

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COUNTRIES ATTENDING
THE 29TH SESSION OF THE APPPC

(29th Session of APPPC, 7-11 September 2015, Bali, Republic of Indonesia)

I. COUNTRY REPORT OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 2013

0. Executive summary

The role of State management over plant protection has been emphasized. This is proved in the efforts to develop the Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine for some years. This Law came into force on 1 January 2015 and replaced the Ordinance on Plant Protection and Quarantine. Under the law, Decrees and Circulars have been issued by the Government and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development respectively to provide for plant protection, plant quarantine and pesticide management. Such legislation also learned from the tendency of regulatory harmonization.

In an attempt to reduce pesticide risks, a lot of environmentally sustainable approaches have been being promoted in plant protection activities. Based on the success of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program supported by FAO and various agencies in 1990s and 2000s, IPM continues to be focused on the Government agenda and developed to different crops. Particularly, besides the application to the crops for domestic use, it is being promoted for the export produces like dragon fruit...

Plant quarantine is paid increasing attention, to both domestic quarantine and import/export, to prevent quarantine and exotic pests from damaging Vietnam's agriculture. The relevant legislation has been developed and transparently published to facilitate international trade. Capacity of the inspectors and related staff in quarantine sectors has been much enhanced to help them intercept quarantine pests and deal with such interceptions.

For pesticide management, Vietnam observes the FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management and is moving towards more environmentally friendly pesticides to have products with residue under Maximum Residue Levels. However, one of the big challenges now is management of pesticide containers.

In order to strengthen the legislation implementation, the enforcement from Plant Protection Department and its network is being enhanced. Particularly, besides the specialized inspection over pesticide trading and manufacturing facilities, pesticide use in the field is increasingly focused in Vietnam.

1. General Information

- Update information on the general organization of plant protection structure and functions

Focal points:

- Director General: Dr. Nguyen Xuan Hong
- CODEX: Dr. Bui Si Doanh - Deputy Director General (in charge of Finance and Pesticide, Food Safety and Environmental Management),
- IPPC, SPS: Dr. Hoang Trung - Deputy Director General (in charge of Plant Quarantine)
- ASEAN, APPPC, FAO: Mr. Ngo Tien Dung- Deputy Director General (in charge of Plant Protection issues)

Organization of PPD

PPD is in charge of State management function over plant protection on the national scale. To fulfil this function, PPD has 5 specialized divisions: plant protection, plant quarantine, pesticide management, food safety and environmental management division and specialized inspection division. In addition, it has a network all over the country, to grassroots level.

- Role of the national plant protection organization for the implementation of WTO-SPS Agreement and in the implementation of international pesticide conventions

For implementation of WTO-SPS Agreement: the PPD is directly involved in development of ISPMs and has its member in the national Codex Committee.

For implementation of international pesticide conventions: the PPD is the contact point of Stockholm Convention (particularly for agricultural pesticides), together with the Chemical Department of Ministry of Industry and Trade.

- General review of progress including technical, policy/legal, infrastructural and institutional development, investments and challenges in national plant protection since 2013

The Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine was approved on 25 November 2013 by the National Assembly. This Law provides for the prevention and elimination of plant pests; plant quarantine; plant protection product management.

It came into force from 1 January 2015. After this Law is enacted the Ordinance on Plant Protection and Quarantine issued in 2001 becomes invalid.

Under the above new law, various Decrees and Circulars for specific sectors have been being developed and approved.

2. Phytosanitary Matters (Plant Quarantine)

- Changes in the organization, legislation and regulations regarding plant quarantine since 2013

No changes in the organization

- Legislation and regulations regarding plant quarantine:
Since 2013 various Circulars have been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, particularly:
 - Circular No 30/2014/TT-BNNPTNT “Promulgating list of regulated articles; list of regulated articles subject to pest risk analysis before importing into Vietnam”;
 - Circular No 33/2014/TT-BNNPTNT dated 30/10/2014 “Guideline on procedures of phytosanitary for import, export and in-transit consignments”;
 - Circular No 35/2014/TT-BNNPTNT dated 31/10/2014 “List of Quarantine pests of Vietnam”
 - Circular No 36/2014/TT-BNNPTNT dated 31/10/2014 on “For publishing Regulation on Pest Risk Analysis Procedure for regulated articles of plant quarantine subject to pest risk analysis before importing into Vietnam”
 - Circular 05/2015/TT-BNNPTNT dated 12/2/2015 on “Procedures for accreditation of phytosanitary measure practices”

- Changes in resources, e.g. Personnel and facilities for the execution of plant quarantine functions:
The quarantine system still has about 300 staff nationwide.

- Progress in the establishment of pest free areas, places of production or production sites:
No changes

- Cooperation projects:
Two project have been finished:
 - Cooperation between Vietnam and Australia for implementation of Australian Fumigation accreditation Scheme in Vietnam;
 - Vietnam Methyl Bromide Phase-out Plan funded by World Bank.

And, one project is still going on:

- Cooperation program between Vietnam and China on fruit fly monitoring in border areas;

- Interception of quarantine pests:
Caryedon serratus Olivier on ground nut and sesame *Cassia obtusifolia* from India; and on dry tamarind fruit from Thailand.

- Progress in preparation/update of lists of regulated pests in accordance with ISPM19
 - Circular No 35/2014/TT-BNNPTNT dated 31/10/2014 “List of Quarantine pests of Vietnam” has been issued;

- A Circular on “List of Regulated non-quarantine pests of Vietnam” is under formulation.
- Progress of implementation of ISPMs/RSPMs (specify respective ISPMs/RSPMs-e.g. ISPM6, ISPM12, ISPM14, ISPM15, etc.) as well as prioritized ISPMs/RSPMs to be implemented in the country

Other:

- Use of International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) and/or APPPC website for information exchange, setting up national phytosanitary information website; other forms of distribution for the information
Information related can be searched on websites of:
 - International Plant Protection Convention: <https://www.ippc.int/en/>
 - Viet Nam Sanitary and Phytosanitary Notification Authority and Enquiry Point (Vietnam SPS): <http://www.spsvietnam.gov.vn/EnglishSPS/default.aspx>;
 - Plant Protection Department: www.ppd.gov.vn
- Phytosanitary capacity development; training on phytosanitary capacity development (i.e. capacity in surveillance and diagnostics, system approaches, PRA, etc.):
 - Training was conducted on pest surveillance and diagnostics in 2014.
 - Training courses on PRA have been provided every year.

3. Surveillance, Pest Outbreaks and Invasive Species Management

- Changes in national strategy, organization, legislation and regulations since 2013
Inter-ministerial Circular No 27/2013/TTLT-BTNMT-BNNPTNT issued on 26 September 2013, stipulating criteria for determination of invasive exotic species and promulgating the list of invasive exotic species. This Circular replaced Circular 22/2011/TT-BTNMT issued in 2011 by Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, setting criteria for identifying harmful alien species and promulgating the list of harmful alien species.
- Pest surveillance activities
Basic Survey of Pests on forest trees is being carried out (since 2012, expectedly to finish in 2015) to develop a list of pests on forest trees.
- Outbreaks and control of specific pest including invasive species and migratory pest
Some new pests have emerged recently, including pink mealy bug on cassava, longan witches' broom...
- Lessons and experiences as well as in difficulties in controlling pest outbreaks and the newly invaded species

The control of the said pests is now based on the published international researches and support from FAO, CIAT and neighboring countries with similar conditions like Thailand.

4. Pest Management

- Update of national policies, rules and regulations for promotion of sustainable and environmentally friendly pest management in support of sustainable crop production intensification, which might be relating to food safety, food security and biodiversity approaches
 - IPM and bio-pesticides are promoted in the Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine.
 - Decision 2027/QĐ-BNN-BVTV was issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on 2 June 2015 approving IPM enhancement project during 2015 – 2020.
 - Non-pesticide measures are encouraged: e.g measures related to transplanting (SRI), land preparation (minimum tillage)...
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development issued in 2014 Decision 802/QĐ-BNN-TCTL promulgating irrigation restructuring. This Decision mentions the targets toward advanced cultivation measures (SRI, 3 reductions 3 gains, 1 must 5 reductions...)

- Progress and impact of on-going IPM (including biological control) programmes, ecological approaches and farmer field schools
Projects promoting IPM, ecological approaches and FFSs:
 - Formulation of local plant protection service model: on-going
 - Formulation of model for application of urgent measure to manage longan witches' broom: on-going
 - Sustaining and enhancing the momentum for innovation and learning around the SRI in the Lower Mekong River Delta: funded by FAO, on-going
 - Project 'ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol)': funded by the Federal Republic of Germany, conducted in 2013-2014.
 - **Save and Grow:** three models have been promoted including "System Rice Intensification (SRI)", "Minimum Tillage Potato Production in Rice-based Systems", "utilizing integrated rice-fish-aquatic biodiversity".

- Status of major pest outbreaks and progress of the management:

Bamboo grasshopper outbreak in the in the North mountainous region of Vietnam since 2008: they damaged bamboo and other crops (corn, rice). Main species causing outbreak: *Hieroglyphus tonkinensis* Bolivar, *Ceracris kiangsu* Tsai, *Ceracris nigricornis* Walker. Control method: mobilize farmers to collect young nymphs, apply bio-pesticides or chemical pesticides at young stage (1st to 3rd instar). Bio-agents are metarhizium anisopliae mushrooms (Ma) and Metarhizium flavoviride (Mf).

Shizocera sp. (Hymenoptera: Argidae) attack the leaves of a Magnolia conifera tree in northern region of Vietnam: total infested area is about 10,000 ha. Control

methods: collect and kill cocoons in the soil; kill the larvae when moving to the soil for pupation; use yellow sticky bait to catch adults; protect red ants, black ants.

Soil born disease attack black pepper in the Central Highlands and Eastern - South of Vietnam. Fungus: *Phytophthora parasitica* var *piperrina* Dastur and *Phytophthora palmivora* Butler; *Fusarium solani*, *Pythium* sp, *Lasiodiplodia theobromae*, *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Rosellia* sp. Preventive measures: apply integrated measures to protect and improve soil ecology: prepare soil, do soil hygiene, use resistant varieties, increase use of organic fertilizers, apply antagonistic microorganisms, limit use of herbicides.

5. Pesticide Management

- Changes/improvements in national strategy, organization, legislation, regulations and registrations since 2013
The Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine provides for pesticide management. Under the Law, Decrees and Circular provides specific guidance for implementation:
 - Decree 114/2013/NĐ-CP issued by the Government, stipulating a fine structure for violations of Vietnam's plant protection, plant quarantine, and plant breeding rights regulations
 - Circular 21/2015/TT-BNNPTNT issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on 8 June 2015 and enacted from 1 August 2015 on plant protection product management
 - Circular 03/2015/TT-BNNPTNT issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on 29 January 2015 promulgating the lists of permitted, restricted and banned pesticides in Vietnam and HS codes for permitted and banned pesticides in Vietnam
- National targets, efforts and progress with regard to pesticide risk reduction as well as phasing out highly hazardous pesticides
 - The focus are still placed on reviewing and revising pesticide management legislation toward reducing highly toxic pesticides. Particularly, pesticides included in groups 1 and 2 under WHO classification have been withdrawn from the list of permitted pesticides; and pesticides in group 3 and 4 under GHS classification will be banned for vegetables, tea and fruit from 1 August 2017.
 - Bio-pesticides are further encouraged, legalized in Circular 21/2015/TT-BNNPTNT
- Development and application status of bio-pesticides, including botanical pesticides
- Update list of banned/prohibited pesticides
 - Number of permitted pesticides: 4,065 formulated products
 - Number of banned active ingredients: 29

- Regulatory control scheme in place for pesticide advertisements and incidents, if any, of deviation from the national laws or related provisions of the International Code of Conduct on pesticides management
 - Pesticide advertisement is specifically regulated the Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine and Circular 21/2015/TT-BNNPTNT.
 - Ministry of Health is responsible for monitoring pesticide poisoning cases. Number of cases are not well recorded.
- Status of management of obsolete pesticides
 - PPD cooperated with Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to implement POPs Pesticide Stockpiles Project under support from GEF and FAO to deal with obsolete pesticides. Particularly, some stockpiles have been disposed with advanced technology. This project finished in 2014.
 - The disposal of obsolete pesticides and waste containers are regulated in Circular 21/2015/TT-BNNPTNT

6. Appendix

- Websites of list of pests, regulations, policies, programmes, statistical data sources, procedures, facilities, reports and etc
 - Website of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development: www.mard.gov.vn
 - PPD website: <http://www.ppd.gov.vn/>

II PROPOSALS FOR NEW RSPMs OR ISPMs

No proposals for new RSPMs or ISPMs are made.