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الغذية والزراعة
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联合国
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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Our Ref.:

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18 March 2013

**Invitation to the Evening Session on Registration of the ISPM 15 Symbol at the Eighth Commission on
Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-8) Rome, Italy 8-12 April 2013**

The Secretary to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) invites the delegate(s) of your country to the Eighth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-8) to also attend an Evening Session on registration of the ISPM 15 Symbol. The Session will be held within FAO Headquarters in Rome. The specific venue will be announced in the International Phytosanitary Portal (www.ippc.int) shortly and at the plenary session of CPM-8.

ISPM 15 (*Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade*) was first adopted by the ICPM in March 2002. The ISPM 15 Symbol was developed to be used by contracting parties as part of the certification mark for wood packaging material that has been treated according to the procedures described in the standard.

As has been discussed at numerous sessions of the CPM, registration and renewal of the ISPM 15 Symbol at a national level is the responsibility of contracting parties, to be conducted by national authorities in collaboration with the FAO legal office. National-level registration has not taken place or will soon expire in many contracting parties. See CPM-8 document CPM 2013/24 for additional information (all CPM-8 documents are available at: <https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=13330>).

The IPPC Secretariat plans a question-and-answer forum to take place as an Evening Session during CPM-8. Contracting parties are encouraged to attend, and to submit questions in advance. The FAO legal office will be available to respond to questions with regard to the importance and the practicalities of national-level registration of the ISPM 15 symbol.

Contracting parties are requested to submit questions relating to registration or renewal of registration of the ISPM 15 Symbol through email addressed to ISPM15@fao.org by 29 March 2013.

Delegates from all contracting parties are encouraged to attend, and particular encouragement is extended to those whose attendance at CPM-8 is supported by the IPPC Trust Fund.

The Session will be conducted in English with interpretation in all FAO official languages.

Yours Sincerely,

Yukio Yokoi

Secretary

International Plant Protection Convention