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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Eighth Session
Rome, 08-12 April 2013
Guidelines for Nomination, Selection and Rotation of the CPM Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
Agenda item 7.1.2
Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat

Background

1. The Focus Group (FG) on Drafting Rules of Procedure (RoP) for the nomination, selection and rotation of the CPM Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons met in Rome from 21st to 23rd August 2012. The report of the FG meeting was presented to the Strategic Planning Group at their meeting in October 2012.
2. The SPG were reminded of the FG's Terms of Reference (ToR), which was to prepare a document to address the following issues:
 - 1) identify roles and responsibilities of the chairperson and the vice chairpersons in relation to the functioning of the Bureau of the CPM and of the IPPC activities;
 - 2) identify competence, expertise or experience that are desirable for the chairperson and the vice-chairpersons;
 - 3) identify all the possible options for rotation, selection and nomination of the chairperson and the vice-chairpersons;
 - 4) analyse the above mentioned options, and especially the pros and cons (for instance through a SWOT analysis) in regard to the following general principles:
 - transparency
 - equity, fairness and inclusiveness, especially in terms of representation between IPPC contracting parties in successive nominations
 - competency, in terms of ease to select the most valuable candidates given the role, responsibilities and competence identified
 - efficiency
 - continuity

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- 5) present the document to the SPG.
3. A lengthy discussion took place within the SPG on the task of identifying all the possible options for rotation, selection and nomination of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. The Chairman of the FG noted that most FAO bodies do not have written RoPs for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs, and consequently the IPPC is one of the first governing bodies to formally deal with this issue.
4. The Chair of the FG then provided a review of all the options considered and invited discussion within the SPG on the possible options (See Report of the SPG - https://www.ippc.int/file_uploaded/1352815214_Report_SPG_2012_Nov_2012-11-13.pdf). The SPG felt that selection, rotation and succession should be considered together, and that the principles of transparency, equity, competency, efficiency and continuity should guide the process and whatever the final arrangements are, they should be subject to a future review.
5. The Secretariat explained that FAO divides the world into seven regions and the IPPC uses these same regions for operational purposes. A discussion on those geographical regions and the concept of equity among the regions due to the varying number of countries per region resulted in a consensus that most developing countries are in the Asian, Latin American and the Caribbean, Near East, and African regions, while developed countries are for the most part in Europe, South West Pacific, and North America.
6. The SPG proposed a scheme of rotating the CPM Chair beginning first with all seven FAO regions: Asia, South West Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, North America, Near East and Europe (in that order), then adding a second rotation for the four (4) largest regions (those regions with the greatest number of countries): Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, and Africa. This new rotation scheme would result in the following order: Asia, South West Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, North America, Near East, Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, Africa or 7-4-7-4. The scheme would facilitate the alternate representation of developed and developing countries, and would come as close to a balanced process as possible.
7. The SPG also agreed that the Bureau will consist of seven members of which one would be the Chair and one would be the Vice-Chair. There would no longer be two Vice-Chairs as is the current practice. The region which is next in line for the Chair would, in the previous term, nominate the Vice-Chair and for the following term it would nominate the Chair (without there necessarily being an automatic succession of Vice Chair to Chair). In the event the nominated Chair cannot continue, the region would be allowed to identify a suitable candidate for the position of Chair.
8. The SPG also agreed that the candidates for the Chair should be employed by the NPPO and have served on the Bureau for at least one term.
9. The CPM is invited to:
 - 1) *endorse* the guidelines for the Nomination, Selection and Rotation of the CPM Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson (attached as Annex 1) as proposed by the SPG.

Annex 1**Proposed Guidelines for the Nomination, Selection and Rotation of the CPM Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

1. The Chairperson of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures will be rotated among the seven (7) FAO regions in the following sequence: Asia, Southwest Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, North America, Near East and Europe, followed by a grouping that would include only the four (4) largest regions (those regions with the largest number of countries): Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, and then followed by the first seven listed above, and so forth. The rotation scheme would thus be: 7-4-7-4.
2. The Bureau will consist of seven (7) members, including one (1) Chairperson and one (1) Vice-Chairperson. Following the rotation scheme identified above, the region which is next in line for occupying the position of the Chairperson will propose a candidate for the Vice-Chairperson. In the following term the region occupying the position of the Vice-Chairperson will propose a candidate for the position of the Chairperson (This will not necessarily imply an automatic succession from the Vice-Chairperson position to that of the Chairperson).
3. Candidates for the position of the Chairperson should be employed by their NPPO and have served on the Bureau for at least one (1) term.