

**REPORT OF THE ASIA AND PACIFIC PLANT PROTECTION COMMISSION (APPPC)
REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON METHODOLOGIES FOR SAMPLING OF CONSIGNMENTS
(ISPM No. 31)**

22 – 26 August, 2016

Applied Research Institute of Agriculture Quarantine (ARIAQ), Bekasi, Indonesia



Summary

The APPPC Regional Workshop on Methodologies for Sampling of Consignments (ISPM No. 31) was convened in Bekasi, Indonesia from 22-26 August 2016 in collaboration with the Indonesian Agricultural Quarantine Agency (IAQA), Ministry of Agriculture, with participation of more than 35 delegates from 20 countries (including 11 local participants). The main objective of the workshop is to strengthen capacity of participating NPPOs in selecting the appropriate sampling methodologies for inspecting or testing of consignments. Country reports updated participants with current status of implementation of ISPM31 in respective countries, it enabled participants to better understand a number of practical sampling methodologies applying by countries at present, as well as identification of the similarity and the difference together with some gaps and constraints existing in the implementation of ISPM31. This workshop created the awareness and increased the knowledge of sampling methodologies with its important roles in phytosanitary regulatory system to the participants with the expectation of them becoming potential master trainers for ISPM 31 in their respective country. Participants are encouraged to share the information with their country fellows/colleagues since the understanding of this ISPM by all plant quarantine officers will greatly reduce the non-compliance of the export commodities for the country and facilitate the trade. The importing countries will also benefit from this knowledge, when there will be a reduction in pest incursion that contributes to the overall food security. The workshop also exposed the participants to various operational constraints that probably need to be addressed by each country to ensure that this ISPM could be fully implemented.

Focus group discussion sessions on the specific subjects initiated by 6 countries highlighting respective practical sampling methodologies and experiences in depth followed by extensive discussions. It provided participants a platform to gather information from participants' experiences in their respective countries on specific methodologies for sampling of consignments, particularly for seed and plant propagating materials, fresh fruits and vegetables, grain for food/feed in container and non-container, cut flowers and heterogeneous consignment, and also sampling method for inspection in packing facilities/site area production. Meanwhile the discussions identified their main elements in appropriate methodologies for sampling of consignments for potential harmonization. Some suggestions were proposed for further follow-up actions at country and regional levels. It was expected that the APPPC working group on ISPM31 may consider further action plan based on the suggestions and bring it to the 30th Session.