NAPPO Executive Committee Decision Sheet

D. No. 4

Issue: A harmonized implementation date for North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) countries, (Canada, the United States and Mexico) to regulate wood packaging material in international trade.

Background:

As a result of an increasing number of interceptions and entry into North America of exotic pests associated with the movement of untreated wood packaging material (e.g. Asian longhorned beetle, *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Motschulsky), pine shoot beetle, *Tomicus piniperda* (L.), and brown spruce longhorn beetle. NAPPO countries signed, on August 12, 2001, a Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures entitled: "Import Requirements for Wood Dunnage and Other Wood Packing Materials into a NAPPO Member Country".

This regional phytosanitary standard was subsequently proposed to the International Plant Protection Convention for consideration as the basis of an international phytosanitary standard. In March of 2002, the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures approved the standard, "Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade".

This international standard provides clear requirements for wood packaging. However in order to implement the standard, changes to national regulations and directives are necessary and sufficient time is necessary to enable commerce to adapt to these new requirements.

Decision:

NAPPO countries agree to implement the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures "Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade", on January 2, 2004.

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24 April, 2003 Mexico City, Mexico