

Basic obligations of National Plant Protection Organizations under the IPPC in support of trade (Import and Export)

IPPC Secretariat

Basic obligations

- IPPC Official Contact Point
- Pest Reports
- Description of the National Plant Protection Organization
- Phytosanitary restrictions, requirements and prohibitions
- Points of entry
- List of regulated pests
- Emergency actions

Information exchange by contracting parties

- The IPPC does the following:
 - Specifies the types of phytosanitary information that should be exchanged by member countries in support of implementation of the IPPC
 - Identifies who needs to receive such information
 - Provides the portal for the exchange of phytosanitary information: www.ippc.int

IPPC Official Contact Point

- NPOs are obliged to designate **an official contact point**
- The contracting party, by making the nomination, agrees that the nominee has the necessary authority to fulfil the functions of the contact point as determined within the framework of the IPPC.
- Individual persons cannot self-appoint themselves as contact points. There can be only one contact point per contracting party.
- These contact points are there to exchange phytosanitary information with other NPOs on request
- The list of contact points is located on the IPP

IPP Official Contact Point

- The **IPPC Official Contact Point** is the channel by which the IPPC Secretariat should receive or send all official communications from contracting parties
- The **IPPC Official Contact Point** can enter national information into the IPP, and they can also nominate IPP Editors to enter national information on their behalf.
- A model form for the purpose of nominating new contact points is available on the IPP.

Official pest reports

Article VIII.1a: *“The contracting parties shall ... cooperate in the exchange of information on plant pests, particularly the reporting of the occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests that may be of immediate or potential danger, in accordance with such procedures as may be established by the Commission...”*

215 pest reports on the IPP



Description of the National Plant Protection Organization

Article IV.4: *“Each contracting party shall submit a description of its official national plant protection organization and of changes in such organization **to the Secretary.**”*

115 NPPO descriptions on the IPP



Organizational arrangements of plant protection

*Article IV.4: “A contracting party shall provide a description of its organizational arrangements for plant protection to another contracting party, **upon request.**”*



Points of entry

Article VII.2d: *“If a contracting party requires consignments of particular plants or plant products to be imported only through specified points of entry, such points shall be so selected as not to unnecessarily impede international trade. The contracting party shall publish a list of such points of entry and communicate it to:*

the Secretary, RPPO(s) of which the contracting party is a member, all contracting parties directly affected, and other contracting parties upon request.”

96 Lists of entry points on the IPP



Phytosanitary documentation

Exports

- *Issuance of phytosanitary certification for exports based on the requirements of importing countries and on inspection prior to export.*
- *The phytosanitary certificates should be issued by a public officer and is a function that cannot be delegated*
- *Phytosanitary certificates issued by an NPPO should be compliant with the model phytosanitary certificate provided by the IPPC and described in detail in ISPM12.*
- *NPPOs should ensure through appropriate procedures that the phytosanitary security of consignments after certification is maintained prior to export*
- *Samples of official signatures NPPO personnel authorised to issue certificates and seals is usually exchanged with trading partners along with information on points of entry*



Phytosanitary documentation

Imports

- *Sovereign authority to regulate the entry of plants and plant products*
- *Right to prescribe and enforce phytosanitary measures*
- *On the basis of phytosanitary considerations and pest risk analysis*
- *Main Reference: ISPM 20 – Import regulatory system.*
 - *Some countries require an import permit to be issued in order to communicate phytosanitary measures to their trading partners*
 - *Other countries simply publish their phytosanitary requirements in official media – usually the website of the NPPO.*



Phytosanitary restrictions, requirements and prohibitions

Article VII.2b: *“Contracting parties shall, immediately upon their adoption, publish and transmit phytosanitary requirements, restrictions and prohibitions to any contracting party or parties that they believe may be directly affected by such measures....”*

245 legislation on the IPP



Phytosanitary measures

Article VII.1

- With the aim of preventing the introduction and/or spread of regulated pests into their territories, contracting parties shall have sovereign authority to regulate (...) the entry of plants and plant products and other regulated articles and, to this end, may:
 - a) prescribe and adopt phytosanitary measures...
 - b) refuse entry or detain, or require treatment, destruction or removal ...
 - c) prohibit or restrict the movement of regulated pests....



Phytosanitary measures

Article VI.1

- Contracting parties may require phytosanitary measures for quarantine pests and regulated non-quarantine pests, provided that such measures are:
 - a) no more stringent than measures applied to the same pests, if present within the territory of the importing contacting party, and
 - b) limited to what is necessary to protect plant health and/or safeguard the intended use and can be technically justified by the contracting party concerned.

Article VI.2

- Contracting parties shall not require phytosanitary measures for non-regulated pests.

Phytosanitary measures

Phytosanitary measures are directed to regulated pests:

Comparison of Quarantine Pests and RNQPs

Defining criteria	Quarantine pest	RNQP
Pest status	Absent or of limited distribution	Present and may be widely distributed
Pathway	Phytosanitary measures for any pathway	Phytosanitary measures only on plants for planting
Economic impact	Impact is predicted	Impact is known
Official control	Under official control if present with the aim of eradication or containment	Under official control with respect to the specified plants for planting with the aim of suppression

List of regulated pests

Article VII.2i: *“Contracting parties shall, to the best of their ability, establish and update lists of regulated pests, using scientific names, and make such lists available to the Secretary, to RPPOs of which they are members and, on request, to other contracting parties.”*

79 Lists of regulated pests



Notifications

What to notify?

- Taken measures (IPPC Art. VII. 2b) to any contracting party or possibly affected parties
- Non-compliance (IPPC Art. VII.2f) to Exporting (or re-exporting) contracting party
- Emergency action (IPPC Art. VII.6) to Contracting parties concerned, IPPC Secretary, and any RPPO of which the contracting party is a member
- Occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests that may be of immediate or potential danger to other contracting parties (IPPC VIII.1, ISPM 17) to the Secretariat and upon request to contracting parties



Emergency actions

Article VII.6: *“The action taken shall be immediately reported to contracting parties concerned, the Secretary, and any RPPO of which the contracting party is a member.”*



Non-compliance

Article VII.2f:

“Importing contracting parties shall, as soon as possible, inform the exporting contracting party concerned or, where appropriate, the re-exporting contracting party concerned, of significant instances of non-compliance with phytosanitary certification.

*The exporting contracting party or, where appropriate, the re-exporting contracting party concerned, should investigate and, **on request**, report the result of its investigation to the importing contracting party concerned.”*



Pest status

Article VII.2j: “Contracting parties shall, to the best of their ability, conduct surveillance for pests and develop and maintain adequate information on pest status in order to support categorization of pests, and for the development of appropriate phytosanitary measures.

This information shall be made available to contracting parties, on request.



Rationale for phytosanitary requirements

Article VII.2c: “Contracting parties shall, **on request**, make available to any contracting party the rationale for phytosanitary requirements, restrictions and prohibitions.”



Other IMPORT/EXPORT considerations

- Establishment of Pest Free Areas and Areas of Low Pest Prevalence
- Implementation of ISPM 15 for wood packaging material
- Systems approaches of export certification

