

January 2002



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للامم 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

#### Concerns Regarding the Implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs (Note from the Chairperson)

#### Agenda Item 10.1 of the Provisional Agenda

1. One of the main objectives of the IPPC is the harmonization of phytosanitary measures. Harmonization is realized through standard setting that is identified in Article XI as a specific function of the ICPM. However, it is increasingly clear that standard setting alone does not achieve the objective of harmonization unless countries also have the capability to implement the standards that are adopted.
2. The recent application of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) in developing countries has provided significant insight into the capabilities of countries to properly implement international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPMs). Based on PCE results from approximately 20 developing countries, it appears that many important implementation issues exist. The ICPM may benefit from understanding implementation issues and countries may benefit from sharing their experiences and concerns with other Members.
3. It is therefore proposed that a standing item be included in the ICPM agenda which would allow countries to provide statements associated with the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs. It is further proposed that the statements provided under this agenda item be submitted in writing to the Secretariat sufficiently in advance of the ICPM to allow for distribution prior to the meeting. Where such statements refer to other countries, it is proposed that the statement must be shared with the countries in question to allow for a response in advance of the ICPM.
4. The ICPM is invited to:
  1. *Modify* the ICPM agenda to include a standing item titled “Concerns regarding the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs.”
  2. *Specify* that statements under this agenda item be submitted to the Secretariat in writing sufficiently in advance to allow for distribution prior to the ICPM meeting.
  3. *Specify* that any statements referring to other countries be also provided to the referenced countries sufficiently in advance for the country(ies) to prepare and submit a response if desired.

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