

**Report of the twenty-seventh session of the
Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission**

**15-19 August 2011
Manila, Philippines**



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ISBN 978-92-5-107118-2

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FOREWORD

The twenty-seventh session of the FAO Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) was convened in Manila, Philippines, from 15 to 19 August 2011 to review the activities of the Commission carried out during the past two years and the overall plant protection situation at national and regional levels as well as to discuss the work plan for the next biennium. This document presents the final report of the session.

The APPPC report on the implementation of the work plan (2010-2011) and financial report were adopted. The Commission considered the outputs of the activities during the biennium as having made a significant contribution to promoting plant protection in the region.

Considerable enhancement of information exchange took place among member countries through the newly launched APPPC Website and the APPPC Working Group on Information Exchange, which was established to promote collection, management, exchange, and dissemination of national and regional information on plant protection. The Commission agreed to develop new Regional Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (RSPMs) on irradiation, fumigation, and movement of used machinery respectively. The Commission also agreed to strengthen implementation of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and RSPMs in member countries, as well as technical assistance for improvement of capacity in their implementation.

In support of FAO's strategy on sustainable crop production intensification, the work plans of the APPPC Standing Committee of IPM and the Standing Committee of Pesticide Management focused on strengthening policy formulation, advocacy and implementation of integrated pest management, especially ecological approaches and community based farmer training, and on reducing highly hazardous pesticides in member countries. This included promotion of the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct on the distribution and use of pesticides as well as the Rotterdam Convention.

The Commission unanimously adopted the APPPC strategic plan for 2012-2019 and the work programme of the Commission for 2012-2013 including the budget, which is linked to mandatory contributions by the contracting governments. The Commission called on non-member countries to join APPPC.

It is expected that the work plan for the next two years and the actions taken on the recommendations will further enhance cooperation and the capacity of member countries in plant protection, with firm commitments and concrete actions by all governments of the member countries in the region.



Hiroyuki Konuma
Assistant Director-General and
FAO Regional Representative for
Asia and the Pacific

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1. Opening of the Session and organizational matters

1.1 Attendance

The twenty-seventh session of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) was held in Manila, Philippines from 15 to 19 August 2011. Forty-seven delegates from 19 contracting Governments, namely, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam attended the meeting. Five delegates from Japan, Timor-Leste and the United States of America attended as observers. There were also 13 observers from various organizations and 14 additional participants from the Philippines. Mr Kazuyuki Tsurumi, FAOR Philippines, attended the Session. The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

1.2 Introductory remarks by the Chairperson of the Organizing Committee

Dr Clarito M. Barron, Director, Bureau of Plant Industry, Philippines, on behalf of the Organizing Committee, welcomed the participants to the meeting. He remarked that this was the fourth time that the Philippines hosted this meeting. He especially welcomed first-time visitors, wishing them an enjoyable stay.

He then remarked that the APPPC had played an important role to guide and harmonize the development of regional phytosanitary standards and other plant protection activities within the region. He said that the Commission has also made it more convenient for members to share information with each other through its website (www.apppc.org) and to aid member countries if there are technical assistance needs. It had also facilitated many activities in the area of cooperation in the Asia and the Pacific region to further enhance the capacity of member countries to comply with its obligations to the international phytosanitary community. Members can share their expertise and put forward-looking and practical strategies in the areas of IPM, Pest Control and Management or Regional Standards for Phytosanitary Measures.

Finally, Dr Barron looked forward to seeing countries of this region contributing more in the international arena. He then pledged support of the Philippines' Bureau of Plant Industry in the current and future work of the APPPC and encouraged the members to support the Commission to further uphold our mandates of plant protection and risk management. He concluded his address by wishing participants a fruitful meeting.

1.3 Opening remarks by the Chair-country of the 26th session of APPPC by Shri D.D.K. Sharma from India

The outgoing Chairperson of the 26th session of the APPPC, Shri D.D.K. Sharma, on behalf of the Government of India, expressed his gratitude to the Government of the Philippines and the FAO for their contribution and effort in hosting the 27th session of Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission.

Dr Sharma noted that the 26th session was a milestone in the history of APPPC when the 1983 amendments to the agreement of Plant Protection for Asia and Pacific came into force, heralding a new era that enabled APPPC to set up its own financial mechanism. He also conveyed his special thanks to Malaysia, the Republic of Korea and other countries for their in-kind or financial support for various activities of APPPC. He concluded his remarks by wishing the 27th session of APPPC a great success under the guidance of the new Chairperson.

1.4 Welcome address by FAO

Mr Kazuyuki Tsurumi, Representative for FAO Philippines, delivered the welcome address on behalf of the Director-General of FAO. He was very grateful to the Government of the Philippines for hosting this meeting, and took this opportunity to thank the Organizing Committee.

Mr Tsurumi noted that the APPPC has been giving more and more attention to sanitary and phytosanitary issues, which resulted in the application of phytosanitary measures that were required to protect agriculture in this region. FAO had also provided substantial assistance to the development of IPM in the region, and the progress of this programme has built up a wide network of farmer field schools and training of trainer programmes. FAO continues to improve pesticide management, and the improvement of an ecological approach to IPM.

There is emphasis on programmes to manage hazardous pesticides, and these will form a partnership and build capacity on technical issues relating to the Code of Conduct, and the Rotterdam Convention for PIC in international trade.

Mr Tsurumi concluded his speech by emphasizing that plant protection is a special priority in achieving sustainable agriculture, and congratulated the APPPC for a well-developed financial system.

1.5 Inaugural address by the Honorable Proceso J. Alcala, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Philippines

Dr Clarito M. Barron delivered the inaugural address on behalf of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Philippines. He welcomed the delegates, observers and guests to the opening of the 27th session of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission. He thanked the FAO, the city of Makati, the organizers of this event and the Bureau of Plant Industry for the preparations and efforts in making this event possible.

Plant protection, plant quarantine and pest management are very important factors that affect the trading partners in this region. In this era of climate change, globalization and international trade, the risk posed by different pests and diseases has increased. It is a challenge for our regulatory bodies and policy-making agencies to craft risk management plans and risk analyses to provide effective border protection. It is an opportunity on the other hand, to respond to the needs of our plant industries, whether local or domestic movement, export or import.

The Secretary pointed out that much effort has been put forward to advance this region, such as the activities of ASEAN expert working groups, capacity-building on the use of the IPPC portal, the regional draft review of ISPMs and others. These inputs may now be put into a working plan, to turn the theoretical and technical know-how into tangible results to benefit not only our own countries, but also our regional counterparts.

The Secretary then concluded his speech wishing a spirit of mutual cooperation and thanking everyone in the traditional Filipino way – *Maraming salamat at, Mabuhay tayong lahat.*

1.6 Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the 27th Session, the Drafting Committee and the adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable

1.6.1 Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the 27th Session

The Philippines was elected Chairperson of the 27th session of the APPPC.

The elected Vice-Chairpersons were from the following countries:

India, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea.

1.6.2 Election of the Drafting Committee

New Zealand was elected Chairperson of the Drafting Committee. The other country members were: India, Malaysia, Philippines and Republic of Korea.

1.7 Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable

The draft agenda and timetable were adopted.

2. Secretariat report on actions taken on the implementation of the work plan adopted by the Twenty-sixth Session of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission

Mr Piao Yongfan, Executive Secretary of the APPPC, reported on the activities of the Secretariat and Working Groups since the 26th Session of the Commission.

2.1 Status of Plant Protection Agreement for Asia and the Pacific

There is no change in the membership status of APPPC. Twenty-four countries are contracting parties to the Plant Protection Agreement for Asia and the Pacific at present. The countries are Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam.

On 28 September 2009, the Executive Secretary of APPPC sent two memorandums to the office of the Director-General of FAO through the Agriculture Department (AG) on the *APPPC Finance and Expenses 2010-2011: the Entry into Force of APPPC 1983 Amendment on Financial Mandatory Contribution as from 4 September 2009* and the *Adoption of a Regional Standard on SALB*. The memoranda allowed the Director-General to contact the APPPC contracting governments on the entry into force of the 1983 amendment as well as the potential acceptance of the 2nd set of the 1999 amendment. A series of actions was taken by the FAO Legal Office. These included preparation of a true copy of the incorporated Agreement by considering the different status of the member countries as well as a sample instrument of acceptance of the Agreement. The circular state letter (20/V/2010) was sent to the concerned country permanent representatives to FAO on 24 May 2010.

In 2010, Thailand deposited with the FAO Director-General an instrument of acceptance of the 1983 amendment. There has been no further deposition of acceptance from any other country. Until the end of July 2011, 17 countries, namely, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam deposited their instruments of acceptance of the 1983 amendment.

With the coming into force of the 1983 amendment on 4 September 2009, 14 out of 16 countries (except Indonesia and Sri Lanka) made their mandatory contribution in 2010. Indonesia made two-years of contributions in early 2011. Until 10 August 2011, there was no contribution for 2010 from Sri Lanka. Having deposited the instrument of acceptance, Thailand also made the mandatory contribution in 2011. Twelve out of 17 countries provided mandatory contributions of 2011 by 10 August 2011. It is hoped the contributions for 2011 from Cambodia, DPR Korea, Fiji, Pakistan and Sri Lanka be received without further delay.

2.2 Implementation of the work plan Adopted by the 26th session of APPPC

A number of follow-up activities have been undertaken to implement the work plan (2010-2011) adopted by the 26th session of APPPC.

2.2.1 Plant protection measures

2.2.1.1 Pre-Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) meetings of APPPC members

The APPPC pre-CPM5 and pre-CPM6 meetings were organized in Rome on 21 March 2010 and on 13 March 2011, respectively. The pre-CPM meetings provided APPPC members with an opportunity to discuss CPM agenda items, including more specifically, the draft ISPMs to be presented for adoption by the CPM. These meetings facilitated a better understanding of specific concerns of participants and their positions on various matters. The meetings did not require any financial input from the APPPC.

2.2.1.2 SALB working group

The working group led by Malaysia, with the participation of China, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam, developed a concept paper and a programme for the workshop on *The Prevention of Introduction of South American Leaf Blight (SALB)*. The workshop was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 13-17 December 2010, to develop detailed guidelines for supporting the APPPC SALB standards. The model work plan for the importation of budded stumps or budwood of *Hevea spp.* is one of the significant outputs of the workshop. This work plan describes the mandatory operational requirements and the phytosanitary procedures for the importation of budded stumps or budwood of *Hevea spp.* from an exporting country into an importing country in the region to address the risk of SALB and other regulated pests. The details of the outputs of the working group are further discussed under Section 8.3. In addition, a workshop has been prepared for developing programme for the publication of reference materials related to SALB. All reference materials and findings resulting from the workshop will be compiled for publication. Other materials in the form of fliers, posters, leaflets, laminated pictures and preserved specimens etc., will be produced as well. The workshop will be held in November 2011.

2.2.1.3 Pest incursion management

The Commission recognized that pest incursion management is extremely important and proposed a workshop on this subject. The working group led by Australia with the participation of China, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea and New Zealand, prepared the concept paper and the programme for the workshop on pest incursion and eradication which was convened from 30 August to 3 September 2011 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. A contingency plan for SALB was one of the important outputs of the workshop. The plan provides guidelines for supporting SALB protection in the region. (Refer to Section 8.2 for further details)

The model work plan for the importation of budded stumps or budwood of *Hevea spp.* and the contingency plan for SALB are significant developments in the course of regional efforts to deal with the SALB in the APPPC history after successful development of PRA on SALB and the RSPM No. 7 on SALB.

2.2.2 Information management programme

The work plan for 2010-2011 proposed that the Commission develop a system for collection and dissemination of plant protection information within the region. This included the development of a website on the APPPC. After the 26th session of APPPC, various efforts were made to develop this website. These included short-term personal service contracts with inputs from experts. The APPPC website was developed in close collaboration with the IPPC Secretariat and IT experts of IPP. It was launched in July 2011 and tested by the participants who attended the training workshop on information exchange through the use of the IPP Portal and the APPPC website.

The 3rd edition of plant protection profiles from APPPC member countries has been produced and distributed to all member countries. The tables are formatted and designed to reflect updated developments of plant protection in the member countries. The table of the information on implementation of ISPMs is intended to incorporate the basic context of the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) of IPPC to some extent. It is also linked to the questionnaire system proposed for the IPPC implementation review and support system. The 3rd edition of the profiles includes the compilation, documentation and presentation of “best practices” of IPM and pesticide risk reduction for APPPC member countries. The profiles are to be revised and published every two years. The table of the information on pesticide management is also intended to incorporate the FAO global survey on the implementation of the international code of conduct on the distribution and use of pesticides. The feedback from the member countries has been analyzed to some extent. All relevant data, documents and publications will be uploaded into the APPPC website. The website would be further fine-tuned using feedback from member countries, etc. (Refer to Section 7.1 for further details).

2.2.3 Capacity development

2.2.3.1 Implementation of ISPMs

The 26th session proposed that a working group be established to investigate how the Commission members can assist in the implementation of standards. The working group would select an ISPM or ISPMs and, if deemed appropriate, look at the development of training materials.

The working group led by the Republic of Korea with the participation of Australia, India, Philippines and New Zealand, has developed draft questionnaires to investigate how the Commission members can assist in the implementation of the ISPM No. 15. (Refer to Section 8.4 for further details).

2.2.3.2 Cooperation with counterparts

The Commission closely cooperated with potential supporters and counterparts for their assistance and financial support, including technical assistance in enhancing country capacity in the implementation of RSPMs, ISPMs, pesticide risk reduction through IPM, the Rotterdam Convention and the international code of conduct on the distribution and use of pesticides, etc. In 2010, APPPC received financial and in-kind support from the Republic of Korea for a workshop on pest incursion. Malaysia also hosted the workshop on SALB in 2010 and the training workshop on the use of the IPP Portal and the APPPC website in July 2011. Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam collaborated with Imperial College of London, UK, and Queensland University of Technology, Australia in preparing a project proposal on integrated systems approach to pest risk management. Malaysia hosted a workshop in August 2010 to prepare the project proposal which was submitted to WTO for STDF grant. A two-year project grant was subsequently approved for implementation starting July 2011. There was also a group discussion on the project during the CPM-6. As a follow-up, the project launch meeting was held in Malaysia from 24-28 July 2011.

An FAO project (GCP/RAS/226/JPN) – *Cooperation for the Improvement of Phytosanitary Capacity in Asian Countries Through Capacity Building* has been implemented continuously from 2010 and 2011. In collaboration with the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), Department of Agriculture, Philippines, a regional training workshop on pest identification was organized by the Project from 6 to 16 June 2011 in the Philippines. The objective was to assist the participants to improve their knowledge of plant pest biology and their skills in identifying plant pests. National seminars on PRA in Lao PDR, Myanmar and Cambodia were also supported by the project in 2010, following the establishment of PRA groups in these countries. A training workshop on phytosanitary inspection for plants for planting and planting materials was also held by the project in the Philippines in March 2010 with the participation of quarantine officials from Lao PDR, Viet Nam, Thailand, Cambodia and Myanmar.

A sub-regional collaboration on pesticide management was facilitated among ASEAN countries through the implementation of the TCP project on the harmonization of pesticide registration requirements. Several training workshops, such as bioefficacy test protocols, biopesticide, information exchange, labeling, formulation analysis and residue analysis as well as review of registration and implementation of international treaties, were organized with kind assistance of host countries such as Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand. Additional training workshops on pesticide risk assessment will be organized in October 2011. The regional project (GCP/RAS/229/SWE) on pesticide risk reduction through IPM provided considerable assistance to GMS countries through capacity building activities. (Refer to Section 9 for further details).

The Executive Secretary of APPPC facilitated bilateral collaboration between India and Thailand on biocontrol of black-headed caterpillar in coconut. A biological control expert from India visited Thailand and assisted Thailand in managing the serious infestation of the beetle. An agreement was reached on the development of bilateral collaboration in relation to biocontrol of brontispa, black-headed caterpillar, cassava pink mealybug, etc., as well as exchange of expertise and materials.

A regional TCP on cassava mealybug control has been developed and implemented in GMS countries since 2011.

2.2.4 International Agreements

The 10th and 11th APPPC regional consultation workshops on the review of draft ISPMs were organized in the Republic of Korea in 2009 and 2010, respectively, after the 26th session of APPPC. The workshops were supported financially and hosted by the Republic of Korea. The 12th APPPC regional consultation will again be held in the Republic of Korea in September 2011.

Lao PDR ratified the Rotterdam Convention and the Basel Convention on 21 September 2010. Tonga ratified the Rotterdam Convention, the Stockholm Convention and the Basel Convention on October 2009 and March 2010, respectively. Indonesia ratified the Stockholm Convention on 28 September 2009.

2.2.5 APPPC planning for 2012-2013

An APPPC planning workshop was held in Bangkok, Thailand, in April 2011 for reviewing the status of the implementation of the work plan adopted by the 26th session and for preparing a draft proposal of the work plan for the next biennium (2012-2013). The planning workshop was attended by the Chair and Vice Chair of the 26th Session, the Chairs of the three standing committees, and the APPPC Standard Committee members. The draft proposal on the work plan was prepared by the meeting and it was circulated to all member countries before this Session. (Refer to Section 13.1 for further details)

In conclusion, the collaboration and cooperation among member countries were significantly enhanced through a number of important activities financed by the APPPC self-funding mechanism during 2010-2011. However, extensive financial, technical and in-kind support and assistance from more member countries are indispensable to support cooperative activities in the region. The Executive Secretary expressed appreciation to those countries that have provided great support and invaluable assistance including financial, technical and in-kind assistance as well as facilities to APPPC activities during the past two years.

The Executive Secretary thanked the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam for their extensive inputs to APPPC. These countries either hosted several training activities and meetings or provided financial support and technical assistance during the past two years. He wished all these inputs and assistance would continue and be strengthened in the next biennial period. Finally, the Executive Secretary thanked the Government of the Philippines for hosting this Session as well as for their hospitality and kindness to all the participants.

2.3 Discussion on the report by the Executive Secretary

The report of the Executive Secretary was endorsed by the Session.

3. Country reports of significant changes and developments since 2009 by member delegates and reports of relevant organizations and institutions by observers

3.1 Australia

Update on the Review of Quarantine and Biosecurity Arrangements of Australia

Australia advised it had just lodged with the Director General of the FAO its Instruments of Acceptance for the 1999 amendments. The reform of the biosecurity system continues broadly in line with the recommendations from the Beale Review. This includes a risk-based approach to biosecurity operations, with the focus being on higher risk areas. There is increased emphasis on managing the whole biosecurity continuum – onshore, at the border and offshore – rather than focusing primarily on the border. The legislation is being revised using a risk-based approach.

ICON (Import Conditions) Database Redevelopment

Work has commenced on redeveloping the AQIS import conditions database to improve decision-support for industry users to help them determine import requirements. It will be reformatted to help industry users determine import requirements. BICON (Biosecurity Import Conditions) is expected to go live in mid 2012.

Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS)

AFAS is a management system for quarantine treatments and initiatives. It was originally implemented to address methyl bromide fumigation conducted offshore. AFAS is designed to provide assistance and training for treatment providers and quarantine officers to promote a high standard of treatment performance and compliance. It is implemented in seven Asian countries with two more progressing to implementation. Other countries expressing interest include South American and Pacific countries. AFAS is moving towards a broader arrangement to increase cooperation and capacity building. It is looking to incorporate additional treatments and initiatives for the movement of cargo. A working group has been established to develop the arrangement.

ISPM No. 15

Australia now accepts solid wood packaging material treated and marked as ISPM No. 15 compliant that meets the bark tolerance requirements in the standard.

Incursions

There were 53 pest notifications in 2010, mainly notification of extended ranges or new hosts. The major inclusion since 2009 is myrtle rust which is present in New South Wales and Queensland. Eradication of some tropical invasive weeds continues although there is a transition to management of those invasive species for which eradication is no longer feasible. Eradication of invasive ant species continues in Queensland.

National Plant Health Status

The National Plant Health Status Reports provide a concise overview of Australia's plant biosecurity system. The 2009-2010 report (July 2009 to December 2010) presents a wide range of information on the agricultural, horticultural and forestry production industries, plant pests of concern and research. It identifies over 200 high priority pests and highlights surveillance programs. It is available at www.phau.com.au/go/phau/strategies-and-policy/national-plant-health-status-report.

National Plant Health Strategy

The National Plant Health Strategy has been developed to provide direction for the plant health sector for the next 10 years. It provides a framework to manage the risks associated with plant pests and other threats that have the potential to adversely affect plant biosecurity. Ten strategies are outlined. It is available at www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/index.cfm?objectid=1B4BE8F4-96C0-3C23-C9BCE36980DB3442.

Pesticide regulation by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)

Pesticides are evaluated, registered and regulated by the APVMA. Draft legislation is being prepared to introduce a re-registration system, with improved data protection for re-registration and strengthened data protection for new applications. The focus for the APVMA will be on chemicals with the highest risk. Assessments and reviews of chemicals will have a set timeframe for completion. See www.apvma.gov.au.

3.2 Bangladesh

Bangladesh is an agrarian country and her climate favours the rapid development of various pests and diseases on crops. One of the main constraints to crop production is pests. Estimated crop loss by pest and diseases are 10-15 percent annually.

The plant protection activities of the country at national level are under the Director of Plant Protection Wing of the Department of Agricultural Extension under the Ministry of Agriculture. Bangladesh has to import a huge quantity of food, seeds and other plants and plant products. Annually on an average 80 lac metric tonnes of plants and plant products are imported through the Plant Quarantine Stations of Plant Protection Wing. On an average nine metric tonnes of agricultural commodities are inspected by the plant quarantine section per annum for the purpose of export and also need to issue huge number of phytosanitary certificates. With the recent introduction of some restriction by some of the European Union (EU) countries on sanitary and phytosanitary issues might have create adverse effects on the exports of the country. We are working on

the issues raised by the EU. Recently we have taken a program titled *Exportable Citrus and Vegetable Production* to meet the EU requirements. We have selected some places (north-west region) of low pest prevalence area for mango production.

The existing plant quarantine legislation known as *Destructive Insects and Pests Rules, 1966 (Plant Quarantine)* was framed as per provisions delineated under Sub-section (I) of Section-3, Section-5 of the *Destructive Insect and Pests Act, 1914 (II of 1914)*. *Plant Quarantine Act, 2011* has been approved by the Parliament in March, 2011. Recently we have developed eight Plant Quarantine Centers laboratory and we have increased Land border check post from 18 to 26. In the last two years we organized 12 training programme for the Quarantine officials to build their capacity. According to revised IPPC convention and the Agreement on the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) we have formulated our *Quarantine Act-2011*. To implement the International Standards for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) we have taken a project for strengthening phytosanitary capacity in Bangladesh.

Pest surveillance and forecasting system of the country have been upgraded recently. The infestation of Brown Plant Hopper (BPH) and Stem borer were high during last two years. Besides, outbreak of Bacterial Leaf Blight and blast in rice crop during 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 crop seasons created some threats on the total rice production in the country.

Different pest control approaches are being practiced to manage the pest incidence in the country. Among these Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach is given more emphasis for the management of pests in the country. In view of the importance of IPM in Bangladesh, a National IPM Policy has also been developed. Research institutions have developed several new IPM technologies. The research institutions are now putting emphasis on IPM particularly on bio control and non-chemicals (bio-pesticides) for pest management.

Private sectors have also come forward for mass rearing and marketing of parasitoids and predators. Pesticide free vegetables and some fruits are available in the on a limited scale but marketing channel need to be developed. The Government has started thinking about the GAP particularly of exportable vegetables and fruits. Safe food production through IPM approach created a great enthusiasm among the producers and consumers under the guidance of the different Government agencies.

The Pesticide (Amendment) Act, 2009 and the *Pesticide Rules 1985* amended up to 2010 are in force. A total of 123 generic pesticides have been registered for use in agriculture and 60 for use in public health. Total number of trade names of agricultural and public health of these pesticides is 2 145. There is a Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee headed by the Executive Chairman of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Ministry of Agriculture. Based on formulation, the Government has banned nine pesticide compounds under WHO class 1a and 1b for agricultural purposes.

3.3 Cambodia

Cambodia is an agricultural country with 80 percent of its people living in the rural areas and relying on the agriculture sector for supporting their livelihoods. The share of GDP contributed by the agricultural sector was estimated at 29 percent in 2010 compared with 28 percent from the industrial sector and 43 percent from the services sector. The agriculture sub-sectors are composed of crop production (53.8%), forestry (6.1%), fisheries (27.3%) and livestock (12.8%).

As mentioned in the previous report, the Government established the Plant Protection and SPS Department (PP-SPSD) of the General Directorate of Agriculture (GDA) on 14 November 2008 to strengthen the implementation of SPS/WTO measures by empowering the new department to be responsible for food safety aspect of plant products at farm level and all phytosanitary measures.

Plant Quarantine became one of the offices under PP-SPSD/GDA that plays a key role in inspection and certification of plant products intended for export. With the accession of Cambodia to the WTO, the Government has realized the critical role of phytosanitary measures as an integral part of the SPS agreement and has reviewed Sub-decree 64, resulting in the endorsement of Sub-decree No. 06 on 30 March 2004,

empowering the Plant Quarantine Service to implement its duties at all International Airports (Phnom Penh and Siem Reap) in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Another result is that the Sub-decree on Land and Seaport Border Management has been finally drafted and submitted for endorsement from the Government. This new Sub-decree will empower the Plant Quarantine Service to work back at the land and seaport check points of the country, where supporting infrastructure requires to be rebuilt from starting point.

There have been many projects, such as AADCP/AusAID, SPS Capacity Building Programme/AusAID, NZAID I & II, FAO TCP/CMB/3104 (D) and JICA, supporting the Cambodia Plant Quarantine Service in terms of capacity building and human resource development, setting up the NPD, PRA room and basic equipment for plant pest diagnosis laboratory.

Owing to limited capacity of NPPO and the characteristic geographical situation of Cambodia, i.e., long porous land borders with Thailand, Lao PDR and Viet Nam, there have not been any pest-free area production sites established as yet. The preparation of the list of regulated pests in accordance with ISPM No. 19 has not yet been drafted due to limited capacity and financial support. PRA has just commenced with the formulation of a PRA Team consisting of three entomologists and three plant pathologists to provide on-the-job training, with support from FAO. The Team is working mainly on binding of necessary supporting documents for the PRA process of importing countries. Only some ISPM tasks directly related to trade facilitation have been implemented so far. Many implementation challenges remain and the PP-SPSD has inadequate qualified personnel and facilities, especially in reference to pest surveillance, management of pest outbreaks, including invasive species.

With regard to pest outbreaks, Golden Apple Snail is still a key pest for rice since it invaded into Cambodia in 1995 and the eradication of this pest has not been fully successful yet. Secondly, brown plant hopper (BPH) has infested rice fields in the provinces bordering Viet Nam. Integrated Pest Management Approach has been applied to address the problem. Another emerging pest problem is the pink mealy bug that has infested cassava crop in the provinces along the Thai border. The cleaning of planting materials and biological control using parasitoids has been introduced for the management of this pest.

In line with the goal of promoting food security and safety as well as better market access for IPM produce, the National IPM Programme has implemented a wide variety of IPM activities, using environment friendly and discovery-based learning approaches with remarkable results in all major agriculture provinces. Since IPM has been considered by MAFF as one of the country's key crop production strategies – with the aim of making IPM the standard approach to crop management in Cambodia – the promotion of IPM among smallholder-farmers as an integral part of government and CSO efforts for sustainable intensification of crop production systems remains a key strategy.

Major training activities implemented were farmer field schools on rice, vegetable, fruit trees (fruit fly) and rice-fish-vegetable. Introduction and promotion of biological control, e.g., parasitoids (*C. plutellae*, *Asecodes*, *A. lopez*), pathogens (*Trichoderma*) and predators (earwigs), is included in IPM-FFS as to provide farmers with alternatives to chemical pesticides. During the period 2009-2010, with support from the Government, FAO and other development partners, the National IPM Programme carried out 111 FFS including FFS on organic chili involving 2 628 farmers (1 289 women) and 59 FFS on rice crop involving 1 610 farmers (550 women). Moreover, 20 Farmer Congresses were conducted after the completion of every season involving 1 733 farmers (623 women) for discussions and information sharing on main problems in crop production and successful solutions farmers had experience during FFS and post-FFS activities.

FFS alumni have formed groups and associations to continue working together with established trainer networks to provide services to local IPM projects and promote IPM products. IPM alumni farmers have formed themselves into chemical-free and organic production associations and assisted in facilitating linkages for more effective marketing of IPM produce and better market access. Safe IPM produce is supplied to supermarkets, restaurants, big hotels and casinos. There were 103 post-FFS activities conducted on rice and vegetable crops involving 1 690 farmers (803 women). In the post-FFS, farmers set up various field studies

to identify new growing techniques and alternative methods to control pests. The National IPM Programme assisted in the establishment of 56 IPM Farmer Clubs, involving 920 IPM alumni (422 women) with a total savings of around US\$ 28 030, mainly from farmer contributions. Moreover, 140 farmers (44 women) from six villages in two provinces were trained on Pesticide and Health Exercises to raise awareness on the hazards of chemical pesticides on human health and environment.

Evidence from practicing IPM in the fields show that farmers have increased crop yields and returns while reducing pesticides spray events, costs and the use of extremely hazardous pesticides. Therefore IPM leads to more sustainable and cost-effective production, reduction of ecological disruption and environmental contamination, reduction of public health and toxic residues in food and improvement of livelihood, biodiversity and marketability of produces.

Similar to the previous report, pesticide management continues to be a complicated task with cross mandatory responsibilities between three Departments of MAFF, namely, the Department of Agriculture Legislation, PP-SPS and the National Agricultural Laboratory. Cambodia has signed and ratified the Stockholm Convention (POP), Montreal Protocol (Ozone Depletion Materials) and Basel convention and developed the action plan for implementation of the first two with the focal point based in the Ministry of Environment. Cambodia is currently an observer of the Rotterdam Convention (PIC) and the Government has agreed to become a member of this Convention and has now submitted document to the National Parliament for ratification.

Under FAO-TCP Cambodia participated in pesticide regulatory harmonization among ASEAN countries which provides technical assistance in capacity building related to pesticide management. Furthermore, through the Policy Component of the FAO Project GCP/RAS/229/SWE activities were carried out for capacity building of staff members at national and provincial levels on pesticide management including development of Pesticide Inspection Manual and Booklet for Shopkeepers, training for retailers and inspectors, pesticide quality control and inspection, and pesticide registration and database development. Additionally, the project has conducted pesticide inspection and taken action to phase out banned pesticide from the market in target provinces. In addition, a Law on the Management of Pesticide and Fertilizer has been drafted and is now in the process of endorsement by the Government. In the context of chemical management, the Ministry of Environment is starting to introduce the GHS (Global Harmonization System) for pesticide labeling.

One of the serious concerns on food safety is related to high levels of pesticide residues that are increasingly recognized as trade barriers and as problematic for domestic consumer health. Food safety is a cross ministerial responsibility and no specific law has been endorsed. Food safety regulations are based on the Law on Management of Quality and Safety of Product and Services dated 21 June 2000. MAFF's Departments are responsible for food safety of agricultural products from farm level to the final phase of primary processing (Article 1 of Sub-decree 105, dated 22 August 2005 and Sub-decree No.188).

Due to unclear mandates between line Ministries on food safety, an Inter-Ministerial Joint Prakas No. 868 on the application and institutional arrangement of the food safety management system from farm to table was prepared and endorsed on 22 October 2010 by six line ministers. The mandates of the six Ministries were arranged as follows:

- MAFF is to manage food safety from farm until primary processing;
- Ministry of Industry, Mine and Energy is to manage food safety in food factories;
- Ministry of Commerce (Camcontrol) is to manage food safety in the market;
- Ministry of Tourism is to manage food safety in restaurants ensuring that food meets tourism standards;
- Ministry of Health is to manage food safety of the final user; and
- Ministry of Economic and Finance (General Directorate of Custom) is to manage food safety at cross border check points.

Another work related to food safety is the development of Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) standards. The ASEAN GAP on fresh Fruit and Vegetable has been translated to Khmer language and endorsed as a National GAP in the form of a Ministerial Proclamation (Prakas) of MAF on System of Good Agricultural Practice

for fresh fruits and vegetables. The PP-SPS Department plays a role as GAP certification body. There are no existing standards for organic agricultural produce and acceptance depends on the willingness of consumers and the importing country.

3.4 China

In the past two years, new pests such as Sunflower black stem disease (*Leptosphaeria lindquistii* Frezzi=*Phoma macdonaldii* Boerema) and Solenopsis mealybug (*Phenacoccus solenopsis* Tinsley) were detected in China. Surveys and PRAs were conducted on these two pests. The pests were added in the quarantine pest list in order to prevent them from being introduced again. The domestic quarantine pest list was revised in 2009 based on the PRA. A number of regulations and technical standards were formulated in the field of quarantine pest detection, monitoring and management. In 2009, the pest interception cases in the import cargoes were 268 131. Among them 189 were quarantine pests and 3 715 were non-quarantine pests; in 2010 there were 40 049, among which 217 were quarantine pests and 3 437 were non-quarantine pests. These cases involved 187 countries and regions. In 2009 and 2010, great effort was taken to control the codling moth and the pest-free areas (PFA) for codling moth were established and maintained. *Radopholus similis* had been successfully eradicated in several sites of Guangdong Province which was detected in seedlings imported into China. In 2009 and 2010, China provided pest information to countries for conducting relevant PRA upon request. Also, most of the international standards of phytosanitary measures and regional standards were implemented in China. IPP training course was conducted in Beijing in 2010 with the joint support from IPPC Secretariat and APPPC Secretariat.

During the period, 2009-2010, outbreaks of some pests on major crops occurred due to global warming, significant changes in cropping systems, climate conditions, and crop varieties in China. Locusts occurred in 1.7 million hectares annually in 2009 and 2010; meadow moth (*Loxostege sticticalis* L.) occurred in about 5.4 million hectares of farm lands, pastures and woodlands in 2009. The outbreaks of rice stem borers have been occurring with more serious damage over the past two years. The outbreaks were spread over 18.3 million hectares in 2009 and 17.7 million hectares in 2010, respectively. In the case of BPH (*Nilaparvata lugens*), the infested area grew to 10.4 million hectares in 2009 and 12.0 million hectares in 2010. The total area infested by major vegetable pests amounted to 29.8 million hectares in 2009 and 30.6 million hectares in 2010. Regional actions were coordinated by the National Agro-technical Extension and Service Center (NATESC) of the Ministry of Agriculture for controlling major crop pests. The annual control acreages of major crop pests reached 560.7 million hectares in 2009 and 532.7 million hectares in 2010. National IPM programmes coordinated by NATESC have been supporting the implementation of key IPM technologies in major crops and major pests. Biological and ecological control measures such as using microorganisms and reclaiming locust habitats were extensively promoted.

China strengthened pesticide management in 2009 and 2010. The registration and production certificates of five highly toxic organophosphate pesticides, including methamidophos, parathion-methyl, parathion, monocrotophos, phosphamidon, were repealed. A number of rules and regulations had been formulated, which included Measures for the Administration of Pesticide Labels and Instructions (Order of MOA, No. 8), the Decision on Amending the Measures for Implementing the Regulation on Pesticide Administration (Order of MOA, No. 9), the Revised Data Requirement for Registration of Pesticide (Order of MOA, No. 10), the Revision and Approval for Pesticide Name (MOA Proclamation No. 944), the Nomenclature for Pesticides (MOA Proclamation No. 945), and the Content of Active Ingredient for Pesticide (MOA Proclamation No. 946).

3.5 Fiji Islands

The Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) was established via the enactment of its law, the Biosecurity Promulgation, on 17 December 2008. Although legally recognized as a statutory authority, BAF continued operating as a government department. Nevertheless, foundations for the change were being instituted within the organization in anticipation of becoming a new authority.

In May 2010, a Board of Directors was appointed that instituted changes and prepared the department into becoming a full pledged authority by 1 January 2011. This involved the recruitment of the executive management team, comprising the CEO, Deputy CEO and four Managers.

There are four divisions within this full pledged statutory authority BAF, namely, Operations, Standards & Policy, Finance & IT and Corporate. The Standards, Policy and Compliance and the Operations Division continue to work together to ensure that stakeholders in its export and import arena are aware and abide by the WTO-SPS rules and standards. BAF continues to strengthen its network with other NPPOs in ensuring that, in facilitating trade we do comply with the ISPMs, thus eliminating movement and the risk of Quarantine Regulated pests and diseases. The Corporate and Finance & IT divisions complement the technical team by providing support logistics as and when the need requires.

The Research Division under the Ministry of the Primary Industries is currently responsible for the registration of pesticides and policing their use. This service provides validation of application received, grants registration where appropriate and monitors and polices pesticide sales and usage through compliance with the Pesticide Decree.

The Authority has also increased the number of biosecurity officers at all its ports of entries. This is vital due to the increase in trade within the region by both sea and air. BAF being a statutory body has a legal unit developing MOUs with other line ministries and border agencies, thus strengthening our network and presence at our borders. As of 1 July 2011, Biosecurity (Fees and Chargers) has been gazetted, pursuant to Section 15(2) of the Biosecurity Promulgation 2008. This means that all services rendered by the Authority are charged and paid for by the user.

In 2010, the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) submitted the reviewed Pesticides Act and the National Animal Health Emergency Response Plan, which was endorsed by the Cabinet. Currently BAF is working with MPI, other line ministries and non-government organizations (NGOs) on the containment and eradication of the Asian subterranean termites and the American iguana.

BAF, in collaboration with MPI and The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), carries out biosecurity quarantine trainings and capacity building, monitoring and surveillance of economic pests and diseases and regularly carry out national pest and disease surveys and update its Pest List Database (PLD) as a national and international obligation.

BAF also works in collaboration with The Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access (PHAMA). The PHAMA Program is new and is designed to provide practical and targeted assistance to help Fiji address technical/regulatory aspects of market access. To assist with the implementation of PHAMA in Fiji, a Market Access Working Group (MAWG) has been established. This includes representatives from key government agencies with market access responsibilities, together with representatives from the private sector.

BAF continues to face challenges at its borders in the imports of empty containers and wood packaging materials used that do not fulfill and comply with ISPMs. Pest and disease interception lists from trading partners have not been forthcoming, thus it's hard for BAF to put in required standards/system approach to rouse of these pests of concern within fresh produce export pathways.

The scattered distribution of islands in Fiji makes biosecurity surveillance and monitoring of incoming yachts very hard. Nevertheless BAF continues to network with other border control agencies to monitor for illegal yachters that might bring in exotic pests, weeds and diseases that will affect our endemic flora and fauna.

3.6 Democratic People's Republic of Korea

In 2009-2010, the DPR Korea acquired a deep understanding of importance of phytosanitary efforts in crop production as well as plant production and trade and took up a positive action to manage plant pests as in the country in line with ISPMs.

Korea Export & Import Commodity Inspection & Quarantine Committee (KiQS) undertakes plant quarantine in technical collaboration with Central Plant Quarantine Station (CPQS) of MoA which inspects pests in planting materials such as seeds and seedlings, trains the plant quarantine staffs. KiQS inspects pests in plant productions and documents phytosanitary certificates. In September 2008, MoA enacted a new *The Regulation of Border Animal and Plant Quarantine* and has implemented plant quarantine on the basis of it.

In order to manage plant pest, Central Plant Protection Station (CPPS) of MoA surveys crop pest outbreaks in the fields and forecasts to all cooperative farms through the province and country farm management boards and manages crop pest in liaison with MoA and Plant Protection Institute and Academy of Agriculture science. Land and Environment Ministry surveys and manages pests in forest.

During 2009-2010 in the DPR Korea, a number of the immigrated pests such as armyworm (*Leucania separata*, W), and plant hoppers and the underground pests such as white grubs and wireworm (*Agriotes sericeus*) appeared and gave serious damages to the crops. But rice water weevil (*Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus* K), indigenous pest less than previous years were found less than the previous years. In 2010 the maize mealybug, invasive pest broke out in some area which was eradicated in time through the emergency action of MoA and CPPS.

In 2009-2010, the DPR Korea cooperated with some countries and international organizations in the field of plant protection; in particular, CABI and Europe Aid gave the technical assistance on Trichogramma production against corn borer (*Ostrinia furnacalis* G), so that 20 Trichogramma production facilities were renovated, which contributes the crop production.

The chemical pesticides are managed by MoA, CPPS and Agrochemicalization Institute, Academy of Agriculture Science, in accordance with the international agreements on pesticides. The DPR Korea imports chemical pesticides mostly from China.

The phytosanitary efforts in the DPR Korea will be strengthened in the future too under the direct guidance of the Government to increase production of crop and plant products.

3.7 India

The Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (DPPQS) under Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is the National Plant Protection Organization with its headquarter located at Faridabad, Haryana and having operational offices all over the country. This office is headed by the Plant Protection Adviser to the Government of India and is responsible for the implementation of plant protection policies and programmes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. Joint Secretary (Plant Protection) is the Official Contact Point for IPPC and APPPC.

The main activities in plant protection are exclusion of exotic pests, surveillance and monitoring, control of desert locust, ensuring availability of quality pesticides and bio-pesticides, promotion of integrated pest management approach, development of the human resource in plant protection and monitoring of pesticide residues in agricultural commodities. The DPPQS undertakes these activities through five divisions in the directorate namely: Plant Quarantine, Integrated Pest Management, Locusts control, Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee and Central Insecticides Laboratory. The human resource development in plant protection is looked after by the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad. The details of training courses (both long term and short term) offered by the institute are available at <http://www.niphm.gov.in>.

The Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation administer the Destructive Insects & Pests Act, 1914 (2 of 1914). Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order 2003 issued under the said Act, and amended from time to time, regulates the imports of agricultural commodities and the wood packaging material. All regulatory provisions for import of plants and material into the country are available at <http://www.plantquarantineindia.org>. Being the contracting party to IPPC and as a National Plant Protection Organization, the DPPQS is responsible for implementation of the phytosanitary certification programme. More than 150 plant protection specialists from all over the country have been authorized by NPPO to issue Phytosanitary certificates, in accordance with the requirements of importing countries as per IPPC (list of phytosanitary certificate issuing authorities is available at <http://www.plantquarantineindia.org/pdf/Appendix-1.pdf>). 196 678 phytosanitary certificates were issued during 2010-11 and 61 350 import inspections have been carried out during this period. More than 2 760 pest risk

analyses have been carried out so far. A number of quarantine pests had been intercepted in the imported consignments and notifications sent to the exporting countries.

IPM programme is based on crop based Farmers' Field School approach implemented through 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centers. Seventy seven (77) IPM packages on major Agricultural/Horticultural crops have been developed. The Government of India encourages the use of bio-control agents. 318 bio-control laboratories are in operation. Consumption of pesticides in India is now 41 822 metric tons (technical grade) compared to 75 033 metric tonnes in 1995 while biopesticide consumption is 3 395 metric tonnes partly due to IPM approach. There is a national programme in operation for monitoring of pesticide residues in food commodities. A project on surveillance on fruit flies has been completed and the data on distribution of different species of fruit flies has been compiled for the States of U.P, Gujarat, Maharashtra & Andhra Pradesh.

A Project on National Invasive Weed Surveillance (N.I.W.S.) has been completed. Pest free area has been developed and notified for Brown rot (*Ralstonia solanacearum*) and Ring rot (*Clavibacter michiganensis*) of Potato in the State of Punjab. Besides, pest free areas for mango nut weevil and pulp weevil have also been established and maintained through regular surveillance.

India is a signatory to FAO code of conduct on the distribution and use of pesticides and is implementing its provisions. The Insecticides Act, 1968 regulates the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of pesticides with a view to prevent risk to the human beings, animals and the environment. Up to June 2011, 230 pesticides had been registered for use in India. The details of registered pesticides as well as banned pesticides are available at <http://www.cibrc.gov.in>. The guidelines for registration of biopesticides with reference to toxicology data requirements have been revised.

The recent initiatives in the field of plant protection are:

- A new PRA based and continually updated PQ regulation has been put in effect, i.e. Plant Quarantine Order, 2003, since 1 July 2004.
- Uniform Phytosanitary Certification system with enhanced security features has been put into operation.
- 21 National Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, and other Standard Operating Procedures, protocols and guidelines have been developed for number of key phytosanitary activities.
- Emphasis on capacity building; training and human resource development through National Institute of Plant Health Management, Hyderabad.
- Accreditation system for treatment providers-both fumigators and heat treatment providers for ISPM No. 15 compliance is implemented. More than 360 methyl bromide fumigators and 165 forced hot air treatment providers have been approved.
- Modern diagnostic facilities put in place.
- Quarantine treatment facilities using VHT, irradiation and other treatments developed and accreditation/certification systems developed for these facilities.
- Survey and surveillance programmes undertaken for establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for mango nut weevil/pulp weevil and brown rot/ring rot of potato.
- Plant Quarantine services launched through online system – Plant Quarantine Information System (PQIS).
- New Legislation on pesticides management introduced in Parliament in 2008.
- Online Pesticide Registration System launched in 2009.
- National Pesticide Reference Repository (NPRR) being set up.
- National Pesticides Investigational Laboratory (NPIL) is proposed to set up.
- Additional Bio-Pesticides Testing facilities being established.
- Integrated approach to deal with Agricultural Biosecurity with integration of animal and plant quarantine is under way.

National Agricultural Biosecurity Network has been established with effective consultations with all stakeholders in the country.

3.8 Indonesia

Indonesia is an archipelagic country extending 5 120 kilometres (3 181 mi) from east to west and 1 760 kilometres (1 094 mi) from north to south. It encompasses an estimated 17 508 islands, only 6 000 of which are inhabited. It comprises five main islands: Sumatra, Java, Borneo (known as *Kalimantan* in Indonesia), Sulawesi, and New Guinea; two major archipelagos (Nusa Tenggara and the Maluku Islands); and sixty smaller archipelagoes. Four of the islands are shared with other nations: Borneo is shared with Malaysia and Brunei, Sebatik, located eastern coast of Kalimantan, shared with Malaysia, Timor is shared with East Timor, and the newly divided provinces of Papua and West Papua share the island of New Guinea with Papua New Guinea. Indonesia's total land area is 1 919 317 square kilometres (741 052 sq mi). Included in Indonesia's total territory is another 93 000 square kilometres (35 908 sq mi) of inland seas (straits, bays, and other bodies of water). The additional surrounding sea areas bring Indonesia's generally recognized territory (land and sea) to about 5 million square kilometres. The government, however, also claims an exclusive economic zone, which brings the total to about 7.9 million square kilometres. Indonesia is an archipelagic country. It is located between latitudes 6° to 11°N and longitudes 95° to 141°E. The population end 2010 was estimated at about 235 millions.

Agricultural industry as the backbone of Indonesian economic instead of mining industry. Indonesia has more than 17 000 islands that need specific risk management in the agricultural quarantine operation with limited available resources. In new organization structure, Centre for Plant Quarantine and biosafety is a part of Indonesian Agricultural Quarantine Agency, has 51 stations and offices which spread over the whole of Indonesian territory. In the year of 2008, the operational organization in the stations and offices restructured from the modification of 43 plant quarantine stations and 43 animal quarantine stations to be 51 stations and offices due to efficacy of the available resources particularly human resources and infrastructures. However, the quarantine operations are still the same places to cover the whole of entry points such as air ports, sea ports, mail offices, land borders and dry ports. In 2010, Food Safety Inspection, Invasive Alien Species, and GMO/LMO are also subjected to plant quarantine concerns. The operational plant quarantine activities to cover import, export and intra islands of Indonesia are significantly increasing compared to the year of 2010. The issuance of import permits for plant propagation material and plant product inspection in total of 96,901 times. The issuance of phytosanitary certificates for exporting consignment reached 82 804 times. Centre for plant quarantine and Biosafety received notification of non-compliance was 45 times. The main import commodities were wheat, soybean and fresh fruits, while Indonesia exported rubber, palm oil and living plants for ornamental. In the quarantine inspection intercepted quarantine pests such as *Pantoea stewartii*, *Pratylenchus vulnus*, *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *syringae*, *Pratylenchus fragarans*, *Erwinia chrysanthemi*, and *Strawberry Latent Ring Spot Virus (SLRSV)*.

Integrated pest management called IPM programme has been launched since 1990. The IPM programme funded either by government or donor countries or international banks and regulated with the Law No. 12 of 1992 and government regulation No. 6 of 1995. The project had successfully changed the attitude of many farmers in uncontrolled application of pesticide. Organization of plant protection function consists of policy development, pest management research, control recommendation, pest management extension, IPM training and Good Agricultural Practice training. The success implementation of IPM programme supported by number of technical officers for pest management, village level field officers, field extension agents for pest management advice and farmer field schools. IPM practices is mainly focused on the efforts of MoA to achieve and sustainability of self-sufficient for rice and maize productions in 2014. The use of pesticide in Indonesia shall be registered through centre for investment and permit, Ministry of Agriculture. There are 3 kinds permit of pesticide use namely trial permit, temporary permit and permanent permit. Technical requirement for the permit status of pesticide use through the evaluation such as quality issuance, safe for human and environment and effective control for specific pest. Permit of pesticide in Indonesia consist of 1 702 pesticide from different trademarks, 341 pesticide formulators and 38 active ingredients of pesticide are prohibited distribute, in 2008.

3.9 Lao People's Democratic Republic

Lao PDR has a tropical monsoon climate with a rainy season between May to November and a dry season from December to April. Rice is the major crop grown on about 680 850 ha of planted rainfed paddy area and 94 316 ha dry season irrigation in 2009. Upland rice is recorded with 129 109 ha. Coffee produced in 2009 was about 46 035 tonnes with a planted area of 65 101 ha. Maize is also a significant crop planted to 175 965 ha with total production of 848 745 tonnes. Sweet corn occupies 24 740 ha with a production of 80 365 tonnes; vegetables 118 709 ha; and tropical fruits, 39 363 ha.

In recent years Lao PDR has been successful in rapidly expanding its export and import of agriculture produce. In general, most seeds, planting material and other agricultural inputs are still largely dependent on importation.

Lao PDR has defined its development policy to harmonize the country with the regional and international economy. It is seeking membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO), participating in the ASEAN, the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) and the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS).

Lao PDR as a landlocked country has substantial borders with a number of neighbouring countries and the borders in many parts are relatively porous with agricultural products crossing the borders without the knowledge of the NPPO.

Lao PDR being a least developed country has serious financial constraints to rapidly develop its infrastructure without assistance from external agencies. This applies to the NPPO as one of the many government departments or agencies seeking extra funds to develop its capacity to meet the needs as a result of a rapidly changing external environment.

The Government policy of Lao PDR is aiming to promote organic agriculture, while modernizing and reorganizing production practices should be taken into account. There is yet no policy on promoting and prohibiting the application of non-genetically modified organism in the country. Lao PDR did not produce nor formulate any chemical pesticides. Chemical products are mainly imported through formal and non-formal channels.

3.10 Malaysia

Since the last APPPC Session in 2009, Malaysia has initiated new acts and regulations, introduced activities in trade facilitation, capacity building, crop protection and pesticides management as indicated below.

Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Service (MAQIS) will be in full operation as an entity by end of 2011 after the enactment of its Bill by Parliament. It will carry out quarantine inspection for all agriculture produce including plants, animal and fish products at all entry check points in Peninsular Malaysia and Federal Territory of Labuan.

The draft Plant Biosecurity Act to replace the current Plant Quarantine Act 1976 has been finalised. It will be tabled in the next session of Parliament towards the later part of this year.

New regulations were introduced for importation of logs, sawn timber and other wood articles in 2010.

Another new regulation for regulating pesticides manufacturer is also in the final stage of gazetting by the Agriculture Minister.

Two export facilities were established as one-stop centre for phytosanitary treatment, packaging, storage and phytosanitary certificate issuance. These centres are equipped with Vapour Heat Treatment machine and minimally processed facilities.

In order to facilitate trade and improve market access for agriculture produce, Malaysia also implemented the following phytosanitary measures:

- Formulation of a new scheme to certify kiln drying facilities (MAKIDAS) that will facilitate trade in forest products.
- Mandatory ISPM No. 15 implementation for import on the 1st of July 2010.
- Continuous eradication programme to control *Erwinia papayae* on papaya.

Malaysia had organized the following workshops and activities under capacity building programs for APPPC/ASEAN member countries:

- Hosting a Workshop on the Prevention of Introduction of South American Leaf Blight in line with the decision of 26th APPPC meeting, 13-17 December 2010.
- Hosting of workshop on Project Preparation Grant STDF/PPG/328 “Developing Trade Opportunities: An Integrated Systems Approach for Pest Risk Management”, 16-19 August 2010.
- Hosting of APEC workshop: Enhancing Food Security through a Regional Approach and Wide Stakeholders Participation to Plant Biosecurity, 1-3 December 2010.
- Hosting a workshop on harmonization of labelling requirements in ASEAN in November 2010 under the FAO-TCP project. Two more meetings will be held in Malaysia in 2011.

Crop protection activities

- Implementing contingency plan to control red palm weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*) since its discovery in Malaysia in 2010.
- Introduction of *Asecodes hispanarium* to control *Brontispa* sp. with cooperation and assistance from DOA Thailand.
- Establishment of Remote Microscope Diagnostic Network (RMDN) in collaboration with DAFF, CABI and Cooperative Research Centre for National Plant Biosecurity Australia to enhance capability in identification/diagnosis of plant pests and diseases.

Pesticides management

- Setting up of a new residue laboratory to increase capacity in residue analysis especially for export product.
- Phasing out of formulation containing tributyltin compound. Registration of such compound has been withdrawn as of 2011 in compliance with Rotterdam Convention.
- Implementation of specific label requirement for QPS and non-QPS to comply with Phasing out schedule of Methyl Bromide

Took part in sub-regional training and awareness-raising workshop for Designated National Authorities (DNA) and relevant stakeholders on the implementation of Rotterdam Convention and other multilateral environment agreements such as Stockholm and Basel Convention 2010 in Hanoi City, Viet Nam.

3.11 Myanmar

Myanmar economy is based on agriculture. The country has to rely on natural resources for long years that contribute around 23 percent of export revenues and employ about 63 percent of the working population. For further development of the agriculture sector, it is vital that the products are produced and traded in accordance with SPS requirements based on international standards. At present 90 percent of major exporting crops such as pulses and maize, are exported to countries with less rigorous SPS regulation. The authorities are trying their best to carry out the task of SPS measures, to be upgraded and in time with ISPMs. Plant Protection Division of Myanmar Agriculture Service is taking the role of National Plant Protection Organization and actively takes part in carrying out plant quarantine measures of the country in cooperation with other national and regional standards. Phytosanitary measures are developed by ISPMs, whenever the drafts for the new standard are received for comments. NPPO has made all efforts possible to cooperate in this particular task. The implementation status of existing international and regional standards of phytosanitary measures still need to be further developed.

There were no pest outbreaks for the last two years. Biological control research forms part of the Integrated Pest Management Program and is being carried out for rice, cotton, groundnut and vegetables. Farmers' Field School (FFS) were established in 2000; in the beginning, the emphasis was only for the rice farmers.

Pesticide management is steadily in progress and consists of registration schemes, licensing programme, controlling Persistent Organic Pollutants, Disposal of toxic wastes, and management of transboundary movement of illegal products. Various ministries are involved in food safety programme of the country, namely, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Livestock breeding and Fisheries.

In the agriculture sector, extension education programme for good agriculture practice are encouraged. Under this program, FFS, IPM techniques are implemented in main producing areas. This program helps farmers to reduce the use of agrochemicals for improvement of food safety and quality.

Training of trainers on managing the food safety and GAP on some fruits and postharvest quality of fruits and vegetables were initiated. Farmers and managers from various districts were trained on GAP knowledge to farmers, collectors, transporters, wholesalers and retailers involved in the supply chain. The survey on quality and safety in the fresh produce marketing chain of Myanmar was carried out in 2009-2010. The importance of Plant Protection has been recognized and Myanmar will make all efforts possible for better cooperation and coordination among APPPC member countries and with some other nations as well.

Authorities also disseminate the GAP practice to the private sectors in line with WTO and SPS requirements.

3.12 Nepal

The Department of Agriculture (DOA) has several directorates providing technical services. One of the important directorates is Plant Protection Directorate (PPD), which is the national focal point of Plant Protection Services. Under the PPD are the Pesticide Management Office, five Regional Plant Protection laboratories, Five Regional Plant Quarantine Offices and 15 plant quarantine check posts located in the centre, region and border points of India and China, respectively. Under the Department of Agriculture, 75 District Agriculture Offices are providing services in the district level. From each district one Plant Protection Officer is responsible for general crop protection service to farmers, implementation of pesticide use and Plant Protection Act, and linking plant quarantine functions (especially post-entry quarantine) to the farmers.

Most pesticides used in Nepal are imported from India, some from China and Japan and other countries on the basis of registration. Distribution of pesticides in Nepal is conducted only in the form of finished products. Nepal is included under the category of LDC, which has limited use of pesticides per capita and/or ha. So, in comparison with other countries in the Asia-Pacific Region, the use of chemical pesticides in Nepal is one of the lowest (142 gm a.i./ha) (Thapa, 1997). Pesticide use, however, is much more intensive in areas that have greater access to markets. The use is higher in areas with intensive commercial farming of vegetables, fruits, tea, rice and cotton.

In 2010, about 650 types of pesticides by trade name and 107 common names have been registered for use under Pesticides Act 1991 and Rules 1993 (First revised 2007). Fourteen hazardous pesticides including highly persistent types (POP pesticides), Phosphamidon and Organo-mercury fungicides and insecticides are already banned in Nepal. According to the latest estimate the annual imports of pesticides is about 211 tonnes (a.i.) with 29.19 percent as insecticides, 61.38 percent fungicide, 7.43 percent Herbicide, 2 percent others.

The laboratories require sophisticated equipment to carry out residue analysis. Laboratories require reference standards, valid analytical methods and tough job commitments. No organized national survey has so far been conducted periodically. Therefore, a valid comparison on use patterns of pesticides cannot be made. The gap between the availability of manpower and other resource requirement is very high, which demands the infrastructure support to the government as well as to private sector from the donor agencies.

Agricultural development program of the government adopted IPM as a crop protection strategy since 1997, a pilot program on rice IPM (after outbreak of BPH of early rice in Chitwan in 1996) was initiated based on season-long Farmers' Field School (FFS) approach in May 1997 through the Technical Cooperation Program

(TCP) of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations under the project, “Implementation of Integrated Pest Management in Rice”. This was followed by Nepal’s participation in the FAO Regional Program on Community IPM in Asia between 1998 and 2002; the National IPM programme from 2003 and 200; and the second phase of the IPM programme from 2008-2013, funded by the Government of Norway.

Nepal ratified IPPPC on 8 May 2006, although the country became a member of APPPC in 1965. It has been a signatory to all major international conventions related to plant protection and environmental issues. Nepal became a member of WTO in 2004 and thus has committed and given high priority to fulfill the obligations, more particularly those related to SPS Agreement.

To comply with the principles of harmonization and equivalence, Plant Protection Act 1972 (Revised 2007) and Rules 1974 (Revised 2010) have been regulated since 1972 and 1974, respectively. Plant protection and quarantine laboratories are being equipped to meet the standards set by IPPPC and get accreditation. To comply with WTO requirements, actions are progressing in delineating endangered area, area of low pest prevalence and pest-free area. Quarantine pests are being identified. To establish scientific basis of these zoning activities, pest surveillance and monitoring are being strengthened. In accordance with the IPPPC, the government in 2004 designated Plant Protection Directorate as the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO), which acts as the focal agency to implement standards set by the IPPPC in collaboration with other scientific and agricultural business organizations in the country. Work is ongoing to prepare national phytosanitary standards; the NPPO is involved in this task.

3.13 New Zealand

New Zealand has continued to develop and refine its biosecurity system. During this time it has undergone a major restructure with the amalgamation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA) and Biosecurity New Zealand on 1 July 2010 and further amalgamation of the restructured MAF with the Ministry of Fisheries on 1 July 2011.

MAF is a large and extensive government agency focused on enhancing the integrity and performance of the value food chain, which covers animals, plants, food and related sectors, and their contribution to New Zealand’s economy and well-being. MAF is charged with the leadership of New Zealand’s biosecurity system, the core of New Zealand’s economy.

The Biosecurity Act Amendment Bill is in the process of becoming into law.

An amendment to the Biosecurity Act has been drafted ready for consideration by the Parliament. The amendments address areas in Border Risk Management, Marine Biosecurity, Readiness and Response, Pest Management, and Compliance and Enforcement.

Several strategic activities have been undertaken last year:

- The Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy 2020 sets the future direction for the biosecurity surveillance system and is a starting point for changing the way surveillance is led, planned, conducted, and communicated. As the strategy is implemented New Zealand expects that collaboration between government agencies, regional government, industries, and other stakeholders will improve, as will biosecurity surveillance decision-making.
- New Border Management Systems. Key elements are using a risk management approach rather than prescription, using profiling/intelligence to determine interventions and a new Import Health Standard Development Process.
- Joint Border Management System (JBMS). This is a collaborative system between Customs, MAF and other frontline agencies. Stage 1 of this initiative is due to be completed in 2012. This stage is focused on integrated targeting and operations coordination and is a key element of the intervention approach that they are taking. It includes transactional support, intelligence functions, profile support and a risk management approach. This will provide information on passengers and goods arriving in the country and allow the sharing of information.

There had been a major pest response in 2010 to *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* (Psa) (Bacterial Canker of kiwifruit). Psa has been identified as being widespread across New Zealand, 252 separate kiwifruit orchards. It would appear that Psa may have been in New Zealand for some time. Two or three distinct isolates of Psa have now been identified – PsaV (Italian-like) and PsaLV (similar to the strain found in Australia). The PsaV isolate appears to have the potential to be more virulent. It appears to be restricted to a small isolated zone in Te Puke, Bay of Plenty, North Island. Currently 137 PsaV positive sites have been identified and the programme is geared around containing the isolate in this area and reducing the bacterial loading to a manageable level. The response is being moved to industry but MAF is still providing technical input and oversight.

New Zealand operates an approvals framework for pesticides under the ACVM and HSNO Acts (see section IV). MAF (incorporating the former NZFSA) administers the ACVM Act, while ERMA NZ administers the HSNO Act and has developed a substance reassessment programme. Both organizations have implemented a compliance structure to support the approvals framework.

New Zealand continues to develop and review import health standards based on pest risk assessment in accordance with the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. Since the last session of the APPPC, import health standards have been developed for a range of plants and plant products.

New Zealand continues to be active in the development, implementation and promotion of international and regional standards.

3.14 Pakistan

Plant Quarantine work is controlled by the Plant Protection Adviser and Director General, assisted by two directors and an operational manager. This Department plays an important role in the security of the country, as exotic pests have been known to cause colossal losses to crops. A number of foreign pests have entered this subcontinent in the early twenties because of inadequate quarantine control. Pakistan lies at the gateway between insect fauna of two different zoo-geographical regions (Oriental and Palearctic), and hence movement of pests from one region to another can cause extensive damage. The climate in Pakistan provides ideal conditions for the development of some foreign pests and diseases.

Quarantine Stations are located at the seaport, airports, dry ports and land border points for the convenience of traders. The working of the Plant Quarantine Division, actions and decisions are according to Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act, 1976 and Pakistan Plant Quarantine Rules, 1967.

The main functions of the Department of Plant Protection are:

- Locust survey and control in desert areas and international coordination with FAO and also with other locust affected countries
- Crop pest control by air
- Training of staff for locust control
- Enforcement of Plant Quarantine Act 1976 and the Agricultural Pesticide Ordinance 1971
- Advise the Government on all aspects of plant protection, including international obligations
- Disinfestations of pests like fruitfly with Vapour Heat Treatment

The obligations of Pakistan in relation to international obligations include:

- Adherence to the International Plant Protection Convention
- Phytosanitary inspection, treatment and certification
- Adoption of international standards on phytosanitary measures
- Fulfillment of requirements of quality and safety for pesticide residues, contaminants and genetic modification
- Availability of pest lists, pest risk analysis and information exchange

3.15 The Philippines

The Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) has the primary task of promoting the development of plant industries through research and development, crop production and protection and effective technology promotion and transfer. It is the main agency in the Department of Agriculture, which sets the directions for the accelerated development of modern crop technologies, proper packaging and dissemination to the end-users that would increase their farm productivity and ultimately improve the living standards of the farmers.

Crop production

The BPI was created to perform the task of plant research and crop production. The Production Division handles planning and programming of seed production and seed certification and propagation. These are in addition to the BPI's established functions on plant research and development, crop utilization, production and technology transfer.

Plant quarantine

Plant quarantine, which is a major activity necessary in crop protection, specifically mandates the BPI "to prevent the introduction of exotic pests in the country and prevent further spread of plant pests already existing from infested to pest-free areas and to enforce phytosanitary measures for the export of plants, plant products and regulated articles."

The Bureau of Plant Industry's Plant Quarantine Service (BPI-PQS) is the office under the Office of the Director mandated to implement national laws and international guidelines regarding phytosanitary issues and concerns. Among these are the importation, exportation, domestic movements of agricultural plants and plant products, phytosanitary risk management activities prior to trade and maintenance of the integrity of the plant industry of the country. To fulfill this mandate, the BPI-PQS embarked on various physical and institutional capacity building activities in 2009-2010 and has remained proactive in developing the capacity of its personnel and physical capital.

The BPI-PQS has remained vigilant in securing the country's borders from pests as it has reinforced the capacity of its ports of entry by training Plant Quarantine Officers locally and abroad. The BPI-PQS has been a recipient of training programs which cover Sanitary and Phytosanitary matters, especially times of emergency, such as pest outbreaks and food safety risks. Specific topics are prevention of pest incursion, pest eradication and risk management. This is in addition to its function of issuing Plant Quarantine Certificates (Import Permit) for plants, plant products and planting materials.

In the field of export, the BPI-PQS has continued to search for market opportunities for its agricultural commodities. Bilateral relations are created and the existing ones are enhanced through information exchange and mutual cooperation. The export programs of the Philippines (mangoes, pineapples, papayas, etc.) to different trading partners have continued to prosper despite some adjustments to phytosanitary measures of the international phytosanitary community.

Domestic movements of plants and plant products are continuously monitored by the BPI-PQS to maintain the integrity of the plant industry and protect the spread of pests on-shore. This is done since the Philippines maintains pest-free areas and areas of low pest prevalence. Pest eradication programs were also launched in order to minimize, if not eliminate, the risks that existing pests pose. This paves the way for the opening up of possible markets for the high-value commodities of the country.

The BPI-PQS has remained active in its participation in different national and international SPS forums, seminars and training activities. This approach is done through coordination with other government departments (e.g. the Department of Trade and Industry, the Bureau of Customs, the Department of Health) and international organizations (the WTO, FAO, ASEAN, and the EU).

Seed quality

The BPI also has a role in the development of the seed industry and its inherent function on seed and plant material certification, the act strengthens the Seed Quality Control Section to become the National Seed Quality Control Services and given control supervision over existing field inspections and control services and seed testing laboratories.

Crop protection

To strengthen the BPI's crop protection function, Regional Crop Protection Centers are established to serve the research and protection needs covering all the regions. Pesticide Residue Analysis and Monitoring is also a mandate of the BPI. The vision of the Crop Protection Division of the BPI is to strengthen crop protection services in the country. This is done by employing biological and cultural technologies which are effective, safe and environment friendly. To adequately address pest problems and ensure increase in farm productivity, food sufficiency and security, the Crop Protection Division develops and formulates guidelines and policies in the implementation of improved crop protection strategies.

The major functions of the Division are the implementation of sustainable biological control technologies, generation of pest management strategies and improvement of crop protection technologies adapted for the local farmers. The Crop Protection Division provides technical assistance, coordination, where necessary, and supervision over regional facilities, e.g. Regional Crop Protection Centers (RCPCs) and surveillance and early warning system (SEWS). IPM-related national, as well as bilateral/multinational program implementations are involved.

It provides facilities for plant pest and disease diagnosis, mass production and rearing of biological agents for field distribution, training for crop protection staff and extension agents, and proper evaluation of national programs and projects on crop protection. It works in tandem with the Plant Quarantine Service, since it supervises and evaluates researches and other development projects on exotic pests of special national considerations and acts as central monitoring arm and repository of regional pest data information.

Crop protection is vital to the success of sustainable agriculture. If pests are left unabated, the benefits of crop production will be futile, even if proper fertilization, good water management, and sound cultural practices are followed. Thus, crop protection is a key component of agricultural production.

Pesticide residue analysis

Pesticide Laboratories all over the country are established to monitor the levels of pesticide residue in crops to protect the local and international consumers from possible health hazards, check on possible indiscriminate use and application of pesticides on food crops and other agricultural products, determine pesticide degradation rates for different crops to be able to improve/change agricultural practices and determine and evaluate practices on the use of pesticides for possible modification resulting in acceptable low residues in agricultural products.

The BPI functions to ensure safe supply of fresh agricultural crops, improve the quality of local fresh agricultural crops and encourage its export, and promote use of organic fertilizer and integrated pest management.

3.16 Republic of Korea

Organization

The Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MIFAFF) of the Republic of Korea merged 3 inspection agencies including animal, plant and fisheries inspection services into a single entity called *Animal, Plant, Fisheries Quarantine Inspection Agencies (QIA)* on June 15 2011, in order to not only strengthen monitoring and control activities of invasive pests but also enhance the countermeasures in emergency. QIA also established the epidemiological investigation team at Headquarters and the monitoring & control team in regional offices in 2010.

Revision of Plant Protection Act

MIFAFF revised Plant Protection Act in June 2011. The main changes are as follows:

- to enforce pest monitoring activity and to officially establish a pest control team
- to enforce requirement of treatment conditions on Wood Packaging Materials
- to establish International Plant Quarantine Accreditation Board (IPQAB) which will carry out ship inspection for Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) and preclearance program

International cooperation programs on plant quarantine

QIA has held annual Draft ISPM Workshop and ASEAN Plant Quarantine Expert Training Program since 2006 jointly with APPPC or ASEAN secretariats, respectively. The main purpose of Draft ISPM Workshop is to increase understanding of ISPM and gather comments of country members in the region. ASEAN Training Program is to learn and share information on plant quarantine system and technology. The Republic of Korea and IPPC Secretariat successfully conducted E-phyto Certification Workshop with the financial support from New Zealand in Seoul in June 2011. The Republic of Korea and APPPC also co-hosted Pest Incursion and Eradication Workshop in Seoul in 2010. The government of Republic of Korea will continuously carry out international cooperation programs in order to strengthen phytosanitary capacity building in developing countries.

Plant protection and pesticides

Major pests of rice are blast, sheath blight and smaller brown planthoppers. The newly invaded pest, lanternfly, occurred recently. Since lanternfly was found in the Republic of Korea for the first time in 2006, it spread to 8 378 ha in 2010. To protect farmers' health from pesticides, the government of the Republic of Korea has restricted the usage and sales of highly toxic pesticides. The government will cancel the registration of 9 highly toxic pesticides – endosulfan EC, DDVP EC, EPN EC, methomyl WP and SL, methidathion EC, monocrotophos SL, benfuracarb EC and omethoate SL – by the end of this year except three chemicals – MB, PH3 and phosphamidon SL – which can only be used for quarantine and forest. The Agro-chemicals Control Act will be amended this year. The act will be strengthened by the observation of safe use guidelines for pesticides by farmers and the ban of the pesticides sales through the internet.

Climate change

Climate change is a challenge in the Republic of Korea because the average temperature in the Korean peninsula has risen 1.5 Celsius degrees that is twice the world temperature rise during the last 100 years. The MIFAFF and RDA (Rural Development Administration) established a strategy team for climate change and have developed comprehensive CO₂ gas reduction measures including utilization of bio-energy or renewable energy as well as the new technology such as new variety adaptive to high temperature. The government of the Republic of Korea has also carried out a research on adaptation of subtropical crops, and strengthened monitoring activities for invasive pests and the early response system. The MIFAFF also enhanced information sharing on climate change and climate disasters with the public through mass media, internet etc.

3.17 Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka as a signatory to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement of World Trade Organization (SPS/WTO), and hence Seed Certification & Plant Protection Center (SCPPC) is obliged to ensure the successful implementation of the terms of these agreements. In this context, SCPPC serves as the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) and national inquiry point for phytosanitary related activities in Sri Lanka. It has to comply with the conditions in the agreements mentioned above. SCPPC also has regulatory functions under the Plant Protection Act No. 35 of 1999, Control of Pesticides Act No. 33 of 1980 and the Seed Act No. 22 of 2003.

Recently, regulations made under the Plant Protection Act No. 35 of 1999 were updated by the National Committee appointed for that purpose. These revisions were made to reflect the current requirements ensuring

that the regulations were consistent with IPPC recommendations. At present, the regulations have been sent to the legal draftsman department for their concurrence.

Action has been taken to regularize the use of Methyl Bromide for pre-shipment and quarantine purposes. Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS) is helping to initiate the implementation of cooperative bi-security measures relevant to the above.

A new dragon fruit disease was first observed in the western province recently, and identified as stem spot disease caused by fungi called *Botryosphaeria dothidea*. Investigations are underway to find suitable control methods to contain the disease.

In addition, a nematode species which damaged the root system of guava has been identified from the North Central province in 2010. Steps are being taken to control the problem in the affected areas through a package of recommendations.

Apart from those, the country embarked on several pest management programmes for control of specific pests. Control programmes for invasive weed species *Parthenium hysterophorus*, *Alternanthera philoxeroides*, *Salvinia molesta*, and *Eichhorniae crassipes* were undertaken. *Salvinia* control has already achieved significant success throughout the country via biological control.

An outbreak of leaf rot caused by a complex of fungi and wilt disease caused by a phytoplasma has affected coconut plantations in southern part of the country and control measures have been initiated to prevent further spread.

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy on rice cultivation is now extended to selected vegetables, using Farmer Field School (FFS) training approach. This package was developed by the Plant Protection Service of the Department of Agriculture (DOA) and accepted by the Technology Releasing Committee of DOA in 2010. Presently, it is in the process of transferring to the farmers through the extension officers.

The government has given a highest priority with regard to pesticide control. The mandate of the control of pesticide regulations is to execute statutory provisions of the control of Pesticide Act No. 33 of 1980 as amended by the control of pesticides (amendment) No. 6 of 1994 and regulations made there under. It makes provisions to regulate the import, formulation, packing, labeling, storage, transport, sales and use of pesticides. Legal provisions are also provided in the act for licensing of traders, appointment of authorized officers, specifying functions and powers to seize pesticides in outlets conducting activities contrary to regulations. Regulations to control commercial pest control service organizations have been recently finalized.

There have been unconfirmed reports of the presence of Arsenic in some agrochemicals. Presently, investigations are underway to verify the authenticity of those reports.

3.18 Thailand

Thailand's phytosanitary measures have been implemented in compliance with the Plant Quarantine Act B.E. 2507 (1952) amended by the Plant Quarantine Act (No. 2) B.E. 2542 (1999) and the Plant Quarantine Act (No. 3) B.E. 2551 (2008). The Department of Agriculture (DOA) is the agency in charge of the implementation of the phytosanitary measures and also serves as the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO). The Plant Quarantine Act (No. 3) provides specifications and criteria for notification of plants, plant pests and carriers as prohibited articles. So far, there are altogether 32 notifications which are issued under this Act. The purpose of the notifications is to strengthen the quarantine practices for both the export of plants and plant products and the import of prohibited, restricted and non-prohibited materials.

During the period 2009-2010, there were outbreaks of pests including *Phenococcus manihoti* (Pink cassava mealybug), *Opisina orenosella* (Black headed caterpillar), and *Salvinia molesta* (Giant salvinia). The responsible state agencies including the Department of Agriculture (DOA) and the Department of Agricultural Extension (DOAE) joined hands in getting rid of pink cassava mealybug using parasites (*Anagrus loyesi*) and predators (lace wings); and black headed caterpillar by using *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) as a biocontrol

agent. In dealing with the giant salvinia, the state agencies not only attempted to eradicate and control the pests but also closely monitored them. The members of the public were also kept informed about the pests. Moreover, the DOA conducted a detection survey of mango seed weevil, *Sternochetus mangiferae*. The purpose is to confirm that Thailand is free from this weevil and to expand the export market for Thai mango.

During the same period, the DOAE's national policy on the IPM programmes remained unchanged. There were three important IPM programmes including the IPM development on economic crops, the area-wide integrated control of fruit flies and the establishment of the community plant pest management centre. IPM-related researches were also conducted on four types of plants including pomelo, tangerine, longan and ginger. As well, the DOA and the DOAE joined hands in providing farmers with training on the Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) and in awarding GAP certifications to farmers who produce durian, longan orchid, fresh orchid, cut flower, pineapple, pomelo, coffee, non-heading Chinese cabbage, tomato, asparagus, Chinese kale, onion, cabbage, chilli, yard long bean, sugar pea, baby corn, Chinese cabbage, shallot, cassava, rubber, mango, tangerine, and curcuma.

The Hazardous Substances Act B.E. 2535 (1992) which was amended in 2008 is being enforced. The DOA issues a notification on registration and licensing, which requires pesticide companies or laboratories to adopt the Good Laboratory Practices (GLPs). During the period 2009-2010, Endosulfan CS formulation was restricted.

3.19 Viet Nam

Viet Nam rice production in 2009 and 2010 continued to increase to 38.9 and 39.8 million tonnes, respectively. The national food security has been maintained.

Great attention is paid to the reform of pesticide management regulations on food safety, piloting the model on strengthening the pesticide management at commune level. The Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine is being drafted and will be submitted to the Assembly in 2013.

During 2009-2010 a new rice pest "Southern Rice Black Streaked Dwarf Virus (SRBSDV)" associated with White Back Hopper Virus vector occurring in the Northern coastal provinces had been controlled. Rice spider mite: *Oligonychus oryzae* has occurred nationwide. Sugarcane grassy shoot (*Phytoplasma*) and cassava diseases have occurred locally. In 2010, two common rice pests, small leaf folder and brown plant hopper (BPH), were serious outbreaks that caused yield loss in the Red River Delta. Two hundred forty-eight cases of quarantine pests were detected from 2009-2010.

From 2009-2010, the Plant Quarantine System was further strengthened. First market access of dragon fruit was made with the Japanese market. This fruit has also completed the exported procedure to Korea, while the procedures are being carrying out for access of dragon fruit to the markets of Chile, Iran and Chinese Taipei.

Technical cooperation with neighboring countries and international organizations was strengthened (China, IRRI, FAO etc.) to exchange and share experiences on sustainable management of the pests.

The national IPM and other projects/program related to IPM assisted by a number of donor countries are ongoing to support the implementation of the national programmes (Food Security, Food Safety, Biodiversity conservation). Pesticide Risk Reduction training curriculums have been developed and incorporated in the IPM training programme. A number of innovations initiated are being tried, such as SRI and minimum tillage on crop production (soybean, sweet potato).

As of March 2011, 1 196 a.i with 3 102 trade names have been registered for use, 16 a.i, including 29 trade names of pesticides that are restricted for use and 29 a.i are banned. Ongoing projects/programs related to plant protection and quarantine: Vietnam National CFC and Halon Phase-out Project 2007-2014 assisted by WB ongoing; Two irradiation treatment facilities established in ABC Company and Son Son Company; One vapor heat treatment facility was established by Yashaka Company; Vietnam's methyl bromide phase-out plan is ongoing with WB funding.

Key issues for future workplan (2011-2013) are:

- Law of Plant Protection and Quarantine to be issued in 2013
- Pesticide registration and management scheme continues revision and amendment
- Promote farmers' training on IPM, pesticide risk reduction with linkage to the national programmes (Food Security, Food Safety, GAP)
- Implementation of ISPMs, RSPMs, national standard
- Conducting PRAs and access market for trade facilitation
- Promote international cooperation

3.20 Country, regional and international organization reports

3.20.1 Japan

In the beginning of presentation, Japan expressed its sincere appreciation to the people of friend countries for offering kind supports and generous donations to the people of Japan after hit by the great earthquake in this March. Japan said that they have been recovering step by step with supports from friend countries and thanked again to the representatives of countries present the session.

Japan reported significant changes and developments since the 26th session of the APPPC in 2009 mainly three points; Plant quarantine system in Japan, Revision of import plant quarantine rules and Japan's international cooperation.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) is mainly responsible for plant protection and plant quarantine services to control and prevent the introduction of pests of plants and plant products. The Plant Protection Stations of Japan consists of 5 head offices, 16 sub stations and 47 branches and 882 plant quarantine officers are on duty.

Japan said that they had been facing two major challenges around quarantine aspect; Increasing risks of pest incursion with expansion of plants and plant products trade and development of logistics and Necessity of harmonization with International rules. In order to tackle these challenges, MAFF revised the Enforcement Ordinance of the Plant Protection Law in 7th March 2011. The contents of the revision are as follows; Establishment of the quarantine pest list, Amendment of the current list of pest/plant/area combinations subject to inspection at the growing sites in exporting countries, Amendment of the current list of pest/plant/area combinations subject to import prohibition and Novel phytosanitary measures to be carried out in exporting countries.

Japan introduced its international cooperation for Asia and Pacific region. Japan has made a contribution as a trust fund for field projects on phytosanitary capacity-building for the region. The project has been implemented by the FAO regional office. Japan has sent Mr Katsumata to the office as an expert for managing the project. Workshop on revised ISPM No. 7 and No.12 are planned in the end of October at Okinawa in JAPAN as a part of the project.

Finally, Japan expressed its strong intention to join to the APPPC. Japan explained that Appendix B related to the article XI of the APPPC had hindered Japan from joining into the important convention. The Appendix requests all member countries to prohibit by law the importation into their territories of any plant or plants of the genus *Hevea* from outside the Region. Japan is unable to takes such a measure in line with SPS because there is no farmer who cultivates genus *Hevea* in its territory. Japan understands that the amendment to delete the article from the convention has been circulated to member countries and waited for ratification. Japan made a special request for all member countries to ratify the amendment as soon as possible. Japan wishes they would attend to the next session of the APPPC as a member country.

3.20.2 Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific

Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific (PAN AP), www.panap.net, is one of the autonomous regional units of Pesticide Action Network International (PAN). Founded in 1982, PAN spearheaded “The Dirty Dozen” campaign. Most of the pesticides on the Dirty Dozen list became part of the initial list of banned and restricted pesticides under the Stockholm Convention. Some of the pesticides were also included in the Rotterdam Convention.

PAN AP, based in Malaysia, works towards achieving *A society that is truly democratic, equal, just, culturally diverse, and based on food sovereignty, gender justice and environmental sustainability*. We work with grassroots organizations, farmers groups, rural communities and Indigenous Peoples to provide us with documentation and information on the stark realities on the ground. The voice of peoples provides us with facts and truths to critique global, regional and national policies and engage with international and national bodies.

PANAP’s objectives are to (1) reduce with the aim of eliminating highly hazardous pesticide use, (2) promote people’s food sovereignty and biodiversity-based ecological agriculture, (3) make the role and contribution of women in agriculture visible and support rural women’s rights to health, land and productive resources, (4) monitor and expose the practices and strategies of agrochemical TNCs that violate rights of people and communities and make them accountable, and (5) strengthen people’s movements and the PAN AP network in the Asia-Pacific region to achieve food sovereignty. To achieve these objectives, PAN AP has several core and overlapping programmes – Pesticide Programme, Food Sovereignty and Ecological Agriculture, Women in Agriculture, Save Our Rice campaign, campaign against GMOs, Information and Communication, and Networking and Alliance Building.

On 2010, the Pesticide Programme published the Asian Regional Report *Communities in Peril* which prompted an independent Dutch media organization to investigate the practices of Dutch-owned United Plantations (UP) in Malaysia. UP announced the phase out of paraquat from their oil palm plantations effective January 2011. The Programme was also instrumental in pushing for the listing of endosulfan during the COP7 of the Stockholm Convention. A side event featuring organic cotton shirts, coffee, tea, etc. from various countries was organized. PAN AP is also working towards the listing of paraquat in the Rotterdam Convention by 2013.

PAN AP also campaigns against highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs). PAN developed a list of HHPs which extends the WHO Class listing based solely on acute toxicity. The HHP list considers chronic (carcinogenicity, developmental effects, EDC potential, etc.) and environmental effects (bee toxicity, water contamination, persistence, etc.) as well.

The Food Sovereignty and Ecological Agriculture Programme supports the demand of peasant movements to enshrine rights of peoples and communities, and seeks alternatives to policies promoting corporate agriculture and globalization. This is achieved through fact finding missions, policy advocacy with international (e.g. FAO-CFS) or regional organizations (e.g. possibly ASEAN), and information outreach such as the publication of “Turning Point”. The programme is now embarking on projects to build community resilience against climate change. As a member of the Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), PAN AP works towards reducing the dependence of palm oil players on agrochemicals as well as helping indigenous peoples assert their native customary rights, and protecting and advancing the concerns of women and migrant workers.

The Women in Agriculture (WIA) Programme seeks to strengthen the role of women in empowering rural or agricultural communities. As the traditional seed savers of communities, they are the purveyors of traditional and communal knowledge and wisdom. Unfortunately, modern agricultural practices have discouraged seed saving leading to the marginalization of women and the detriment of their communities.

3.21 Discussions on country reports

3.21.1 Pesticide ban

The meeting responded positively to the announcement for banning of several types of pesticides. It was noted that China has displayed excellent leadership by encouraging farmers to reduce usage of pesticides to at least 50 percent of present levels. A list of all the banned chemicals will be sent to the Executive Secretary of APPPC for record, and the information will be shared among member countries.

3.21.2 Locust infestation

The devastation of farmland by locusts was one of the notable concerns coming from countries in South Asia. India reported that these swarms were largely unpredictable, and may originate from anywhere in Africa, Turkey, Syria and other desert areas. Regular border meetings with neighbouring countries were essential to monitor the situation as the best method for control was at the hopper stage before the insects commenced their migration. While it is generally known that migration of locusts is seasonal, the hoppers must be kept under surveillance, so control measures can be applied before the population threatens to swarm.

3.21.3 On-line application for phytosanitary certificates

Many countries have offered on-line application services for obtaining phytosanitary certificates. India gave an example of the procedures, whereby an exporter first registers with the authorities, and submitting the necessary information relating to the phytosanitary certificate such as place of export and quantum of consignment. The progress of the application may be tracked through the computer systems, allowing the exporter access to the status of his application. Upon approval, the exporter meets with the authorized officer, who will then inspect the consignment and process the application on line, after which the phytosanitary certificate will be generated.

3.21.4 Threat of golden apple snail

The Golden Apple Snail is major pest in rice, especially in Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand. The meeting proposed that further discussion be held on this matter, as current control measures seem to be inadequate to curb its spread. The Philippines suggested several control measures that had been practiced, such as using ducks as biocontrol agents.

3.21.5 Establishment of pest-free areas

Philippines reported that Guimaras Island in the Visayas and Davao del Sur in Mindanao are declared as areas free from the Mango Pulp Weevil (MPW) and Mango Seed Weevil (MSW). MPW is contained in the southern part of Palawan Island where strict quarantine measures are implemented to prevent its spread into pest-free areas. The establishment of Guimaras and Davao del Sur as pest-free areas from MPW and MSW was made after a survey supported by USDA and Australia respectively.

4. Development with the amendments of the Plant Protection Agreements (1983 and 1999)

The report on the development with the amendments of the Plant protection Agreements (1983 and 1999) was made by the Executive Secretary. Details of the report are attached as Annex II.

The meeting suggested that APPPC should encourage non-APPCC members to join the Commission to further enhance regional cooperation. The Executive Secretary reported that several countries had expressed keen interest in this matter, in particular Japan, Singapore and East Timor, who were also invited to attend as observers. He quoted national legal matters as being the major obstacle for the increase in membership.

5. Overview of global plant production and protection, and International Plant Protection Convention's activities and update on the work of the CPM Bureau – IPPC activities and the CPM Bureau

5.1 Overview of the global plant production and protection

The report on the overview of global plant production and protection was delivered by Dr Peter Kenmore, via audio powerpoint presentation.

FAO's new strategy

The report highlighted the main thesis of the sustainable production intensification (SCPI) through ecological approach by addressing the FAO's New Strategy called "Save and Grow", which stresses the need to increase production of food while keeping levels of pesticide usage at a manageable level. Communities and countries should target the reduction of pesticide usage by 50 percent. Highly toxic pesticides should also be made less available in a country, and institutional bases for IPM should be strengthened through the removal of constraints such as pesticide subsidies, and the improvement of incentives through certification and environmental service payments.

New synergistic opportunities for APPPC

FAO Regional Pesticide Risk Reduction in Southeast Asia focused on the Greater Mekong Subregion (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Yunnan & Guangxi Provinces, China PR). The Implementing Units will comprise FAO headquarters. (Policy) & FAO-RAP/IPM in collaboration with National IPM Programmes (IPM). Other partners include PAN-AP, Field Alliance, local universities, and the program will be funded by the Government of Sweden through Swedish Chemicals Agency (KEMI) under Project Symbol: GCP/RAS/229/SWE.

Findings of the regional TCP project on pesticide management

Malaysia, Thailand and Philippines have well-defined pesticide regulations and very recently Lao PDR got its new regulation. With the exception of Malaysia, other countries do not have the Pesticide Rules (Guidance document), which would enable the regulatory staff to enforce the provisions of the Act/Regulations. Many of the products registered are not adequately evaluated on the toxicity/safety aspects. Only a few staff (2-3 staff) process all data dossiers, but are not adequately trained to evaluate such data. A large number of products are registered with very slight variation in the percentage a.i. content between one formulated products and another. There are a large number of combination products containing pesticides, bio pesticide and plant nutrients. Illegal import is the major concern of many countries in the region.

Regional TCP on pesticide management: for action

The periodical review of the existing pesticide laws and rules are necessary to make suitable amendments to such laws, especially on human health and environment. Well-defined pesticide laws and guidelines are needed especially for more recently developing countries. Adequate provisions in the pesticide law and the rules are required to deal with:

- Quality control
- Advertising norms on pesticides
- Safety aspects to environment especially in the manufacturing units
- Adequate provisions to deal strongly with those who violate the provisions of the law and the rules
- Capacity building for pesticide regulators and enforcement staff
- Licensing to stock, and for the sale/distribution of pesticides

5.2 Overview of the International Plant Protection Convention's activities and update on the work of the CPM Bureau-IPPC activities and the CPM Bureau

Dr Kyu-Ock Yim, Vice Chair of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, presented the update on the activities. At CPM-6, 2011, two revisions to ISPMs, namely ISPM No. 7 and No. 12, one new ISPM appendix to Fruit Fly Trapping (ISPM No. 26) and three annexes to ISPM No. 28 on irradiation treatment were adopted.

It was noted that the reporting obligations of contracting parties under IPPC have not been fully met, and the Commission agreed to improve reporting, particularly through the IPP. A paper on pest reporting system will be discussed by Bureau and SPTA, and then by CPM in 2012.

Regional workshops for the review of draft ISPMs will be held in 2011. Participants from Asia will be given financial support from the Republic of Korea and Japan for the meeting in the Republic of Korea, and participants from the Pacific region will be financially supported by Australia for the meeting in the Fiji Islands.

Phytosanitary capacity building activities were also reported. Owing to increased staff costs and the limited regular programme budget from FAO, the IPPC faces financial difficulties, depending on short-term extra budgetary funding that allows for a reduced operational plan.

IPPC strategic framework 2012-2019

CPM-6 agreed four strategic objectives and the overall structure and content of a strategic framework:

- Protecting sustainable agriculture and enhancing global food security through the prevention of pest spread
- Protecting the environment, forests and biodiversity against plant pests
- Creating economic and trade development opportunities through the promotion of harmonized, scientifically-based phytosanitary measures
- Developing phytosanitary capacity for members to accomplish the above

The frameworks will be finalized for adoption at CPM-7 with inputs from the Bureau and SPTA. The Medium Term Plan (MTP) (4 yrs) and Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) (2 yrs) will be developed based on the agreed strategic objectives.

Two scientific sessions were organized. Mr Martin from the North American Grain Export Association presented "*An Essential Partnership: International Grain Trade And Plant Protection*", and Mr Allen from the Canadian Forest Service presented "*Mountain Pine Beetle; Pest-Free Wood Products From A Devastated Forest*"

Progress since CPM-6

In May 2011, the Standards Committee approved 7 drafts for country consultation, namely:

- ISPM 5 supplement 'not widely distributed'
- ISPM 11 annex 'Pest risk analysis for plants as quarantine pests'
- ISPM 15 annex 1 revision 'Approved treatments associated with wood packaging material'
- ISPM 5 revision
- ISPM 28 annex 'Heat treatment of wood packaging material using dielectric heat'
- ISPM 28 annex 'Vapour heat treatment of *Cucumis melo* var. *reticulatus* for *Bactrocera cucurbitae*'
- ISPM 27 annex '*Trogoderma granarium*'

Other activities since CPM-6 included:

- Country consultation on draft ISPMs will be done on-line until 30 September 2011
- Sea container standard is under discussion within steering committee on-line and with IMO, CBD, COA (Container Owners Association), WCO (World Customs Organization).

- Focus group meeting on standard setting procedure met in July (Japan, Australia from APPPC)
- May 2011, Phytosanitary capacity building working group meeting was held to develop work plan, WTO/STDF projects etc.
- IPPC secretariat coordinator may be appointed and start working later in 2011
- Draft resource mobilization strategy was discussed in June Bureau meeting
- Strategic framework 2012-2019 was discussed in June Bureau meeting
- IRSS (Implementation Review and Support System) (funding by EU) will develop the IPPC Help Desk, and questionnaire on implementation of the Convention
- e-Cert workshop was held in June 2011, Seoul, Republic of Korea to develop ePhyto. Three working groups were formed, and the draft targeted to be ready by end of 2011. A Bureau discussion on ePhyto was also held to discuss the adoption procedure as appendix to ISPM No. 12

Brief Introduction of discussions from focus group on improving the IPPC standard setting process

A summary report on the overview of the global plant production and protection was delivered by Ms Julia Rymer, Australian IPPC Secretariat, DAFF Australia.

The key issues discussed included:

- CPM to no longer drafts text of standards and all standards are subject to formal objection
- Diagnostic protocols previously adopted by CPM delegated to SC
- Recommendations on increasing effectiveness and regional coordination
- Need to develop framework for standards
- There is one standard setting procedure, with modifications for technical standards

Some of the focus group proposals were:

- On submitting a topic for a proposed standard, a draft specification and a literature review are to be submitted by the submitter. Draft specifications will still be subject to member consultations after CPM adopt the topic.
- Following the 1st round of draft ISPM member consultations, revision of draft by steward followed by SC7 review, there should be a review period of the draft ISPM where NPPOs and RPPOs can submit substantial concerns which would then be considered by steward/SC in revising text.
- On diagnostic protocols (DP), once SC approves the DP, it is posted publicly. Contracting parties have four weeks to review the draft DPs and submit a formal objection, if any. If no formal objection is received, the SC, on behalf of CPM, adopts DP. Adopted DPs are attached to the CPM report.

6. Consideration of APPPC strategic plan for 2012-2019

The report on the strategic plan proposal for 2012-2019 was delivered by Dr John Hedley. Details of the report are attached as Annex III. The meeting made several additional suggestions to this proposal, and these will be discussed at the meetings of the Standing Committees. After inclusion of the suggestions made by the Standing Committees, the APPPC strategic plan for 2012-2019 was adopted by the Session.

7. Progress report on information exchange within the region

7.1 Report on information exchange by the Secretariat

The report on information exchange was reported by the Executive Secretary. Details of the report are attached as Annex IV.

7.2 Consideration of APPPC information database: Recommendations for the positioning of documents

A system for categorizing the documents produced by the APPPC was describe by Dr J. Hedley. This included annexes, appendices, technical guidelines etc. It was recommended that APPPC adopted the Contingency Plan for South American Leaf Blight (*Microcyclus ulei*) as a technical guideline to support the SALB programme of work in the APPPC. It was also recommended that the guidelines for a work plan for the importation of budded stumps or budwood of *Hevea spp.* be adopted as an annex to RSPM No. 7. The recommendations were forwarded for discussion by the Standing Committees.

7.3 Consideration of establishment of APPPC Working Group on Information Exchange

The report on the consideration of establishment of APPPC Working Group on Information Exchange was delivered by Dr John Hedley.

The meeting was informed that at present, there are four working groups. In order to achieve better involvement and focus on attaining better efficiency, another working group for the handling of information exchange would be required. The meeting decided that the Standing Committee on plant quarantine can include this as a topic of discussion, and recommendations will be represented at standing committee report.

8. Progress report on plant quarantine in the Asia and Pacific region by the Chairperson of the APPPC Standing Committee on Plant Quarantine

8.1 Report by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee reported the following activities for the 2009-2011 biennium, funded by the sponsors and APPPC funds available from the operational funding mechanism.

The meetings held included:

- Tenth regional workshop on draft ISPMs – Busan, Republic of Korea, 14-18 September 2009
- Eleventh regional workshop on draft ISPMs – Pyongchang, Republic of Korea, 6-10 September 2010
- The Pre-CPM Meeting With APPPC Members, 21 March 2010, FAO, Rome
- The Pre-CPM Meeting With APPPC Members, 13 March 2011, FAO, Rome
- Pest Incursion and Eradication Workshop, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 30 August – 3 September 2010
- Workshop on the prevention of introduction of South American Leaf Blight (SALB) of Rubber, 13-17 December 2010, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- The APPPC Planning Working Group meeting, 26-28 April 2011, Bangkok, Thailand.

8.1.1 Tenth regional workshop on draft ISPMs – Busan, Republic of Korea, 14-18 September 2009

The meeting was attended by twenty experts from sixteen countries. The participants looked at the following draft standards:

- Diagnostic Protocol on *Thrips palmi*
- Seven cold treatments for fruit flies
- Revision of ISPM No. 7: Export certification system
- Revision of ISPM No. 12: Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates
- Draft ISPM: Design and operation of post-entry quarantine stations
- Glossary of phytosanitary terms (Amendment to ISPM No. 5)

The draft standards were discussed and comments made on the templates provided by the IPPC Secretariat. The group spent some time discussing the draft ISPM No. 12. Points regarding the duration of validity were added to the template of comments. Participants did not comment on the ISF proposed use of additional declarations or the use of “to order” instead of the consignee name.

Some comments were made on the PEQ draft including proposals for the reconfirmation of the identification of important quarantine pests and the retention of such material in case of litigation.

8.1.2 Eleventh regional workshop on draft ISPMs – Pyongchang, Republic of Korea, 6-10 September 2010

The meeting was attended by 23 experts from seventeen countries. This workshop covered the following draft ISPMs:

- Systems approaches for pest risk management of fruit flies
- Submission of new treatments for inclusion in ISPM No. 15
- Integrated measures approach for managing pest risks associated with international trade of plants for planting
- Irradiation treatment for *Ceratitis capitata* (Annex to ISPM No. 28)
- Diagnostic protocol for Plum pox virus

Seven members have submitted draft comments to facilitate the discussions on the standards. The five draft standards were reviewed and comments were recorded. The drafts were introduced and the subsequent discussions chaired by the only Standards Committee Asian member present, Mr M Sakamura and Dr J. Hedley. The group suggested that the systems approach draft be made an annex to ISPM No. 14. There was a long discussion on the use of the term integrated measures approach. The two important drafts were the revisions of ISPM 7 and ISPM 12. There was considerable discussion on a number of points such as the issue of Cs after dispatch of a consignment, the addition of clauses to add information to PCs for later use in re-export PCs and the period of validity.

8.1.3 The Pre-CPM meeting with APPPC members, 21 March 2010, FAO, Rome The Pre-CPM meeting with APPPC members, 13 March 2011, FAO, Rome

The countries attending these meetings (five in 2010 and seven in 2011) used the two Pre-CPM meetings to be updated on issues from the Bureau members and to discuss certain matters of particular concern to the countries attending.

8.1.4 Pest incursion and eradication workshop, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 30 August – 3 September 2010

Thirty-six delegates from 23 countries including non-members participated in the workshop, which was co-funded by the Republic of Korea and APPPC. In line with the work plan of the 26th session of APPPC, the programme of the workshop was developed by Australian experts in collaboration with experts from the Republic of Korea, Japan and New Zealand.

The meeting looked at the principles of ISPM No. 9, incursion and eradication with examples from Australia and case studies on plum pox virus in Japan, citrus canker in Australia, pine wilt disease in Republic of Korea and *Liberibacter* sp. in New Zealand.

The participants conducted exercises on South American leaf blight of rubber and Plum pox virus and developed contingency plans for these pests. A plenary discussion examined the draft contingency plan for SALB and found that there were information gaps.

8.1.5 Workshop on the prevention of introduction of South American Leaf Blight (SALB) of rubber, 13-17 December 2010, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Thirty-nine experts from ten countries participated in this meeting. The Brazilian experts that were to attend withdrew at the last moment. Nine country reports were presented. The meeting then discussed an overview of the SALB situation in the APPPC, a review of the SALB PRA and a review of the recently adopted SALB RSPM. After the presentation of four scientific papers the meeting broke up into four discussion groups.

The subsequent reporting from the groups dealt with the following areas:

- Import requirements and inspection system
- Diagnostic systems
- Surveillance system and eradication programme
- Capacity building

A model work plan for the importation of budded stumps or budwood of *Hevea spp.* was prepared for presentation to the 27th session of the Commission.

8.1.6 The APPPC planning working group meeting, 26-28 April 2011, Bangkok, Thailand

The chairpersons of the three APPPC Standing Committees and members of APPPC Standard Committee met to make recommendations for a strategic plan and work plans for the next biennium.

The current APPPC strategic plan and work plan adopted by the 26th session of APPPC were reviewed and the status of the implementation reported. A tentative proposal on work plan of next biennium (2012-2013) and a draft new strategic plan (2012-2019) were discussed and amended. The proposed work plan and the draft strategic plan will be further discussed at the 27th session of APPPC.

Discussions on mandatory contributions led to the proposal that it would be most straightforward for countries if the total amount of mandatory contributions for the next biennium is kept at the same level as the current biennium. This may lead to some non-significant changes in countries' mandatory contributions.

8.2 Report of the working group on pest incursion

The APPPC workshop on pest incursion and eradication was convened from 30 August to 3 September 2010 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Thirty-six delegates from 23 countries including non-members participated in the workshop, which was co-funded by the Republic of Korea and APPPC. In line with the work plan of the 26th session of APPPC, the programme of the workshop was developed by Australian experts with collaboration with the Republic of Korea, Japan and New Zealand, and which was supported by the working group members from China, India and Indonesia.

The principles of ISPM No. 9 were examined and illustrated with case studies on incursion management and eradication. The workshop considered in detail the incursions of plum pox virus in Japan, *Liberibacter* in New Zealand, pine wilt disease in the Republic of Korea and the eradication of citrus canker in Australia

The participants conducted exercises on developing draft contingency plans for South American leaf blight of rubber and plum pox virus. A model contingency plan for the management of an introduction of South American leaf blight was developed at the workshop.

It was agreed that this model contingency plan should be presented to the 27th session of the APPPC for adoption as an Appendix to RSPM No. 7 *Guidelines for Protection against South American Leaf Blight of Rubber*. Section 2 of RSPM No. 7 *Eradication or control programmes* recommends that APPPC rubber-growing countries should develop contingency plans for eradication or control programmes of South American leaf blight. The contingency plan developed at the workshop provides a model for countries to use to meet this recommendation.

The model contingency plan was developed to be a guide only, and its use in part or whole by member countries is not obligatory. Countries that wish to use the model contingency plan are not bound by the existing text, but are free to vary the contingency plan as they see fit, in accordance with their own preferred procedures.

8.3 Report of the working group on SALB

During the 26th session of APPPC, it was decided that a working group on SALB be established to develop detailed guidelines to support the SALB Regional Standard. The Working Group would be led by Malaysia with participation of China, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Malaysia then hosted a workshop on the Prevention of Introduction of South American Leaf Blight of Rubber, which was convened in Kuala Lumpur on 13-17 December 2010. The workshop's objectives were to produce draft harmonized import requirements for the importation of rubber and other commodities from SALB endemic countries and to formulate phytosanitary measures based on scientific evidence (PRA) to address the risk of introducing SALB into the region. A total of 39 participants from 10 countries attended the five day workshop, with assistance from two SALB experts as resource persons.

The outcomes of the workshop were as follows:

- Production of a work plan for importation of budded stump and budwood (considered to be high risk);
- Guidelines on importation of other plant parts and non host materials and inspection of passengers arriving from SALB endemic countries;
- Guidelines on Laboratory Diagnostic System comprising establishment of central diagnostic laboratory and satellite quarantine laboratory in each country and proposed diagnostic methodology;
- Guideline on surveillance system and eradication system;
- Prioritization of capacity building programme to ensure sustainability of expertise in disease detection and to develop awareness among stakeholders on the risk and management of the disease.

The workshop also made five recommendations, as follows, as a way forward for future activities on the prevention of SALB into the region:

- Malaysia to continue to lead the Working Group on SALB to prepare a draft frame programme for the publication of reference materials;
- Each country to develop national work plan for surveillance system, training and awareness programmes;
- To report the output of the workshop to the next session of APPPC;
- To recommend the Model Work Plan for the importation of Budded Stump and Budwood to be adopted by APPPC as Annex to RSPM No. 7;
- The WG on SALB to prioritize regional activities on SALB for submission to the next APPPC session for inclusion in the work plan for 2012-2013

Based on the workshop recommendations, the APPPC Secretariat provided funding for Malaysia, as the lead country, to organize another workshop to develop reference materials for training and awareness programme. The workshop is proposed to be held on 25-29 November 2011. The expected outcomes from the workshop are production of reference materials to be used for extension services to farmers, training to enforcement and technical officers, seminars and awareness programmes to other stakeholders. The workshop is also expected to develop standard operating procedures for quarantine inspection at entry points, pest diagnostic in laboratories and field pest surveillance.

The Working Group also identified two other follow-up activities to be carried out in the next biennium, which is development of training programme on the use of reference materials followed by training of pathologists in Brazil. These two activities have been included in recommendations for APPPC work plan for 2012-2013 to be tabled in the 27th session of APPPC.

The IRRDB offered assistance to the APPPC on the organization of SALB workshops, by providing contacts to the organizers which may help to secure technical expertise and accommodation in Brazil. Further discussions will be held between IRRDB and the SALB working group.

8.4 Report of the working group on the implementation of ISPMs

The 26th session of the APPPC set up a working group to consider a programme to assist APPPC members implement International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). The working group considered that the APPPC should firstly describe the intent of the programme and then make proposals on how it could work.

The APPPC Standards Implementation programme is intended to:

- collect information on how APPPC members are managing to implement ISPMs
- identify the major problem areas with ISPM implementation for APPPC members
- set up programmes to assist APPPC members improve their implementation of ISPMs.

The method for doing this is for:

- APPPC members to be asked, using a questionnaire, how they are managing to implement the various provisions of different ISPMs
- for the implementation working group to consider and analyze the results of the questionnaire and identify problem areas
- the working group to recommend methods of improving the implementation of the relevant standards.

The working group selected ISPM 15 as the first ISPM. The questionnaire with 33 questions was produced and distributed to countries in April 2011 and 12 countries responded so far. The working group is expecting more countries' participation and full analysis will be finalized at the end of 2011. Based on the results, the working group will consider follow-up actions such as workshops or communication with IPPC etc.

The working group expects continued working group activities in 2012-2013 with other ISPMs.

9. Progress report on IPM in the region by the Chairperson of the APPPC Standing Committee on IPM regional project

Since the food crisis in 2008, countries in Asia and Pacific have undertaken efforts at intensifying food production to meet food needs of increasing populations. However, crop production intensification strategies have resulted in higher incidences of plant pests and diseases. Current plant pest and disease problems in Asia and Pacific have likewise been exacerbated by the entry of invasive plant pests and diseases, such as Golden Apple Snail, the Pink Mealy Bug and the Coconut Hispine Beetle.

Protecting agriculture from invasive pests and diseases is a crucial key concern among governments towards achieving food security goals. This challenge is being addressed through:

- the development of ecological-based, environmental-friendly technologies and mechanisms, and
- quality farmer education to ensure the adoption of Integrated Pest Management or IPM.

APPPC member country initiatives in IPM

Over the last two years, APPPC member countries continue to implement IPM programmes as part of the national food security agenda. Among them, the Ministry of Agriculture in China has launched a new initiative at upscaling Farmers Field School-based extension and farmer education programs in 800 counties. In Viet Nam, the "One UN Plan 2" implemented capacity building and policy reforms towards pesticide risk reduction. Bangladesh initiated the development of FFS-based farming systems approaches to assist farmers in risk-prone areas to adapt to climate change. In Nepal, an EU-Food Facility Project conducted IPM-FFS training activities to boost agricultural production by up to 30 percent to address food insecurity.

In the ASEAN region, the ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network continues to assist government and non-government organizations improve the effectiveness of program implementation. The on-going Pest Profiles Project under the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group for Crops aims at developing a regional plant pest and disease early warning system.

FAO initiatives in IPM

During the last two years, FAO continued its assistance to APPPC member countries on IPM programme development and pesticide policy reform, including support to national IPM Farmers Field School programs and capacity building for spread prevention and management of invasive crop pests and diseases.

Under FAO Trust Fund project *Pesticide Risk Reduction in Southeast Asia*, FAO continued work with the governments of Cambodia and Lao PDR on the development and field piloting of a pesticide licensing and inspection system. Under the IPM project component, FAO worked to strengthen curriculum development and farmer training on pesticide risk reduction in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (Cambodia, China, Lao PDR and Viet Nam) through structured learning exercises on pesticide risk reduction, and the development of innovative multi-stakeholder initiatives and community awareness and mobilization approaches.

The FAO Regional IPM Programme also supported various in-country FAO and other donor-supported IPM-FFS projects in the APPPC member countries. Examples include technical support for the development of FFS-based farming systems work in Bangladesh, technical support for review of an IPM-FFS training component of the EU-Food Facility Project in Nepal. Support on development and application of biological control and other alternatives to chemicals for pest management was facilitated as a measure to reduce pesticide use in various countries in South (Bangladesh and Nepal) and Southeast Asia (Cambodia and Viet Nam).

Various FAO TF and Regular Programme projects focus on capacity building of APPPC member countries on spread prevention and management of invasive crop pest and diseases, specifically on development of Bactrocera Fruit Fly Integrated Pest Management in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) and on capacity building of spread prevention and management of the cassava pink mealybug in the GMS and the ASEAN region.

IRRI initiatives in IPM

RiceIPM provides a framework for integrating knowledge, skills and information on rice pest management in the tropics. This website was created from the CD-ROM version of RiceIPM.

The on-going ADB-IRRI Rice Planthopper Project aims to share knowledge and develop sustainable ways to manage BPH problems, specifically in China, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The Project helps farmers manage pests in a sustainable way by developing pest-resistant rice varieties, IPM strategies, and ecological engineering approaches.

IPM CRSP initiatives

The South Asian Regional Program for Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program (IPM CRSP) is a USAID-supported research, education/training, and information exchange collaborative partnership among US and developing country institutions in Bangladesh, India and Nepal. The Program focuses on participatory and collaborative IPM research and education programs for horticultural export crops and other food production systems. The Project has currently developed and field-tested IPM packages developed for tomato, eggplant, okra, onion, cauliflower, chili, cucurbits, bitter melon, cucumber, cabbage and country bean in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

Conclusion

Crop production intensification strategies to address soaring food prices and avert food insecurity will continue to result in higher incidences of plant pests and diseases in Asia and the Pacific. With significant pesticide usage from 2000-2010, scientists have warned that the unbridled manufacture and use of pesticides in Asia and Pacific are raising the specter of “pest storms” or big pest outbreaks devastating the region’s farms and threatening food security.

Soaring food prices and food insecurity, serious pest outbreaks and indiscriminate and unregulated pesticide usage – these problems can be adequately addressed by the experiences of APPPC Member Countries and technological breakthroughs in IPM and political will to invest in quality farmer education in IPM.

10. Progress report on implementation of the provisions of the International Code of Conduct on the distribution and use of pesticides, and the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) by AGPP/PIC Secretariat

A presentation was given by the representative from the Rotterdam Convention (RC) Secretariat, Ms Yun Zhou. As of August 2011, 16 APPPC members are parties to the Rotterdam Convention (Australia, China, DPR Korea, India, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam), while world wide 143 countries have joined the Convention.

Chemicals listed in Annex III of the Convention are subject to the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure, which allows exporting Parties to export those chemicals only if there is prior informed consent by the importing parties. In June 2011, the 5th Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Rotterdam Convention decided to list 3 new pesticides to Annex III: endosulfan, alachlor and aldicarb. This added up to a total of 43 pesticides and chemicals in Annex III. New candidate pesticides that have been recommended for listing include azinphos methyl and paraquat (EC formulation, 200 g a.i./l). These will be considered at COP 6 in 2013. It should be noted that endosulfan was also listed under the Stockholm Convention in early 2011, and will also be the subject of a global ban.

Dr Zhou noted that several countries reported at the current meeting that they have banned or severely restricted certain pesticides. Those countries are reminded to notify to the secretariat according to Article 5 of the Convention.

A number of technical assistance activities have been provided or planned in the region aimed at national capacity building for the implementation of the Convention and for pesticides/chemicals management. These activities have been supported by the Convention secretariat in cooperation with the APPPC secretariat. The technical assistance includes:

- development of national action plans for the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention;
- resource mobilization (e.g. SAICM QSP projects in Thailand and Malaysia);
- development of national pesticide incident reporting systems;
- development of national standard procedures for the control of import and export of chemicals within the scope of the Convention;
- facilitation of trade partners' dialogue to improve the enforcement of the Convention in protecting unwanted trade and sharing information on hazardous pesticides/chemicals, including the export notifications under the Convention. The trade partner dialogue promotes shared responsibilities, identifies common issues and seeks solutions. The initial meetings involved major trading partners, such as China, India, Brazil, South Africa, Thailand, Viet Nam, Pakistan, Sudan, the Commission of the European Union and its member states.

The technical assistance under the RC is needs driven. Interested countries are encouraged to contact the RC secretariat with specific request for assistance. Countries in the region are often trade partners in the sale and use of pesticides and experiencing similar challenges in managing hazardous pesticides. APPPC offers a platform for member states to share experiences and to multiply the effects of technical assistance. APPPC participants are invited to provide feedback to the designated national authorities of the Rotterdam Convention in their countries. Countries that are not yet parties to the pesticide related Conventions, including Rotterdam, Basel and Stockholm Conventions, are encouraged to speed up the ratification process in order to fully benefit from the Conventions. More information on the Rotterdam Convention can be found at www.pic.int.

11. Progress report on pesticide management in the Asia and Pacific region by the Chairperson of the APPPC Standing Committee on Pesticides

Since the 26th APPPC Meeting in New Delhi in 2009, there have been no major activities carried out based on the proposal made during the meeting. During the meeting in New Delhi the Standing Committee on Pesticide made a proposal to come up with a database on pesticide information to be shared among member countries. However, the cost of developing such a database was found to be too high, and the fund under the project, limited. The proposal has been put on hold.

Despite the above-mentioned development, member countries have been very active during the period in implementing various activities related to pesticides control and management aimed at ensuring pesticides management is consistent with international standards, and in line with International Code of Conduct on Distribution and Use of Pesticides, Conventions and other International mechanisms on sound management of pesticides. At ASEAN level, FAO-TCP Project had assisted eight ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam) in achieving pesticide regulatory harmonization in the region since June 2010. This would be achieved through:

- Preparation of guidelines by the consultants on harmonization of pesticide registration requirements, pesticide registration requirements for bio-pesticides, pesticide labeling requirements, bio-efficacy test protocols and monitoring and surveillance of pesticide residues in agriculture products.
- The strengthening of the existing Network for information exchange among Pesticide Regulatory Authorities in ASEAN countries.
- Training and upgrading the capabilities of pesticide regulatory officers in the field of pesticide data registration evaluation and risk assessment, pesticide residue analysis and pesticide formulation analysis.

The above guidelines and project outputs are currently being developed and will be finalized and adopted at the 3rd Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) in November 2011 in Kuala Lumpur.

At the regional and international level, the region was well represented in the international initiatives on pesticide management. The International Code of Conduct on Distribution and Use of Pesticides, implemented jointly by FAO and WHO, is setting the international standards in activities related to pesticides. Member countries who are party to the Rotterdam, Stockholm, Basel Conventions and Montreal Protocol participated in various seminar/meeting/workshop organized by the Secretariat of the Convention. Under the framework of the Rotterdam Convention, Thailand, for example, received support by SAICM QSP to introduce severely hazardous pesticide formulation (SHPFs) reporting system, while Malaysia has submitted the request to the Rotterdam Convention for a SAICM QSP support for developing a National Action Program (NAP) for the implementation of Rotterdam Convention in Malaysia.

12. Consideration of recommendations of the 22nd Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs)

The 22nd Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPOs) was held in the Azores Islands, Portugal, by the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) in collaboration with the Portuguese NPPO. The IPPC Secretariat, a CPM Bureau Vice-chair and seven RPPOs were present: Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC), Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE), European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC), North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA), Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO). A representative of CABI also attended. The Andean Community (CA), Caribbean Plant Protection Organization (CPPC) and Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) were not represented at the meeting. The highlights of the activities and discussions were reviewed.

The full report of the meeting is available at: <https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=5&L=0>

13. The APPPC programme of work for 2012-2013

13.1 Introduction of the outputs of APPPC working group meeting on planning for the next biennium (held in April 2011)

The APPPC strategic plan and work plan adopted by the 26th session of APPPC were reviewed and the status of the implementation reported. A tentative proposal on work plan of next biennium (2012-2013) and a draft new strategic plan (2012-2019) were discussed and amended.

Discussions on mandatory contributions led to the proposal that it would be best for countries to keep the total amount of mandatory contributions for the next biennium to be kept at the same level as the current biennium. This proposal may lead to some non-significant changes in countries' mandatory contributions.

Recommendations of work plans supported by the mandatory contributions from contributing contracting countries for 2012-2013:

- a) Implementation of ISPMs in the region: implementation programme prepared by the working group (training course, explanatory papers etc.) in 2012 for ISPM No.15 and ISPM-System Approach (APPPC funds)
- b) Regional workshops on review of draft ISPMs in 2012 and 2013 (voluntary contribution)
- c) Training workshop in surveillance (see Strategic direction 1. Goal 1.1.1) (including inviting key speakers) (APPPC funds). It is suggested that this might involve:
 - A regional conference on surveillance in November 2012
 - Training courses in the region on surveillance based on the manual in July 2013
- d) Development of information exchange programme (APPPC funds)
 - Information exchange working group meeting (potential)
 - Pest reporting, etc.
 - Maintenance of APPPC website
 - An assistant for information management publications
- e) A Planning working group meeting on APPPC work plan for 2014-2015 (APPPC funds)
- f) Development of RSPMs on movement of used machinery; RSPM on fumigation; RSPM on Irradiation (APPPC funds)
 - drafting of a standard
 - consideration by a working group
 - consideration of the amended draft by the Standards committee
 - presentation of the draft at an APPPC session
- g) More SALB workshops (APPPC funds)
 - Training workshop (using the reference produced in 2011 – workshop) (APPPC funds)
 - Training workshop on diagnostics (APPPC funds – seed money)
- h) IPM programme (6 workshops – partial funding) (APPPC funds – seed money is required)
- i) Pesticide management programme (two workshops) (APPPC funds – Supplementary)

13.2 Group discussions on the work plan by three Standing Committees

Three Standing Committees met to discuss the work plan on IPM, plant quarantine and pesticide.

13.3 Report of the work plan presentations by Chairpersons of the Standing Committees of IPM, Plant Quarantine and Pesticide

13.3.1 Standing Committee of IPM

After consultation with the APPPC member countries, the IPM Standing Committee recommended the approval and funding of the IPM Work Plan for 2012-2013 to the 27th session of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission:

- (a) The IPM Standing Committee has agreed on the following focus areas or concerns for 2012-2013:
 - i. Strengthening of national early warning and surveillance and forecasting systems for brown planthopper (BPH) in rice;
 - ii. Policy and advocacy on biological control – biological control agents, bio-pesticides and botanicals;
 - iii. IPM policy formulation and advocacy, and implementation of pesticide risk reduction programs;
 - iv. Spread prevention and management and control of fruit fly;
 - v. Prevention and control of golden apple snails and weed management in rice;
 - vi. Prevention and control of phytoplasma diseases in cassava and sugarcane.
- (b) To address the above concerns, the IPM Standing Committee agreed to engage on information generation and exchange among APPPC member countries through the conduct of expert workshops and technical consultations and the lead country of each activity:
 - i. *People's Republic of China*: Technical Enhancement Workshop on strengthening of national early warning and surveillance and forecasting systems for brown planthopper in rice;
 - ii. *Thailand*: Workshop – Study Tour on policy and advocacy on biological control – biological control agents, bio-pesticides and botanicals;
 - iii. *Viet Nam*: Workshop on IPM policy formulation and advocacy, and implementation of pesticide risk reduction programmes through FFSs;
 - iv. *Cambodia*: Experts' Meeting on spread prevention and management and control of fruit fly, FFS curriculum development and alternative treatments for export crops;
 - v. *Malaysia*: Experts' Meeting on spread prevention and control of golden apple snails and weed management in rice;
 - vi. *Philippines*: Technical Consultation on prevention and control of phytoplasma diseases in cassava, sugarcane and coconut.
- (c) Upon approval of the 27th session of the APPPC, the lead countries will undertake the following activities:
 - i. Develop the detailed concept/synopsis of the responsible activity, its objectives, agenda and criteria of participation;
 - ii. Coordinate with APPPC member countries for their interest and participation in the activity;
 - iii. Develop an indicative budget for the activity and identify specific contribution or responsibility of APPPC, that is:
 - APPPC will provide the seed fund for a joint collaboration with another institution/agency for the conduct of the activity;
 - APPPC will provide experts and resource persons for the activity;
 - APPPC will act as Secretariat/Facilitator for the activity;
 - APPPC will liaise with prospective donors for the activity.
 - iv. Identify and negotiate for partners, collaborators, co-sponsors, or donors for the activity, i.e. FAO Regional Programmes or TCPs, IPM CRSP, IRRI, ADB, EU-Food Facility, etc.;
 - v. Finalize activity agenda, schedule and list of participants;
 - vi. Implement the activity.
- (d) The IPM Standing Committee requests approval of an indicative funding budget of \$30 000 for the proposed workplan for 2012-2013.

13.3.2 Standing Committee of Plant Quarantine

The following items for the work programme were discussed:

(a) Nomination of APPPC funded delegates to the Grain Meeting in Vancouver

Australia informed the group that nominations from several countries were already received. The main objective of this meeting is to consider the development of international standards for the movement of grains. The meeting will discuss issues/problems as well as solutions with the international movement of grains. The Committee supported the funding of two participants from the region. This will be awarded to the participants from Pakistan and the Philippines). The selected participants will present the status of movement

of grains in the region. Other countries such as Australia, Republic of Korea, Japan, New Zealand, Indonesia, China and Malaysia will attend using their own funds. The meeting encouraged other countries to attend at their own costs.

(b) Diagnostic workshop on South American Leaf Blight

Malaysia noted that SALB Working Group hoped to hold a training workshop in Brazil in June or July 2012. Malaysia with the assistance of IRRDB and Brazil will arrange the venue. Two participants from seven countries are expected to attend the workshop. The workshop duration will be 12 days. Countries are encouraged to fund their respective participants, particularly their travel expenses to and from Brazil. The urgency of this workshop was also supported by the Philippines and China. It was decided by the Committee to aim to conduct the workshop in 2012, pending agreement of the host organizers in Brazil.

(c) Working group on Information Management & Exchange

It was proposed that an information working group develop a strategy and a plan for information management & exchange. This could include the following:

- i. Determination and development of information requirements of APPPC NPPOs;
- ii. options/means/structures to meet the requirements;
- iii. determination of the resources (IP systems, workers) needed.

These could be continuously further developed upon new requirements.

Member countries which are interested in becoming members of the information working group include India, Malaysia, Fiji Islands, Australia, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam with Malaysia and Fiji Islands to be proposed to serve as chair and vice chair of the working group respectively.

For the improvement of the website, a number of suggestions were put forward.

(d) ePhyto Updates

Dr Yim of Republic of Korea informed the group of developments with ePhyto. A recent meeting in Republic of Korea set up three working groups on formatting, code development and security issues.

(e) Annex vs Appendix of RSPM No. 7 “Importation Requirements for Hevea Plant Material”

The group reached a reluctant compromise to consider this paper as Appendix, to provide allowance for modifications and flexibility. The full meeting decided that the paper should be treated as an Annex, and expert opinion from the Legal Department of FAO would be sought to determine if an annex imposed obligations on parties. If so, it would be adopted as an appendix, otherwise adopted as an annex would be utilized to resolve this issue. “The “Contingency plan for South American leaf blight (*Microcyclus ulei*)” has been classed as an APPPC Technical Guideline. The guideline may be found on the APPPC website ([http://www.apppc.org/index.php?id=1110802&tx_publication_pi1\[showUId\]=2181777&frompage=1110810&type=publication&subtype=&L=0#item](http://www.apppc.org/index.php?id=1110802&tx_publication_pi1[showUId]=2181777&frompage=1110810&type=publication&subtype=&L=0#item)) or as Book IV in RAP PUBLICATION 2011/07, *Protection against South American leaf blight of rubber in Asia and Pacific region*.

(f) Items for work programme

The Committee confirmed the proposals made by the planning group. These were:

- i. Implementation of ISPMs in the region: implementation programme prepared by the working group (training course, explanatory papers, etc.) in 2012 for ISPM No.15 and ISPM – Systems Approach (APPC funds and Australia funds)

The Committee decided to continue with ISPM No. 15 (IPPC explanatory paper can also be used), then start with ISPM Systems Approach. ISPM on sampling was suggested to be moved to the next biennium. The working group will be led by Republic of Korea, with Australia, New Zealand, China, Philippines and India.

Work may be initiated with sampling systems – facilitated by Indonesia and Philippines using ASEAN material.

- ii. Regional workshops on review of draft ISPMs in 2012 and 2013 (voluntary contribution)
Contributions for 2012-2013 may come from Republic of Korea
- iii. Training workshop in surveillance (see Strategic direction 1. Goal 1.1.1) (including inviting key speakers) (APPPC funds)

It is suggested that this might involve:

- A regional conference on surveillance in November 2012
- Training courses in the region on surveillance based on the manual in July 2013

Goal: to develop manual for surveillance (revised ISPM 6)

It was suggested to do preliminary inquiries with the countries to determine the needs, update new technologies and evaluate certain differences between surveillance systems of countries (continent vs island). Dr Hedley noted that this project could involve collaboration with the IRSS of the IPPC.

- iv. Development of information exchange programme (APPPC funds)
The committee decided to retain the funds intended for this work plan, which will also include reporting, analysis and documentation.
- v. A planning working group meeting on APPPC work plan for 2014-2015 (APPPC funds)
The funds should remain as recommended by the planning group.
- vi. Development of RSPMs on pest movement by machinery; RSPM on fumigation; RSPM on Irradiation (APPPC funds and Australia funds)

For fumigation, AFAS might be used as an example/model for system of managing treatment.

For irradiation, Australia clarified that the proposed RSPM will focus on accreditation of the establishment of the facility and audit procedure and not on the protocol/process of irradiation itself, since radiation dose varies among commodities.

For pest movement by machinery, it was clarified what kind of machinery that is being referred to, i.e. agricultural machinery, military, used cars, etc., since this is a major issue in the region considering that these machineries can carry soil, weed seeds and other quarantine pests.

- vii. More SALB workshops (APPPC funds)
Training workshop (using the reference produced in 2011 – workshop):
For 2011-2012, APPPC funds of \$40 000 to be made available
Training workshop on diagnostics: For 2012-2013, APPPC funds of \$10 000 to be made available, and the remainder to be funded by participating countries.
- viii. For the preparation of standards – A\$30 000 seed funding from APPPC and additional funds from Australia, several meetings should be conducted

13.3.3 Standing Committee of Pesticide

The following items for the work programme were discussed:

(a) Promotion of the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct on the use and distribution of pesticides

The purpose of this proposal is to ensure the sustainable enforcement of all the provisions of the CODE. Eight countries will be involved. Activities include:

- Guidelines from FAO-TCP established, validated and applied
- Post-application survey undertaken to get feedback
- Identification of the best available technology and best environmental practices (disposal of obsolete pesticide). Information from similar projects may be used as reference

(b) *Promotion of the ratification and implementation of the Rotterdam Convention*

In cooperation with the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, this proposal will address issues of common interest in the region. The National Action Plan of Laos and Malaysia will be used as a model. Nepal and Thailand will work on the Pesticide Incident Reporting System. One sub-regional (ASEAN + China, Nepal, India and Pakistan) consultation will be held on trade related issues. Activities include:

- Facilitate development of national action plans, cooperation with customs trade partner, including export notifications
- Support national capacity on reporting of pesticide incidents caused by severely hazardous pesticide formulations
- Facilitate network of DNAs in the AP region
- Promotion of ratification of Conventions concerning pesticides in relevant regional activities

(c) *Information exchange and database*

The purpose of this proposal is for the exchange of information on national regulatory status (banned, restricted and registered pesticides), and import decisions. There will also be a mechanism to maintain the information exchange, for example, the list of chemicals banned by China will be made available in the database. All countries are to submit the relevant web link and/or the list of banned and restricted pesticides in English to the Secretariat for posting on APPPC website. A country or working group will be nominated to lead in setting up and maintaining the website and database. Further discussions will be held at the pesticide management workshop. Activities proposed include:

- Establishment of links to the relevant databases: TCP, FAO PM, RC, ASEAN
- Requirement for countries to regularly submit their official pesticide status including banned and restricted and crop-based pesticide usage to APPPC to be posted in its website
- Requirement for the addition of the list of registered pesticides and other relevant information

(d) *Regional workshop on pesticide management*

This proposal addressed issues on pesticide management, regulatory harmonization, enforcement, labeling and trade. A workshop will be hosted by Thailand. The development of the concept and agenda will be led by Malaysia and Thailand. The programme will be funded by APPPC funds and FAO regional risk reduction project funds. Activities include:

- Report on the TCP
- Presentation on guidelines developed under TCP
- Development of follow-up plan
- Presentation on FAO registration toolkit
- Presentation on Rotterdam (Severely Hazardous Pesticide Formulations)
- Evaluation of new approaches on pesticide assessment
- Report on the new developments from the FAO's regional pesticide risk reduction project
- Introduction to eco-toxicology

(e) *Reduction of the use of highly hazardous pesticides (HHP)*

This proposal studies the availability of alternative to HHPs, the compilation of records of pesticide incidences and the promotion of national efforts toward phasing out of HHPs. Pesticide Regulatory Authorities (PRA) will work to seek information on alternatives through the national IPM programme, NGO's and research centres. Pesticide incidences will also be reported. Activities include:

- Identification of alternatives in cooperation with IPM
- Pesticide incident reporting to be linked to regulatory decision process (cooperation Rotterdam Convention Secretariat)
- Consideration of regulatory actions by other countries (e.g. notifications and export notifications) and at international level (listing in Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions)

13.4 Proposal of the work plan by the Secretariat of APPPC and discussion on approval of the APPPC work plan for biennium (2012-2013)

13.4.1 Specific activities (2012-2013)

(a) Pre-CPM consultation for APPPC members

A pre-CPM consultation will provide APPPC member with an opportunity for discussion of CPM agenda items more specifically, including the draft ISPMs which will be presented for adoption by the CPM. This meeting facilitates a better understanding of the specific concerns of participants and allows the development of regional views on some issues.

(b) Implementation of ISPMs in the region to assist with the sustainable crop production intensification (SCPI) programme:

Implementation programme prepared by the working group (including training courses, explanatory papers etc.) in 2012 for ISPM No.15 and ISPM – System Approach.

Work may be initiated with sampling systems – facilitated by Indonesia and Philippines using ASEAN material.

(c) Regional workshops on review of draft ISPMs in 2012 and 2013

(d) Training workshop in pest surveillance (see strategic direction 1. Goal 1.1.1)

A few key speakers will be invited. There is also possible collaboration with IPPC. It is suggested that this might involve:

- A regional conference on pest surveillance in November 2012
- Training courses in the region on pest surveillance based on the manual in July 2013

(e) Development of information exchange programme

- Information exchange working group meeting
- Pest reporting, etc.
- Maintenance of APPPC website
- An assistant for information management
- publications

(f) A planning working group meeting on APPPC work plan for 2014-2015

(g) Development of RSPMs on movement of used machinery, RSPM on fumigation and RSPM on irradiation

- drafting of a standard
- consideration by a working group
- consideration of the amended draft by the Standards Committee
- presentation of the draft at an APPPC session

(h) More SALB workshops

- Training workshop (using the reference produced in 2011-workshop on November)
- Training workshop on diagnostics

(i) IPM programme to assist with SCPI (workshops – partial funding by mandatory contributions)

(j) Pesticide management programme (workshops – partial funding by mandatory contributions)

The outputs of discussions on the work plans by three standing committees were considered in the preparation of the proposal of the APPPC work plan (2012-2013). Detailed description of operational activities are supplemented by the reports of the Standing Committees respectively.

The APPPC work plan (2012-2013) had been adopted by the Session.

13.4.2 Estimated budget for specific activities (2012-2013) in US\$

The estimation of budget is made for activities of the work plan (2012-2013) adopted by the Session (agenda 13.4).

The details of the estimated costs for specific activities (2012-2013) supported by the mandatory contributions from contributing contracting countries as follows:

No.	Activity	Cost (US\$)	Remarks
1	Implementation of ISPMs in the region: implementation programme prepared by the working group (training course, explanatory papers etc.) in 2012/13 for ISPM No. 15 and ISPM – Systems Approach	US\$75 000	– minimum – Australia funds
2	Regional workshops on review of draft ISPMs in 2012 and 2013	Some seed money may required	voluntary contribution
3	Training workshop on pest surveillance (Strategic direction 1. Goal 1.1.1) It is suggested that this might involve: – A regional conference on pest surveillance in November 2012 – Training courses in the region on surveillance based on the manual in July 2013	US\$60 000	including inviting key speakers
4	Development of information exchange programme – Information exchange working group meeting (potential) – Pest reporting, etc. – Maintenance of APPPC website – Staffing (contract basis) – Publications	US\$90 000	
5	A planning working group meeting on APPPC work plan for 2014-2015	US\$25 000	
6	Development of RSPMs on movement by used machinery; RSPM on fumigation; RSPM on Irradiation – drafting of a standard – consideration by a working group – consideration of the amended draft by the Standards Committee – presentation of the draft at an APPPC session	US\$30 000	– Seed money – Australia provides additional funds
7	More SALB workshops – Training workshop (using the reference produced in 2011 – workshop) – Training workshop on diagnostics	US\$50 000 US\$40 000 US\$10 000	Seed money
8	IPM programme (workshops)	US\$ 30 000	Seed money
9	Pesticide management programme (workshops)	US\$30 000	Supplementary Funds
10	Administration (13%)	US\$50 700	
	Total:	US\$440 700	

Note:

1. Total estimated cost (2012-2013): US\$440 700 (390 000+13% total costs).
2. Available funds: US\$478 300 (US\$339 000 mandatory contribution from contributing contracting members plus US\$139 300 carrying over from 2010-2011 biennium).
3. Total amount of mandatory contribution needed for 2012-2013 biennium is assumed US\$339 000 (the same as the amount of 2010-2011 biennium).

13.5 Financial report of 2010-2011 and the proposal of the budget for the 2012-2013 as well as of the assessment of country mandatory contributions

13.5.1 Financial report of the 2010-2011 biennium

Fifteen out of sixteen contributing contracting members provided mandatory contributions in 2010. Thailand deposited the instrument of acceptance of the amendment of the Agreement of 1983, which includes mandatory contribution article, in 2010 and made its contribution at the same level as that of Malaysia in 2011. Twelve out of seventeen countries made their mandatory contributions for 2011 by 10 August 2011. The arrears of US\$4 686 is to be paid by 5 member countries. Taking into account Thailand's contribution of US\$8 794 in 2011, the total amount of the mandatory contributions for the 2010-2011 biennium should be US\$347 794, provided that all the contributing contracting members make their contributions. However, the total mandatory contributions received until 10 August 2011 is US\$343 107.04 (=US\$161 313.38 in 2010+US\$181 793.66 in 2011).

TRUST FUND No. 9167 – MTF/RAS/257/MUL – APPPC (Printed 10 August 2011)

Status of contributions as at 10 August 2011 (expressed in USD)

Oracle Activity: TF RAPGD TFAA97AP09683

Member Governments	Outstanding 31 December 2010	Contribution due for 2011	Received up to 10 August 2011	Outstanding 10 August 2011
Australia	0.00	37 290.00	37 290.00	0.00
Bangladesh	0.00	17.00	17.00	0.00
Cambodia	0.00	17.00		17.00
China	0.00	37 290.00	37 290.00	0.00
DPR Korea	0.00	324.00		324.00
Fiji	0.00	139.00		139.00
India	0.00	20 828.00	20 828.00	0.00
Indonesia	7 452.00	7 452.00	14 904.00	0.00
Lao, PDR	0.00	17.00	17.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.00	8 794.00	9 793.66	0.34
New Zealand	0.00	11 849.00	11 849.00	0.00
Pakistan	-6.38	2 731.00		2 724.62
Philippines	0.00	3 610.00	3 610.00	0.00
Republic of Korea	0.00	37 290.00	37 290.00	0.00
Sri Lanka	741.00	741.00		1 482.00
Thailand	0.00	8 794.00	8 794.00	0.00
Viet Nam	0.00	1 111.00	1 111.00	0.00
Totals	8 186.62	178 294.00	181 793.66	4 686.96

Note: The record of status of the contribution was the up to date as of 10 August 2011.

The actual expenditure for activities planned for the 2010-2011 biennium by using the mandatory contributions together with funds from other source is more than US\$360 000 (see Table 1). The additional funds from other source including FAO, Republic of Korea and Japan resulted in large savings; it resulted in only total expenditure of US\$203 806 was from the mandatory contribution. As a result, about US\$139 300 could be carried over to the next biennium for supporting more activities.

Table 1. Costs for specific activities in 2010-2011 supported by the Trust Fund from *mandatory contributions together with other funding source (US\$)*

No.	Activity	Planned	Expenditure (US\$)	
			TF	Other source
1	SALB Working Group Activities – workshop on SALB (November 2010, Thailand) – workshop on SALB reference (November 2011, Malaysia)	60 000	35 894 23 000	
2	Implementation of ISPMs	20 000 (pending)		
3	A workshop on pest incursion management (September 2010, Republic of Korea)	50 000	24 696	>40 000/ Republic of Korea
4	Information management (including staffing cost) biennium – training workshop on IPP & APPPC website – consultants/assistant (APPPC website, etc.) – publications	150 000	39 294 11 766	90 000/FAO/Japan 24 474/FAO 4 447/FAO
5	Support of sustainable development of IPM – a workshop (December 2011?)	20 000	(20 000)	
6	Workshop on planning for 2012-2013 (April 2010, BKK)		15 709	
7	Sending two representatives to the workshop on the international movement of grain (December 2011)		(10 000)	
8	Administration 13 percent	39 000	23 447	
	Total	339 000	203 806	158 921

Table 2. Costs of specific activities (2010-2011) supported by the funds from *voluntary contributions or other funding sources (US\$)*

No.	Activity	Plan (US\$)	Expenditure (US\$)/ Source
1	Regional workshops on draft ISPMs (one per year) – 2010 workshop (September 2010, Republic of Korea) – 2011 workshop (September 2011, Republic of Korea)	50 000	65 000/Republic of Korea 65 000/Republic of Korea 10 000/Japan
2	Promote acceptance of revised APPPC	20 000	
3	Training workshop on capacity development in implementation of ISPMs/RSPMs and other international treaties – training on inspection (2010) – training on diagnostic (2011)	40000	FAO/Japan project 74 642 60 000
4	Promotion of IPM and GAP, etc. – a number of TOTs/FFSs and workshops	35 000	– Regional PRR project
5	Commission study and review of the implementation of the Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticide – a number of trainings on bio-efficacy, residue detection, biopesticide, labelling, risk assessment, etc.	20 000	Regional TCP project
	Total (US\$)	165 000	>600 000

The Session endorsed the financial report of the 2010-2011 biennium presented by the APPPC Executive Secretary.

13.5.2 Proposed budget for covering estimated costs of specific activities supported by the mandatory contributions from contributing contracting countries for 2012-2013

Based on the work programme adopted under the agenda 13.4, specific activities to be supported by the mandatory contributions during 2012-2013 and their estimated costs are listed in the Table 3. Total estimated costs (2012-2013) is US\$440 700 (US\$390 000+13% total costs), the available amount of funds is US\$478 300, which consists of US\$339 000 (being the total mandatory contribution from contributing contracting members) and US\$139 300 (estimated carry-over from the 2010-2011 biennium). The estimates are based on the assumption that all 17 countries will make their mandatory contributions timely and that the estimated costs are the minimum. Devaluation of US dollar may lead to more expenditure than the estimated amount. In addition, some activities have been planned for early 2012. As a result, therefore there is need for some flexible amount of funds (beyond actual amount of the budget planned) for backstopping expenditures of such activities as well as potential emergency activities. The estimates for such amount are US\$30 000-40 000.

Table 3. Estimated costs of specific activities supported by the mandatory contributions for 2012-2013

No.	Activity	Estimated costs (US\$)	Remarks
1	Implementation of ISPMs in the region: implementation programme prepared by the working group (training course, explanatory papers etc.) in 2012/13 for ISPM No. 15 and ISPM – Systems Approach	US\$75 000	– Minimum – Australia
2	Regional workshops on review of draft ISPMs in 2012 and 2013	Some seed money if needed	Voluntary contribution
3	Training workshop on pest surveillance (Strategic direction 1. Goal 1.1.1) It is suggested that this might involve: – A regional conference on pest surveillance in November 2012 – Training courses in the region on surveillance based on the manual in July 2013	US\$60 000	Including inviting key speakers
4	Development of information exchange programme – Information exchange working group meeting (potential) – Pest reporting, etc. – Maintenance of APPPC website – Staffing (contract basis) – Publications	US\$90 000	
5	A planning working group meeting on APPPC work plan for 2014-2015	US\$25 000	
6	Development of RSPMs on movement of used machinery; RSPM on fumigation; RSPM on Irradiation – drafting of a standard – consideration by a working group – consideration of the amended draft by the Standards Committee – presentation of the draft at an APPPC session	US\$30 000	– Seed money – Australia provides additional funds
7	More SALB workshops – Training workshop (using the reference produced in 2011 – workshop) – Training workshop on diagnostics	US\$50 000 US\$40 000 US\$10 000	Seed money
8	IPM programme (workshops)	US\$30 000	Seed money
9	Pesticide management programme (workshops)	US\$30 000	Supplementary Funds
10	Administration (13%)	US\$50 700	
	Total:	US\$440 700	

The US\$440 700 total budget proposal was endorsed by the Session.

13.5.3 Proposed mandatory contributions for 2012-2013 by contributing contracting members

The proposed mandatory contributions for 2012-2013 by seventeen contributing contracting members (Table 4) is based on the work plan of the APPPC for 2012-2013 in consideration of the sustainable maintenance of a similar level of mandatory contribution for the 2010-2011 biennium. Therefore the total amount of the mandatory contributions for 2012-2013 is maintained at US\$339 000 (being equal to the amount for the 2010-2011 biennium). The scale percentage for each country is calculated according to the UN scale (resolution 64/248) adopted by the UN on 5 February 2010 for the contributions of member states to the regular budget of the UN for 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Table 4. Proposed mandatory contributions for 2012-2013 by contributing contracting members (Adoption by the 27th session of APPPC, 15-19 August 2011, Philippines)

	APPPC member countries endorsing mandatory contributions	Percent contributions to UN regular budget for 2010, 2011, and 2012 based on UN scale of assessments ¹	Adjusted percent contributions based on UN's 22 percent maximum assessment rate and LDC ceiling criteria (0.010%)	Proposed contributions (US\$) for 2012-2013	Proposed contributions (US\$) for 2012	Proposed contributions (US\$) for 2013
1	China	3.189	22.000	74 580	37 290	37 290
2	Republic of Korea	2.260	22.000	74 580	37 290	37 290
3	Australia	1.933	22.000	74 580	37 290	37 290
4	India	0.534	10.413	35 301	17 651	17 651
5	New Zealand	0.273	5.324	18 047	9 024	9 024
6	Malaysia	0.253	4.934	16 725	8 363	8 363
7	Indonesia	0.238	4.641	15 733	7 867	7 867
8	Philippines	0.090	1.755	5 950	2 975	2 975
9	Pakistan	0.082	1.599	5 421	2 710	2 710
10	Viet Nam	0.033	0.644	2 182	1 091	1 091
11	Sri Lanka	0.019	0.371	1 256	628	628
12	DPR Korea	0.007	0.137	463	231	231
13	Fiji	0.004	0.078	264	132	132
14	Thailand	0.209	4.076	13 816	6 908	6 908
	Sub-total	9.124	99.970	338 898	169 449	169 449
15	Bangladesh	0.010	0.010	34	17	17
16	Cambodia	0.003	0.010	34	17	17
17	Lao PDR	0.001	0.010	34	17	17
	Total	9.138	100.000	339 000	169 500	169 500

Note:

- 1) The calculation of the scale is based on the Resolution 64/248 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (5 February 2010) in relation to the scale of assessments for the contributions of Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2010, 2011 and 2012. The total rates form the basis for calculating the % contributions of APPPC's endorsing countries, the total of which adds up to a full 100 percent.
- 2) The UN scale of assessment is subject to a maximum assessment rate of 0.01 percent for the least developed countries as well as a maximum assessment rate of 22 percent, as set out in Items 5(g) and 5(h) respectively on Page 2 of the UN General Assembly's resolution 64/248 (5 February 2010).
- 3) It is proposed that the % share of contributions by each of the three least developed countries (LDCs) including Bangladesh, Cambodia and Lao PDR does not exceed 0.010 percent. Based on the criteria of the UN scale of assessment, the maximum assessment rate for the least developed countries (LDC ceiling) is 0.010 percent, as set out in the UN General Assembly's resolution 64/248. Least Developed Countries: About Least Development Countries. <http://www.unohrrls.org/en/ldc/25/>
- 4) Total amount of mandatory contributions for the next biennium is kept at the same level as the current biennium (2010-2011). This may avoid significant changes in countries' mandatory contributions. The level of contributions is subject to be adopted by the 27th session of APPPC on August 2011. Additional funds carried over from current biennium would enable more activities included in the work plan proposal for the next biennium.

The Session agreed that the total amount of the mandatory contributions for 2012-2013 is to be maintained at US\$339 000 (being equal to the amount for the 2010-2011 biennium) taking into consideration the current global financial situation. The proposed scale of mandatory contributions for 2012-2013 was adopted by the Session.

14. Date and venue of the 28th session of APPPC

The Session agreed that the Twenty-eighth Session would be held in the Republic of Korea. The tentative date is from 23-27 September 2013.

15. Any other business

15.1 Candidate for the Chair at the next CPM meeting

The meeting proposed that the present CPM Vice-Chair from Asia be nominated to the chair of the next CPM meeting.

15.2 Adoption of the APPPC strategic plan 2012-2019

The strategic plan was adopted by the meeting

15.3 Acceptance of revised Plant Protection Agreement (1983 and 1999)

The Session called for acceptance of the revised Plant Protection Agreement (1983 and 1999) as soon as possible and deposition of the mandatory contributions (2012-2013) to the FAO trust fund account for APPPC at the beginning of year. The Session also invited non-member countries to become members of APPPC as early as possible.

16. Adoption of the report

The report was adopted.

17. Closing of the Session

The Chairperson thanked all the delegates and the organizing committee for making the meeting a success and closed the Session.

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**AMENDMENTS OF THE PLANT PROTECTION AGREEMENT
(1983 AND 1999) FOR THE ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION
AND DEVELOPMENT OF APPPC**

There is no change in the membership status of APPPC. Twenty-four countries are contracting parties to the Plant Protection Agreement for Asia and the Pacific at present. These countries include Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam.

On 28 September 2009, the Executive Secretary of APPPC sent two memorandums to the Office of Director-General of FAO through the Agriculture Department (AG) on the “APPPC Finance and Expenses 2010-2011”, the “Entry into force of APPPC 1983 amendment on financial mandatory contribution” as from 4 September 2009 and the adoption of a regional standard on SALB, which may lead the APPPC member countries to consider the adoption of 2nd set of the amendment in 1999”. The purpose was for the transmission of the Agreements by the Director-General to the contracting governments on the entry into force of the 1983 amendment as well as the potential acceptance of the 2nd set of the 1999 amendment. A series of actions were taken by the FAO Legal Office. These included preparation of a true copy of the incorporated Agreement by considering the various statuses of the member countries as well as a sample instrument of acceptance of the Agreement. The circular state letter (20/V/2010) was sent to the concerned country permanent representatives to FAO on 24 May 2010.

In 2010, Thailand deposited with the FAO Director-General an instrument of acceptance of the 1983 amendment. There was no further deposition of acceptance from any other country. Until the end of July 2011, 17 countries namely Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam deposited their instruments of acceptance of the 1983 amendment.

With the coming into force of the 1983 amendment on 4 September 2009, 14 out of 16 countries (except Indonesia and Sri Lanka) provided their mandatory contribution in 2010. Indonesia provided two-years contributions at one time in early 2011. Having deposited the instrument of acceptance, Thailand also made the mandatory contribution in 2011. 16 out of 17 countries provided mandatory contributions in 2011. There was no provision of the contribution by Sri Lanka until end of July 2011.

PLANT PROTECTION AGREEMENT FOR THE ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION¹

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Background and Parties to the Agreement

At its 23rd session (November 1955), the FAO Council approved the Plant Protection Agreement for the Asia and Pacific Region (formerly Plant Protection Agreement for the South-East Asia and Pacific Region) for submission to Governments for acceptance.

The Agreement came into force on **2 July 1956** and was registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations on 20 July 1956 under No. 1963.

The following Contracting Governments provided their definitive signature or deposited the pertinent instrument of ratification or adherence to the Agreement on the date indicated:

Contracting Government	Signature	Definitive Signature	Ratification	Adherence
Australia		27 Feb. 1956		
Bangladesh				4 Dec. 1974
Cambodia				27 Jan. 1969
China				6 Jun. 1990
Democratic People's Republic of Korea				16 Jan. 1996
Fiji				16 Dec. 1970
France				20 Aug. 1957
India		2 Jul. 1956		
Indonesia	28 Jun. 1956		21 Dec. 1967	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	25 May 1956		17 Mar. 1960	
Malaysia				20 Nov. 1957
Myanmar				4 Nov. 1959
Nepal				12 Aug. 1965
Netherlands ²	25 Jun. 1956		19 Jul. 1957	
New Zealand ³				17 Dec. 1975
Pakistan ⁴				8 Jan. 1958
Papua New Guinea				1 Jun. 1976
Philippines				11 Jun. 1962
Portugal ⁵		2 Jul. 1956		
Republic of Korea				4 Nov. 1981
Samoa				23 Dec. 1971
Solomon Islands				20 Jun. 1979
Sri Lanka		27 Feb. 1956		
Thailand				26 Nov. 1956
Tonga				5 Nov. 1981
United Kingdom	29 Mar. 1956		3 Dec. 1956	
Viet Nam		2 Jul. 1956		

In light of the notifications received by the Governments of the Netherlands, Portugal and the United Kingdom, the parties to the Agreement as of 4 August 2009 are twenty-four.

Amendments to the Agreement

The FAO Council approved amendments to the Agreement in 1967, 1979, 1983 and 1999. Some of these amendments have entered into force for all Contracting Governments while others only with respect to the Contracting Governments that have actually accepted those amendments, as it will be described below.

At its 49th session (November 1967), the FAO Council approved an amendment to extend the geographical scope of the Region. This amendment came into force with respect to all Contracting Governments on **16 August 1969**.

At its 75th session (June 1979), the FAO Council approved the deletion of the words “South East” in the title of the Agreement and the change of the name of the Commission to read “Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission” (hereafter “the Commission”). These amendments came into force with respect to all Contracting Governments on **16 February 1983**.

At its 84th session (November 1983), the FAO Council approved two sets of amendments to the Agreement related to the following issues:

1. an amendment to the definition of the Region in Article I in order to include the People’s Republic of China in the definition of the Region; and
2. the introduction of mandatory contributions in order to finance certain activities of the Commission.

The amendment to Article I of the Agreement to include the People’s Republic of China in the definition of the Region came into force with respect to all Contracting Governments on **23 May 1990**.

The second set of amendments introducing mandatory contributions entails new obligations for the Contracting Governments. Therefore, as provided for in paragraph 4 of Article IX, these amendments came into force on the thirtieth day after acceptance by two-thirds of the Contracting Governments, i.e. on **4 September 2009**, but only with respect to the Contracting Governments that have actually accepted these amendments (see the table below). These amendments remain open for acceptance by the remaining Contracting Governments. With the entry into force of the amendments referred to above, there are currently two versions of the Agreement in force for two different sets of Contracting Governments:

1. The Agreement as approved in 1955 and amended in 1967, 1979 and in 1983 (to include the People’s Republic of China in the definition of the Region) which is binding for seven Contracting Governments; and
2. The Agreement as approved in 1955 and amended in 1967, 1979 and in 1983 (to include the People’s Republic of China in the definition of the Region **and to introduce mandatory contributions**) which is binding for seventeen Contracting Governments.

At its 117th session (November 1999), the FAO Council approved another two sets of amendments to the Agreement related to the following issues:

1. amendments designed to bring the Agreement into line with the new revised text of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) and with modern requirements for plant protection, as well as amendments designed to strengthen the Commission; and
2. amendments providing for the deletion from the Agreement of measures to exclude the “South American Leaf Blight of Hevea” from the Region.

Both sets of amendments have been transmitted for acceptance to the Contracting Parties (circulation of the second set of amendments had been postponed by the FAO Council “until such time as a satisfactory regional standard on South American Leaf Blight of Hevea [had] been adopted by the Commission”. This standard

was adopted by the Commission at its 26th session, New Delhi, August-September 2009) and remain open for acceptance.

In sum, there are three sets of amendments open for acceptance by the Contracting Governments as show in the following table:

	Contracting Government	Acceptance of 1983 amendments regarding mandatory contributions	Acceptance of 1999 amendments designed to bring the Agreement into line with the IPPC and the SPS Agreement	Acceptance of 1999 amendments deleting measures to exclude “South American Leaf Blight of Hevea” from the Region
1	Australia	27 Dec. 1994		
2	Bangladesh	31 Jul. 1984		
3	Cambodia	16 Aug. 2006		
4	China	6 Jun. 1990		
5	Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	23 Nov. 2006		
6	Fiji	23 May 2006		
7	France			
8	India	19 Aug. 1986		
9	Indonesia	19 Jan. 1993		
10	Lao People’s Democratic Republic	6 Dec. 2006	6 Dec. 2006	
11	Malaysia	12 May 1994		
12	Myanmar			
13	Nepal			
14	New Zealand	16 Dec. 1997		
15	Pakistan	27 Jun. 1988		
16	Papua New Guinea			
17	Philippines	27 May 2008	11 Apr. 2005	
18	Republic of Korea	17 Apr. 1990		
19	Samoa			
20	Solomon Islands			
21	Sri Lanka	13 Feb. 1985		
22	Thailand	20 July 2010		
23	Tonga			
24	Viet Nam	31 Aug. 2006	31 Aug. 2006	

In order to facilitate as far as possible a process of acceptance of a consolidated Agreement thereby reducing the inconvenience of several legal regimes, the Contracting Governments which are considering to accept some or all of these amendments are invited to contact the FAO Legal Office.

Notes:

1. Present title valid as of 16 February 1983.
2. The Netherlands had ratified the Agreement on 19 July 1957 with respect to Netherlands New Guinea. According to a communication addressed to the Director-General on 28 December 1964, registered with the United Nations, the Netherlands considers that it has ceased to be a Party to the Agreement as of 1 October 1962, i.e. the date of the transfer of the Administration of the Territory to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority.
3. Applied to Cook Islands and Niue.
4. On 9 June 1969, Pakistan made the following declaration: *“The Government of Pakistan regards Taiwan as an integral part of the People’s Republic of China and as such, the Government of that State alone is competent to accede to the Plant Protection Agreement for the South-East Asia and Pacific Region in respect of its territory, including Taiwan.”*
5. On 13 February 2007, the Director-General received a notification of denunciation by Portugal. The denunciation became effective on 13 February 2008.
6. On 4 August 2008, the Director-General received a notification of denunciation by the United Kingdom. The denunciation became effective on 4 August 2009.

REVISED LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE APPPC 2012-2019

This strategic plan is the second that the Commission has developed. It follows much the same format as the first version with a number of updated components.

The strategic plan has the following elements:

- Position statement that provides a short introduction to the present situation for the APPPC.
- Mission statement that describes the major intent of the Commission in the plant protection area.
- Strategic directions that are the areas where the Commission intends to produce results affecting the present plant health situation in member countries.
- Goals and objectives that are the means by which the Commission achieves its results.

This plan is brief and intended to provide the basis for the practical development of the operational programme of the APPPC. It does not present information on the need for the programmes, information on the international context for the plant protection programmes of the APPPC, nor does it present the links with the programmes of the FAO. This background information is available in the Strategic Framework of the IPPC.

1. Position statement

The primary concern of the Commission on its development was the prevention of the introduction of the disease of rubber plants, South American leaf blight (SALB), into the region. This remains one of the major concerns for those members that cultivate rubber. Now the Commission has broad interests in supporting plant protection activities in the region – with a strong information exchange programme, a regional standard development programme, inputs into the international standard setting programme, inputs into the regional pesticide programmes, a leadership role in the integrated pest management programmes of the region and support for capacity development in a range of member countries.

In 1983 the Commission adopted amendments to the Plant Protection Agreement for the Asia and Pacific region allowing for mandatory financial contributions. These amendments came into force in September 2009. Financial rules and procedures were adopted at the 26th session of the Commission providing operational procedures for the collection and distribution of funds. The funds provided by members are allowing the Commission to extend its programme.

In the 1990's, the Commission hosted early meetings on the Principles of Plant Quarantine and on Risk Analysis at FAO in Bangkok leading the world in this work. After the revision of the IPPC, the Commission decided in 1997 to review and revise its founding agreement so that it was aligned with the SPS Agreement and the revised IPPC. The modified Plant Protection Agreement was adopted by the Commission session of 1999. The amendments were proposed in two parts – Part A covering nearly all of the changes to the agreement including the power to make standards and to establish sub-commissions, and Part B covering the provision for the South American leaf blight (SALB). The acceptance of Part B depended on the Commission preparing a standard on SALB. A pest risk analysis was developed and adopted in 2007 then used as the basis for the SALB standard. The SALB standard was adopted at the 26th session of the Commission in 2009.

In 2000 the APPPC held its first regional workshop to consider draft ISPMs – the first region to hold such a meeting. Regional workshops on draft ISPMs have been held by the APPPC each year since then with other regions following the APPPC example.

Commission members have taken advantage of the facility within the revised agreement to develop and adopt regional standards. The Commission established an APPPC Regional Standards Committee. Six regional standards have been developed and adopted.

Other activities include establishment of Standing Committees on IPM, Pesticides and Quarantine that meet regularly in the Commission Sessions and support the member countries in reviewing and promoting activities in these areas.

The successful implementation of IPMs in rice, cotton and vegetables in recent years is a positive example of the achievements of the APPPC member countries. The Commission is supporting sustainable and environmentally friendly good agricultural practices with the IPM Programmes in the member countries through a programme of Farmer Education following the Farmer Field School approach.

APPPC has worked for the harmonization of pesticides regulations in the region and has especially supported the implementation of International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides and the Convention of Prior Informed Consent. The apparent disparity existing in capacity to assess pesticides for proper regulation among the APPPC member countries and the enforcement of effective control actions shows the need for the promotion of harmonization schemes among different member countries.

An APPPC information exchange network is developed through the establishment of APPPC website within IPP. To build the capacity of the member countries in areas of quarantine, pesticide management and IPM, training workshops and programmes have been supported by APPPC.

The increased funding available to the Commission from the mandatory contributions has allowed the Commission to hold a pest incursion workshop and also develop a supporting standard for the SALB programme. Further work in the implementation of standards is planned.

2. Mission statement

To support the common purpose to secure effective action in preventing the introduction and spread of pests of plants and plant products to:

- protect plant, human and animal health and the environment
- facilitate trade
- protect the sustainability of agriculture
- for the Asia and Pacific region

This is accomplished by providing a regional forum for cooperation and promoting of the full implementation of the Plant Protection Agreement for the Asia and Pacific region through the following core functions:

- the development of measures for plant protection including the promotion of IPM and the Code of Conduct Distribution Use of Pesticides
- the development of information management systems
- capacity development including the coordination and training of staff
- input into international systems including assistance with the development of international standards for phytosanitary measures
- the development of administration systems.

3. Strategic directions

The Commission has decided to follow the general planning system of FAO and the IPPC. The strategic directions below are intended as the aims which are supported by the goals under each direction.

- protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread;
- protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests;
- create economic and trade development opportunities through the promotion of harmonized international standards for plant health; and
- develop phytosanitary capacity for members to accomplish 1, 2 and 3.

3.1 Strategic direction No. 1: Protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread

This will include programmes for:

- NPPOs to detect and report pests by means of improved inspection, monitoring, surveillance, diagnosis and pest reporting systems
- the development of comprehensive guidance for the operation of pest response planning with the application of new technology where possible
- the promotion and implementation of IPM
- the promotion of the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct on the Use and Distribution of Pesticides.

3.2 Strategic direction No. 2: Protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests

This strategic direction covers the development of systems to:

- develop information sources to provide information on environmental pests and their distribution
- support NPPOs in the development of cooperative links with the environmental and forestry sectors in their countries
- develop and adopt RSPMs that reduce the spread of environmental pests – by used machinery, waste material, imported grain etc.

3.3 Strategic direction No. 3: Create economic and trade development opportunities through the promotion of harmonised international standards for plant health

The APPPC will make inputs into this strategic direction by means of:

- the development and adoption of commodity based RSPMs for some major commodities
- the implementation of the new ISPMs on phytosanitary certification and others
- the support to the development of ISPMs by holding regional working meetings on draft ISPMs
- the development of further SALB standards as necessary
- The development of further RSPMs
 - The development of a fumigation standard based on the Australian fumigation system
 - The development of a standard on irradiation to support ISPM No. 18

3.4 Strategic direction No. 4: Develop phytosanitary capacity for members

The APPPC will support capacity development by:

- the APPPC Secretariat working with FAO provides countries with guidance on the programmes that will help to develop phytosanitary capacity
- the APPPC Standing Committee on plant working with the IPPC Secretariat to fully apply the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS)
- Developing country APPPC members identifying their needs and being helped with capacity development programmes by using a phytosanitary capacity evaluation tool with assistance from the APPPC Secretariat

3.5 Functional objectives

To operate the APPPC so as to implement its strategic directions, the APPPC requires administration systems for:

- the implementation of the agreement including
 - Identification and mobilization of financial resources for the Commission’s activities
 - Efficient management of resources
 - Coordination of information exchange
 - Development of an appropriate secretariat capability
- the development of relevant bilateral or multilateral arrangements associated with the Agreement
- the coordination of the sub-commissions on regional issues
- the resolution/settlement of technical issues between members

4. Goals and objectives

Goals and objectives and time tables suggested

Table 1. Strategic direction No. 1: Protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread

		2012-2015	2016-2019
Protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread			
1.1	NPPOs to detect and report pests by means of improved inspection, monitoring, surveillance, diagnosis and pest reporting systems		
	1.1.1 Surveillance conference and training workshop	X	
	1.1.2 SALB Diagnostic workshop	X	
	1.1.3 The publication and training to prevent to introduction of SALB	X	
1.2	The development of comprehensive guidance for the operation of pest response planning with the application of new technology where possible		
	1.2.1 Adopt the SALB contingency plan	X	
	1.2.2 Guidelines for a response plan	X	
1.3	Promotion and Implementation of IPM		
	1.3.1 Expert consultation on nominated pests	X	
	1.3.2 Technical assistance for IPM Farmer Field Schools and biocontrol	X	X
	1.3.3 Promote and support the development of IPM, GAP, food safety programmes	X	X
1.4	Pesticide related subjects		
	1.4.1 The promotion of the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct on the Use and Distribution of Pesticides	X	
	1.4.2 Workshop on pesticide management	X	
	1.4.3 Removal of highly hazardous pesticides		X
	1.4.4 Labeling of pesticides needs to be harmonized	X	
	1.4.5 Sharing of resources for evaluation procedures of pesticides	X	X
1.5	Guidance for import of plant material – to supplement ISPM on plants for planting	X	

Table 2. Strategic direction No. 2: Protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests

		2012-2015	2016-2019
Protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests			
2.1	Develop information sources to provide information on environmental pests and their distribution		X
2.2	Support NPPOs in the development of cooperative links with the environmental and forestry sectors in their countries	X	X
	2.2.1 Production of awareness documents	X	X
2.3	Develop and adopt RSPMs that reduce the spread of environmental pests – by used machinery, waste material, imported grain etc.	X	
2.4	Consider developing information on aquatic pest problems		X

Table 3. Strategic direction No. 3: Create economic and trade development opportunities through the promotion of harmonized international standards for plant health

		2012-2015	2016-2019
Create economic and trade development opportunities through the promotion of harmonized international standards for plant health			
3.1	The development and adoption of commodity based RSPMs for some major commodities where applicable	X	X
3.2	The implementation of ISPMs		
	3.2.1 Continuation of work on ISPM No. 15	X	
	3.2.2 Initiation of work on systems approach	X	
	3.2.3 Initiation of work on sampling systems	X	X
	3.2.4 Consideration of work on ISPM No. 7 and No. 12	X	
3.3	The support to the development of ISPMs by holding regional working meetings on draft ISPMs	X	X
3.4	The development of further SALB technical guidelines or standards as necessary	X	
3.5	The development of further RSPMs		
	3.5.1 The development of a fumigation standard based on the Australian fumigation system	X	
	3.5.2 The development of a standard on irradiation to support ISPM No. 18	X	XX

Table 4. Strategic direction No. 4: Develop phytosanitary capacity for members

		2012-2015	2016-2019
Develop phytosanitary capacity for members			
4.1	The Secretariat working with FAO provides countries with guidance on the programmes that will help to build phytosanitary capacity		
	4.1.1 Development of TCPs with FAO	X	X
4.2	The Standing Committee on plant quarantine works with the IPPC Secretariat to fully apply the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS)	X	X
4.3	Members identify their needs and are assisted in capacity development programmes by using a phytosanitary capacity evaluation tool with assistance from the Secretariat	X	

Table 5. Functional objectives

		2012-2015	2016-2019
To operate the APPPC so as to implement its strategic directions the APPPC requires administration systems			
5.1.	The implementation of the agreement	X	
	5.1.1 Acceptance of amended agreements	X	X
	5.1.2 The development of relevant bilateral or multilateral arrangements associated with the Agreement		✗
	5.1.3 The coordination of the sub-commissions on regional issues		✗
	5.1.4 The resolution/settlement of technical issues between members		
5.2	Identification and mobilization of financial resources for the Commission's activities	X	X
5.3	The coordination of information exchange	X	X
5.4	Appropriate expansion of Secretariat (staffing)	X	X
5.5	Seeking of additional members	X	X

REPORT ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Reporting and exchanging specified technical and official information is an integral part of the effective implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). Information exchange is also one of important areas of APPPC. The work plan adopted by the 26th session stressed that if possible, the Commission should consider the development of a system for the collection and dissemination of plant protection information within the region. This included APPPC website development. The information management programme could continue with the development and maintenance of plant protection profiles. This could be linked to the questionnaires related to IPPC's Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS). The profiles could be revised and published every two years.

1. Preparation and publication of the 3rd edition of plant protection profiles

The 1st edition of plant protection profiles from Asia-Pacific countries which included standard formats for essential information describing the organization and state of development of the different plant protection functions in APPPC member countries was published in 2007 with valuable contributions from member countries. It was expected that organized and structured information exchange in the form of country profiles would help member countries in formulating policies, recognize new challenges or gaps in the execution of plant protection functions, and promote transparency and harmonization of procedures. In addition the profiles would be complementary to the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP). Updating the profiles with information on new developments during 2007-2008 was an important event for APPPC, ensuring sustainable continuation of such initiative in future. All APPPC members were asked to update their profile and submitted it in early 2009.

The 3rd edition of plant protection profiles from APPPC member countries and Japan has been produced and distributed to all member countries before this Session. The formatted tables are designed to reflect updated developments of plant protection in APPPC member countries. The table of information on implementation of ISPMs is intended to be in line with the basic context of IPPC's IRSS to some extent. The 3rd edition of the profiles also includes compilation, documentation and presentation of 'Best Practices' of IPM and Pesticide Risk Reduction for APPPC member countries. The table of information of pesticide management is also intended to complement the FAO global survey of implementation of the international code of conduct on the distribution and use of pesticides. The information feedback from countries has been analyzed to some extent.

2. Development of APPPC website

Exchange of information about plant protection including plant quarantine, surveillance/pest outbreaks, pest management as well as pesticide management has played an integral part of Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPCC)'s activities. The advent of the internet gives rise to opportunities for the APPCC and non-APPCC members in Asia and the Pacific to use a website as an additional platform to exchange their plant protection information more efficiently. In addition, during the CPM-6, under Agenda 10.1 on general reporting under the IPPC, it was recommended that:

- RPPOs actively encourage members to improve on meeting their reporting obligations.
- RPPOs develop mechanisms whereby countries that wish to report through RPPOs can do so within the framework established by the Secretariat.
- RPPOs develop electronic systems to undertake such reporting on behalf of countries that are compliant with the IPP and allow the automation of the process.
- RPPOs provide feedback to the Secretariat on ways to improve the IPP so that member countries could enhance their reporting to the IPPC.

The development of APPPC website with cross-links to the IPP is very urgent and important for promotion of information exchange through such official platforms.

In collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), a new website (www.apppc.org) of APPPC has now been developed. To make it user-friendly, the initial overall structure of the APPPC website has been mainly based on the contents of the Commission's publication on plant protection profiles from Asia-Pacific countries as an entry-point. Following the launch of the website, it is expected to get feedback from the member countries for their ideas about how to improve the website so that it meets more effectively with the member countries' needs. The training workshop on capacity building in use of IPP and APPPC website in July 2011 provided such an opportunity. The APPPC website was launched in July 2011 and tested by the participants who attended the training workshop.

Apart from complementing the role of IPPC's website on the exchange of the plant quarantine information under their contracting parties' seven basic reporting obligations, the APPPC website serves as a platform to exchange plant protection information, including plant quarantine, integrated pest management (IPM) as well as pesticide management. The APPPC website also facilitates sharing the plant protection information of Asia and the Pacific with other plant protection organizations in other regions of the world. To avoid duplication of the obligated information to be uploaded into the IPP under IPPC, automatic cross-linking between the APPPC website and the IPP has been established in this specific area. It is suggested that APPPC members regularly update their country information on the APPPC website, which includes new developments in plant protection including changes of regulations, legislation, policies, organizational change, implementation of ISPMs/RSPMs, pest outbreaks and control, list of regulated pests, registered and/or prohibited pesticides, ecological approach, training activities, projects, publications, etc. in addition to the obligated report. It is also encouraged that each member country may establish an internal mechanism of information collection, verification, dissemination and uploading. It is essential to share relevant information among the member countries in the region. Based on practice and findings, suggestions for further improvements of the website are welcomed.

3. Training workshop on capacity building in use of IPP and APPPC website

The International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) established by the Commission of Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) acts as a forum for information exchange. IPPC's parties and its Secretariat use the portal to meet the reporting obligations by uploading documents or providing links to outside Web pages. The IPPC identifies certain types of information which the contracting parties are required to report to other parties, the IPPC Secretariat and/or RPPOs.

However the use of IPP by APPPC member countries is rather limited, mainly due to lack of capacity. The statistics of using IPP by the region indicated low figures in terms of description of NPPOs, updated official contacts, pest reporting, legislation, entry points, list of regulated pests, etc.

In order to enhance the capacity in using the IPP and the APPPC website to meet their obligations under the IPPC, a training workshop was held from 4-9 July 2011 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with the participation of NPPO official contacts and country editors from 16 countries in Asia by collaboration with the IPPC Secretariat and Malaysian Department of Agriculture. The workshop was co-funded by FAO and the GCP/RAS/226/JPN Project.

The training workshop enabled the official contact points and the country editors who were familiar with the structure of the IPP and the APPPC website, to improve their skills on how to upload their country information into the websites, and how to update the existing information. As a result, the participants entered and updated a large number of references and information in fulfillment of the reporting obligations under the IPPC. They also uploaded relevant information, references and web links into the APPPC website. Meanwhile, the workshop also provided an opportunity for the participants to test the websites and discuss on further necessary improvement. The summary statistics of the IPP on 3 August 2011 reflected significant changes of APPPC member countries in fulfillment of their reporting obligations.

I. The percentage of contracting parties countries per region with reporting information

Particulars	Asia	South West Pacific
Description of the NPPO	43	38
Entry points	43	61
List of regulated pests	34	30
Phytosanitary restrictions	43	30
Non-compliance	4	7
Emergency actions	4	15
Pest report	21	46
Organizational (NPPO information)	8	15
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In addition, recommendations on the categorization of the APPPC databases and the establishment of APPPC Working Group on Information Exchange were made by the Working Group Meeting on Planning, which was held in April 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand. The related details will be given and discussed under Agenda Items 7.2 and 7.3 respectively.

The information exchange programme requires the appointment of a full or part time project staff or a National Programme Officer. The officer would not only promote information exchange among APPPC members but also provide assistance to the Executive Secretary in carrying out his duties and responsibilities in relation to the achievement of APPPC objectives. Such an appointment has been discussed before and is noted in:

- the report of the 13th session which suggests the funds may be used for additional staff,
- the strategic plan adopted by the 25th session, and
- the report of the Working Group Meeting on the Procedures for Finance, Administration and Planning for the APPPC (2008), in which it is noted that some trust funds could be used for a project staff person.

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ISBN 978-92-5-107118-2



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I2548E/1/12.11