



# **Better Training for Safer Food** *Initiative*

## *International Standard-Setting Bodies*

**Internal organisation of IPPC,  
relation to FAO and general  
functioning procedures,  
responsibilities and  
obligations of contracting  
countries**

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# **BTSF**

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IPPC is a statutory body of  
FAO Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the United Nations

Member states of FAO Food and  
Agriculture Organization of the  
United Nations are **contracting  
parties of IPPC**

# The IPPC

## International Plant Protection Convention

**is a multilateral treaty for international cooperation in plant protection**

**Its purpose is "... to secure common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control." (Article I)**

# The IPPC Contracting Parties

**undertake to adopt the legislative technical and administrative measures specified in the convention and in supplementary agreements**

# Scope of the IPPC

Covers **international cooperation in protecting plants** and plant products from harmful pests –

**"Plants"**: include agricultural crops, forests, wild flora

**"Pests"**: include insects, pathogens, weeds

**"Harm"**: includes indirect effects

# Scope of the IPPC

- Extends to items capable of harbouring or spreading pests, such as:
  - Storage places
  - Conveyances / vehicles, and
  - Containers
- Provides for cross-border movement of organisms for research or other purposes
- Includes imported biological control organisms

# Scope of the IPPC

- Gives Contracting Parties the right to **regulate imports in respect of plant health**;

Regulatory measures should be applied only when necessary;

**Measures have to be:**

- consistent with the risk, and least restrictive;
- technically justified / based on scientific facts;
- non-discriminatory;
- transparent (published).

Key Principles of  
the IPPC



# IPPC's core activities include

**Governance**  
**Standard setting**  
**Information exchange**  
**Dispute settlement**  
**Capacity development**  
**Reviewing the global status of plant protection**

# Obligations of Contracting Parties in terms of IPPC

- Contracting Parties must set up & administer a
  - **National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) &**
  - **Official IPPC contact point;**
- Cooperate internationally & share information on pests & plant health regulations;
- Develop and take into account phytosanitary standards;
- Conduct plant health treatments, and certify exports;
- Regulate imports.

# Responsibilities of National Plant Protection Organisation 1

- **Phytosanitary certification** → Issuance of phytosanitary certificates for consignments,
- **Surveillance of plants**, plant products, areas of cultivation and wild flora
- **Reporting** the occurrence , outbreak and spread of pests

# Responsibilities of National Plant Protection Organisation 2

- **Disinfestation or disinfection of consignments** of plants, plant products and other regulated articles,
- **Protection of endangered areas,**
- Conducting **pest risk analysis,**
- **Training** and development of staff

## **Contracting Parties shall make provisions in their legislation for:**

- Research and investigation in the field of plant protection,
- Issuance of phytosanitary certificates for consignments,
- Issuance of phytosanitary regulations,
- Reporting the occurrence, outbreak and spread of pests.

# Contracting Parties shall make requirements in relation to import and may (1):

- **Prescribe and adopt phytosanitary measures** concerning the importation of plants, plant products and other regulated articles;
- **Refuse entry or detain** or require treatment, destruction or removal from the territory of the contracting party of plants plant product and other regulated articles or **consignments** thereof that do not comply with the phytosanitary measures prescribed or adopted;

# Contracting Parties shall make requirements in relation to import and may (2):

- **Prohibit or restrict the movement of regulated pests** into their territories;
- Prohibit or restrict the movement of **biological control agents** and other organisms of phytosanitary concern;
- Take appropriate **emergency action** on the detection of a pest posing a potential threat to its territories or the report of such a detection.

# Key Entities established under the IPPC

- **CPM - The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures** (Article XI, IPPC)
- **The IPPC Secretariat** (Article XII, IPPC);
- **RPPOs - Regional Plant Protection Organizations** (Article IX, IPPC).



# The IPPC Secretariat

- Is located within the Plant Protection Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy;
- Currently consists of a Secretary appointed by the Director General of FAO, a Coordinator and several professional officers and administrative staff;
- Is complemented by contracting parties providing staff resources through various contributions, visiting scientist, consultants

# IPPC Secretariat's Activities

- Implements policies, activities and work programme;
- Supports the production of standards (standard setting);
- Provides translations in the FAO official languages of documentation for meetings of the Commission (CPM) and international standards;
- Coordinates with RPPOs;
- Represents the CPM (e.g. at the WTO-SPS, CBD);
- Facilitates information exchange and provides information required by the IPPC;
- Provides input into technical assistance programmes;
- Facilitates dispute settlement.

# IPPC Secretariat shall disseminate

- International standards to all contracting parties;
- Lists of points of entry communicated by contracting parties;
- Lists of regulated pests established and updated by contracting parties to all contracting parties;
- Information received from contracting parties on phytosanitary requirements, restrictions and prohibitions adopted and descriptions of official national plant protection organizations NPPOs.



## **IPPC Secretariat's Activities** facilitates information exchange and provides information required by the IPPC by:

- providing translation and documentation services for IPPC-related activities
- distributing IPPC and related documentation, such as ISPMs
- managing the IPPC Website to communicate the Secretariat activities, to highlight RPPO and NPPO activities, to publish documentation related to the IPPC, and to provide technical information on phytosanitary measures
- providing the forum for countries to develop and agree on ISPMs
- developing the network of IPPC contact points to provide fast, reliable exchange between member countries, and between member countries, the Secretariat and RPPOs
- informing member countries of meetings organized by the IPPC Secretariat and by RPPOs
- providing a global pest reporting system

# The IPPC Secretariat uses the information provided by member countries

- To coordinate the IPPC work programme
- To review the state of plant protection around the world
- To help in dispute avoidance
- To inform CPM decisions
- To encourage and emphasise technical assistance on phytosanitary measures and provide technical assistance from FAO
- To organise technical meetings to discuss emerging issues, to draft international standards or to clarify specific phytosanitary concerns
- To provide training



# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- The purpose of RPPOs is to strengthen intergovernmental cooperation in plant health in region
- Governments within a region are contracting parties of RPPO of that region
- Function as coordinating bodies in the areas covered

# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- [APPPC](#) Far East, Indian subcontinent, Australia and New Zealand
  - [CAN](#) Comunidad Andina (Andean community)
- [COSAVE Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur \(Southern cone of South America\)](#)
- [IAPSC/CPI Interafrican Phytosanitary Council \(Africa\)](#)

# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- OEPP/EPPO Europe and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization
- OIRSA Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (Central America)



# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- [NAPPO](#) North American Plant Protection Organization (North America)
  - [PPPO](#) Pacific Plant Protection Organization
  - [NEPPO](#) Near East Plant Protection Organization

# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- RPPOs are observers at the CPM;
- Annual Technical Consultations take place among RPPOs;
- Governments that are not Contracting Parties to IPPC may belong to an RPPO;

# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- RPPOs identify regional needs for plant health standards;
- Regional Standards that are developed and implemented regionally often become the basis for an ISPM.
- Cooperate with the IPPC Secretariat to help achieve the aims of the IPPC;
- Coordinate and disseminate information on plant protection procedures in the regional territories



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