

January 2006



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

E

## COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

### First Session

Rome, 3 – 7 April 2006

### Summary Report of the Seventeenth Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations

### Agenda Item 9 of the Provisional Agenda

1. The Seventeenth Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC of RPPOs) was held in São Paulo, Brazil, on 29 August - 2 September 2005. The following RPPOs were represented: Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE), European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC), North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA) and Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO). The meeting was organized into a section on technical issues, a workshop on accreditation and a field-day on citrus production. The full report of the meeting is available on the IPP.

#### I. Lack of attendance by some RPPOs at the TC

2. Concern was expressed at the lack of attendance by some RPPOs at the TC. Notably the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) and the Caribbean Plant Protection Commission (CPPC) were not represented (and had not attended the TC in 2004). The TC of RPPOs could not fully represent international opinion without the participation of all RPPOs, and the IPPC Secretariat was requested to ensure that the benefits from attending the TC and the need for representation was clearly communicated to all.

#### II. IPPC financial situation

3. The meeting was informed that the arrears funding would no longer be available and that there would effectively be a 25% decrease in available funding. RPPOs were encouraged to make their members aware of the need to support the IPPC at the FAO Conference.

For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.  
Most FAO meeting documents are available on Internet at [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

### **III. Evaluation of the IPPC**

4. At its Seventh Session in 2005, the ICPM requested an evaluation to be carried out on the IPPC as soon as possible. The FAO Evaluation Service had developed and sent draft terms of reference for the Independent Evaluation of the Workings of the IPPC and its Institutional Arrangements to the IPPC contact points for comment. RPPOs agreed to encourage their members to actively participate.

### **IV. Regional standards**

5. Each RPPO described regional standards under development. These covered a wide range of topics including: biological control, electronic certification, transgenic arthropods, plants for planting, general phytosanitary measures, pest-specific phytosanitary requirements, phytosanitary procedures, schemes for the production of healthy plants for planting, pest risk analysis, diagnostic protocols for regulated pests, commodity-specific phytosanitary measures, and national regulatory control systems.

6. EPPO described standards to be presented for approval at its Council Session in September 2005, which included: diagnostic protocols (17), sampling of consignments for visual phytosanitary inspection, management of plant health risks associated with the use of biowaste of plant origin, intentional import of living organism that are plant pests or potential plant pests, national regulatory control system for *Diabrotica virgifera*, phytosanitary procedures on requirements for production of pathogen-free minitubers and microplants of potato (revision).

### **V. Involvement in regional workshops on draft ISPMs and comments on draft ISPMs under consultation**

7. The role of RPPOs was clarified. It was noted that the NPPO responses were considered official and had to be taken into consideration by the Standards Committee. The regional workshops could assist NPPOs in preparing their own national responses. The TC recommended that the RPPOs should further encourage their members to send their individual comments on draft ISPMs and that a clear statement should inform NPPOs of the non-official status of documents produced during regional workshops on draft ISPMs.

### **VI. Production of technical papers for the work of EWGs on priorities for ISPMs approved at ICPM-7**

8. The TC considered the list of priorities for standard development approved at ICPM-7. NAPPO commented that it had a number of standards that could be used as technical papers, e.g. those on pest free areas for fruit flies and on plants for planting. EPPO reported that its standard on the management of plant health risks associated with the use of biowaste of plant origin could be useful for the preparation of the standard on organic fertilizers.

### **VII. Elaboration on a background document on the use of "should", "shall", "must" and "may" in ISPMs**

9. As requested by ICPM-7, the TC reviewed a paper prepared by the IPPC Secretariat with input from FAO Legal Counsel, which analyzed the obligation associated with different terms currently used in ISPMs, i.e. may, should, shall and must. Some changes were made and the TC asked the Secretariat to present a revised document to the SPTA. This topic is discussed in document CPM 2006/17 under agenda item 12.5.1.

### **VIII. Document on organization of reference laboratories**

10. The TC discussed the value of reference laboratories. It was agreed to hold a symposium on reference laboratories at the next TC, and that the symposium address four distinct areas, i.e. rationale for reference laboratories, technical requirements and capabilities of the reference laboratories, organizational structure, analysis of the economic viability.

### **IX. Next year's meeting venue**

11. It was agreed that the IPPC Secretariat would host the 18th TC in Rome, Italy, during the period 4-8 September 2006. The organizing committee would be composed of EPPO, NAPPO and the IPPC Secretariat, and would meet during the 2006 CPM meeting in Rome.