



**IGTC**  
International Grain Trade Coalition

Notice to Trade #12: IGTC volunteers to support progress and future success of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and its 184 governmental Contracting Parties at the 15<sup>th</sup> Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM15) 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

***“Plant pests are not taking a break from the pandemic, trade needs to continue to be supported and facilitated to sustain national economies and ensuring food gets to markets and peoples’ tables”***

**#IGTCGlobal #safetrade #planthealth #ePhyto #foodsecurity #IYPH  
#UNFSS2021**

**Summary:** IGTC has launched an effort to support and enhance trade facilitative official phytosanitary practices at the 15<sup>th</sup> the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM15), which can be considered as the 2021 annual “parliament” of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). The event will take place virtually on 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March, and 1<sup>st</sup> April, and will be chaired by the Government of Mexico.

In this unique year of the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) and the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH), the network of knowledge and expertise fostered by the IGTC constituency is well placed to support and inform the work of the IPPC. IGTC wants to emphasize the importance of the work of National and Regional Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs, RPPOs) acting in coordination with the value chain and within the IPPC guidance to deploy and communicate least trade distortive measures to protect of the world's plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests, and promote safe trade.

The 184 governmental Contracting Parties of the IPPC will tackle a breadth of issues that are relevant to grain trade facilitation at CPM15. The agenda includes global food security supported by safe trade; rules and standard setting; phytosanitary certification and plant quarantine, all of which have taken a sharper focus amid the Covid-19 global crisis. As IPPC leaders themselves have stated “Plant pests are not taking a break from the pandemic, trade needs to continue to be supported and facilitated to sustain national economies and ensuring food gets to markets and peoples’ tables” (quote source: IPPC [CPM paper 2021/12](#)).

**Action:** IGTC is self-organizing to monitor the event and provide grain trade knowledge and expertise when required. IGTC member associations, Corporate and Participating Stakeholders are invited to submit the name of a lead contact to be involved in grain trade monitoring of the discussions at CPM15 to [secretariat@igtglobal.org](mailto:secretariat@igtglobal.org) before CoB on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

The IGTC Secretariat is planning to serve its constituency and the IPPC’s mission in the following ways:

- Establishment of an instant communication channel for IGTC volunteers (via WhatsApp/WeChat/Telegram according to general preferences) that will signal when each relevant agenda item is beginning, as well as reporting on pivotal interventions and any emerging issues of relevance for the grain trade.
- Pre-briefings on relevant agenda items\* for IGTC. Briefings will also be sent to the IGTC’s full Policy Team on Phytosanitary Issues and Working Group on Electronic Trading Documentation.



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- Support for CPM15 side bar discussions on the implementation of the ePhyto Solution.
- Resources to support associations in communication with national and regional NPPOs.
- IGTC Secretariat CPM15 report will be sent to the Policy Team on Phytosanitary Issues, and the Working Group on Electronic Trading Documentation

*\* Examples of relevant agenda issues: at draft standard on the "Requirements for NPPOs of authorizing entities to perform phytosanitary actions (2014-002); the ePhyto Solution; consultation on "Commodity-based standards for phytosanitary measures"; "positioning of the IPPC Secretariat within FAO"; Focus Group on Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems; consultation on ""Facilitating safe trade by reducing the incidence of contaminating pests associated with traded goods"; adoption of text on "Safe Provision of food and other humanitarian aid to prevent the introduction of plant pests during an emergency situation"; report on the implementation of the phytosanitary component FAO project: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) trade facilitation programme; the correct operations of NPPOs to the fulfilment of at least seven Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDGs 1, 2, 8, 12, 13, 15 and 17. CPM15 documents [here](#)*