

**APPPC Regional Workshop on IPPC National Reporting Obligation (NRO) and  
Use of Information Exchange Portal (IPP)  
5-9 September 2016, Beijing, China**

**Concept Note**

**Introduction**

The main issues to be addressed will cover a range of subjects related to National Reporting Obligations (NROs). The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) includes numerous provisions regarding reporting obligations for IPPC contracting parties (called National Reporting Obligations – NROs). All countries that signed the Convention are obliged to, and directly responsible for, the implementation of all reporting obligations effective from signature. NROs ensure that a minimum amount of official phytosanitary information is available to Contracting Parties that can be used as the basis for ensuring safe trade, safeguarding food security and protecting the environment from pests of plant and plant products.

Public NROs can be reported via the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP – <https://www.ippc.int>), as agreed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM - the governing body of the Convention) as the preferred mechanism of meeting NROs. All officially nominated IPPC Official Contact Points are in practice responsible for uploading and updating all required reports and keeping their country's information on the IPP up-to-date.

To ensure that APPPC countries understand their NROs, are technically capable of data entry on the IPPC website and have a national NRO work plan to meet these expectations, an APPPC Regional NRO workshop is planned for 5-9 September 2016 and tentatively scheduled to be hosted by China.

**Main objectives/outcomes**

***Update on the global NRO framework:*** In April 2016, the Eleventh Session of the IPPC Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-11) adopted General and Specific IPPC National Reporting Obligations procedures together with an NRO Work Plan valid until 2023. The adopted procedures are based on recommendations and inputs provided by the National Reporting Obligations Advisory Group (NROAG) taking into account the IPPC provisions and previous CPM decisions (primarily 2001). The IPPC Secretariat has prepared a new NRO manual, NRO educational material and updated IPP website. It is important to familiarize IPPC Contracting Parties with the latest changes in the NRO area while raising awareness on NROs to stimulate and improve reporting in terms of numbers and quality. It is also important for IPPC Secretariat to gather feedback from IPP users to take it into account while developing the IPP and NRO related educational material.

***Addressing requests from countries:*** the IPPC Secretariat has received a number requests from APPPC member countries to train both IPPC contact points & IPP editors on NROs and data entry in the past 3

years. This workshop will be used to ensure all IPPC APPPC members understand their NROs and have the knowledge to ensure this reporting is undertaken.

**Identifying NRO challenges for countries:** However, the workshop will also be utilized to obtain feedback on what the IPPC Secretariat can do to facilitate countries meeting their NROs, the challenges that make it difficult to countries to meet all or some of their NROs.

**Establishment of National NRO work plans:** While during the previous APPPC meeting on information exchange and the IPP in 2011, countries established national NRO work plans – these need to be evaluated and new NRO work plans established through 2020.

**Sensitizing APPPC members to IPPC awareness raising and advocacy needs:** CPM-11 has adopted an active work programme to 2020 and beyond. The main focus of this work programme is awareness raising (including a possible *International Year of Plant Health in 2020*), annual themes for advocacy, and resource mobilization. An objective to this workshop, although not the primary focus, is IPPC awareness raising and advocacy needs in support of CPM activities.

## **Expected outputs**

The following are expected outcomes from this workshop:

1. IPPC contact points and IPP editors trained in meeting their NROs and IPP data entry to achieve these reporting obligations.
2. Each country having a national NRO work plan for 2016-2020.
3. Agree procedures to monitor the implementation of these national work plans.
4. Increase awareness of the CPM IYPH 2020 initiative to actively generate support through their national representatives at FAO Council and Conference.
5. Identification of opportunities to increase IPPC awareness and advocacy leading up to 2020 with NROs as the foundation.