Expert Group: ISPM 25 Guidance *Standardization of responsibilities and actions for safeguarding consignments that have transited one NAPPO country to enter another NAPPO country*

Location: Zoom meeting

Date: June 17, 2020

Chairperson

Participants:
- Wendy Asbil (CFIA)
- Christine Villegas (CFIA)
- Helen Gerson (CBSA)
- Shelah Morita (APHIS-PPQ)
- Brendon Reardon (APHIS-PPQ)
- Erin Stiers (APHIS-PPQ)
- Annaliese Blecha (CBP)
- Neftali Reyes Carranza (SENASICA)
- Francisca de la Cruz Martínez (SENASICA)
- Allan Schepens (Canada industry)
- Michael Tamilia (US Industry)
- John Ercolani (US Industry)
- Evan Moss (US Industry)
- Greg Yielding (US Industry)
- Patricia Abad (APHIS-PPQ)
- Stephanie Bloem (NAPPO)
- Nedelka Marín-Martínez (NAPPO)
- Alonso Suazo (NAPPO)

### Summary

**Project:** *Standardization of responsibilities and actions for safeguarding consignments that have transited one NAPPO country to enter another NAPPO country.*

**Item 1:** Welcome remarks

Consensus: The ED thanked everybody for joining the Zoom meeting and reminded EG members to allow time for interpretation when speaking. The ED also welcomed Brendon Reardon (APHIS-PPQ) to the EG. Brendon introduced himself.

**Item 2:** Review discussions from the May 8, 2020 conference call.

Consensus: The ED summarized the points agreed in the last conference call:
- Election of Chair and Co-Chair (will be done later during this call).
- Countries will provide a brief description of their consignments in transit systems and what happens when consignments are in-compliance and non-compliance.
- Countries sharing procedural documents.
- Members expected to read the guidance in ISPM 25 and in the IPPC transit manual and focus on the aspects that need alignment, harmonization, and improvement in the NAPPO region.
- Industry members interested in harmonization and
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<tr>
<th>Item 3: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair</th>
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<tr>
<td>Consensus: Shelah Morita (APHIS-PPQ) was elected Chairperson. Christine Villegas (CFIA) and Neftali Reyes (SENASICA) were elected co-chairs.</td>
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<th>Item 4: Short overview from each country</th>
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<td>Consensus: United States: Brendon Reardon (APHIS-PPQ) shared a presentation providing an overview of the US transit system. The NAPPO Secretariat will share the presentation with the EG.</td>
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Mexico: Francisca de la Cruz Martínez (SENASICA) described the system in Mexico and indicated that this information can be found in the “Phytosanitary Measures for International Transit” form that is available online. Mexico will share an electronic copy of this form with the EG and the Secretariat will translate it. Mexico uses a harmonized system at ports of entry for consignments in transit.

Canada: Christine Villegas provided the overview for Canada indicating that
- Canadian Border Service Agency is responsible for in-transit shipments.
- CFIA responsible to ensure that phytosanitary measures are in place.
- Agencies get their authority from the Plant Protection Act.
- Approach taken by Canada: Look at all the supply chain because there are several critical points where phytosanitary measures can be applied.
- Measures can include regulatory and non-regulatory tools (outreach) to promote compliance.
- Adhere to international standards.
- Does not have a permit process for consignments in transit.
- Protocols:
  - Consignments in transit from the U.S. - there is a list of articles prohibited from transiting.
  - Consignments in transit that have been refused entry from the U.S. because of pest contamination - provides description of risk levels and mitigation measures.
  - Consignments in transit from countries other than the U.S. If CBSA refuses entry of a consignment in transit, the consignment is removed from Canada via the same route of entry.
- Canada is working with rail stakeholders to develop mitigation measures for non-compliant consignments in transit.
- Many of the non-compliant articles in Canada are non-regulated. **Canada suggested to consider including those articles in the guidelines to be developed by the EG.**
- Canada suggested considering the work the sea container task force is doing because sea containers and consignments in transit are tightly linked.
- Canada suggested to consider discussions on measures of non-compliance in “Emergency situations” whereby the country of destination is also responsible for the non-compliance of the consignments in transit.

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<th>Item 5: Discussions and questions</th>
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<td><strong>Consensus:</strong> The Chairperson listed the following points to consider for harmonization:</td>
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<td>- <strong>Communication plan</strong> for stakeholders involved in the consignment in transit. <strong>The industry strongly supports this initiative and is willing to share with stakeholders.</strong></td>
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<td>- <strong>Contingency plans</strong> for accidents and how to deal with non-compliance in the NAPPO region.</td>
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<td>- Schedule with <strong>periodic review</strong> of the North American transit system.</td>
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<td>The Chairperson indicated that the guidance developed should emphasize the role that NPPOs have in the in-transit system. She suggested to add examples of non-compliance issues when present in in-transit countries becoming issues for the importing NPPOs.</td>
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<td>Mexico added the following points for harmonization:</td>
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<td>- Categorization of commodities and their corresponding phytosanitary measures.</td>
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<td>- Communication is important at the national and international level.</td>
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<td>The ED suggested</td>
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<td>- to create a list of stakeholders as a starting point for a communications plan and</td>
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<td>- to develop a common terminology for all stakeholders involved in the in-transit supply chain.</td>
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<td>The industry inquired whether the EG will consider non-regulated articles and non-compliance issues related to ISPM 15. The ED informed the EG that the IPPC implementation committee is considering adding a guide for non-compliance</td>
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issues with ISPM 15 and will further discuss this topic early in July 2020.

Industry members interested in harmonization and approaches to identify pest risks in consignments in transit:
- Industry expressed interest in discussions related to pests with different regulatory status in the different NAPPO countries. The industry feels there should be a common approach at addressing the regulatory status of pests in different NAPPO countries and how this will affect the transit of consignments in the NAPPO region.

### Next Steps

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<th>Responsible Person</th>
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<td>EG members</td>
<td>Each country to provide a list of stakeholders to start a communication plan.</td>
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<td>NAPPO ED</td>
<td>Provide updates on the IPPC implementation committee discussions Re: non-compliance issues with ISPM 15.</td>
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### Next Meeting

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<tr>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Zoom meeting (Videoconference)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>July 20 from 1:00-3:00 pm Eastern Time.</td>
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### Proposed Agenda Items

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