



National Plant Protection Organization

SEMISSUON
Seed Enterprises Management Institute
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**SEMISS COURSE ON
SEED LEGISLATION AND ACCREDITATION HELD**

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National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO)

- Under the IPPC (i.e. Article IV), each country is required to establish a national plant protection Organization (NPPO).



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Legal Authority

- The National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) should have the sole authority by legislative or administrative means for control and issuance of phytosanitary certificates.
- In using this authority, the NPPO should:
 - bear the legal authority for its actions
 - implement safeguards against potential problems such as conflicts of interest and fraudulent use of certificates.
- The NPPO may have the authority to prevent the export of consignments which do not meet an importing country's requirements.
- The National Plant Protection Organization must be a signatory of the IPPC and have agreed to follow IPPC guidelines for issuing phytosanitary certificates.

NPPO Responsibility

- The key responsibilities of a NPPO include:
 1. surveillance of growing plants (cultivated and non-cultivated), and plants and plant products in storage/transportation, with the object of reporting the occurrence, outbreak and spread of pests, and of controlling those pests;
 2. conduct of pest risk analysis;
 3. protection of endangered areas;
 4. disinfestations/disinfection of consignments (of plants and plant products) moving in internationally, to meet phytosanitary measures;
 5. issuance of certificates relating to the phytosanitary regulations of the importing country;
 6. Inspection of consignments.

. Management responsibility

- The NPPO should:
 - have a management system that ensures that all requirements, including certification specifications, legislative requirements and administrative requirements are satisfied
 - identify a person or office responsible for the export certification system
 - identify the duties and lines of communication of all personnel with certification-related responsibilities

Management responsibility

Cont'd

- ensure that adequate personnel and resources are available to undertake the following functions:
 1. maintenance of information on importing country phytosanitary requirements as needed
 2. production of operational instructions to ensure that importing country phytosanitary requirements are satisfied
 3. inspection and testing of consignments and associated conveyances

Management responsibility

Cont'd

4. identification of organisms found during inspection of consignments
5. verification of the authenticity and integrity of phytosanitary procedures
6. completion and issue of phytosanitary certificates
7. document storage and retrieval
8. training
9. dissemination of certification-related information
10. review regularly the effectiveness of its export certification System
11. development of bilateral protocols if necessary

Staff

- The NPPO should have personnel with a level of expertise appropriate for the duties and responsibilities of the positions being occupied. NPPOs should have or have access to personnel with training and experience in:
 1. performing inspections of plants, plant products and other regulated articles for purposes related to the issuance of phytosanitary certificates
 2. identification of plants and plant products

3. detection and identification of pests
4. performing or supervising phytosanitary treatments required for the certification in question
5. survey, monitoring and control activities related to phytosanitary certification
6. constructing appropriate certification systems and formulating instructions from importing country phytosanitary requirements
7. auditing of accredited personnel and certification systems, where appropriate

Information on importing country phytosanitary requirements

- The NPPO should, to the extent possible, maintain official current information concerning the import requirements of its trading partners. It may be useful for the exporter to obtain information on the current import requirements for the country of destination and supply it to the NPPO.

Technical information

- The NPPO should provide the personnel involved in phytosanitary certification with adequate technical information concerning quarantine pests, and to the extent possible, non-quarantine pests, for the importing countries including:
 1. their presence and distribution within the exporting country
 2. the biology, surveillance, detection and identification of the pests
 3. pest management, where appropriate.

Equipment

- The NPPO should ensure that adequate equipment and facilities are available to carry out inspection, testing, consignment verification and phytosanitary certification procedures

Procedures

- The NPPO should maintain guidance documents, procedures and work instructions as appropriate covering every aspect of the certification system
- Key elements include:
 - - instructions relating to phytosanitary certificates:
 1. control over issuance (manual or electronic)
 2. identification of issuing officers
 3. inclusion of additional declarations

Procedures Cont'd

3. completion of the treatment section of the certificate
4. certified alterations
5. completion of phytosanitary certificates
6. signature and delivery of phytosanitary certificates

instructions relating to other components:

1. procedures for working with industry
2. sampling, inspection and verification procedures
3. security over official seals/marks
4. consignment identification, traceability, and security
5. record keeping.

Communication

Within the exporting country

– The NPPO should have procedures in place for timely communication to relevant personnel and to industry concerning changes in:

1. importing country phytosanitary requirements
2. pest status and geographical distribution
3. operational procedures.

Communication Cont'd

- The NPPO may put in place, for non-conforming consignments, a procedure which enables rapid communication to all affected industry parties and certification personnel. This is in order to facilitate resolution of the problem and to prevent re-submission of the consignment unless approved corrective action has been undertaken

Communication Cont'd

Outside the exporting country

- The NPPO should:
 1. liaise with the nominated representatives of relevant NPPOs to discuss phytosanitary requirements
 2. - make available a contact point for importing country NPPOs to report cases of non-compliance
 3. - liaise with the relevant Regional Plant Protection Organizations and other international organizations in order to facilitate the harmonization of phytosanitary measures and the dissemination of technical and regulatory inform

System review

- The NPPO should periodically review the effectiveness of all aspects of its export certification system and implement changes to the system if required.

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THANKS

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