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ADDENDUM TO THE OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

from : Working Party of Chief Plant Health Officers (COPHS)
dated : 12-13 June 2008

Subject : Arrangements for EC coordination procedures in the context of the International
Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Further to the above Working Party, delegations will find hereto the consolidated version of the said arrangements, as agreed by the Chief Plant Health Officers.

RULES OF PROCEDURE
FOR AGREEING EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC) NOMINATIONS FOR
INTERNATIONAL POSITIONS IN THE FIELD OF PLANT HEALTH AND
FORMULATING COMMON POSITIONS OF THE EC AND ITS MEMBER STATES
IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION
CONVENTION (IPPC)

I. Introduction

1. International plant health matters may be discussed by either or both of two Council preparatory bodies: the Working Party of Chief Plant Health Officers (hereinafter referred to as the “COPHS Working Party”) and the Working Party on Plant Health.¹
2. In the framework of the accession of the EC to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)², the following documents are of particular relevance:
 - a) **Declaration by the European Community on the exercise of competence according to Article XVII, paragraph 3 of the International Plant Protection Convention³:**
“In accordance with the provisions of Article II(7) of the FAO Constitution, the European Community hereby declares that its declaration of competence submitted to FAO under Article II(5) of the FAO Constitution still applies in the light of its adherence to the International Plant Protection Convention.”
 - b) **Statement for the Council minutes: Arrangements between the Council and the Commission regarding the preparation, the statements and the voting in the IPPC meetings⁴:**
“The Council and the Commission, noting that the Community will accede to the IPPC as a Member of FAO in accordance to article II of the FAO Constitution, agreed that the preparation, the statements and the voting in the IPPC meetings need to be effected in accordance with the arrangements concerning the preparation, the statements and the voting in FAO meetings (set out in documents 10478/91, 9050/92 and 8460/95) as supplemented by the specific arrangements already applying in the phytosanitary sector (set out in documents 11119/02 Annex IV and 5109/01 (Annex)) and without prejudice to further specific arrangements which may be agreed in the future.”

¹ The list of Council preparatory bodies: document 5525/08 of 21 January 2008 (See Appendix 1); the former name of COPHS is WP of Chief Officers of Plant Health Services.

² Council Decision 2004/597/EC of 19 July 2004, OJ L 267/53 p. 39-53(See Appendix 2).

³ Annex II to Council Decision 2004/597/EC.

⁴ Statement for the Minutes of the Council of 2 July 2004, doc. 10186/04 ADD 1.

3. The procedures for agreeing EC nominations for international positions in the field of plant health, as set out in the document 11119/02 Annex IV, have been twice revised and updated by the COPHS Working Party, most recently on 8 December 2006.¹
4. The COPHS Working Party on 12 May 2004 considered the scheme used for discussing issues regarding the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (ICPM) with a view to formulating common positions of the European Community and its Member States in the framework of ICPM, as set out in the Annex to document 5109/01 (referred to in point 1.b and Chapter III of this document) and setting out a specific arrangement already applying in the phytosanitary sector.²
5. In accordance with the recommendation of the COPHS Working Party of 12 May 2004³ the system of arrangements should be reviewed after the period of 2 years in the light of experience. According to the statement in the Council minutes referred to above in point 2 (b), further specific arrangements regarding the preparation, the statements and the voting in the IPPC meetings may be agreed in the future.
6. After the entry into force of the 1997 IPPC revised text in October 2005, the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (ICPM) became the present Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). Also as result of a modification of the Council's Rules of Procedure, a new system based on an 18-month programme, to be submitted for endorsement to the Council by the three Presidencies due to hold office during that given period, was introduced and replaced the previous system.⁴

¹ Specific arrangement already applying in the phytosanitary sector; most recent version set out in Annex IV, document 16689/06 of 19 December 2006.

² Document 9793/04 of 1 June 2004.

³ Document 9793/04 of 1 June 2004.

⁴ Article 2(4) of the Council Rules of Procedure, Council decision 2006/683/EC of 15 September 2006 (OJ L 285/47).

7. It is essential for Member States and the Commission to continue cooperating closely in order to enable an efficient use of resources by updating the presently applicable rules of procedure governing the nominations for international positions in the field of plant health as well as the formulation of Common positions of the EC and its Member States in the framework of the IPPC, as set out in Chapters II and III of this document. It also seems appropriate that the formulations of the common positions include a check list of items which are relevant for the coordination for the purpose of preparing sessions of the CPM, and the response to various calls from the IPPC Secretariat to National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) is set out in Chapter IV of this document.

II. Specific arrangements in the phytosanitary sector regarding procedure for agreeing EC nominations for international positions

BACKGROUND

A transparent and effective procedure is needed to identify EC plant health experts to take on roles in international organizations, especially in the IPPC, including activities as officers of the CPM and members of subsidiary bodies of the CPM or other groups of a strategic nature (Bureau and other groups often called the 'Focus groups' by CPM), especially those in which geographical representation is provided for, as shown in the procedure described below.¹

PROCEDURE FOR AGREEING NOMINATIONS

1. An ad hoc group ("Trio") comprising the three Presidencies of the Council's 18-month programme² within the COPHS Working Party should assist the Presidency at all stages of the procedure.
2. The Presidency should ensure that it is kept informed of all relevant CPM posts for which nominations are invited, and should seek information from the EPPO³ and/or IPPC secretariats, where appropriate, on required qualifications and the likelihood of an EC nomination being acceptable.

¹ This procedure will not apply to the participation of EC experts in technical working groups and technical panels. It is noted that the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO, see also point III below) provides for an appropriate procedure for the nomination of experts for working groups and technical panels of IPPC.

² The first 18-month Council programme has been established for the period starting in January 2007.

³ See point III.2 below.

3. In consultation with the “Trio” group the Presidency should invite Member States and the Commission to propose nominations for the post or posts, setting a suitable deadline for responses. The Presidency should provide as much information as possible on the responsibilities of the post, the skills required and the likely demands on the appointed expert's time and implications for financial resources, drawing on information from the IPPC and EPPO secretariats and other European experts with past experience of such posts.
4. Where necessary the “Trio” group may themselves identify suitable candidates and encourage their Member State and/or the Commission to consider nominating them.
5. Nominations should be submitted to the Council secretariat by the appropriate official service of a Member State or the Commission respectively with a curriculum vitae, a statement from the nominee concerning the way they would intend to fulfil the role, a commitment from the official service concerned on provision of time and resources for the nominee's participation and on serving for a determined term. Nominations are copied to members of the “Trio” group.
6. Once the deadline has passed, the Presidency consults with the “Trio” group to identify whether any further action needs to be taken to ensure that a suitable nomination can be made. Nominees should be informally advised of the other nominations, and any other soundings received, so that they can consider withdrawing at that stage if they or their services wish to do this.
7. Where two or more candidates remain in contention for the same post the Presidency should write to all Member States and the Commission asking for their views on the nominations received and enclosing the *curricula vitae* and statements. Views, which may or may not indicate a clear position on individual candidates, should be returned by each Member State and the Commission to the Council Secretariat and should be treated as confidential.

8. The Council Secretariat should report the outcome of this confidential consultation to the “Trio” group, including any information that may be helpful, other than the views of individual Member States and the Commission.
9. The “Trio” group should report the outcome of the consultation to the COPHS Working Party or the Working Party on Plant Health who should strive to reach a consensus on the candidate with the broadest support. If this is achieved the candidate should be informed.
10. As far as nominations in respect of the IPPC activities are concerned, the nomination should be made by the nominee’s Member State or the Commission to the EPPO. The candidate will be considered by the EPPO Executive Committee and the EPPO Council alongside with candidates from other countries in FAO region “Europe”. Once the nomination has been agreed by the EPPO Council, this fact will be notified by the EPPO Secretariat to the IPPC Secretariat and the Chair of the European Group of FAO.
11. The internal EC procedures described in the paragraphs above may be applied, where appropriate, to other positions in international organisations competent in the phytosanitary field.

III. Specific arrangements in the phytosanitary sector regarding formulation of common positions of the European Community and its Member States in the framework of the IPPC

BACKGROUND

Close co-operation between the European Commission and the Member States has proved essential for the proper preparation of issues to be discussed and approved at the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). In particular such close co-operation is required on:

- draft Specifications for International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and draft ISPMs under the regular or the special standard setting process, including diagnostic protocols or phytosanitary treatments;

- matters of a strategic nature that may be discussed by IPPC subsidiary bodies or any other expert working groups (EWGs) (e.g. normal EWGs, Open Ended EWGs or focus groups.).

PROCEDURES FOR AGREEING COMMON POSITIONS

Decision-making mechanism

1. **The competence.** Most subject matters hitherto discussed in respect of the IPPC have been identified as being of shared competence, thus containing elements both of national and of Community competence.¹
2. **FAO Arrangements.** The following documents relating to preparation of the FAO meetings apply in the context of the IPPC:
 - a) Arrangement between the Council and the Commission regarding preparation for FAO meetings, statements and voting applies in respect of IPPC matters (“the FAO Arrangement”),²
 - b) Application of the Council and Commission Arrangement, in particular regarding approval of reports of FAO meetings³,
 - c) Provisions regarding a line of conduct on speaking and voting rights, as well as an accelerated written procedure for consulting delegations⁴,
(hereinafter collectively the “FAO Arrangements”).

¹ This is, however, without prejudice to an ad hoc examination of each matter in line with the FAO Arrangements.
² Document 10478/91, Annex I, of 17 December 1991 (See Appendix 3).
³ Document 9050/92, Annex, of 7 October 1992 (See Appendix 4).
⁴ Document 8460/95, Annex, of 26 June 1995 (See Appendix 5).

3. **Common position.** The EC and its Member States will strive to achieve a common position on relevant CPM items. Subsequently, the statement in respect of such a common position is made either by the Commission where the thrust of the issue lies in an area within the exclusive competence of the Community or by the Presidency, where the thrust of the issue lies in an area outside the exclusive competence of the Community.¹ If the subsequent statement is made in writing, it is sent – in accordance with the rules recalled in this paragraph - either by the Commission via its IPPC contact point, or via the Council Secretariat on behalf of the Presidency.
4. **Initiation of procedure.** The Commission sends the relevant CPM meeting agenda to the Council Secretariat for circulation to the Member States together with the indication of the agenda items on which it is intended that a statement is to be made and whether this statement will be made on behalf of the EC or its Member States. In the case of a vote in the CPM, the Commission indicates who should vote.²

Role of the Commission EWG

5. **The membership.** At the Commission level a Commission expert working group “Preparation of the (FAO) Commission on Phytosanitary Measures” (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission EWG”) consisting of the representatives of the Commission and of the Member States should examine the CPM documents and/or prepare issues to be discussed at the CPM. Continuity in the membership of the Commission EWG is desirable. The current and, if appropriate, the incoming Presidency, should endeavour to attend the Commission EWG.
6. **The composition/meeting dates/agenda.** The EU Member States should be consulted and informed on the composition, meeting dates and agenda of the Commission EWG by the Commission. The Member States are encouraged to send individual experts in addition to the normal membership if a topic to be discussed is of a particular interest to the Member State concerned or where specific expertise is available.

¹ Point 2.3 of the FAO Arrangement.

² Point 1.2 of the FAO Arrangement.

7. **International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM).** Based on the discussion in the Commission EWG a document constituting a suggestion for a common position of the European Community and its Member States on draft ISPMs that have been submitted to the IPPC Contracting Parties in the country consultation process will be transmitted to the Council by the Commission according to the provisions of the FAO Arrangements. The position normally includes general comments as well as specific comments on particular text items, including concise proposals for text changes and the rationale therefore.
8. **Other documents (e.g. CPM questionnaires).** The Commission EWG should also examine such documents and prepare a document including, where necessary, a suggestion for a common position of the European Community and its Member States. A procedure similar to that outlined for draft ISPMs should be followed.
9. **Preparation of other CPM issues.** The Commission EWG should also prepare suggestions for common positions on all other issues where required through the relevant CPM document. Alternative ‘fall-back’ positions may be defined, e.g. in cases where reactions from other FAO regions or Contracting Parties are envisaged. The Commission EWG should further endeavour to draw up proposals for statements reflecting the common position(s) and to be presented orally or in writing to the CPM.
10. **Emerging issues.** Given that the Commission EWG is often the first to become aware of emerging issues, the Commission should, where appropriate, inform the Presidency of, and discuss with it, the need to develop a common policy on such issues.

Discussion of documents at the Council level in preparation for or in between CPM meetings

For all documents produced by the Commission EWG, the following procedure should apply, whenever possible.

11. **Distribution of documents.** The Council Secretariat should send the documents to the Member States for comments within a reasonable period of time taking into account the calendar of the CPM. In order to speed up the process the documents should be sent to the Member States by e-mail.
12. **Comments.** The Member States when commenting to the Council should separate editorial comments from technical and substantive comments. The rationale for the proposed modification should be specified. If there are no comments, or only editorial comments, the formal adoption procedure will start.
13. **Substantive comments.** If there are substantive comments the draft position should be discussed by the Council Working Party.
14. **Consultation.** The Commission, in consultation with the Commission EWG (such consultation is normally carried out by e-mail), may consider these remarks before the meeting of the competent Council Working Party and, if needed, draft a revised common position for the meeting. In all cases, the revised texts are to be sent for further consideration by the Council Working Party on Plant Health.
15. **Written procedure.** Where suggestions for common positions drawn up by the Commission EWG have not elicited substantive comments from the Member States, the consultation procedure may be conducted in writing in order to give formal approval to the documents at Council level.

16. **Role of the Presidency.** The Presidency takes the steps necessary to advance work between meetings taking into account the CPM agenda and availability of CPM documents. It can, for example, with the agreement of the Council working party, undertake in the most efficient way necessary consultations on specific problems with a view to reporting possible solutions back to the working party concerned. This may include written consultations - requesting delegations to respond in writing (by e-mail) to a proposal in advance of the next meeting of the working party.¹
17. **Discussions at Council level during a CPM meeting.** Adjustments to common positions decided at previous preparatory meetings, as well as additional positions required in response to current CPM negotiations, may be decided at coordination meetings arranged ‘on-the-spot’.

The Presidency or the Commission, respectively, when expressing the common position may adjust or add to previously agreed statements as appropriate to support an agreed position in the most appropriate manner or to respond to the questions raised by other delegations. Member States may speak to support and/or to add to the statements presented by the Presidency or the Commission, respectively, in the CPM plenary or in *ad-hoc* working groups set up during the CPM.

It is important that appropriate representatives from all Member States take part in the CPM to ensure full representation and expertise. Continuity throughout the process is desirable.

Relationship with the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO)

18. **The EPPO.** The EPPO is an intergovernmental organization responsible for European cooperation in plant health. In the context of the IPPC, the EPPO is the regional plant protection organization (RPPO) for Europe.

¹ Point 2 of Annex V to the Council Rules of Procedure (Council decision 2006/683/EC (See Appendix 6)).

19. **EPPO bodies.** In light of increased communication and best use of resources the European Commission and the Member States should be actively involved in the work of EPPO bodies relevant for CPM preparatory work (especially the EPPO Panel of the CPM Affairs ¹ and the Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations).
20. **Co-operation with EPPO.** Co-operation with EPPO is necessary in the case of technical matters and nominations since by an agreement among EPPO member countries, the IPPC Secretariat and the FAO European Region, all nominations for CPM bodies at all levels are to be coordinated and managed by the EPPO.
21. **EPPO CPM Panel.** Membership of the EPPO CPM Affairs Panel (hereinafter referred to as the “EPPO CPM Panel”) is agreed by the EPPO Council. ² The current and, if appropriate, incoming EU Presidency should attend the EPPO CPM Panel’s meetings as an observer. The EPPO CPM Panel mainly reviews CPM technical documents or issues in order to prepare a document to help EPPO member countries to draw up their own comments or positions.
22. **EPPO CPM Panel members from EC.** When taking negotiating positions in the EPPO CPM Panel the members from EC states should be aware of the relevant EC policy on the topic concerned.
23. **Relation with the Commission EWG.** Due to the fact the EC Member States are well represented in the EPPO CPM Panel, the Commission together with the Commission EWG members of the EPPO CPM Panel may decide, where appropriate, that these groups may be held jointly (e.g. if topics are technical and not very controversial).

¹ The EPPO CPM Panel is one of several technical bodies of the EPPO, appointed with defined terms of reference to report, with comments and recommendations, to the Executive Committee and the Council. EPPO bodies include Working Parties, permanent Panels, ad hoc Panels, and any other bodies set up under Article XIII of the EPPO Convention which could be involved in certain EC procedures (See Article 20 of the Rules of procedures of the EPPO; appendix 7).

² The EPPO [I]CPM Panel meets at least twice a year generally before the meeting of the [Interim] Standard Committee.] since 1995. The EPPO CPM Panel normally meets in April of each year in order to provide guidance to Standard Committee (SC) members of the EPPO countries as regards the most relevant topics of the meeting of the SC to be usually held in May of each year (in particular in respect of the assessment of the suitability of draft ISPMs for country consultation). In September of each year the EPPO CPM Panel meets during the country consultation period on draft ISPMs in order to prepare suggestions for the positions of the EPPO countries on draft ISPMs. The third meeting is connected to a joint EPPO and North American Plant Protection Organisation in January, after the draft ISPMs have been made available by the IPPC Secretariat for adoption at CPM in March/April in order to prepare the suggested position on all relevant technical CPM matters including in particular the draft ISPMs.

24. **Other EPPO bodies.** Member states should reflect EU priorities in the Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations¹ and the EPPO Council².
25. **Outcome of the EPPO work.** The EPPO documents or the EPPO work are taken into account by the Commission EWG and/or the Council Working Party on Plant Health during their discussions, where appropriate. To avoid duplication, it is suggested that the Commission EWG takes note of any relevant EPPO documents, in particular the EPPO comments on draft ISPMs, during its discussions.

IV. Check list of items which are relevant for EC coordination procedures

Items which are relevant for coordination of responses to different calls from the IPPC Secretariat to NPPOs are listed below. The EC and its Member States will strive to achieve a common position on relevant CPM items by the stated deadline, to be submitted preferably in electronic format via e-mail to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org).

1. Preparation for the session of the CPM.

The CPM meets annually in Rome, normally in late March or early April. In the period January – March, coordination of EC positions and preparation of statements relating to various CPM Agenda items is usually needed, in particular with regard to the CPM strategic goals as follows:

- An international standard setting and implementation programme
- Information exchange systems appropriate to meet IPPC obligations
- Effective dispute settlement systems
- Improved phytosanitary capacity of members
- Sustainable implementation of the IPPC

¹ EPPO's technical activities in the plant health field are directed by the Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations (WPPR), which meets once a year (in June). The WPPR draws up its programme, subject to the approval of the EPPO Executive Committee and the EPPO Council. The WPPR assigns specific tasks to Panels which prepare detailed draft recommendations for the WPPR. The Panels are composed of specialists from Member Countries nominated as individuals by their NPPOs and membership is adopted by the EPPO Executive Committee. The European Commission representative participates as an observer at the WPPR.

² EPPO is administered by its Executive Committee (seven Governments elected on a rotational basis, meeting twice a year), under the control of its Council (representatives of all member governments, meeting once a year) headed by a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, elected as individuals.

- International promotion of the IPPC and cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations
- Review of the status of plant protection in the world

2. Coordination of EC Country consultation on draft ISPMs under the regular standard setting process.

At the end of the 100-day country consultation period - June through September - coordination of EC comments to draft ISPMs is needed. The Commission submits common comments to the IPPC Secretariat on behalf of all MS.

Following the revision of all country comments by the respective IPPC stewards and the Standards Committee (SC) in November, revised draft ISPMs as agreed by the SC are sent for a second country consultation. Again, coordination of EC comments to these revised drafts is needed. If revised drafts have been sent with a view to adoption by the CPM already in the spring of the following year, the deadline for Contracting Parties' comments is two weeks prior to that CPM.

3. Other coordination of EC Country consultation:

- on draft ISPMs under the special standard setting process;
- on diagnostic protocols under the special standard setting process - annex to ISPM No. 27 (*Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests*);
- on Phytosanitary treatments - annex to ISPM No.28 (*Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*);
- on draft Specifications for ISPMs.¹

¹ A specification outlines the content and scope and provide experts drafting the ISPM with directions on what to consider when building the standard.

4. Common response on Call for Topics for the IPPC standard setting work programme:

- new topics for ISPMs;
- new additions to existing ISPMs, such as supplements, annexes or appendices;
- revision of adopted ISPMs, supplements, annexes, appendices or glossary terms;
- amendment to adopted ISPMs, supplements, annexes or appendices;
- new topics for diagnostic protocols;
- new topic areas for phytosanitary treatments, for which specific treatment information and data will be called for at a later date.

5. Common response to questionnaires requiring a common position to be achieved.

Appendix 1: The updated list of Council preparatory bodies as provided for in Article 19(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and the rules governing the list of Council preparatory bodies (5525/08 POLGEN 7)

Appendix 2: 2004/597/EC. Council decision of 19 July 2004 approving the accession of the European Community to the International Plant Protection Convention, as revised and approved by Resolution 12/97 of the 29th Session of the FAO Conference in November 1997; 14.8.2004 Official Journal of the European Union L 267/39

Appendix 3: Document 10478/91: Accession of the Community to the FAO – Arrangement between the Council and the Commission regarding preparation for FAO meetings, statements and voting.- “A” item note from Permanent Representatives Committee to Council, 18 December 1991 (10478/91 AGRI 104 RELEX 73)

Appendix 4: Document 9050/92: Application of the council and the Commission arrangement of 19 December 1991 concerning the preparation of FAO meetings (Document 10478/91) and voting rights on the approval of reports at FAO meetings) (9050/92 RELEX 53)

Appendix 5: Document 8460/95: Dispositions pour la préparation de reunion de l'O.A.A. dans le cadre du Groupe "Produits de base".- "I" note point du Groupe "Produits de base" au Comité des Représentants permanents (1ère partie), 26 Juin 1995 (8460/95 AGRI 70 PROBA 27)

Appendix 6: Council decision 2006/683/EC of 15 September 2006 adopting the Council's Rules of Procedure (2006/683/EC, Euratom) 16.10.2006 EN Official Journal of the European Union L 285/47

Appendix 7: Rules of Procedure of The European And Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (as originally approved by the Council at its 1952 session and incorporating all subsequent amendments up to 2002-09)

**Appendix 8: List of items which are relevant for coordination of responses to different calls from the
IPPC Secretariat to NPPOs¹**

IPPC Calls	Vote ²	View point	Form of comments ³	Call - Deadline	IPPC body addressed	Frequency
1.1 Country consultation on draft ISPMs under the regular standard setting process	EC	Strategic	Template form for comments per draft ISPM	June - September (100 days)	Standards Committee (SC)	Annually
1.2 Final comments on draft ISPMs under the regular standard setting process	EC	Strategic	Template form for comments per draft ISPM	January - March (14 days prior CPM)	Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)	Annually
1.3 Country consultation on diagnostic protocol under the special standard setting process - annex to ISPM No. 27 (<i>Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests</i>)	EC	Technical	A formal objection	June - September (100 days)*	Standards Committee (SC)	Annually
1.4 Country consultation on treatments under the special standard setting process. Irradiation phytosanitary treatments - annexes to ISPM No. 28 (<i>Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests</i>)	EC	Technical	A formal objection	August - January (100 days)*	Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)	Annually

* May differ as per the IPPC Standard Setting Procedure

¹ By the deadline NPPO contact points are requested to submit the documents or completed forms, preferably in electronic format via e-mail to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org). The EC and its MS will strive to achieve a common position on the requested item either via the Commission IPPC contact point where the thrust of the issue lies in an area within the exclusive competence of the Community or, via the Council Secretariat where the thrust of the issue lies in an area outside the exclusive competence of the Community (see point 2.3 of the FAO Arrangement).

² These items have in the past been identified as falling within the shared competence (of the Member States and EC, but for each item it is agreed that either the EC or MS vote). This indication is, however, without prejudice to an ad hoc examination of each matter in line with the FAO Arrangements.

³ An electronic version of the form is available at International Phytosanitary Portal (<https://www.ippc.int>).

1.5 Country consultation on draft Specifications for ISPMs. Specification outlines the content and scope and provide experts drafting the ISPM with directions on what to consider when building the standard	EC	Strategic	Template form per specification	November - February	Standards Committee (SC)	Annually
2. Call for Topics for the IPPC standard setting work programme: - new topics for ISPMs - new components to existing ISPMs, such as supplements, annexes or appendices - revision of adopted ISPMs, supplements, annexes, appendices or glossary terms - amendment to adopted ISPMs, supplements, annexes or appendices - new topics for diagnostic protocols - new topic areas for phytosanitary treatments, for which specific treatment information and data will be called for at a later date	MS	Strategic	Template form per topic; requesting topics for ISPMs, diagnostic protocols and phytosanitary treatment areas	June - August	Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (SPTA), SC and CPM	Biennially
3. Call for Phytosanitary treatments e.g. wood packaging material, fruit flies and irradiation	MS	Technical	Template in accordance with ISPM No. 28 - Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests	June - September	Technical Panel for Phytosanitary Treatments	Occasionally

4. Call for nominations for expert working groups, technical panels and authors for specific diagnostic protocols	MS	Strategic	Nomination from NPPOs and RPPOs: CV and Statement of commitment	June - September	Standards Committee and Bureau of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures	Occasionally
5. Call for nominations for ‘Focus group’	MS	Strategic	Nomination from NPPOs	Approx. 3 months before the CPM	Commission on Phytosanitary Measures	Occasionally
