

Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention

# Identification of risks and management of invasive alien species using the IPPC framework

Proceedings of a workshop in Braunschweig, Germany 22–26 September 2003

Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations









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### Abbreviations

APPPC Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission
AQIS Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

AQSIQC General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of China

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

AVH Australia's Virtual Herbarium

BBA Biologische Bundesanstalt für Land- und Forstwirtschaft

Bern Convention Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Resources
BfN Bundesamt für Naturschutz [German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation]

BNatSchG Bundesnaturschutzgesetz [German Federal Nature Conservation Act]

CABI CAB International
CARICOM Caribbean Community

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity
CDF Charles Darwin Foundation
CFIA Canadian Food Inspection Agency

CFS Canadian Forest Service

CITES Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

COMESA Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

COP Conference of the Parties

CPC Crop Protection Compendium [of CABI]

CSIRO Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DEFRA Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs [of the UK]

EU European Community
EU European Union

ELISA enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

EPPO European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization
FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FVO Food and Veterinary Office
GEF Global Environment Facility
GIS geographic information system
GISP Global Invasive Species Programme
GMO genetically modified organism
GTI Global Taxonomy Initiative

IAPSC Inter-African Phytosanitary Council

IAS invasive alien species

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization

ICES International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

ICPM Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures [of the IPPC]

IFQRG International Forestry Quarantine Research Group

IMO International Maritime Organization
 IOC International Oceans Commission
 IPM integrated pest management
 IPP International Phytosanitary Portal
 IPPC International Plant Protection Convention

ISPM international standard for phytosanitary measures

ISSG Invasive Species Specialist Group
IUCN World Conservation Union
KEPHIS Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate

LOOP locally organized and operated partnership [of BioNET-International]

NGO non-governmental organization

NAPPO North American Plant Protection Organization

NAQS Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy NPPO national plant protection organization

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OIE Office International des Épizooties
PAS Phytosanitary Alert System [of NAPPO]
PCE Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation

PCR polymerase chain reaction
PHA Plant Health Australia

PHRA Plant Health Risk Assessment [Unit of the CFIA]

PNRSV Prunus necrotic ring spot virus

PRA pest risk analysis RA risk assessment

RPPO regional plant protection organization
SADC Southern African Development Community

SBSTTA Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice [of the CBD]

SESA Servicio Ecuatoriano de Sanidad Agropecuaria

SICGAL Sistema de Inspección y Cuarentena para las Islas Galapagos

SPC Secretariat for the Pacific Community

SPREP South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

SPS Agreement Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures [of the WTO]

SSC Species Survival Commission
TRSV Tobacco ring spot virus

UNCCD United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNCED United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

UNCLOS United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

WHO World Health Organization
WRA weed risk assessment
WTO World Trade Organization

WWF World Wide Fund for Nature [also known as World Wildlife Fund]

### Foreword

Invasive alien species pose major threats to agriculture, food security and biological diversity. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) aims to ensure common and effective action for preventing the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and promoting measures for their control. The IPPC therefore is of immediate relevance to countries that are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and that are striving to devise policies and programmes to implement Article 8(h) of the CBD, namely to "Prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species". Indeed, the Conference of the Parties of CBD has acknowledged the contribution of the IPPC to the implementation of article 8(h) of the CBD and invited the IPPC to consider incorporating criteria related to threats to biodiversity posed by invasive species into its work on standards and other matters.

Many countries, especially developing countries with limited resources, are uncertain of how to establish cost-effective systems to identify the risks associated with invasive alien species and to manage those risks. The difficulties faced are diverse and numerous. They include: the high level of complexity in ecosystems; a lack of knowledge about ecological threats; the pressure of globalized trade and international travel, with the associated movement of organisms; and fragmented national authority for risk analysis and control measures. However, countries that are contracting parties to the IPPC enjoy the benefit of well-developed structures to prevent the introduction and spread of plant pests that have been established over a period of several decades.

There is increasingly close cooperation between the CBD and IPPC: the two Conventions encourage the presence of observers at relevant meetings; issues of biodiversity are being addressed in the development and revision of applicable international standards under the IPPC.

As part of this cooperative endeavour, a major workshop on invasive alien species and the IPPC framework was held in Braunschweig, Germany, in September 2003. The workshop was funded by Germany's Federal Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture and organized jointly by the Federal Biological Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry and the IPPC Secretariat. It brought together national representatives from phytosanitary and environmental protection agencies from 58 countries, as well as international experts and agency representatives.

We are pleased to make the proceedings of this week-long workshop available to those with an interest in the management of invasive alien species. This publication contains the 39 technical papers presented at the workshop and a report of the practical exercises. A short "information digest" for each of the eight subject areas covered in the workshop is provided.

In recent years, both Conventions have taken steps to address the significant problems of invasive alien species, and recognize that much still remains to be done. The publication of the proceedings of this workshop signals a number of opportunities in this regard. We hope the publication will prove useful and wish to thank all those who contributed to and participated in the workshop.

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## Welcoming address to the workshop

by Dr. Gerald Thalheim

Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture Given on the occasion of the International Workshop "Invasive Alien Species and the IPPC" at the Forum of the Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL) in Braunschweig on Monday, 22 September 2003.

### Ladies and Gentlemen.

Our lives and well-being are based on plant growth and cultivation, plant products, the availability of natural resources and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Invasive alien species greatly endanger our food production, medication, renewable resources, living environment and ecosystems. This problem is aggravated by a lack of resources and coordination, plus great poverty.

Expanding global trade, tourism and climate change also increase the dangers. The impact of invasive alien species has serious implications for the economy and ecology. Hence, protective measures are needed to address this problem.

My Ministry is, therefore, delighted to open and to support this Workshop. We regard "invasive alien species" as an important topic in farming, the economy and the environment. We feel responsible if invasive alien species impair our ecosystems or the trade in plants or plant products. We also recognize that the IPPC – together with the CBD – is meeting its mandate of plant protection without any specific limitations.

More than 55 countries take part in this workshop. This highlights the global role of the issue of invasive alien species. I am delighted about the attendance of many developing countries. It is true that countries are not equally aware of the dangers posed by invasive alien species.

They differ in their priorities in control, practical experience and resources to solve the problem. However, invasive alien species are a danger in every country, ecologically and economically. Global solutions are needed to control invasive alien species.

The historical disaster of the Irish Potato Famine shows that we have to prevent the introduction of crop pests and take precautionary measures. We face a difficult task, indeed: the recent spread of the Western corn rootworm and the Asian longhorned beetle in Europe underlines the need for protective measures. They still have to be improved.

On a global scale, the protection of plants as a food source and as a pool of biological diversity is a key element of our policy. We aim at sustainability and economic and social fairness at national, regional and global level.

Good coordination and cooperation of all actors is essential to control invasive alien species or quarantine pests effectively. This process is currently underway in Germany. Based on the recent IPPC work on invasive alien species, we are defining our role in a national strategy as part of the action against invasive alien species.

Your Workshop applies the guiding principles by promoting capacity-building programmes to prevent and control invasive alien species in countries needing know-how and resources. You can support these countries in assessing and reducing the dangers. This will mitigate the impact of invasive alien species and help those countries to develop sustainably.

This Workshop unites experts of farming, forestry and biodiversity and enables a dialogue between developed and developing countries. The workshop offers all of us an excellent chance to share experience and exchange information and know-how.

I wish to encourage you to seize this chance to cooperate successfully and develop options for action.

I wish you every success and fruitful results.