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FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
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UNITED NATIONS

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UNIES POUR
L'ALIMENTATION
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ORGANIZACION
DE LAS NACIONES
UNIDAS PARA
LA AGRICULTURA
Y LA ALIMENTACION

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Invitation to the First Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures

Rome, Italy, 3 – 7 April 2006

Reply requested by 24 February 2006

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has the honour to refer to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC, new revised version), which came into force on 2 October 2005 and has the honour to extend an invitation to attend the First Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). The Session will be held at FAO Headquarters in Rome from 3 to 7 April 2006. The opening meeting will begin at 10.00 hours on Monday 3 April 2006.

The Session is being convened under the provisions of Article XI of the International Plant Protection Convention (1997) and is open to all Contracting Parties to the Convention.

The Session will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish.

... The Provisional Agenda is enclosed. Working documents will be mailed under separate cover and will be made available on the International Phytosanitary Portal: www.ippc.int.

The Director-General would appreciate receiving by 24 February 2006 the name(s) of a representative or representatives designated to participate in this Session. The name(s), official title(s) and address(es), including telephone and facsimile numbers and e-mail address(es) of the representative(s) designated to attend should be communicated to the Secretariat at the following address:

Secretariat of the IPPC
Plant Protection Service (AGPP)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy
Tel: (+39 06) 5705 4812
Fax: (+39 06) 5705 4819
e-mail: IPPC@fao.org

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The credentials of the representative(s) as well as the names of alternate representatives and advisers should be submitted to the Secretariat, if possible, not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. The credentials should be issued either by the head of State or Government, the Minister of Foreign Affairs or Minister of Agriculture or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. If credentials are submitted in copy or by fax, the original should be submitted upon registration. An example of credentials, issued by a Minister of Foreign Affairs, is attached for your information. Please note that submission of credentials prior to the meeting would greatly facilitate the advance clearing process by the Secretariat.

Attention is drawn to the strict provisions in force regarding entry into Italy, including the refusal of entry to persons not having the required visas. Participants requiring entry visas must obtain these from the Italian Consulate or Diplomatic Mission in their country before leaving for Rome. It should be noted that, since Italy's adherence to the Schengen Agreement, the issuance of an Italian entry visa may require up to three weeks. Those participants travelling from a country where there is no Italian Consulate or Diplomatic Mission may obtain a visa on arrival in Rome provided that they advise the FAO Protocol Branch, Rome, by fax of their arrival. Participants must provide their full name, date and place of birth, nationality, passport number, flight number, date of arrival and their travel itinerary. This information must reach FAO at least three weeks before the arrival of participants to permit the Protocol Branch to request the issue of an entry visa at Rome airport or other point of entry into Italy. Participants failing to comply with the above will not be allowed by the Italian authorities to enter Italy.

FAO is a smoke-free area. Smoking is not permitted inside any of the FAO buildings.

CREDENTIALS
(Sample)

[Name of Ministry]

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF [STATE]

Considering that it is desirable that the Government of [State] will be represented at the first session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, to be convened in Rome from 03 to 07 April 2006,

HAS DECIDED

To appoint a delegation which shall be entitled to take part in the above-mentioned meeting and to designate as:

Representative

[Name] – [Position]

Alternative representative(s)

[Name] – [Position]

[Name] – [Position]

Adviser(s)

[Name] – [Position]

[Name] – [Position]

Signed and sealed at [place and date]

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOR ARABIC, FRENCH AND SPANISH TRANSLATION