



# The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Regional workshops for the review of draft ISPMs  
2008





# Outline

- The Convention (IPPC)
- Implications of the SPS Agreement
- Organizational framework
- Standard setting
- Information exchange
- Technical assistance





# The IPPC

- Multilateral treaty for international cooperation in plant protection
- A standard setting organization
- Identified in the WTO-SPS Agreement as the authority for plant health standards





# Purpose of the IPPC

...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 of IPPC)*





# Scope of the IPPC

- International cooperation in the protection of plants and plant products from harmful pests
  - plants: agricultural plants, forests and wild flora
  - plant pests: invertebrates, diseases and weeds
  - harm: includes indirect effects such as those from weeds
  - not limited to trade







# Scope of the IPPC

- Extends to items capable of harbouring or spreading pests, such as:
  - storage places
  - conveyances
  - containers
- Includes biological control organisms
- Provision for research or other purposes





# History

- Original IPPC adopted in 1951 and entered into force in 1952
- Revised in 1979 and amendments entered into force in 1991
- Revised again in 1997 and amendments entered into force in 2005
  - consistent with SPS principles and expectations
  - formalizes Secretariat and standard-setting
- 169 contracting parties (as of May 2008)





# Key principles of the IPPC

- Sovereign right to regulate
- Measures - only when necessary
- Measures should be:
  - consistent with the risk, technically justified and the least restrictive
  - non-discriminatory
  - transparent (published)







# Key obligations of the IPPC

- Set up and administer a National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)
- Designate an official IPPC contact point
- Conduct treatments and certify exports
- Regulate imports
- Cooperate internationally
  - share information on pests and regulations
- Develop and take into account phytosanitary standards





# Relationship between the IPPC and the SPS

- members **shall** base their phytosanitary measures on international standards or justify deviations through risk analysis
- members **shall** play a full part in the relevant standard setting organization
- relevant standard setting organizations are Codex, OIE, and IPPC

*(Article 3 of the SPS, Harmonization)*





# Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures

Should be:

- consistent with international standards
- justified based on scientific principles and evidence
- harmonized to the extent possible
- Transparent, notified, non-discriminatory
- only to meet the appropriate level of protection





The IPPC makes provision for trade in a protection agreement...

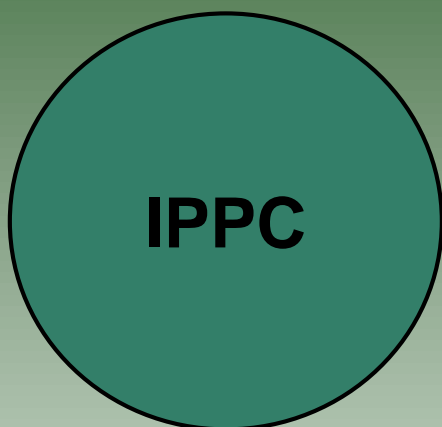
The SPS makes complementary provision for phytosanitary protection in a trade agreement



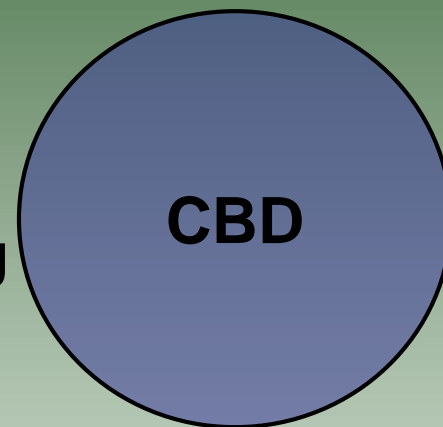




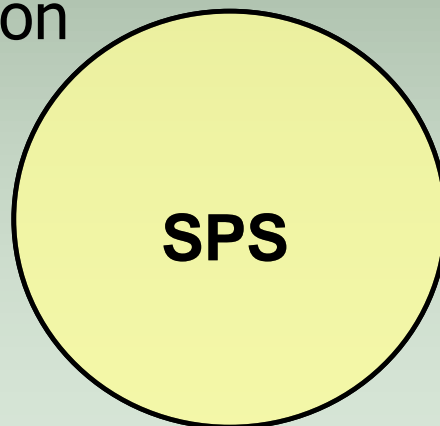
# International regulatory framework



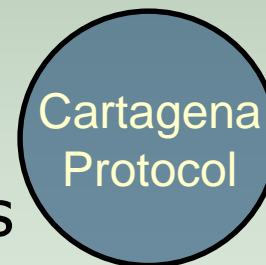
Plant protection



Protecting  
biological  
diversity



Trade



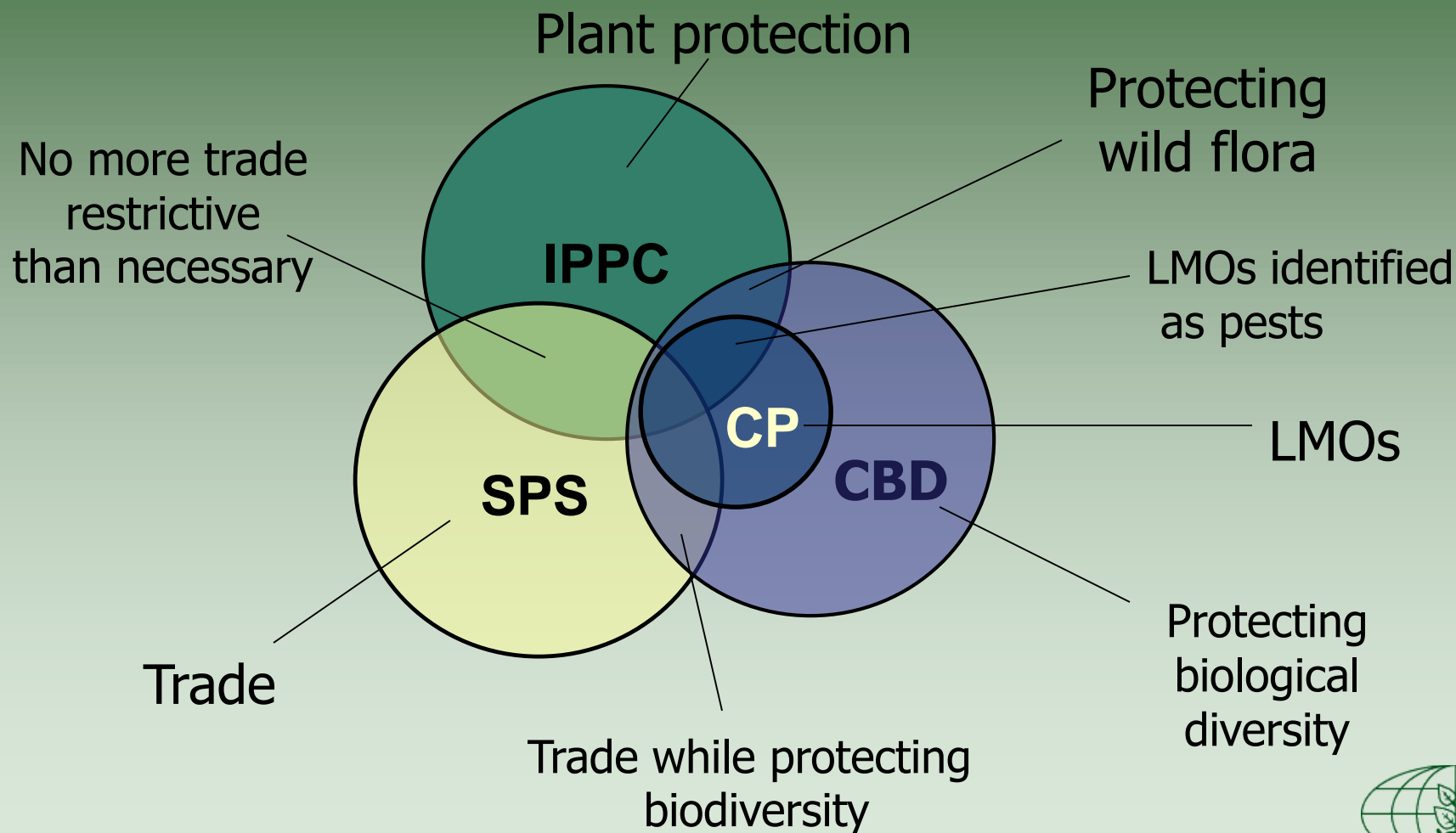
LMOs







# International regulatory framework





# Bodies established under the IPPC

- Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (Article XI)
- IPPC Secretariat (Article XII)
- Regional Plant Protection Organizations (Article IX)





# Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)

- Governing body for the IPPC, works by consensus
- Reviews global plant protection needs and sets the annual work programme
- Develops and adopts International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)
- Promotes technical assistance and information exchange activities





# CPM

- Membership: Contracting parties only
- Observers: Countries that are not contracting parties, Regional Plant Protection Organizations and international organizations
- Meets annually, the next meeting is:

**CPM-4**

**30 March - 3 April 2009**

**Rome, Italy**







# IPPC Secretariat

- Established in 1992
- Located in the Plant Protection Service of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy
- Currently consists of a part-time Secretary, Coordinator, 4 professional staff, 3 associate professional officers, 1 consultant and 1 administrator







# IPPC Secretariat activities

- Implements the work programme
- Supports the production of ISPMs
- Facilitates information exchange
- Provides input into technical assistance programmes
- Facilitates dispute settlement
- Represents the IPPC (e.g. WTO-SPS, CBD)
- Coordinates with RPPOs





# The IPPC Secretariat and other regulatory bodies

- IPPC Secretariat participates in meetings and activities of other regulatory bodies, such as:
  - SPS Committee
  - OIE
  - Codex





## IPPC Secretariat and international organizations

- IPPC Secretariat participates in meetings and activities of relevant international organizations, such as:
  - Convention on Biological Diversity
  - International Atomic Energy Agency
  - International Seed Testing Association
  - Montreal Protocol
  - Standards and Trade Development Facility





## Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- Observers to the CPM
- Currently the CPM recognizes 9 RPPOs
- Meet annually
- Governments that are not contracting parties to the IPPC may belong to an RPPO, and some contracting parties do not belong to an RPPO







# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- APPPC: Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission
- CA: Comunidad Andina
- COSAVE: Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur
- CPPC: Caribbean Plant Protection Commission
- EPPO: European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization







# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- IAPSC: Inter-African Phytosanitary Council
- NAPPO: North American Plant Protection Organization
- OIRSA: Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria
- PPPO: Pacific Plant Protection Organization
- NEPPO: Near East Plant Protection Organization
  - Needs one more signatory to come into being





# Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

- RPPOs develop regional standards
  - RPPOs identify regional needs for standards
  - Standards are developed and implemented regionally and often become the basis for international standards (ISPMs)





# CPM administrative bodies

- Bureau
- Standards Committee
- Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement
- Informal Working Groups
- Expert Working Groups and Technical Panels





## CPM administrative bodies

- Bureau
  - CPM-3 extended the composition of the Bureau to 7 members, one each from the 7 FAO regions, including CPM Chair and two Vice-Chairs
  - Acts on behalf of the CPM between sessions







## Current Bureau Membership

- North America: Reinouw Bast-Tjeerde (Canada) - Chair
- Africa: Chagemu Kadera (Kenya) – Vice-Chair
- Near East: Mohammad Katbeh Bader (Jordan) – Vice-Chair
- Asia : Arifin Tasrif (Indonesia)
- Europe: Stephen Ashby (United Kingdom)
- Latin America and the Caribbean: Francisco Gutierrez (Belize)
- Southwest Pacific: Bill Roberts (Australia)







# CPM administrative bodies

- Standards Committee (SC)
  - Oversees the standard setting process and standard development work programme
  - Approves specifications for ISPMs, reviews and recommends changes to draft ISPMs, ensures consistency among ISPMs and recommends ISPMs for adoption by the CPM
  - Group of 25 international technical experts from the 7 FAO regions
  - Meets two times per year (usually in May and November)





## Members of the Standards Committee

Standards Committee members are international experts, not national or regional representatives.

Each FAO region selects a representation for the SC.

- Africa – 4
- Asia – 4
- Europe – 4
- Latin America and the Caribbean – 4
- Near East – 4
- North America – 2
- Southwest Pacific – 3





## CPM administrative bodies

- Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement
  - Activities include:
    - Development of dispute settlement procedures
    - Maintenance of roster of phytosanitary experts
    - Promotion of dispute avoidance
    - Provision of information for the effective preparation of a dispute settlement
  - Group of 7 international experts from the 7 FAO regions
  - Meets annually, usually just before CPM





# CPM administrative bodies

- Other working groups
  - Focus Group
    - Working group which focuses on a particular issue of concern identified by the CPM.
  - Informal working group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (SPTA)
  - IPP Support Group
    - Provides support for the International Phytosanitary Portal and information exchange activities







## CPM administrative bodies

- Expert working groups (EWGs)
  - Working groups that draft ISPMs, usually meeting only once to work on a specific issue
  - Consist of experts nominated by NPPOs or RPPOs, selected by the Standards Committee (SC) and approved by the Bureau
  - A steward (usually a member of the SC) guides the EWG and the draft ISPM being developed
  - ISPMs drafted are submitted to the SC for review and evaluation





# CPM administrative bodies

- Technical Panels (TPs)
  - Five have been established on:
    - Diagnostic protocols
    - Forest quarantine
    - Fruit flies pest free areas and areas of low pest prevalence
    - Phytosanitary treatments
    - Glossary of phytosanitary terms





# CPM administrative bodies

- TPs provide the Standards Committee (SC) with specific draft ISPMs and advise the SC on specific technical matters
- Experts are nominated by NPPOs or RPPOs, selected by the Standards Committee and approved by the Bureau
- A steward (usually a member of the SC) guides the TP and the draft ISPMs they develop
- ISPMs drafted are submitted to the SC for review and evaluation





# International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures

## ISPMs

- Adopted by the CPM
- Implemented by countries
- ISPMs currently adopted: 31







# IPPC standard setting work programme PROCESS

- Biennial call for topics for ISPMs is sent to NPPOs, RPPOs, and international organizations (Next call: in 2009)
- SPTA and SC provide recommendations on topics to be included
- CPM decides which topics are added to the work programme and corresponding priorities for development
- Expert working groups / Technical panels draft ISPMs
- Standards Committee reviews drafts
- Member consultation on drafts (regular or fast track process)
- Standards Committee incorporates comments
- Adoption by the CPM





## IPPC standard setting work programme

Currently 7 ISPMs are out for member consultation through the regular process:

1. Regulating wood packaging material in international trade (Revision of ISPM No. 15)
2. Categorization of commodities according to their phytosanitary risk
3. Fruit fly trapping (proposed Annex 1 to ISPM No. 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*))
4. Glossary of phytosanitary terms (Amendments to ISPM No. 5)
5. Terminology of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in relation to the Glossary of phytosanitary terms (proposed supplement to ISPM No. 5)
6. Structure and operation of post-entry quarantine facilities
7. Pest free potato micropropagative material and minitubers for international trade





## IPPC standard setting work programme

This year there may be some ISPMs sent out for member consultation through the special process.

Anticipated to begin on 1 Oct 2008.





## IPPC standard setting work programme

Example of some topics currently being developed:

- Appropriate level of protection
- Guidelines for the interpretation and application of the term *not widely distributed* in relation to quarantine pests (Supplement to ISPM No. 5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*)
- Pest risk management for plants for planting
- Systems approach for pest risk management of fruit flies (Tephritidae)







## IPPC standard setting work programme

Example of some topics currently being developed:

- Pest risk analysis for plants as quarantine pests
- Pre-clearance for regulated articles
- Import of plant breeding material
- Soil and growing media
- International movement of wood
- Establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites for fruit flies
- Suppression and eradication procedures for fruit flies





## IPPC standard setting work programme

- ISPMs that are being or will be revised:
  - ISPM No. 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*): development of a supplement on interpretation of the term *not widely distributed*
  - ISPM No. 7 (*Export certification system*) and ISPM No. 12 (*Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates*): development of specific guidance on re-export and transit
  - ISPM No. 15 (*Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade*)





## Operational plan: standard setting 2008

- 2 expert working groups on:
  - Revision of ISPM No. 7 and 12 - Feb 2008
  - Pre-clearance for regulated articles - Sep 2008
- 1 SC meeting (Nov 2008, with interpretation into FAO languages) and 2 SC-7 meetings (May, Nov 2008)
- 4 technical panel meetings (TP on phytosanitary treatment – postponed to 2009)
- 3 regional workshops for the review of draft ISPMs (Asia, Latin America and Anglo Africa)
- Editing, translating and publishing ISPMs





## Most recently adopted ISPMs CPM-3 (April 2008)

- ISPM No. 5 (2008): *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*
- ISPM No. 30 (2008): *Establishment of areas of low pest prevalence for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*
- ISPM No. 31 (2008): *Methodologies for sampling of consignments*







## IPPC Recommendation adopted at CPM-3 (April 2008)

CPM adopts not only ISPMs but also recommendations for the implementation of the Convention as necessary (IPPC Article XI. 2(g)).

CPM-3 adopted IPPC Recommendation:  
*Replacement or reduction of the use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure.*





## Opportunities for country participation in the standard setting process

- Suggestion of topics for new ISPMs or revision of existing ISPMs
- Provision of comments on draft specifications for ISPMs during member consultation
- Nomination of experts for expert working groups and technical panels
- Provision of comments on draft ISPMs during country consultation and participation in regional workshops on draft ISPMs
- Participation in the CPM





# Information exchange

- Contracting parties provide:
  - Official contact points
  - Official information on pests and phytosanitary measures
- IPPC Secretariat:
  - Provides official documents (ISPMs, reports, etc.)
  - Facilitates information exchange
  - Maintains the IPPC website





# International Phytosanitary Portal the “IPP”

[www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)

- Official website of the IPPC, containing information such as:
  - Official contact points
  - Official documents (ISPMs, reports, etc.)
  - Phytosanitary information from countries





# International Phytosanitary Portal


## [www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)

IPPC Home - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Back Forward Stop Search Favorites

Address <https://www.ippc.int/IPP/En/default.jsp> Go Links IPPC Home

 International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)  
the official web site for the International Plant Protection Convention

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The IPPC is an international treaty to secure action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. It is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) which adopts International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). The CPM has confirmed the IPP as the preferred forum for national IPPC reporting and the exchange of more general information among the phytosanitary community. The **IPPC Secretariat** coordinates the activities of the Convention and is provided by the FAO.

**Welcome to**  
**Mozambique**  
as a new IPPC contracting party in May 2008.

**All National Information**

- NPPO Contact & Information Points
  - contracting parties
  - non-contracting parties
- News
- Statistics

**Basic reporting**

- Pest Reports
- Phytosanitary Regulations
- Lists of Regulated Pests
- Points of Entry

**IPPC Hot Topics**

- Report of the 3rd CPM
- The IPPC and invasive alien species - SBSTTA 13

**Convention (IPPC)**

- Convention text
- Benefits of membership
- Contracting parties
- Adherence

**The Commission (CPM)**

- About the CPM
- Business Plan of the CPM
- Report of the 3rd CPM
- 4th CPM Rome, March 2009
- All CPM/ICPM Reports

**Standards (ISPMs)**

- Adopted ISPMs
- Draft ISPMs for country consultation
- Specifications for ISPMs

**Standard setting**

**Information exchange**

**Recent IPPC News**


News: **All IPPC NPPO RPPC**

24/06/2008 **Update: Draft ISPMs for member consultation available (regular process)**

29/05/2008 **Arrangements confirmed for the OEWG to Undertake a Feasibility Study on the International Recognition of Pest Free Areas**

29/05/2008 **Regional workshops on draft ISPMs for Francophone Africa, the Caribbean**

Internet





# Technical assistance

- IPPC staff provide phytosanitary support to:
  - FAO technical cooperation programmes (TCPs)
  - Ad hoc workshops (e.g. WTO, SPS)
  - Programmes of other regional and international organizations (e.g. IAEA, APO, APEC)





# Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE)

- Questionnaire to help countries identify limiting factors and assistance required
- Self-diagnostic technical assistance tool
- Helps to form national strategy
- Available for download on the IPP or on CD-ROM upon request to the IPPC Secretariat





# Priorities from PCE evaluations

- Promote awareness
- Upgrade national legislation
- Sustainability
- Develop regulatory framework
- Implement operational and management procedures
- Training and improvement of technical skills







# Review

- The Convention (IPPC)
- Implications of the SPS Agreement
- Organizational framework - CPM, IPPC Secretariat, RPPOs, other bodies
- Standards (ISPMs) and work programme
- Information exchange
- Technical assistance and the PCE





# Contacts

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