



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

### Fourth Session

Rome, 11-15 March 2002

### Establishment of Procedures for Identifying Topics and Priorities for Standards

### Agenda Item 6.4 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The First Session of the ICPM established a series of criteria for setting the topics and priorities of standards. These are the following:

- level of trade affected by non-existence of a particular standard
- frequency with which a particular issue emerges as a repeated source of trade disruption
- feasibility of applying an international standard at a global level
- feasibility of developing and implementing the ISPM within a reasonable time schedule
- stage of development of the international standard
- relevance and utility to developing countries
- emergency need for the international standard
- relevance and value to the total framework of standards
- availability of expertise needed to develop the proposed international standard and
- availability of external resources to support preparation of a standard.

2. In Document ICPM 02/15 it is recommended to the Fourth Session of the ICPM that the last item on this list of criteria be deleted considering certain financial issues relating to directed funding for the development of standards.

3. In the report of the Third Session of the ICPM the decisions of a Working Group on topics and priorities for standards agreed by the ICPM are noted as follows:

The ICPM:

1. decided that new standards can be proposed by:
  - NPPOs
  - RPPOs
  - the IPPC Secretariat and
  - the WTO-SPS Committee.
2. noted that other organisations, such as the CBD, could proposed topics through th IPPC Secretariat

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3. decided that topics for standards should fit into a loose framework of the following categories:
  - urgent issues
  - foundation standards to address fundamental concepts (e.g. treatment efficacy or inspection methodology)
  - developing country concerns
  - review and updating of current standards, including the Glossary
4. decided that further development of specific procedures for identifying topics and setting priorities for standards should be undertaken by the Working Group on Strategic Planning. These procedures should include provisions for consultation procedures.

4. At its third meeting in December 2001, the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance considered the above sections from the Reports of the First and Third Sessions of the ICPM and made the following recommendations for a procedure as follows:

October - the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance recommends strategic priorities for standards.

April - The Strategic priorities identified by the Informal Working Group are reviewed and adopted by the ICPM.

June - The Secretariat, at the time that draft standards are sent to Members for consultation:

- requests submissions for new topics from Members
- communicates the recommendations adopted by the ICPM.

November - The Standards Committee reviews the topics submitted by members taking into account policy guidance from the Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance and formulates recommendations to submit to the ICPM.

April - The ICPM reviews the recommendations and decides the topics and priorities for the work programme.

5. The ICPM is invited to:

1. *Adopt* the procedure proposed by the Informal Working Group for the identification of topics and priorities for standards.