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International Grain Trade Coalition

STATUS UPDATE **IGTC Policy Team on ISPM for grain** **July 2017**

IGTC Team composition (29): Marcos Amorim (Cargill); June Arnold (GAFTA); Teresa Babuscio (COCERAL); Amer Badawi (Columbia Grain); Dessislava Barzachka (Bunge); Kevin Bosc (Coceral); Ricardo Calderon (APPAMEX); Jaine Chisholm Caunt (GAFTA); Ben Conner (US Wheat Associates); Shawna Enz-Cross (Bunge); Juan Espejo (Cargill); Nick Friant (Cargill); Nikolay Gorbachov (UGA); Arvid Hawk (NAEGA); Mary Hoskin-Redditt (Bunge); Brian Innes (CGC); Vincent Jallier (Cargill); Gord Kurbis (CGC/Pulse Canada); Gary C. Martin (IGTC/NAEGA); Gerald Masila (EAGC); Gerard McMullen (GTA); Kimwaga Mhando (EAGC); Alejandro Pernías (GlobalShare); Maria Marta Rebizo (CIARA-CEC); Vlad Savenkov (UGA); Sonia Tomassone (CAPECO); Elizabeth Westendorf (US Wheat Associates); Arkady Zlochevsky (RGU); Team lead: Marcel Bruins (NAEGA/IGTC).

The drafting of international guidance on phytosanitary matters is carried out under the auspices of the United Nations' International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), which is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). The CPM consists of National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs). This international guidance is drafted in the form of so-called International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM). An ISPM is adopted by all 183 IPPC government "Parties" and is then implemented at national/regional level.

In July 2017, a draft ISPM on the movement of grain exists and is currently being reviewed by 25 government representatives sitting on the [IPPC's Standards Committee \(SC\)](#). The next draft is expected to be presented for review at the SC meeting in November, 2017, with the aim of formal adoption by all IPPC Parties in 2019. Once finalised, the ISPM on the movement of grain will affect shipments of grain from Parties to the Convention, i.e. all the major exporting and importing countries.

History:

Despite IGTC concerns regarding an ISPM for Grain in Feb. 2013, the IPPC in April 2013 decided to go ahead with it. Subsequent IGTC representation ensured that the scope of the future Standard is confined to solely phytosanitary issues.

A 5-day meeting was held of the EWG (Sept. 2016, in Melbourne, AU) during which work started on the first draft of the Standard. After the EWG meeting, the process has continued online and via email. IGTC had a strong influence on the discussions, providing input and text proposals throughout the meeting and in the subsequent discussion process. The Steward (NZ) has made a revised draft based on the comments during the EWG meeting and subsequently on the online EWG Forum. This version was discussed by the IPPC Standards Committee (SC) in May 2017.

Expert Working Group:

International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) ©
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In 2016, an Expert Working Group (EWG) for the International Movement of Grain was tasked with making a first draft of the ISPM and consists mainly of IPPC members, and several industry observers. IGTC was successful in getting representation on the working EWG. The composition of this EWG is as follows:

- Mr David Neil HEINRICH (AUSTRALIA)
- Ms Kanwal KOCHHAR (CANADA)
- Mr Wu XINHUA (CHINA)
- Mr Liang WEI (CHINA)
- Mr Diego QUIROGA (ARGENTINA)
- Ms La Tanya RICHARDS (JAMAICA)
- Mr George James GALASSO (USA)

Invited experts:

- Mr Bill MAGEE (AUSTRALIA, Industry)
- Mr Gord KURBIS (CANADA, Industry)
- Mr Marcel BRUINS (International Grain Trade Coalition)

Elements of concern

Although many elements of the IGTC Policy have been taken on board so far in the 1st draft of the ISPM, the report from the May 2017 IPPC Standards Committee meeting (<https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/84388/>) indicates that there are still several elements of concern. From this report, and the IGTC's previous involvement in the drafting process, we outline current IGTC priorities as follows:

- Current scope is 'pests' in general. IGTC requested that this is narrowed down to 'pests that require action'.
- '...consignments to be considered free from....'. IGTC has stated that it will be impossible for grain to completely remove contaminants. With current wording, this Standard will become trade restrictive.
- Current wording is: 'traceability from receipt of lots at the facility to loading'. IGTC indicated that 'traceability' is a matter for the NPPO's to manage how they sample/inspect grain and control export terminal operations. Traceability cannot be broadened beyond current wording.
- Current wording: 'no more than 1.5% in weight of regulated articles are to be detected'. IGTC cannot accept mentioning of any percentage. It is not the business of the exporting country to quantify material that is not as the contract describes. Keeping the % would likely be a deal breaker for certain IPPC member countries.
- Current wording is "free from foreign odour"- This requirement is an NPPO / quality issue. The reference to 'foreign odour' should be removed from the Standard.
- Dispute settlement. IGTC has proposed wording, including consulting with grain industry partners
- Several §§ contain too much detail for such a Standard. Move detail to Annex, or remove altogether.
- IGTC has reiterated the need for a global database that contains all national phyto requirements



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- Appendix 1 (flow chart) needs to be revised. IGTC has offered support to IPPC.

Strategy as developed by IGTC Policy Team:

- Towards the end of 2015, the IGTC team developed a survey that has gone out to IGTC members and Corporate Stakeholders. A high number of replies was received and all replies contained very valuable information on national, regional and global practices. Overall more than 80 pages of replies have come in. The received replies provided an excellent overview of the most common and most pressing phytosanitary concerns among IGTC members.

The results of the survey (anonymous) can be found on the IGTC Intranet, quick ref. here:

http://igtglobal.org/fileadmin/documents/ISPM/Consolidated_IGTC_ISPM_survey_results_August_2016.pdf

- In November 2016, the IGTC approved its official policy document in response to the development of the ISPM:
http://igtglobal.org/fileadmin/documents/ISPM/IGTC_Policy_ISPM_November_2016.pdf
- In addition, the team has developed an IGTC Advocacy Strategy, including: provisions for telephone conferences to allow grain trade actors to respond to the latest developments at IPPC; outreach and educational action items; and attendance at key meetings e.g. the annual CPM at FAO in Rome.

Roadmap:

An optimistic timeline towards adoption of the new ISPM would be the following:

- IPPC Standards Committee drafting process July-Nov 2017
- Review by IPPC Standards Committee – Nov 2017
- Review by May Standards Committee Working Group (SC-7) 2018
- Consultation period June-September 2018
- Review by November Standards Committee 2018
- Adoption by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) March-April 2019

At that point, an ISPM will come into effect nationally as each country needs to implement it into their national legislation.

Background material:

- ⇒ International Plant Protection Convention: <https://www.ippc.int/en/>
- ⇒ Adopted Standards (ISPMs):
<https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/ispms/>
- ⇒ Approved Specifications for draft ISPMs under development:
<https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/approved-specifications-draft-ispms-under-development/>



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- ⇒ Specification no. 60 on the International Movement of Grain
https://www.ippc.int/static/media/files/publications/en/2014/05/28/spec_60_internationalmovementofgrain_2014-05-28.pdf

This document lists all the tasks that the EWG should address. See points 1 to 8 in the Specification for the tasks of the Expert Working Group.

- ⇒ IPPC working group on the concept of commodity standards:
<https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/governance/cpm/cpm-focus-group-reports/> .

The report mentions the ISPM on Grain several times, e.g. in §§ 20, 28, 29 and 55. IGTC needs to keep a watchful eye on this.