History of the International Regulatory Framework

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1400s - 1800s: The real early days



1880 - 1930: The awakening

- *Phylloxera* Convention (Berne, 1881)
 - European countries agree to harmonized action against a pest of grapes introduced from the US
 - First multilateral action to control plant pests
- Cherry tree debacle (Washington DC, 1910)
 - Trees gifted by Japan; inspected and destroyed
 - Triggered a policy shift to create plant quarantine restrictions
- International Conference for Plant Protection (Rome, 1929)



Washington D.C. in 1910



Washington D.C. in 2010

1930 – 1950: A New World Order

After 2 World Wars and the Great Depression, the world was ready for a change in direction

 GATT Agreements formulated at the Bretton Woods Conference (Mount Washington Hotel, 1944)



1952-1979: The IPPC begins work International Plant Protection Convention (Rome, 1952)

- Provisions to establish National Plant Protection Organizations to survey, disinfest, and issue phytosanitary certificates
- lists of rights and obligations
- the establishment of a World Reporting Service
- the establishment of regional plant protection organizations.

The 1951 Convention



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The IPPC is a Convention ...

- A legally binding international instrument (a treaty)
- Deposited with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- In force since 1952
- Revised in 1979 and again in 1997
- Currently 183 Contracting Parties

FAO Headquarters Rome, Italy



The purpose of the IPPC is ...

...securing common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control ... *

- includes the protection of cultivated and wild flora
- "pests" includes insects, diseases, mollusks, and weeds
- includes pests attacking plants as well as those adversely affecting plant systems (cultivated or wild)

*preamble to the IPPC

1979: The First Revision

This revision included changes referring to:

- the inclusion of "manufactured products"
- the extension of the scope to include
 "..containers and any other object or material capable of harbouring or spreading plant pests
- the new term "quarantine pest" and the term "pest" for "pests and diseases"
- A model re-export phytosanitary certificate was added.

1980-1994: Growing up

- National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) are established in most countries
- Regional Plant Protections Organizations (and FAO Commissions) are established
- Relationship to trade develops around phytosanitary certification
- International and regional collaboration around technical assistance and control programs develops

The GATT Uruguay Round

- Moved to develop an agreement to deal with technical non-tariff barriers in the sanitary and phytosanitary areas – Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
- The TC initiated the FAO Conference proposal that an IPPC Secretariat be established to meet the need for developing standards for phytosanitary measures

McNamara, Hopper, and Berg



1994-Present: Trade-driven

- Linked to the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO-SPS Agreement)
- International standard-setting processes, a Secretariat and Commission are established
- Pest risk analysis develops from the focus on a risk-basis for phytosanitary measures applied in trade
- Relationships with the WTO and other organizations and agreements becomes significant

The second revision

Temporary procedures were put in place in association with the RPPOs with:

- a series of expert working groups
- a Committee of Experts on Phytosanitary Measures to monitor and check the developing standards
- and the FAO Conference acting as the adoption body.

Technical Consultation in Brasilia



Negotiating issues

- the coverage of the Convention quarantine pests only or including quality pests
- alignment with the SPS Agreement
- regulated pests and regulated non-quarantine pests
- the establishment of a Commission
- the functions of the Secretariat
- the increasing importance of pest risk analysis

Experts working on ISPMs



The New Revised Text (1)

The main items of the NRT were:

- The ability to establish standards for phytosanitary measures
- The establishment of a Commission on phytosanitary measures
- The establishment of an IPPC Secretariat

The New Revised Text (2)

Additional items include:

- newly defined terms and new concepts endangered areas, pest free areas, phytosanitary security ...
- an article on regulated pests
- the exclusion of pesticide regulations
- the minimal impact and modification principles
- the requirement for a contact point
- measures for pests that may not establish

Technical Consultation in Paris



Achievements

The major achievement is the standard setting facility – allowing the interpretation of the Convention into operational practices.

The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures has developed to act as a focus for NPPOs and their concerns.

The Secretariat has some ability to implement the requirements of contracting parties.

Shortcomings

Generally perceived problems include:

- the lack of funds for the work of the CPM and Secretariat – not provided for in the convention
- The acceptance that consensus is needed for controversial issues
- The bureaucracy of the FAO limiting employment and action

Important role in trade...

- Identified in WTO-SPS Agreement as the international standard-setting organization for phytosanitary measures
- Secretariat formed in 1992
- Convention revised in 1997
- First meeting of the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in 1998 (now the CPM)
- 42 international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPMs) adopted since 1993
- Alternative <u>non-binding</u> dispute settlement procedures in place

Important role in the protection of biodiversity and the environment

- Overlaps with Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol in specific areas
- Many invasive species are plant pests (and vice versa)
- IPPC provides existing mechanisms for the evaluation, prevention, control ...
- National and regional phytosanitary systems may provide substantial expertise
- Living modified organisms (LMOs) may be evaluated for their potential as plant pests and fall within the scope of the Convention where found to meet defining criteria

The current environment

Factors include:

- NPPO funding cuts and the loss of expertise
- the move of phytosanitary activities to disparate government bodies
- the apparent move of some countries away from supporting international institutions
- The implementation of the TFA and single window for trade facilitation

Future projections

- Sustainable funding is a necessity
- Recognition of the international trade environment with ePhyto and the TFA
- The application of standard setting procedures to create standards for specified products e.g. mango fruit
- The use of digital techniques for gathering and disseminating surveillance information
- Dealing with environmental issues effectively
- Increasing the Secretariat function to help NPPOs more

Conclusions

- The CPM needs to respond to the present trade and management environment.
- It is suggested that a more wide rangeing strategic assessment needs to be undertaken with a major strategic plan made available for the Year of Plant Health meetings.
- Closer cooperation with the major players in trade, food security and environment protection along with greater collaboration between RPPOs and NPPOs need to be part of a future strategic plan.

Happy Trails



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