

**Highlights of APPPC-NAPPO Joint workshop on the implementation of the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 15
Regulation on wood packaging in international trade
10-14 June, 2014, Beijing, China**



The joint workshop on the implementation of the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 15, *Regulation on wood packaging in international trade*, organized by the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) and the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) and hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China, was held in Beijing, China from June 10-14, 2014. The meeting included 41 representatives of the regional plant protection organizations and its member national plant protection organizations (NPPO). This is the first joint workshop between APPPC and NAPPO, while a large number of commodities are being trading between both continents through trade partners in countries, which imposes big challenge to NPPOs of member countries either in APPPC or NAPPO in complying with IPPC and implementation of ISPMs. The meeting provided an opportunity to share experiences and lessons associated with the implementation of ISPM 15, identified constraints, issues and challenges, which provided a clear picture of the status for at least 15 countries in the Asia-Pacific and North America. Country presentations revealed that each of the 15 countries had implemented ISPM 15 for export, although a few countries had not yet implemented for import. Based on summaries provided by some countries on non-compliances, ISPM 15 had significantly reduced the likelihood of the introduction of forestry pests. The majority of non-compliances are associated with wood packaging materials (WPM) without the mark, and infestation is

probably higher where WPM is not marked. There still continue to be a significant number of pest interceptions associated with WPM with the ISPM 15 mark. Non-compliance notification is quite low currently, but notifications are really important in order to check exporting countries' systems for WPM. The participants proposed a number of practical suggestions on improvement of implementation of ISPM15 by collaborations and coordination. It includes aspects of improvements to guidance information, the adoption of harmonized procedures and practices by NPPOs and recommendations to the CPM.

International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 15 is one of important phytosanitary standards with strong impacts on trades. It was noted that a big dynamic existed among countries with regard to the capacity of implementation as well as facilities concerned. The 27th Session of APPPC adopted a work plan in 2011 to establish a working group led by Korea on implementation of ISPMs, and the ISPM15 was selected as prioritized standard for reviewing implementation status, constraints and challenges of member countries through survey. The result of the survey and analytical result were presented at the 28th Session of APPPC in 2013, it was decided to organize a APPPC/NAPPO joint workshop on ISPM15 by allocation of certain amount of budget in consideration of comment interests of both regions and RPPOs as well as similar concerns, the successful implementation of ISPM 15 is critical for safe and uninterrupted two-way trade between North America and Asia.







