

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

ADB CAREC Program Workshop on SPS

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The IPPC Convention

177 NATIONS

PROTECTING THE WORLD'S PLANTS

AGAINST PESTS





The IPPC

- Multilateral treaty for international cooperation in plant protection
- The global instrument for the harmonization of phytosanitary measures in commerce and the Environment
- IPPC is the phytosanitary standard-setting organization named in the WTO-SPS Agreement





Purpose of the IPPC

... to secure common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control.

(Article I of IPPC)





The IPPC: What we do

- International framework for protection of plants from pests
- Standard setting organization
- Facilitate exchange of information related to import and export requirements





The IPPC: Key principles

- Regulate only when necessary
- Sovereign right to regulate
- Measures should be:
 - consistent with the risk, technically justified and the least restrictive
 - non-discriminatory
 - transparent (published)
 - (etc.---16 total)





The IPPC: Key obligations

- Set up and administer a National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)
- Designate an official IPPC contact point
- Certify exports and regulate imports
- Develop and take into account phytosanitary standards
- Meet basic reporting obligations





IPPC Standards and the SPS Agreement





WTO-SPS Agreement and the IPPC

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

(Article 3 of the SPS Agreement, Harmonization)

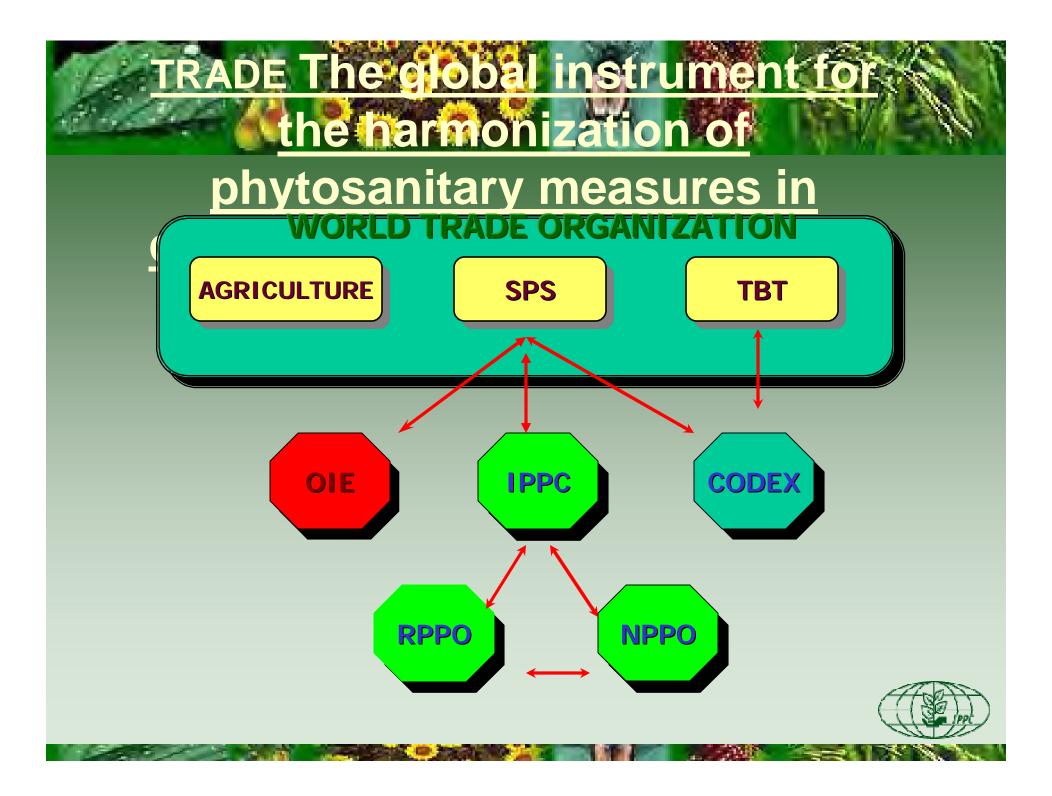




IPPC and the WTO-SPS Agreement

- One of the "three sisters" of international standard setting recognized by the SPS agreement
- Identified in the WTO-SPS Agreement as the authority for plant health standards





Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)

- Membership: 177 Contracting parties
- Governing body for the IPPC
- Adopts International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)
- Promotes technical assistance and information exchange activities
- Meets annually

FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy





CPM administrative bodies

- Bureau (7 members)
- Standards Committee (25 members)
- Informal Working Groups
- Expert Working Groups and Technical Panels
- Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement





Subsidiary body on Dispute Settlement

- Activities include:
 - Development of dispute settlement procedures
 - Maintenance of roster of phytosanitary experts
 - Provision of information for the effective preparation of a dispute settlement
- Group of 7 international experts from the 7 FAO regions





IPPC Secretariat

- Hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy
- Implements the work programme
- Supports the development of ISPMs
- Facilitates information exchange
- Provides input into technical assistance programmes
- Facilitates dispute settlement
- Represents the IPPC





Technical Assistance and Information Exchange





Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Tool

- Self-diagnostic technical assistance tool
- Significant component of the IPPC strategy for phytosanitary capacity development





Priorities from PCE evaluations

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





Information exchange

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



