 02/3)

The Chairperson will comment on results from the implementation of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE). He will highlight the need for changes in the approach to technical assistance and the relevance of PCE experiences to the role of the ICPM in promoting the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs. The Chairperson will also emphasize the importance of recommendations made by the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance as regards PCE (ICPM 02/16).

4. Report of the Secretariat

The Secretariat has submitted reports and information to the ICPM regarding the status of the work programme, the Secretariat's activities and budget. The Secretariat may report of further developments in certain areas of the work programme.

4.1 Standard Setting (ICPM 02/4)

The Secretariat has summarized the status of the work programme for standard setting. The ICPM will be invited to comment on the work programme and may also find the summary useful as a reference for discussions on Topics and priorities for standards (Agenda item 7.1).

4.2 Information Exchange and the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) (ICPM 02/5)

The Secretariat has summarized the status of the work programme regarding information exchange including progress toward the establishment of the IPP. The ICPM will be invited to comment on the work programme and may find the summary useful as a reference for discussions under Strategic planning and technical assistance (Agenda item 6.3).

4.3 Technical Assistance (ICPM 02/6)

The Secretariat has summarized the status of the work programme regarding technical assistance including the implementation of the PCE. The ICPM will be invited to comment on the work programme and may find the summary useful as a reference for discussions under Strategic planning and technical assistance (Agenda item 6.3).

4.4 CBD-IPPC Cooperation (ICPM 02/7)

The Secretariat will suggest the addition of this agenda item to inform the ICPM of activities over the past year related to cooperation with the CBD. In particular, the ICPM will be asked to note the implications for phytosanitary certification as regards documentation issues arising from Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol for Biosafety. In addition, the Secretariat and FAO Legal Office may provide information on progress toward the establishment of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the IPPC and CBD. The ICPM will be invited to comment on current and planned activities in relation to CBD cooperation.

4.5 Budget (ICPM 02/8)

The Secretariat will suggest the addition of this agenda item to summarize the budget for the work programme during 2001-2002. The Secretariat may update, correct or clarify information regarding the financial situation in 2001 and the situation anticipated in 2002. The ICPM will be invited to comment and may find the summary useful as a reference for discussions under Strategic planning and technical assistance (Agenda item 6.3).

5. Adoption of International Standards (ICPM 02/9 and annexes)

The Interim Standards Committee has submitted four new standards plus amendments to the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms and a detailed specification for standards on living modified organisms. The ICPM will be asked to adopt the documents and also certain recommendations.

6. Items Arising from the Third Session of the ICPM

At its Third Session, the ICPM agreed to undertake several activities during 2001 and identified certain actions that would be undertaken at its Fourth Session. In particular, the ICPM will be asked to confirm nominations for two subsidiary bodies, consider the recommendations of the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance, consider the establishment of trust funds and agreed on a work programme.

6.1 Establishment of the Standards Committee (ICPM 02/10)

ICPM Members will be requested to put forward their nominations for the Standards Committee. The Secretariat will make provision for delegations to meet in regional groups in advance if necessary to decide their nominations. The ICPM will be invited to confirm the nominations. An informal meeting of Standards Committee Members attending the Session will be organized by the Secretariat to begin planning for the first meeting of the Standards Committee.

6.2 Establishment of a Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement (ICPM 02/11)

ICPM Members will be requested to put forward their nominations for the Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement. The Secretariat will make provision for delegations to meet in regional groups in advance if necessary to decide their nominations. The ICPM will be invited to confirm the nominations. An informal meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement Members attending the Session will be organized by the Secretariat to begin planning future activities.

6.3 Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance

The Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance has put forward recommendations for changes in the ICPM's Strategic Plan (ICPM 02/12 and annex). The ICPM will be invited to consider and adopt the recommendations.

ICPM 02/13 provides a summary of ICPM capacity regarding funding and staffing for the work programme. It proposes the establishment of a core work programme and new emphasis on the participation of developing countries. A shift in resources to enhance staffing in the Secretariat is also proposed. The ICPM will be asked to agree on the desired level of work programme activity and proposed staffing changes. Closely related documents and discussions under this same agenda item include The Establishment of Trust Funds (ICPM 02/14) and Programme of Work (ICPM 02/17).

The Secretariat has provided information regarding the establishment of trust funds according to the recommendations of the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (ICPM 02/14 and annexes). Draft financial guidelines are proposed and information regarding the current scale of contributions used by FAO is provided as a possible basis for establishing voluntary assessed contributions. The ICPM will be invited to support the establishment of trust funds as proposed and to adopt financial guidelines for this purpose. Discussions and information regarding the desired level of activity for the work programme will be especially relevant.

ICPM 02/16 summarizes the recommendations of the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance, in particular as regards its interim role as the ad hoc Working Group on Technical Assistance. The recommendations focus on support for the implementation and further development of the PCE (also highlighted by the Chairperson in his opening comments). The ICPM will be asked to agree to greater support for PCE, considering also the other aspects of the work programme and available resources.

A Programme of Work (ICPM 02/17) and Provisional Calendar (ICPM 02/18) have been proposed by the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance. The work programme and calendar may be revised by the ICPM considering:

- the level of work programme activity desired by the ICPM
- priorities identified by the ICPM
- available and anticipated resources, including staff
- openings in the calendar.

Information and discussions from Agenda item 4 (Report of the Secretariat) will be useful for these discussions in addition to information and discussions from other areas of Agenda item 6.3 (Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance) and Agenda item 7.1 (Topics and priorities for standards). The Chairperson may delay finalizing this point until after completing discussions on Agenda item 7.1.

6.4 Establishment of Procedures for Identifying Topics and Priorities for Standards (ICPM 02/19)

The Secretariat will propose that this agenda item include the discussion of sponsorship of standards that arises under Agenda item 6.3. For this discussion, the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance has provided the ICPM with proposed rules for the sponsorship of standards (ICPM02/15). The proposal includes the amendment of previously agreed criteria and the establishment of new requirements which the ICPM will be invited to adopt. This should be considered in parallel with the proposed procedures for identifying topics and priorities for standards.

7. Work Programme for Harmonization

7.1 Topics and Priorities for Standards (ICPM 02/20)

The Secretariat has provided a summary of topics and priorities that includes standards for review and revision, topics previously identified, new topics proposed by Members or organizations, and topics identified by the Secretariat. The ICPM will be invited to discuss and agree on topics and priorities for standards. These discussions will be necessary for finalizing the work programme and calendar under Agenda item 6.3.

8. Status of the IPPC

8.1 Acceptance of the IPPC (1997) and Interim Measures (ICPM 02/21)

The Secretariat has summarized the current status of acceptance and adherence to the Convention, and the implementation of interim measures adopted by FAO Conference when the amendments to the IPPC were adopted in 1997. The Secretariat will update the ICPM on further developments. The ICPM will be invited to comment on the status of the IPPC.

9. Report of the Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (ICPM 02/22)

A summary of the 13th Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations is provided to the ICPM for review and comment. RPPOs may be offered the opportunity to add comments on this point.

9.1 Procedure for the Recognition of Regional Plant Protection Organizations (ICPM 02/23)

The 13th Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations has provided the ICPM with a proposed procedure for the recognition of regional plant protection organizations. The ICPM may adopt the procedure.

10. Other Business

The ICPM and Secretariat may add items of other business for information or discussion.

10.1 Concerns Regarding the Implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs (Chairperson) (ICPM 02/24)

The Chairperson suggests the addition of a permanent agenda item regarding the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs. The ICPM will be invited to consider adding this item to future agendas.

11. Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

The ICPM will be invited to decide the date and venue of its Fifth Session. It is noted that construction works on FAO Headquarters buildings during 2002-2003 are likely to affect the timing and availability of facilities in Rome. The Secretariat will provide updated information about facilities and dates.

12. Adoption of the Report

The Secretariat and Rapporteur will provide the ICPM with a report of the meeting for adoption.