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Alimentación

INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fourth Session

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Procedure for the Recognition of Regional Plant Protection Organizations

Agenda Item 9.1 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The Twelfth Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations, at its meeting in October 2000, formulated *Guidelines for the Recognition of RPPOs*. These draft guidelines were submitted to the ICPM at its Third Session and were adopted by the ICPM as the basis for the recognition of RPPOs according to Article XI.2e of the IPPC (1997).
2. The ICPM agreed that the guidelines would not be applied to RPPOs already recognized under the IPPC but rather to any new organization that expressed the desire to be recognized as an RPPO. The ICPM recommended that the next Technical Consultation among RPPOs develop procedures to describe how the guidelines should be implemented.
3. The Thirteenth Technical Consultation among RPPOs, meeting 29-31 October 2001 in Auckland, New Zealand, considered and formulated procedures for implementation of the guidelines. The procedures proposed by the Technical Consultation were subsequently reviewed and approved by the FAO Legal Office as follows:

Procedure for the Recognition of New RPPOs

4. The recognition procedure for new RPPOs should be composed of four steps:
 1. The prospective RPPO presents documentation authenticating an inter-governmental agreement and a written request for recognition as an RPPO under Article IX of the IPPC (1997) to the Chairperson of the ICPM.
 2. The FAO Legal Counsel reviews the legal status of the submission.
 3. The Technical Consultation among RPPOs assesses whether the prospective RPPO meets the ICPM Guidelines for the Recognition of RPPOs. These Guidelines, as adopted by the ICPM, have as a minimum the following functions:
 - coordinate the activities among National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) in the regions covered, in order to achieve the objectives of the IPPC (1997)
 - harmonize phytosanitary measures

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- participate in activities to promote the objectives of the IPPC (1997) and
 - gather and disseminate information.
4. The Technical Consultation submits a recommendation for consideration by the ICPM.

 5. The ICPM is invited to:
 1. *Adopt* the procedures proposed by the Thirteenth Technical Consultation among RPPOs.