

Work plans of the Standing Committee of Plant Quarantine for 2012-2013

Source: Report of the twenty-seventh session of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (Item 13.3.2), 15-19 August 2011, Manila, Philippines

The following items for the work programme were discussed:

(a) Nomination of APPPC funded delegates to the Grain Meeting in Vancouver

Australia informed the group that nominations from several countries were already received. The main objective of this meeting is to consider the development of international standards for the movement of grains. The meeting will discuss issues/problems as well as solutions with the international movement of grains. The Committee supported the funding of two participants from the region. This will be awarded to the participants from Pakistan and the Philippines). The selected participants will present the status of movement of grains in the region. Other countries such as Australia, Republic of Korea, Japan, New Zealand, Indonesia, China and Malaysia will attend using their own funds. The meeting encouraged other countries to attend at their own costs.

(b) Diagnostic workshop on South American Leaf Blight

Malaysia noted that SALB Working Group hoped to hold a training workshop in Brazil in June or July 2012. Malaysia with the assistance of IRRDB and Brazil will arrange the venue. Two participants from seven countries are expected to attend the workshop. The workshop duration will be 12 days. Countries are encouraged to fund their respective participants, particularly their travel expenses to and from Brazil. The urgency of this workshop was also supported by the Philippines and China. It was decided by the Committee to aim to conduct the workshop in 2012, pending agreement of the host organizers in Brazil.

(c) Working group on Information Management & Exchange

It was proposed that an information working group develop a strategy and a plan for information management & exchange. This could include the following:

- i. Determination and development of information requirements of APPPC NPPOs;
- ii. options/means/structures to meet the requirements;
- iii. determination of the resources (IP systems, workers) needed.

These could be continuously further developed upon new requirements.

Member countries which are interested in becoming members of the information working group include India, Malaysia, Fiji Islands, Australia, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam with Malaysia and Fiji Islands to be proposed to serve as chair and vice chair of the working group respectively.

For the improvement of the website, a number of suggestions were put forward.

(d) ePhyto Updates

Dr. Yim of Republic of Korea informed the group of developments with ePhyto. A recent meeting in Republic of Korea set up three working groups on formatting, code development and security issues.

(e) Annex vs Appendix of RSPM 7 “Importation Requirements for *Hevea* Plant Material”

The group reached a reluctant compromise to consider this paper as Appendix, to provide allowance for modifications and flexibility. The full meeting decided that the paper should be treated as an Annex, and expert opinion from the Legal Department of FAO would be sought to determine if an annex imposed obligations on parties. If so, it would be adopted as an appendix, otherwise adopted as an annex would be utilized to resolve this issue. "The “Contingency plan for South American leaf blight (*Microcyclus ulei*)" has been classed as an APPPC Technical Guideline. The guideline may be found on the APPPC website ([http://www.apppc.org/index.php?id=1110802&tx_publication_pi1\[showUid\]=2181777&frompage=1110810&type=publication&subtype=&L=0#item](http://www.apppc.org/index.php?id=1110802&tx_publication_pi1[showUid]=2181777&frompage=1110810&type=publication&subtype=&L=0#item)) or as Book IV in RAP PUBLICATION 2011/07, *Protection against South American leaf blight of rubber in Asia and Pacific region*.

(f) Items for work programme

The Committee confirmed the proposals made by the planning group. These were:

- i. Implementation of ISPMs in the region: implementation programme prepared by the working group (training course, explanatory papers, etc.) in 2012 for ISPM No.15 and ISPM - Systems Approach (APPPC funds and Australia funds)

The Committee decided to continue with ISPM 15 (IPPC explanatory paper can also be used), then start with ISPM Systems Approach. ISPM on sampling was suggested to be moved to the next biennium. The working group will be led by Republic of Korea, with Australia, New Zealand, China, Philippines and India.

Work may be initiated with sampling systems - facilitated by Indonesia and Philippines using ASEAN material.

- ii. Regional workshops on review of draft ISPMs in 2012 and 2013 (voluntary contribution)

Contributions for 2012-2013 may come from Republic of Korea

- iii. Training workshop in surveillance (see Strategic direction 1. Goal 1.1.1) (including inviting key speakers) (APPPC funds)

It is suggested that this might involve:

- A regional conference on surveillance in November 2012
- Training courses in the region on surveillance based on the manual in July 2013

Goal: to develop manual for surveillance (revised ISPM 6)

It was suggested to do preliminary inquiries with the countries to determine the needs, update new technologies and evaluate certain differences between surveillance

systems of countries (continent vs island). Dr. Hedley noted that this project could involve collaboration with the IRSS of the IPPC.

- iv. Development of information exchange programme (APPPC funds)
The committee decided to retain the funds intended for this work plan, which will also include reporting, analysis and documentation.

- v. A Planning working group meeting on APPPC work plan for 2014-2015 (APPPC funds)

The funds should remain as recommended by the planning group.

- vi. Development of RSPMs on pest movement by machinery; RSPM on fumigation; RSPM on Irradiation (APPPC funds and Australia funds)

For fumigation, AFAS might be used as an example/model for system of managing treatment.

For irradiation, Australia clarified that the proposed RSPM will focus on accreditation of the establishment of the facility and audit procedure and not on the protocol/process of irradiation itself, since radiation dose varies among commodities.

For pest movement by machinery, it was be clarified what kind of machinery that is being referred to, i.e. agricultural machinery, military, used cars, etc., since this is a major issue in the region considering that these machineries can carry soil, weed seeds and other quarantine pests.

- vii. More SALB workshops (APPPC funds)

Training workshop (using the reference produced in 2011-workshop):
For 2011-2012, APPPC funds of \$40,000 to be made available

Training workshop on diagnostics: For 2012-2013, APPPC funds of \$10,000 to be made available, and the remainder to be funded by participating countries.

- viii. For the preparation of standards - A\$30,000 seed funding from APPPC and additional funds from Australia, several meetings should be conducted