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INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Seventh Session

Rome, 4 – 8 April 2005

Summary Report of the Sixteenth Technical Consultation Among Regional Plant Protection Organizations

Agenda Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda

The Sixteenth Technical Consultation (TC) among Regional Plant Protection Organizations held in Nairobi Kenya, August 29- September 03 discussed issues of regional and global importance in the context of international cooperation in phytosanitary measures. The full report is available on the IPP. Several issues discussed by the TC are dealt with in the ICPM as separate agenda items.

1. **Role and functions of RPPOs**

The TC reviewed the paper developed by the Focus Group meeting on the role and functions of RPPOs. This matter is discussed further under agenda item 8.8.

2. **Attendance of meetings**

The TC considered that as many RPPOs as possible should attend the TC and urged the IPPC Secretariat to facilitate the attendance of its two Commissions, the Caribbean Plant Protection Organization (in its present or future form) and the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission, at future TCs.

3. **Electronic certification**

A presentation on electronic certification was made. The TC recognized the benefits of electronic certification but also acknowledged the resource problems associated with its implementation which could cause difficulties for many countries. The TC recommended that the IPPC should work jointly with CODEX and OIE on electronic certification in order to avoid overlap, save resources, enhance synergy and establish a harmonized system in the SPS area. In order to implement this recommendation, the TC further recommended that the ICPM establish a work programme including:

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- Presentation of the electronic certification model to ICPM-7.
- Contact CODEX and OIE to establish a common agenda on electronic certification, to be approved by ICPM.
- Identify potential resources to support the implementation of electronic certification.
- Include electronic certification in IPPC technical assistance programmes.

Electronic certification is dealt with under agenda item 7.1.4.

4. **Organization of TCs**

The TC also considered practical arrangements involved with organizing a technical consultation (see Appendix III of the full report. The TC recommended that the proposed arrangements be forwarded to the ICPM for consideration and adoption. Issues covered included, timing, location, structure, organization, responsibilities, agenda, documentation and reports (see also ICPM 2005/12 paragraphs 7 and 9).

5. **Work programme for 2004-2005**

The TC developed a work programme for 2004 -2005 given at Appendix IV of the full report. This work programme includes:

- Consultation on difficulties with implementation of ISPMs 6, 19 and 21
- Recommendations on the development of explanatory documents
- Regional cooperation on PRA
- Discussion of the general concept of accreditation at the 17th TC
- Consideration of subject for future ISPMs at the 17th TC to be forwarded to the ICPM in 2006 and
- A meeting of the organizing committee of the 17th TC to be held at the time of the ICPM in 2005.

6. **Venue of the 17th TC**

The 17th TC will be hosted by COSAVE in Brazil, on 29 August-2 September 2005. The TC decided that an organizing committee composed of COSAVE, the PPPO and NAPPO would meet on an ad hoc basis at the time of the 7th session of the ICPM.