

# **REPORT OF MEETING**

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## **REPORT OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE PACIFIC PLANT PROTECTION ORGANISATION**

(Nadi, Fiji Islands, 19-23 March 2001)

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SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY  
SUVA, FIJI ISLANDS

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SUVA, FIJI ISLANDS  
2002

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## **Official Opening**

1 Fiji's Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forest, Mr Samisoni Ulitu, welcomed delegates to the third meeting of the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) on behalf of the Republic of Fiji Islands. He noted that 22 Pacific Island countries and territories were represented as well as New Zealand.

2 Mr Ulitu reiterated the purposes of the PPPO emphasising international standards and trade increased capacity development, response to international quarantine issues and the harmonisation of quarantine practices. He also described the Fiji quarantine mission statement that related to the protection of Fiji's unique biodiversity whilst being able to expedite trade.

## **Adoption of the Agenda and Daily Time Schedules**

3 There was some discussion concerning the inclusion of the agenda items related to the biosafety and the Landos report. It was decided to keep these, and the agenda was adopted. (*See Annex F*)

4 The participants agreed to start the meeting each day at 8.30 am and work through to 5.30 pm. with breaks for lunch and tea.

## **Selection of the Drafting Committee**

5 Elected members of the drafting committee (with support from the SPC Secretariat included):  
 The Chairperson Mr Sione Foliaki (Tonga)  
 Vice-Chair Mr Richard Ivess (New Zealand)  
 Dr Russell Campbell (Guam)  
 Mr Remy Amice (New Caledonia)  
 Mr Joseph Cain (Nauru)

## **Adoption of the Report of the Second Meeting of the PPPO**

6 The report of the second meeting of the PPPO was adopted.

## **Election of the Chairperson, Vice-chairperson and Executive Committee of the PPPO**

7 Tonga was elected chair of the PPPO for the next three years. New Zealand was elected vice chair.

8 The elected Executive Committee members for the period 2001–2004 are:

### *Melanesia:*

Papua New Guinea  
 Solomon Islands

### *Micronesia*

Federated States of Micronesia  
 Guam

### *Polynesia*

Samoa  
 Wallis and Futuna

### *Metropolitan countries*

New Zealand (ex officio)  
 Plus the Chair (Tonga) and Vice-Chair (New Zealand)

9 New Zealand reminded the meeting of the role and functions of the Executive Committee. Fiji suggested that the PPPO should utilise the value and experience of Ex-Executive Committee members.

### **Country Reports on National Quarantine Services**

10 Individual country reports are appended to the PPPO report. Comments and discussion resulting from the presentation of the reports included:

#### **(i) New Caledonia**

11 Fiji wished to know the source of the banana bunchy top virus in New Caledonia. New Caledonia was aware of the source but due to lack of evidence did not wish to make it public.

12 Samoa commented that they also had problems with bananas and highlighted the suspicion of tissue culture material. New Caledonia clarified that their banana bunchy top virus would have likely been imported via illegal entry of plant material and not through tissue culture. New Caledonia clarified that it did not import banana plants and only accepted tissue culture from reputable sources after consultation with specialists.

#### **(ii) Nauru**

13 PNG commented that SPC and member countries should only use tissue culture as a means of transporting geoplasm, given the lack of capacity of the PICTs to detect or identify pests and added that there was a need for more awareness for this.

#### **(iii) Kiribati**

14 No comments or questions

#### **(iv) Guam**

15 Guam said that they currently had no mechanism to inspect plant material, therefore, their quarantine section had to send such materials to Hawaii for inspection or quarantine, which was costly.

16 Vanuatu requested clarification as to what was meant by “reconditioning”. Guam informed them that it was a treatment for products that may contain surface feeders, and involves immersing the material in a mild soap solution.

#### **(v) French Polynesia**

17 No comments or questions

#### **(vi) Fiji Islands**

18 No comments or questions

#### **(vii) Cook Islands**

19 The scientific name of coconut flat moth was corrected.

#### **(viii) American Samoa**

20 Samoa requested American Samoa to cooperate more with them, as many pests of concern were common to both.

**(ix) Palau**

21 No comments or questions

**(x) Niue**

22 Niue requested that New Zealand present its pest lists for quarantine purposes. New Zealand responded by saying that they had thousands of pests on their lists and it would be more practical if requests were on a specific crop basis.

23 A request was made to SPC for the provision of a digital camera for diagnostic purposes. SPC agreed with the importance of this and said that despite funding constraints they were trying to accommodate countries in this area.

24 SPC pointed out that specific funding for Niue had ceased since 2000 and new funding (by Australia and New Zealand) for Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau (CNT) had been established.

25 PNG suggested that a list be created outlining the needs of the various PICTs and that these could be prioritised. SPC said that one of the main objectives of the country reports was to ascertain this issue.

**(xi) Wallis and Futuna**

26 New Caledonia inquired about the status of the fruit fly surveillance programme in Wallis and Futuna. Wallis and Futuna mentioned that, trapping had been temporarily suspended, for two months due to lack of funds; however, they are waiting for the endorsement of their work programme for the next four years by the government to enable surveillance. SPC commented that the lack of a surveillance programme in Wallis and Futuna was a very serious matter as there were possibilities of the country becoming an epicenter for the spread of pests. Wallis and Futuna said that they had requested assistance from France. SPC said that pest surveillance for Wallis and Futuna was in their work plan for year 2001.

27 Western Samoa recommended that pest surveillance always be on an on-going basis.

28 Solomon Islands commented that although donor assistance had ceased, it still managed to continue with its pest surveillance activities, especially those associated with the control of fruit fly.

**(xii) Tuvalu**

29 The source of the coconut scale were unknown and it was suspected that it had come from nearby infested regions. Surprisingly it was only found on the outer islands. This affected the mainland, which could not obtain some food materials due to quarantine restrictions.

**(xiii) Tokelau**

30 Tokelau questioned the whereabouts of a computer promised by SPC. SPC explained that it had been lost during transport to Tokelau and that the company concerned would have to replace it.

31 Tokelau also wished to know the status of their request for attachment of two quarantine staff. SPC stated that they had not received a response from Australia and New Zealand but as Tonga was running a similar program it would be advisable to attach them there as it would be more relevant to the Pacific island situation.

**(xiv) Solomon Islands**

32 No comments or questions



**(xv) Samoa**

33 SPC requested that Samoa provide feedback on their bilateral activities and discuss which activities were covered under other funding agents such as AusAID, because of constraints there is a need for diversion of funds to other urgent cases. Samoa said it was unable to confirm AusAID projects and therefore requested that the SPC continue with their funding.

**(xvi) Papua New Guinea**

34 No comments or questions

**(xvii) Northern Mariana Islands**

35 No comments or questions

**(xviii) Tonga**

36 No comments or questions

**(xix) New Zealand**

37 No comments or questions

**(xx) Federated States of Micronesia**

38 Not reported

**(xxi) Marshall Islands**

39 Not reported

### **Trade Facilitation – Landos report on quarantine constraints to trade and the impact of WTO-SPS agreement on regional trade**

#### **Summary of Workshop**

##### **(i) Trade Facilitation Presentation by Mr John Landos**

40 Mr Landos mentioned that all the recommendations contained in his report did not apply to every country due to different stages of quarantine and customs development and the difference in projects. Environmental issues were strongly related to quarantine and tourism. Developed countries draft SPS rules with little or no input from the less-developed countries. There should be regional arrangements in place to help small island countries strengthen their capacities. The main focus of quarantine is animal, plants and human health and includes equipment, funding, scientific capacity. A regional strengthening of scientific capacity is needed. The common scenario in the FICs is that quarantine follows customs. There is also a tendency amongst some quarantine staff to let senior officials or VIPs pass through quarantine without checks. It was reported that, most of the forum countries did not have well-equipped diagnostic facilities.

##### **(ii) World Trade Organisation Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO-SPS Agreement)**

41 Ms Gretchen Stanton, WTO Headquarters, Geneva, gave a presentation on the World Trade Organisation Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO-SPS Agreement). She explained that a SPS measure was any measure applied to protect animal, plant or human health within the territory of the member country, from risks arising from the entry, establishment or spread of pests and

diseases. The key provisions of the SPS agreement are; scientific justification, harmonisation, equivalence, disease-free areas, technical assistance and transparency.

*Report of workshop available separately*

## **Fruit Fly Management Workshop**

### **Summary of workshop**

42 SPC reported that the Fruit Fly Project was part of SPC under the Pest Management Project (PMP). Presentation included the background of the regional fruit fly project, recommendations of the 4<sup>th</sup> steering committee meeting and technical review, regional surveillance, emergency control measures, enhanced trade, information and publication, and management issues. SPC-FFM continues with activities as recommended by the 4<sup>th</sup> Fruit Fly Steering Committee.

*Report of workshop available separately*

## **NZA SPC Pest Management in the Pacific (PMP)**

### **Summary of Presentation**

43 SPC informed the meeting that the PMP was a new project that was developed by the consolidation of separately administered and funded projects. New Zealand and Australia funded it and consisted of seven components, each administered by a technical co-ordinator. The purpose of PMP was to provide a more efficient, cost-effective plant protection service in the Pacific.

### **Recommendation**

44 The PPPO endorse the concept of PMP and recommend that members review the Project Design Document (PDD) and brief their PICTs representative (directors of agriculture or equivalent officers) on the PMP-Project Co-ordinating Committee (PCC) which was to meet in May 2001.

*See Annex C.1 for Background*

## **EU SPC Pacific Plant Protection Service Phase II (PPPS-II)**

### **Summary of Presentation**

45 The European Union funded SPC's Pacific Plant Protection Service Project. The EU PPPS project is complementary to PMP. This is the second project of the Pacific Plant Protection Service, that delivers quarantine capacity building to ACP and OCT (French territories) countries, and is currently under consideration by the EU for funding.

### **Comments**

46 The European Union to fund the second phase of PPPS so that it continues to build on the capacity of national quarantine services and support plant protection services, and to assist quarantine services to facilitate trade under global and regional free trade agreements.

47 All the countries showed support and appreciation of EU funding, and agreed there is a vital need for phase II of the PPS to continue. Some of the benefits the countries received through the EU—funded PPS project were: quarantine training, equipment, SPC technical advice, publications, information service, consultation and infrastructure. All the countries thanked EU for their support and stated that many of their developments in terms of pest management and quarantine depended heavily on the EU—funded SPC-PPS.

48 Funding that is provided in PPPS-II will be used to facilitate early consultation with ACP and OCT countries to formulate detailed work plans for quarantine and plant protection needs of the targeted countries.

## Recommendations

- 49 (I) European Union fund the second phase of PPPS so that it continue to build the capacity of national quarantine services, supports plant protection services, assists quarantine services to facilitate trade under global and regional free trade agreements;  
 (II) (PPPO-3 recommends strongly that) funding is provided to give an uninterrupted transition between phases I and II of PPPS; and  
 (III) Funding is provided in PPPS-II to facilitate early consultation with ACP and OCT countries to formulate detailed work plans that provide for the quarantine and plant protection needs of target countries.

*See Annex C.2 for Background*

## PPPO Work Programme 1998-2000

### (i) *Information and Extension*

#### Summary of Presentation

- 50 Overview of the services and the role of the information service were outlined highlighting services such as:
- ◆ PPS internal information management,
  - ◆ PPS information output.
    - Pest Advisory Leaflets (PALs)
    - Pest Alerts
    - Pest Info Newsletter
    - Publications distributed to about 56 countries
    - PPS website, offering PPS information through internet;
  - ◆ conducting information needs surveys for the Pacific; and
  - ◆ country visits to Tonga, Pohnpei, Palau and Guam.
- 51 Looking forward in 2001 was also highlighted in areas such as:
- ◆ bringing more information to PICTs;
  - ◆ information management;
  - ◆ PPS publication distribution by country; and
  - ◆ collaboration with PICTs extension services.

### (ii) *Entomologist's contribution to PPPO work programme*

#### Summary of Presentation

- 52 Work carried out in PICTs included:
- Quarantine:*
- ◆ Handling of incursions
  - ◆ General ERP
  - ◆ SPC IRA Policy
  - ◆ Methyl bromide phase-out
  - ◆ 12th consultation of RPPOs attended
  - ◆ Attachment training organised for New Caledonia
  - ◆ Equipment worth FJ\$98,441 supplied
  - ◆ CABI Crop Protection Compendium supplied to 24 officers
  - ◆ GPPIS CDs mobilised from FAO

- ◆ Quarantine manual delivered to Tuvalu
- ◆ Awareness material produced for Fiji and Kiribati

53 *Plant protection:*

- ◆ IPM training in Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Tuvalu, Fiji and PNG
- ◆ 6 pesticide management training in several locations in PNG and Fiji
- ◆ Mobilisation of funds for taro beetle research
- ◆ Co-ordination of biological control
- ◆ 4 attachments training organised (Niue, Solomon Islands, French Polynesia, Vanuatu)
- ◆ Pheromone trapping of rhinoceros beetle mainly in Fiji and of sweet potato weevil in Tonga
- ◆ Cabbage IPM in PNG and Fiji
- ◆ Equipment worth FJD 20,043 supplied

54 *In both areas:*

- ◆ 75 requests for information answered
- ◆ E-mail news service started, 73 articles contributed
- ◆ Co-author of PAL on GAS
- ◆ Insect identifications

(iii) *Plant Pathologist's Contribution to PPPO Work Programme*

**Summary of Presentation**

55 Work reported by pathology included;

- ◆ harmonisation of quarantine laws,
- ◆ facilitating multi-level curricula development and delivery,
- ◆ regional training in all aspects of pest risk assessment (PRA),
- ◆ help in plant disease ID by identifying possible centre that provide this service,
- ◆ feasibility study regarding a certificate course in plant protection/quarantine.

**Recommendation**

56 SPC publishes COGENT Guidelines for the Safe Movement of Germplasm into and within the Asia-Pacific Region.

**Regional Emergency Response Planning**

**Summary of Presentation**

57 The development of a regional emergency response plan, incorporating national plans and contingency arrangements for high priority pests was not progressing at a pace equivalent to its priority and importance. PHALPS 13 recommended that SPC facilitate the development of national plant pest contingency planning based on a common regional framework.

**Comments**

- 58
- (i) SPC was asked to take on the main role of helping countries with emergency response planning.
  - (ii) SPC was requested to conduct identification and distribution of pest related issues.
  - (iii) It was suggested that the manual be completed quickly.

## Recommendations

- 59 (i) PPPO secretariat finalise the draft “regional emergency response co-ordinating plan” within the first half of 2001, omitting the national ERP elements, followed by distribution of an electronic version to PICTs for review.
- (ii) Depending on available funding SPC-PPS facilitate planning for national emergency response within the framework of the regional plan, incorporating the fruit fly and other high-priority pest response plans.

*See Annex C.3 for Background*

## Quarantine Training Programme 2001-2003: IRA and ERP

### Summary of Presentation

60 The PPPO work programme developed at the PPPO-2 meeting stated:

“PRA training be given high priority; the training be comprehensive; and account be taken in planning and training, of bilateral and other regional arrangements relating to PRA training”. The need to do PRA (now called Import Risk Analysis) was based on the requirement by the WTO that trade not be restricted by “technical barriers” and that all phytosanitary measures be scientifically justified.

61 Two initiatives that PPPO-3 was asked to endorse were: how shall further training in IRA be delivered and at what spacing, and the development of a computer base decision support system being considered by SPC in order to facilitate the IRA process in-country.

### Comments

62 Three problems with IRA implementation were highlighted:

- ◆ lack of up-to-date pest lists;
- ◆ access to information on pests; and
- ◆ the ability to make decisions based on the information collected.

63 It was suggested that countries be asked how frequently they would need refresher courses and why. Members stated that IRA was very important, and that one training session was not enough. Strong support for more training was expressed. SPC would audit the countries’ IRA and later determine whether further training was needed.

## Recommendations

- 64 (I) SPC-PPS continue IRA phase-1 training for all PICTs that require it, and following the conduct of an audit continues on to phase 2 based on the needs of the countries concerned.
- (II) SPC-PPS develop IRA, a computer-based decision support system.

*See Annex C.4 for Background*

## Proposed Standardised Format for Legislation, Risk Analysis and Operational Manuals

### Summary of Presentation

65 PPPO-2 recommended that national capacity of conducting Pest Risk analysis be increased through workshops. The quarantine and related laws of many PICTs were outdated and there was little regional harmonisation of quarantine laws making it difficult to have standard quarantine procedures. Updating laws would also provide an opportunity to incorporate Biosafety law.

## Comments

66 Concerns were raised on the amount of work required to draft the Biosecurity Act. It was made clear that the Act would be a module and once the draft was completed it would be checked to see if it was “Pacific friendly” and then sent to FAO for their recommendations.

67 Countries commented that, Biosecurity Act concept was new and, there was a proposition to change the quarantine acts to a Biosecurity Act. It was clarified that the Biosecurity Act would replace the quarantine acts and as a result there would be consistency throughout the Pacific with associated benefits. Other government departments could use the Act as required.

68 NAQIA strongly supported the idea of multidisciplinary legislation. It was highlighted that the WTO required countries to have legislation that was SPS compliant. It was recognised that it would be useful to have guidelines for drafting legislation similar to that produced by FAO, to promote harmonisation in the region. In addition, for the non-WTO member countries, when negotiation for WTO entry, local laws would be screened for compliance thus they would need to modify their Acts and a draft module would be very useful.

## Recommendation

69 SPC-PPS investigates the needs of PICTs for legislation reviews in agricultural quarantine and environment, with a view to producing a single set of Biosecurity Legislation Drafting Guidelines that include provisions for plant, animal, human health and the environment.

*See Annex C.5 for Background*

## A Model Regional Operational Manual

### Summary of Presentation

70 A need for a model quarantine operational manual was expressed. There is a need to have a legal basis operational manual that is transparent and consistent, technically justified. Only a few countries had Plant Quarantine (Phytosanitary) Operational Manuals that gave guidance on the day-to-day activities for inspectors. A number of countries had developed operational manuals that could serve as templates. Developing a regional format for national manuals would assist in harmonisation of procedures and development of standards for the accreditation of inspectors at a regional level.

The proposed content of the model quarantine operational manual was reported to have components such as administration (structure and legislation), operational areas (seaport, airport, post) and operation categories such as commodities and PEQ. The content of the model would be based on treatments, technical support, and export inspection. The proposed operational manual format was to be a module (for easy revision), initially as a hard copy, and development of hypertext format for linkage to other manuals through network. Also, it should result in a greater understanding between NPPOs, which should be of benefit in the development of free trade agreements.

### Questions and Comments

71 New Zealand commented that the NZ export manual is available on the internet as a hypertext and PICTs could use it as a reference text.

72 Papua New Guinea suggested that any guideline manual prepared for the PICTs should be done by SPC. SPC reported that a manual had been prepared some time ago but was lost in the system. It had been recovered and used by Tuvalu with some changes made. The same manual could be used as a guideline document rather than starting all over again. Dr Ikin said there were numerous documents that could be used as references. A draft need to be made then the experts could see if it complied with WTO standards and

other issues such as technicalities, abbreviations, etc. Generally, the manual should be an output of the PRA exercise.

## **Recommendation**

73 SPC develop guidelines for a standardised format for operational manuals that could be used for national adoption. This should be done with consideration given to the content of such a manual from the viewpoint of regional harmonisation, standardisation of training and the development of a competency standard for quarantine inspectors.

*See Annex C.6 for Background*

## **Cost-effectiveness of Regional Consultations**

### **Summary of Presentation**

74 SPC reported that the cost of organising a regional level consultation such as the PPPO was a very costly exercise, citing the 2001 meeting as an example. The cost so far had been F\$127,000. The direct cost of the PPPO meeting has doubled in three years and air travel in the Pacific was becoming less reliable. Donor funding had become limited, with all proposals subject to detailed scrutiny. Funds spent on regional meetings meant less funding for national capacity building. The regional meeting invited and paid for a single representative from each country.

75 Two suggestions were tabled:

- 1) A single visit of one week to a PICT costing FJD4000 could result in consultation with a wide spectrum of government, NGOs and private sectors to assess national needs and priorities.
- 2) Fully developed electronic systems could avoid the necessity for international (RPPO, ICPM) consultations.

### **Comments**

76 There was general concern at the prospect of not holding the PPPO meeting. PNG said that the PICTs would not be able to meet experts and technical staff of SPC in national consultations and that a meeting once every three years could be budgeted for. Further benefits, such as the sharing of ideas and experiences, side discussions on issues of common concern were mentioned.

77 PNG suggested rotating the meeting venue, although the SPC policy is that meetings are either held in Suva or Noumea and it was cheaper to hold them in Fiji.

78 New Zealand said that many RPPOs met every year. The main aim of the PPPO consultation was to take PPPO members' voices to other forums such as the ICPM meetings. Given the three-year difference between the meetings, it was difficult to take the views and issues of PICTs to these major annual meetings. The reality was that there were no funds but a bigger reality was that the PICTs needed to meet to express their views and discuss issues of concern.

79 New Caledonia felt there should be more bilateral discussion and sub-regional consultation and that the members of the PPPO Executive Committee in the different sub-regions help in facilitating these. New Zealand supported this idea.

80 Fiji supported SPC's move to seek funding for future meetings and added that PICTs were vulnerable and that donors should consider this. SPC stated the wishes of the PPPO members has given them a good steer when discussing the issue with the donors and convincing them of the need for regional meetings. SPC suggested that between now and the next meeting it would use the recommendation to gather donor support for the future meeting.

## Recommendations

81 (i) the PPPO Secretariat in, consultation with the executive, explore whether there are more cost-effective means of regional and sub-regional consultation, and that meanwhile the secretariat would continue to seek donor support;

(ii) the PPPO continue to implement the original purpose for which it was established (“PPPO focuses on improving the capacity of Pacific nations to comply with global quarantine and trade standards, and links the region to international Organisations such as the WTO, and to the Food and Agriculture Organisation’s Interim Commission for Phytosanitary Measures and Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)”); and

(iii) the PPPO put forward the Pacific region’s concern with respect to the Rome meetings, through its Chairperson.

*See Annex C.7 for Background*

## Bilateral/Multilateral Assistance for National Quarantine Services

### Summary of Presentation

82 Bilateral assistance for capacity building in national quarantine is normally planned, funded and delivered independently of, and without consultation with, PPPO or SPC-PPS. There was little co-ordination between bilaterally funded and multilaterally funded (SPC delivered) quarantine capacity building projects because SPC-PPS dealt directly with

Canberra or Wellington, whereas countries dealt with the national, country-based donor office. Bilaterally funded projects were normally ad hoc in nature with minimal long term, strategic or supporting components.

### Comments

83 Fiji wished to know when the members would have to inform the SPC of their project proposals. SPC advised that at the time of drafting as its expertise in project drafting could also help individual countries make the best of their proposals and attain success with them. SPC said that it did not wish to threaten the rights of the individual PICTs and, therefore, countries that did not wish to disclose their activities and felt that they can manage could do so.

84 Samoa stated that it was important that members were transparent in their actions.

### Recommendation

85 In the interest of developing harmonised quarantine services based on regional norms. PPPO request members to be transparent about their requests for bilateral donor support and to inform donors about the regional role of PPPO, and to ensure that providers consult PPPO Secretariat on regionally harmonised quarantine systems and standards.

*See Annex C.8 for Background*

## Import Requirements for Pacific Products Destined for Australia, New Zealand and Other Countries

### Summary of Presentation

86 This agenda discussed constraints that PICTs have on trading fresh fruit and vegetables and discussed importing countries’ requirements. Constraints such as: delays in carrying out PRAs by the importing country and changes in import requirements, of which PICTs are not aware was highlighted. It was reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee and Technical Review of the Regional Fruit Fly Project in 2000 recommended that SPC facilitate trade negotiations and dialogue with importing countries for fruit fly commodities,



particularly in those countries that had taken so long to undertake PRAs on current requests from PICTs.

87 It is the responsibility of the exporting countries to initiate trade negotiations with their partners. SPC would facilitate in areas of information dissemination and create dialogue with importing countries that required technical advice.

### **Comments**

88 There was lengthy discussion and various countries gave current examples of access problems (e.g. New Caledonia with Japan, Fiji with Australia and the US). Countries were only obliged to follow the WTO rules if they were members of WTO. Countries could, however, demand the reasons for their products not being allowed to enter a country. Additionally, all WTO members were obliged to provide information on what they were doing.

### **Recommendations**

89 (i) SPC continue to facilitate provision of technical advice and information in the area of generic treatments for fresh fruit and vegetables; and

(ii) importing countries be requested to expedite the provision of information on import requirements.

<i>See Annex C.9 for Background</i>
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## **Quarantine Risk of Germplasm Movement in the Region**

### **Summary of Presentation**

90 It was reported that breeding programmes for yam, taro and other important staples were being hindered and countries denied the benefits of improved cultivars because quarantine services restricted germplasm movement in the region based on its alleged quarantine risk.

### **Comments**

91 New Caledonia inquired as to whether the RGC was only serving Fiji. SPC said it was currently serving Samoa, PNG, etc in collecting material, and research was based on that in a non-commercialised manner. Vanuatu commented that it was waiting for the outcome of the QUT study, which was still going on, however, at this stage there should be issuing of a phytosanitary certificate as still there is technical method need to develop. PNG had similar sentiments as there was a separate ACIAR project working on virus identification and NARI was unable to accept the recommendation until they received feedback from that. Tonga felt that as long as the RGC endorsed pest or disease-free commodities, all that was needed was certification for easy access.

### **Recommendation**

92 Quarantine services of PPPO members explore and, if appropriate, facilitate the movement of taro and yam tissue culture between countries to assist with breeding for taro blight and yam anthracnose resistance and conservation of taro and yam in the Regional Germplasm Centre in Suva, without compromising quarantine standards.

<i>See Annex C.10 for Background</i>
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## Biosafety Protocol Update

### *Summary of Presentation*

#### 93 *IRA workshops - GMO inclusion*

As decided at the Biosafety workshop, the Pacific procedure for IRA can be used for assessing risk associated with live GMO imports and all IRA training has included a module on GMO-IRA. Handling of GMO issues such as regulation and labelling must be based in a country's legislation (quarantine and elsewhere) was highlighted to be the further step. International scene International Plant Protection Convention 1979- was acceptance by participants (Australia, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands). International Plant Protection Convention 1997 was acceptance by participants (Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands). Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety pacific signatures and ratification (France, New Zealand, Samoa, and Kiribati).

94 Exploratory working group on phytosanitary aspects of genetically modified organisms, biosafety and invasive species, mandate to assess overlap of activities related to GMOs, invasive species and biosafety by the IPPC, CBD and other relevant international organisations.

#### 95 IPPC and GMOs

- ◆ GMOs fall within the scope of the IPPC
- ◆ Risk analysis and management systems are appropriate for use in assessing GMOs, but may need a specific ISPM to deal with them
- ◆ Clarification is needed for terminology and concepts included in the CBD Interim Guiding Principles.

#### 96 IPPC and Alien Invasive Species

Current and future ISPMs need to take into account environmental risks of plant pests

Current PRA (IRA) methodology can be used to deal with environmental impacts of plant pests.

### **Comments**

97 Tonga wanted to know if PICTs should wait for the recommendation of the biosafety meeting before accepting PPPO 3 recommendations. SPC clarified that the recommendations did not have to do entirely with biosafety and, thus, it was the country's liberty to chose which recommendations they wanted to act on.

98 SPC further stated that it ensured all recommendations are not related to the outcomes of the biosafety and were asking participants to share information rather than making decision on the biosafety meetings.

99 SPC also highlighted that a questionnaire was devised by Massey University and is available on the internet, and that PPPO members should try filling it in. SPC had no role in that.

### **Recommendations**

- 100
- (i) PPPO member countries participate in the biosecurity model law project,
  - (ii) PPPO member countries assess and comment on any draft standards that are developed by the ISC (Interim Standards Committee) of the ICPM,
  - (iii) PPPO member countries identify capacity building needs in this area by completing the survey questionnaire available on the web site: <http://icpm.massey.ac.nz> or that PPPO provides the questionnaire as hard copy to be filled out by PPPO member countries.
  - (iv) ICPM members (as defined: "The members of the Commission are the contracting parties to the Convention and are the governing body as established in the New Revised Text (NRT) of the IPPC") participate wherever possible as in ICPM exploratory working group recommendation 15.

See Annex C.11 for Background
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## Methyl Bromide Phase-out and Alternatives

### Summary of Presentation

101 Methyl bromide destroys the ozone layer and will be phased-out under the Montreal Protocol, although, quarantine applications of methyl bromide are exempt. Nevertheless, supplies can be threatened by the reduced production for other purposes and by amendments of the Montreal Protocol.

102 The Protocol places heavy restrictions on methyl bromide production in developed countries; methyl bromide producers do, therefore, face a shrinking market and methyl bromide production may become unprofitable.

### Comments

103 PNG inquired how much methyl bromide was used in the Pacific and if the production of it declines, we will not lose so much because Pacific islands use less compared to the developed countries. Bigger uses should be asked to reduce their consumption first.

104 Vanuatu suggested that the PPPO secretariat continually advise PPPO countries of changes to the Montreal Protocol. SPC said that the Protocol's contents are discussed at an

international meeting every year; next meeting was scheduled for October 2001. Vanuatu also suggested that radiation be considered as an alternative and stated the terms of reference of FAO.

### Recommendations

- 105 (I) PPPO Secretariat advise members on any changes to the Montreal Protocol that are likely to adversely affect PICTs with regard to MB availability;
- (II) PPPO recommend that the Pacific Islands quarantine services reduce methyl bromide fumigation to the minimum; and
- (III) PPPO Secretariat continues to seek funding for Pacific-specific studies on cost-effective alternatives to methyl bromide.

*See Annex C.12 for Background*

## Outcome of RPPO San Diego 11-13 October, 2000

### Summary of Presentation

106 Pink mealybug and wood packing regulations at RPPO13 (Auckland) October 2000, was discussed by Regional Plant Protection Organisations (RPPO) that require PPPO attention and action. In regards to pink mealybug, countries were asked to verify the presence of this pest. It was suggested that it is worthwhile to introduce *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* from a quarantine perspective.

107 Wood packing, PPPO countries were asked if they already established such regulations. And is there a need for PPPO countries to establish such regulations.

### Comments

108 New Caledonia stated that the ladybird *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*, which is a natural enemy of pink mealybug, is present in their country. SPC added that pink mealybug is present according to Ecoport in Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, PNG, Tonga, FSM, Palau, Guam. It may also be present in northern Australia.

109 Tonga requested PICTs to reconfirm the presence in their countries so that SPC could be requested to circulate bio-control for this mealybug. SPC agreed to this.

110 Solomon Islands questioned if it was all right for PPPO to involve itself in a survey of the current status of wood packing regulations and practices. It should be done country by country, and case by case because many countries do not have the resources. Vanuatu disagreed with Solomon Islands on whether a survey was necessary or something simpler.

111 PNG stated that the survey could be a simple procedure and a letter could be sent from the PPPO Secretariat; all the members needed to do was respond by telling them whether or not they have legislation.

112 New Zealand felt that importing countries would want the exporting countries to comply and thus it is important that all PICTs consider this.

## Recommendations

- 113 (i) SPC consider the introduction of *Cryptoleamus montrouzieri* against pink mealybug (*Maconellicoccus hirsutus*) in co—operation with infested countries;
- (ii) A survey of the current status of wood packing regulations and practices is carried out by PPPO Secretariat with a view to taking action to reduce the associated quarantine risk; and
- (iii) PPPO Secretariat to seek funding to assist members to attend RPPO13, Auckland 2001.

*See Annex C.13 for Background*

## Regional Quarantine Items in Transit and Re-exports

### Summary of Presentation

114 It was presented that quarantinable items in transit such as agricultural products may be exported from country A, transit through country B on their way to country C as the final destination. These products may form a quarantine risk not for the importing country C but for country B while the shipment is in transit.

115 Points for discussion at the meeting were:

- ◆ Are quarantinable items in transit an issue worth considering? Were there incidents in relation to transit?
- ◆ What is the position of countries in relation to items that are in transit through their countries?
- ◆ Are re-exports an issue worth considering? Were there incidents in relation to re-exports?

### Comments

116 Fiji felt that transit issues were similar to the common PRA issues and as such be treated with same consideration and care. To this PNG added that in their case they have worked out a mechanism that requires consignments to be packed, and documents to be sent to NAQIA while on its transit to enable smooth facilitation of transit.

117 It was explained that transit cargoes are similar to other transits but what matters here is the time the cargo is in transit.

118 On the issue of re-exporting certificates, PNG wanted to know how the PPPO could assist.

119 SPC stated that transit and re-export problems for all countries are serious and it is the onus of the trade agency and if there are laws and penalties it could be controlled and thus trade agents have to declare.

## Recommendation

120 PPPO Executive Committee forms working groups to draft a regional policy on re-export shipments for review by countries, to be finalised by September 2001.

*See Annex C.14 for Background*

## SPC-PPS Policy on Assisting Countries with IRAs

### Summary of Presentation

121 Increased trade, training and awareness of IRA is resulting in a growing number of requests to SPC-PPS for assistance with national IRA analysis. To increase the efficiency of the IRA service, SPC has formulated a policy on handling IRA services. PPPO members to endorse the policy guidelines.

### Comment

122 New Zealand wanted to know if the policy was internal to SPC and SPC replied yes. PPPO supported the policy.

### Recommendations

- 123 (I) PPPO endorse the SPC-Plant Protection Services IRA assistance policy;  
 (II) SPC make provisions in future work programmes and in its requests for donor support to provide additional IRA services on a regional basis, especially to countries where the provision of national resources to conduct IRAs would not be cost-effective; and  
 (III) PPPO strongly support efforts of countries to make available datasheets on pests derived from completed PRAs for PICTs to support their conduct of PRAs.

*See Annex C.15 for Background*

## PPS Web Site

### Summary of Presentation

124 Details regarding the PPS website were presented. It was reported that the website contains all items of publications. There are word documents of reports and publications and pdf files, which are easy to read on any computer without changing the layout. PPPO members were each given a CD containing the entire PPS site as well as a web browser and the Adobe Acrobat Reader software.

### Comments

125 Members were cautioned about downloading from the actual site as some document could take a while to download given the slow speed of the servers in most PICTs. Also, the cost factor needs to be considered, as some PICTs have to pay high charges to the service providers. The CD format was commented to be cheaper, although, people are free to access the site especially when they need updates urgently.

### Recommendations

- 126 (I) SPC-PPS continues development of the PPS website; and  
 (II) PPS continues to distribute its website contents by CD-ROM to those PICTs staff that do not have good low-cost direct access to the Internet.

*See Annex C.16 for Background*

## **Draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)**

### **Summary of Presentations**

127 It was reported that ISPMs under development were; Import Requirements for Non-manufactured Wood Packing Material and Systems Approaches for Risk Management and Pest Reporting. The ISPMs for consideration at ICPM 3 are Pest Risk Analysis for Quarantine Pests, Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates, Amendments to the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms, which supplements the glossary of phytosanitary terms; Guidelines on the interpretation and application of the concept of official control for regulated pests, Guidelines for the notification of non-compliance; and Guidelines for the preparation of regulated pest lists and inspection methodology.

128 ISPMs under consideration by the Interim Standards Committee are: Guidelines for an Import Regulatory System, Guidelines for Surveillance for Specific Pests; Citrus Canker, General Considerations and Specific Requirements for Regulated Non-quarantine Pests

129 The ISPMs under revision are: Principles of Plant Quarantine as Related to International Trade and Guidelines for Pest Risk Analysis.

### **Comments**

130 Who represents the French territories at the ISPM, is it France or SPC–PPS? New Caledonia responded by saying that French territories like itself establish their own regulations on pest control; they are autonomous and can take part as a separate member. In international treaties France signs on New Caledonia's behalf.

131 New Zealand stated that New Caledonia could use the PPPO to voice the Pacific-specific issues at the ISPM. Guam said it would like represent itself at ISPM or the SPC, rather than US.

132 SPC said a mechanism should be developed to allow the reviewing of ISPM. Tonga wanted to know how to become a member of ISPM and Bob Ikin explained that there was a pro-form on the FAO website, which could used to register interest.

### **Recommendations**

- 133 (I) PICTs become contracting parties to the IPPC;
- (II) IPPC contracting party PICTs participate in the development of ISPM by reviewing and commenting on drafts to ensure that the Pacific concerns be expressed to the working groups developing the standards;
- (III) Non-IPPC contracting party PICTs participate in the development of ISPMs by reviewing and submitting their comments to ISC through the PPPO Secretariat.

<i>See Annex C.17 for Background</i>
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### **ICPM Pilot Project**

#### **Summary of Presentation**

134 The participants were informed that ICPM has commissioned a technical assistance questionnaire in order to get an idea of the plant quarantine needs that exist in developing countries. PPPO member countries were encouraged to participate in this activity, in order to represent and give the ICPM an overview of the problems that developing nations face particularly in the Pacific.

## Comments

135 There was some concern regarding the format of the questioning; members asked if the format could be changed to improve download time. Countries interested in becoming IPPC member should negotiate with the Foreign Affairs Department in their countries.

## Recommendations

- 136 (i) All countries that have access to the Internet take the time to complete the Massey questionnaire;  
 (ii) PPPO Secretariat provide copies on disk or CD to distribute to countries;  
 (iii) PPPO Secretariat request FAO to put in a link to the technical assistance questionnaire (Massey website) on their technical assistance and cooperation web page and that Massey be approached to make this questionnaire able to be easily downloaded;  
 (iv) Assistance for capacity building of PICTs be requested through ICPM by the PPPO Secretariat based on the findings of the Landos report; and  
 (v) IPPC/ICPM be requested by the PPPO Secretariat to distribute the results of the pilot study on capacity of quarantine services carried out in the Asia Pacific region.

*See Annex C.18 for Background*

## Attachment Training Centres of Pacific Quarantine Personnel

### Summary of Presentation

137 The need for more quarantine personnel to be trained was identified; however, attachment training in New Zealand, Australia, and the US (Hawaii) has become increasingly difficult to arrange. It is also becoming very expensive (fees of training + accommodation + daily subsistence). It was highlighted that although it is good to expose quarantine officers in charge of Pacific Island quarantine services to sophisticated and advanced quarantine technology, such exposure is inappropriate for general staff, unless a particular technology is being purchased and used in their country.

138 Consideration has been given by SPC-PPS to establishing attachment-training centres in the Pacific to meet the growing need for general attachment training of quarantine staff in appropriate quarantine operating environments.

## Comments

139 Some countries suggested that senior officers could be trained and they in turn could train other staff; countries also suggested the need for continuous flow of information to keep them up dated. Links could be established between metropolitan and Pacific countries.

## Recommendation

140 SPC-PPS, in collaboration with PPPO Executive and other Pacific Island countries concerned, facilitate the establishment of suitable attachment training centres in the Pacific while maintaining parallel programmes that permit staff to interact with counterpart and trade partners and appropriate senior quarantine staff to adopt advanced quarantine technology.

*See Annex C.19 for Background*

## National Authorisation of Pest Records for PALs

### Summary of Presentation

141 The need to revise PALs was highlighted along with the publication of the new PALs. The SPC Plant Protection Service as the operational arm of PPPO, is now consulting with countries in the revision and development of a plant pest distribution list in PALs.

### Comments

142 The participants were informed that the data presented in the PALs have already been published elsewhere. Detailed references of data sources will be listed in the PALs. The countries will be given time to preview the draft and give their comments.

### Recommendation

143 SPC with PPPO ensure regular updating of the PALs.

144 Following procedures be followed for a PAL that is revised or newly written:

1. Drafts go to the Heads of plant protection and quarantine of the countries mentioned in the pest distribution lists and a cover letter to Foreign affairs;
2. Attached to this will be the reference for the scientific publication that is the basis for the country record;
3. The country has one month to accept, dispute or add to the record;
4. SPC to send out a reminder after the first month requesting a response within a month;
5. Dispute of a record by a country to be resolved between SPC and country as soon as possible, preferably within 30 days; and
6. Should a country not respond after one reminder or after the dispute is resolved SPC will proceed with the publication.

*See Annex C.20 for Background*

## National Pest Records and Reports proposed for PPPIS

### Summary of Presentation

145 The participants were informed there was a need to have national pest lists, for the establishment of trade agreements; facilitate trade; and is required as a part of the International Plant Protection Convention (Article 7i). Countries to have national pest lists was recommended by 1998, PPPO-2 meeting and the 1999 Regional Technical meeting on plant protection. Currently, several pest surveys have been conducted and systems have been developed to handle pest survey information. What is needed now is: 1) Information: that is, gathering and auditing existing information and arrange for surveys to include missing data. 2) Information System(s): which require a system of authenticated records, easily kept up to date and easily accessible.

### Comments

146 The idea was strongly supported and countries requested to have the information on CD-ROM as some do not have proper Internet services.

### Recommendations

147 PICTs supply and SPC gathers and audits existing pest lists and that:

[Method: countries process existing records while SPC arranges identification of available specimens depending on availability of funds]

1. country pest lists for the most urgent crops (emphasis on crops with export potential) are up-



- dated by surveys by 2004, with support from SPC;
2. country / regional model database(s) be developed jointly by SPC and countries;
  3. appropriate photographic records be included where possible in the new PPPIS database to facilitate in country pest identification; and
  4. SPC-PPS considers the development and publication of a handbook or handbooks on arthropod pests to facilitate pest identification in the field, thereby complementing the available weed and plant disease handbooks.

*See Annex C.21 for Background*

## **Information Needs in Quarantine and Plant Protection**

### **Summary of Presentation**

148 Numerous reports around the Pacific have commented on the lack of information. A first step was to find out what information stakeholders needed as what is available and what is not. The outcome of an information survey of SPC-PPS was presented. The objective of the survey was to guide SPC Plant Protection Services to meet the needs of quarantine and plant protection staff in the Pacific island countries and territories in terms of information, training in information management and information management systems.

149 The focus of the survey was to find answers to questions such as, training attended, PPS Information Services access and value, visits by PPS staff priorities, library, book, journals access, information and communication technology access, training needs, pest identification services, Pest Advisory Leaflets and suggestions. Some of the conclusion derived from the survey was: that steps be taken to ensure greater access by stakeholders of those outputs reported to be rarely seen such as; AgAlerts, PestInfo, Diseases of Cultivated Crops and PPPIS/GPPIS CD. That PPS should encourage more country visits by specialists particularly in the following disciplines: plant protection general, plant diseases, plant pests, quarantine, information management, biological control, fruit flies. That with respect to specimen identification, emphasis (continue to) be given to, training and assistance with costs.

### **Comments**

150 Participants agreed that the size of the survey is small and there is a need to expand it. They also requested SPC-PPS to provide information on a wider network basis and reduce the information deficits.

### **Recommendations**

- 151 (I) SPC-PPS in consultation with PICTs take steps to identify and implement a programme to reduce the information deficits identified by the survey and reports;
- (II) The information needs survey is extended to more people, and to all 22 PICTs; and
- (III) It be repeated annually perhaps in a shorter version, to keep PPS up to date about its client's needs.

*See Annex C.22 for Background*

## **Pacific Analytical Service**

### **Summary of Presentation**

152 The importance of an analytical service was outlined, focusing on the availability of should be rapid and inexpensive services to all the Pacific countries. Although analytical services are available in the region from metropolitan countries, they are expensive and not dedicated to Pacific needs.

## Comments

153 Vanuatu commented that the facilities of this type of lab were very expensive. Solomon Islands added that since there are existing laboratories, why can't these be upgraded rather than building a new one, which would be very expensive. SPC commented that the idea was not to build a cheap laboratory but to have a certified laboratory. Participants commented that currently there is a need to find out what is available, what sorts of facilities are required, and what sorts of services are needed. After this further decisions can be made.

## Recommendations

154 SPC-PPS in collaboration with the PPPO executive and other stakeholders, including USP:

1. establish in collaboration with PICTs whether there is a need for a centralised or network of quality assurance laboratories that can provide minimal analytical services required for traded commodities and food industries in the Pacific; and
2. examine the most cost-effective and practical way to provide the analytical service, and if it is justified, seeks funding to establish, operate and sustain the service, possibly on a cost recovery basis.

*See Annex C.23 for Background*

## Logo for PPPO

### Summary of Presentation

155 It was suggested that the PPPO should have its own logo and it should appear on letterheads. A design of the proposed logo was shown.

### Comments

156 All participants agreed that the proposed logo is good and should be used.

## Recommendation

157 The PPPO Executive and Secretariat investigate and, if possible, proceed with the use of the logo on letterheads and create a website for the PPPO.

## Plant Quarantine Containment Standards / Guidelines

### Summary of Presentation

158 SPC expressed the need to address issues of lack regarding appropriate and adequate standards, and develop a regional plant quarantine containment standard ensuring introduction of plants, insects and micro-organisms are safely contained in both in plant quarantine facility and in the field. There is a need to develop a standard for post entry quarantine and insectory and microorganisms in vitro laboratory studies. The containment standards shall address administration, facility and work practices.

### Comments

159 SPC emphasised that this module was to be used only as guidelines and any country drafting their regulations can use this. NAKIA commented that they are working along a similar line in PNG, and added that it would be helpful if the region had a draft guideline that could be used.

## Recommendations

- 160 (I) PPPO endorse the development of regional plant quarantine containment guidelines; and  
 (II) SPC/PPPO seek funding assistance for the development of RPQCS by a consultant from the member countries.

<i>See Annex C.24 for Background</i>
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## In Flight Video

### Summary of Presentation

- 161 A quarantine-related in-flight video in Fiji by Air Pacific airline was viewed.

### Comments

- 162 Issues were raised that it will depend on willingness of the air lines, and timing of screening, as some air lines show it very late in the flight when passengers are busy preparing to depart rather than concentrating on the film.

### Recommendations

- 163 SPC-PPS assist PICTs in developing videos for the purpose of raising public awareness of quarantine services and the obligations of the public;

And / or

explore an agreement with airlines to accept a laminated quarantine brochure to be placed in the seat pocket, as Fiji has on some flights.

## ANNEXES

### A. COUNTRY REPORTS

#### A.1 American Samoa

##### 1. Quarantine Staff

American Samoa currently has 9 Quarantine inspectors. We are hoping to find funding for six more inspectors for a total of 15 by the end of the year 2001.

##### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998- Feb 2001

###### • Training

In February of 2001 Director Mitchell Nelson of the Guam Branch USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service-Plant Protection Quarantine (APHIS-PPQ) conducted four days of training for quarantine staff and other employees of American Samoa's department of agriculture. Emphasis was on the importance of quarantine as the territory's first line of defence against invasive plant, animal, and microbial pests. The current outbreaks of foot and mouth disease and mad cow disease underline the importance of having professional quarantine staff watching all points of entry.

• ASDOA (American Samoa Department of Agriculture) has an ongoing program to test trapping of fruit flies. To date we have not found any new species. Of particular concern at this time is the oriental fruit fly, which Director Nelson explained, had caused the destruction of the breadfruit industry in Palau.

##### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- ASDOA looks forward to the addition of six new inspectors to our quarantine staff.
- Planned to continue training and cooperation with the USDA APHIS-PPQ.

##### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Information regarding quarantine

##### 1. Acknowledgement

###### (i) SPC-PPS

*The ASDOA would like to thank the SPC for their kind donation of several varieties of FHIA bananas, which we are currently growing in our test plots. We expect to be disturbing divisions of these pest resistant bananas to American Samoa's farmers in the near future.*

#### A.2 Cook Islands

##### 1. Quarantine Staff

- 7 permanent staff based in Rarotonga
- Research staff as technical support to quarantine
- Vacant Post; Chief Quarantine post and Senior Quarantine post
- Four new quarantine trainees required

##### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- Updated Quarantine Manual 2000
- Editing Draft legislation (by Landos) - ongoing
- Maintain Fruit fly surveillance programme
- Quarantine Training Workshop held in Rarotonga 1998
- Attachment for four quarantine staffs with NZMAF quarantine – 2000
- Quarantine staff computer training on MS Excel and Access - on going
- Pest list compiled by Dr Maja Poeschko – and list updated each new pests recorded and identified 1997-2000 (ongoing)
- Two new incursion for the last three years - recorded in October of 2000
- *Agonoxena destructor* (coconut flat moth) and *Orchidophilus aterrimus* (orchid weevil) eradication of orchid weevil pest still in progress (monitoring area of first infestation is on going)

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Utilise existing staff in the Ministry for trade facilitating
- Awaiting new uniforms, equipment's from New Zealand under the SPC-PPS
- Upgrading old fumigator as quarantine facility for office, inspection and treatment. - Ongoing. Apart from airport office no other facilities are available or are inadequate.
- Acquired new Vehicle (Van-12 seater) for Quarantine in Dec 1999
- Quarantine awareness announcements to Pax on incoming flights to Rarotonga
- Development of Quarantine pamphlets (Noo Tokari Policy officer – on going)
- Develop new inspection forms for export and import (AgriQuality NZ)
- (1997 weekly public awareness radio talk-back on Quarantine issues)

### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Computers/ access to inter-net service (Quarantine)
- Training in Import Risk Analysis/Pest Risk Analysis (IRA/PRA)
- Basic equipment e.g. Maggij lamps, inspection tables, dissecting kit, microscope for pest and disease identification etc

## 2. Acknowledgement

- (i) NZMAF and
  - (ii) SPC-PPS
- 

## A.3 Fiji Islands

### 1. Quarantine Staff

- Total permanent staff - 47
- Principle Agriculture Officer (PAO)-1
- Senior Agriculture Officer (SA) –1
- Agricultural Officer (AO) –3
- Assistant Technical Officer (ATO) – 6
- Senior Agricultural Officer /Senior Technical Assistance (SAA/STA) – 35
- Clerical / Administration – 1
- Professional support staff (MAFF) – 5

### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- Review of Plant and Animal Quarantine Legislation Report from FAO Consultant John Landos received and forwarded to Parliamentary Legal Draughtsman.
- HTFA Quarantine Treatment Audit and HTFA Certification by NZ MAF is an annual requirement. No critical non-conformances were identified during audit and MAFF responsibility is to take steps in implementation of audit recommendations.
- Submission of the report on confirmatory test using HTFA as a treatment for *Bactrocera passiflorae* in Fiji to AQIS i.e. pawpaw for exports.
- Eradication of serious fruit flies from Nauru Project of regional management of fruit flies; two quarantine officers participated.
- Internal control in movement of Taro Beetle through IPM and awareness program.
- Interception of Giant African Snails and successful inspection and treatment of container yards.
- Step up in quarantine surveillance after outbreak of sugar cane smut disease in Australia
  - Papaya fruit fly (*Bactrocera. spp*) Australia (1998)
  - Philippines fruit fly (*Bactrocera philippinensis*) – Australia (1995- 999).
- Training
  - PPPO meeting –1998
  - HRD –Computer /HTFA Pathway
  - Pest Monitoring and Surveillance
  - Pest recognition and Symptoms
  - Post Harvesting/Fruit Fly Workshop
  - Eradication Serious Fruit Flies Nauru Project
  - Biosafety workshop on GMO's
  - Plant Pathology Techniques workshop
  - Import Risk Analysis Workshop
  - Interim Commission for phytosanitary measures in Rome, Italy

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Office equipment and vehicles purchased from CDF Quarantine Project
- Quarantine HQ in Suva moved into the renovated building at Harris Rd and Renown St.
- Trade Development Committee - BTA / BQA negotiations
- USA/Pacific Island Nation Joint Commercial Commission transshipment / export of agriculture products
- Breadfruit Export Pathway to NZ
- Pacific Regional Trade Agreement (PARTA)
- Launching of Quarantine Awareness Publication
- Quarantine share to printing of Fiji Islands Arrival Card
- SPC/EU Assistance – Provision of small equipment and publishing quarantine awareness material.
- In-flight Video prepared and launched

#### • **Capacity Building 2001 - 2003**

- Quarantine Service Corporate Plan 2001 - 2003
- **Vision:** A well-protected healthy nation having invaluable being of present and future generations.
- Our vision is to ensure :
  - Protection of Fiji's flora and fauna through effective systems
  - Market Access world wide for Fiji exports through international negotiations and appropriate certification systems
  - Protection of Fiji agricultural production, consumers and environment through effective inspection systems.
- **Mission:** Fiji Quarantine and Inspection Service Division is committed, in partnership with the industry and the community to protect Fiji's unique biodiversity and facilitate exports by managing quarantine risks.

#### • **4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003**

- Pest and Disease Survey (SPC/FAO)- Crops/ Floriculture
- Pest Risk Analysis - Training/Scientific Expertise
- Publicity Materials
- Quarantine Training - Workshops / Seminars / Attachments / Short Courses, Certificates / Diplomas / Degree Courses
- Diagnostic services
- Attendance of meetings
- Quarantine manuals

#### • **5. Acknowledgement**

- (i) SPC-PPS
- 

### A.4 French Polynesia

#### 1. Quarantine Staff

- Total Staff 43
  - An engineer (Department Head), assisted by 2 deputies,
  - Phyto-pathologist – 1
  - Entomologist – 1
  - Inspectors responsible for international inspections – 12
  - Auxiliary monitoring and control officers responsible for inter-island inspections – 18
  - Office staff – 5
  - Officers assigned to the fruit fly program – 3
  - Other Staff – 10
- The Plant Protection Department (DPV) also has auxiliary monitoring agents in the islands.

#### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- Regulations
  - Resolution n° 99-168 dated 30 September 1999 setting out the measures to be taken to protect French Polynesia from the introduction of wood-eating insects, coconuts parasites (*Oryctes spp.*, *Strategus spp.* and *Scapanes spp.*).
- Fruit fly control
  - *Bactrocera tryoni* in the Marquesas (Nuku Hiva – July 1999 and Tahuata – November 1999)

## ANNEXA

- *Bactrocera xanthodes* in the Austral Islands (Rurutu – May 2000 and Raivavae – April 1998)
- *Bactrocera dorsalis* in the Tuamotus (Hao – February 2000) and Windward Islands (Tahiti and Moorea – July 1996)
- Biological control
  - Participated in the *Tetrastichus brontispae* breeding program to control *Bronstipa longissima*, a coconut palm pest. The breeding laboratory has been operational since July 2000 and is located on the island of Rangiroa in the Tuamotus. This program covers the Austral Islands and part of the Tuamotus (eastern and central).
- Surveillance Network
  - Following the introduction of *B. dorsalis* to Tahiti and Moorea in July 1996, a surveillance network was set up on those islands which have airports and ports :
    - Winward Islands: Tahiti and Moorea
    - Leeward Islands: Raiatea, Tahaa, Bora-Bora and Huahine
    - Marquesas: Nuku Hiva, Hiva Oa, Ua Huka, Ua Pou, Tahuata, and Fatu Hiva
    - Part of the Tuamotus and Gambiers : Rangiroa, Tikehau, Fakahina, Hao, Kaukura, and Rikitea
- Vanilla viral diseases control
  - Participated in the vanilla in-vitro program with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Agriculture Sector and CIRAD in order to produce healthy, virus-free (CMV, CymMV, ORSV, potyvirus) materials.
- Phytosanitary Risk Analysis
  - Following the training session in December 1999, the Department is currently working on this project. In order to apply this new concept, a practical training session is needed for staff.
- Ministry of Agriculture an Livestock Farming Web site
  - The Department actively participated in designing this site: [www.agriculture.gov.pf](http://www.agriculture.gov.pf)
- X-ray machine
  - For the domestic section of the airport, the DPV has installed an X-ray machine to inspect packages and baggage bound for the islands.

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- 2000-2003 Development Contract:
  - Parasite inventory (update of the 1989 publication)
  - Surveillance network (ME, CL and TM fruit flies and *Oryctes rhinoceros*)
  - Public information
- Fruit fly control
  - Continue fruit fly control program (*B. xanthodes*, *B. dorsalis* and *B. tryoni*).
- Biological control
  - Technical assistance to *B. longissima* biological control program.
- Regulations
  - Update order n° 740/CM dated 12 July 1996.
- Phytosanitary risk analysis
  - Continue work begun in 2000
- Treatment to replace methyl bromide
  - Study various treatment procedures: heat, cold...
- Rural Development Service website
  - Project to create a website for the Service

### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Technical assistance for the fruit fly program
- Technical assistance in analysing phytosanitary risks
- Training in information and communication management
- A visit by a phytopathology specialist in order to diagnosis diseases.

### 5. Acknowledgement

- (i) SPC-PPS

## A.5 Guam

### 1. Quarantine Staff

- We currently have a total of 30 staff
  - Entomologist and Chief –1
  - PPQ Officers III – 3
  - PPQ Officers II – 4
  - PPQ Officers I – 21
  - Cashier - 1

### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- Have instituted a new treatment procedures called “reconditioning” for certain US domestic shipments – used for removing certain surface feeding pests from certain commodities.
- Established a presence at the Andersen US Air Force Base – help to clear military aircraft and personnel.
- Legislation
  - Establish an Off-Duty Service Charge Program, in Conjunction with Guam Customs, which established a separate fund so that off duty quarantine officers may be called in for work.
- Supplemental appropriation of US\$25,000 was passed to obtain additional equipment for the proposed plant inspection station needed to obtain USDA certification.
- Training
  - One officer was trained in the Nauru fruit fly eradication program and has assumed duties over the Guam fruit fly surveillance program
  - Five officers were trained in federal (USDA) fumigation procedures and requirements

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Currently requesting more staff including; 1- PPQ Officer III, 4 – PPQ Officer II, 9- PPQ Officer I and a secretary.
- Have acquired new uniform
- Have updated and acquired Quarantine Disposition forms.
- He instituted a new Import Permit and Inspection Fee Card system which greatly reduces government paper work and makes things easier for regular importers
- Have improved passenger arrival processing with a new printer and passenger confiscation receipt from system.

### 4. Assistance for Capacity building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Hope to purchase two new vehicles, three new computer systems, three new fax machines and improve Internet access in the coming year.

### 5. Acknowledgement

- (i) SPC-PPS
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## A.6 Kiribati

### 1. Quarantine Staff

- Chief Agricultural Officer (CAO) – 1 [deals with senior administrative work pertained in plant and animal regulations]
- The Quarantine section is manned by;
  - Agricultural Officer (AO) – 1
  - Assistant Agricultural Officer (AAO) –1
  - Agricultural Quarantine inspectors (AQI) – 3
- Assisting personals – Outer Island Agricultural extension staff

### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- Training of staff in Quarantine procedures undertaken in Kiribati, 1999
- Creation of combine declaration form with custom and immigration
- Surveillance work on fruit fly trapping still continues
- Training of staff in Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) in Kiribati undertaken in August 2000.
- The revision of the quarantine legislation undertaken in January 2001.



### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Installation of computer and the supplying of GPPIS, CABI database and other equipment in 1999-2000
- Installation of the new incinerator at Betio wharf in September 2000.
- Public awareness campaigns through posters, leaflets, and radio in regarding to concern pests, existing in country as well as exotic pests.

### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Training of staff in the area of agriculture quarantine. Such as, attachment or workshop in the region or other countries
- Upgrading of facilities at ports of entry-providing three incinerators, two for Kiritimati (wharf and airport) and one for the airport in Tarawa.
- Inspection kit for staff
- Quarantine manual

### 3. Acknowledgement

- (i) SPC-PPS
  - (ii) Other funding agencies
- 

## A.7 Republic of Nauru

### 1. Quarantine Staff

- The newly established Plant and Animal Quarantine consist of
  - A Chief Quarantine Officer
  - Two Quarantine Officers

### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- The Agricultural Quarantine Act 1999 was passed and certified by Parliament in October 1999.
- In late last year 2000, the government requested SPC to carry out a need assessment with recommendations for the establishment of a quarantine service. SPC-PPS, Advisor, Dr Mick Lloyd and the SPC-PPS, Trainer, Mr Konrad Engelberger, undertook this.
- In early February this year Mr Konrad Engelberger again visited Nauru to discuss with the quarantine matters and implementation of the recommendations of the report. The outcome of the meeting led to a number of issues being resolved.
- SPC released 300-400 biological control agents, *Nephaspis oculatus* to control spiraling white fly [major pest] in August 1999. Since the release of these ladybirds, there are signs that the remedy is effective.
- A survey on determining the current records of pest on the island has not taken place since Dec 1993.
- Fruit Fly Eradication Project (1998), has eradicated three of the four non-endemic species on the island. (The *Bactrocera dorsalis*, the *Bactrocera cucurbitae*, and the *Bactrocera xanthodes*). The remaining specie, *B. frauenfeldi*, known, mango fly, is still persisting at high numbers.
- Government officials have attended the following meeting:
  - PPPO and RMFFP Meeting - Nadi, Fiji. March 1998
  - Quarantine Seminar - Pohnpei, FSM. August 2000
  - RMFFP Steering Committee - Nadi, Fiji. November 2000

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Although the Agricultural Quarantine Act was promulgated in October 1999, its implementation did not take place due to the lack of capacity, training and resources. Therefore, only quarantine inspection service are been undertaken by the Health inspectors for human health and not for agricultural quarantine purposes.
- Since the inception of the Fruit Fly Project, participating officers and some members of the community have gained valuable experience and knowledge in eradication techniques through the blocking campaigns and the bait spraying exercises. Apart from this activity there was no quarantine training undertaken by Nauru since 1998-2000.

### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Training of the newly appointed quarantine officers
- Public awareness: require assistance from SPC and/or other relevant agencies in the region. For the production of posters, uniforms, video clips for Air Nauru, quarantine stamps, and the use of the media outlets shall be required.
- The location of the Nauru Agriculture Quarantine Service shall be temporarily accommodated at the fruit fly laboratory office until a permanent location is sought.
- The Quarantine Operational Manual needs to be drafted and SPC assistance in this respect will be required.

**ANNEX A**

- The Justice Department is currently drafting quarantine regulations with the assistance of SPC. However there are some pertinent items that would need further clarification from SPC and other regional experts.
- Inspection equipment will be required for the quarantine officers. A set of quarantine forms to be printed. These have yet to be drafted and printed. There have been concerns on the high printing cost aspects.
- Installation of a good incinerator for burning quarantinable goods shall be required. The Quarantine division would need to look into the construction of a good size incinerator. The current problem is the space available at the airport to install the incinerator.
- Nauru shall also require SPC to assist with the performance evaluation of the quarantine service especially in its initial 1<sup>st</sup> phase.
- In reference to the SPC's "Needs Assessment Report" for Nauru's Quarantine Services, the Division will need to acquire the following:
 

- 2	x	Maggylamps
- 1	x	incinerator
- 1	x	Fumigation equipment
- An information service will also be needed and therefore the set up of a database and data management system shall be required.

**5. Acknowledgement****(i) SPC-PPS****A.8 New Caledonia****1. Quarantine Staff**

- The Quarantine department is part of the Veterinary, Food and Phytosanitary Inspection Service (SIVAP).
- Inspections take place at the international seaport of Noumea and the international airport of Tontouta with the following staff :
  - 6 persons (permanent) at the airport (passengers and airfreight) plus 2 extras (4 months/year) and two detector dogs.
  - 6 persons at the seaport (seafreight and parcel post mainly).
- The plant protection department (3 persons) of the SIVAP provides technical support regarding phytosanitary matters.
- The government may provide additional support and extra means for specific actions.
- At least two more staff are needed at the border

**2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001**

- Legislation
  - No new legislation has been enacted during the last three years.
- Incursion-Eradication
  - Banana bunchy top virus has been discovered in June 1999 on an area of a few hundred km squared around Noumea.
  - New Caledonia government put in place an eradication plan, which is, implemented by our service and the fruit growers association Arbofruits. Between 6 and 9 field teams (comprising 3staff each) operate by monitor ing banana plantations and destroying diseased plants and all plants located within a 20m radius.
  - Acts restrict or prohibit transport and plantation of banana plants in the infected area. More than 100.000 banana plants have already been destroyed. The government has also organised compensation of the destroyed plants. The disease has been contained but is still present in a number of places mainly small fields planted by squatters in areas surrounding Noumea.
- New pests
  - Apart from BBTv no new pests of major significance have been reported during this period
- Training
  - 2 officers were trained in Nauru in 1998 and 1999 on Fruit Fly Eradication(one funded by RMFFP, one funded by New Caledonia)
  - A Three weeks attachment training was organised by SPC with New Zealand MAF for the airport quarantine supervisor ( Auckland airport and harbour in September 1999)
  - New Caledonia funded a twenty weeks training for the chief quarantine officer. He joined the AQIS

training team with new recruited staff in Sydney (July-November 1999). Then, he went to Canberra to have explanations about AQIS quarantine policy, actions and activities in the different branches.

- A Plant Pathology Techniques workshop was organised in March 2000 with SPC
- Two months training of a dog handler with two Australian quarantine detector (March-April 1999).

### **3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services**

- The two extras staff (4 months/year posts) at the airport were created during the holidays period because of the increased number of flights;
- A team of two beagle detector dogs and a handler (working at the airport) was formed in 1999. Dogs were bought and trained in Australia. The handler was trained during two months in Australia. The team is regularly audited by the trainer. The training of a second handler is planned;
- A new passenger declaration form was created in 2000;
- An IRA training workshop was organised in Noumea in March 2000 with SPC;
- An HTFA unit was installed in August 1998. First New Zealand MAF certification was obtained in August 1999 (capsicum and eggplant), mango in January 2000 and litchi in November 2000;
- Rebuilding of the airport incinerator (end of 2000);
- New facilities for inspection at the airport: both passengers arrival (2000) and freight area (1999); and
- Funding is secured to acquire an X-ray machine for passenger luggage inspection at the airport. Installation should be completed this year.

### **4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003**

- The following equipment is needed to upgrade the capacity of our quarantine department
  - Complete Inspection Kit for the all staff at the border (12) ; tray, sieve, knife with belt case, back pack or suitcase
  - Two binoculars with lights,
  - Four mobile GSM phones,
  - Appropriate identification of the service on the border staff uniforms
  - Design and publishing of new specific awareness posters (at the airport) and leaflets to be distributed to passengers.
  - Two PC computers with a modem each, and one laser printer
  - One fax / answering cordless telephone for freight area at the airport
- General quarantine training, done by a professional trainer (for all border inspectors) and attachment training in foreign countries (for 2 or 3 inspectors) and supply of quarantine manuals and specialised books.

### **5. Acknowledgement**

- (i) SPC-PPS
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## **A.9 Niue**

### **1. Quarantine Staff**

- Consists of Four staff
  - Currently two staff are on study leaves
  - Division employed an Agricultural trainee to fill one position

### **2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001**

- 1999, drafting out Niue's Operational Manual with assistance from AgriQuality
- Reviewing of Niue Quarantine Legislation.
- 2000, update pest and disease list of Niue
- Have completed its draft copy of the pesticide report

### **3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services**

- There is need for preparation of export standard document in relation to fresh produce taken or exported to New Zealand
- Needs to develop a constancy report for foreign affairs and trade.
- Protein bait trial has begun its 12 weeks experiment. Requires assistance from fruit fly project for an expert to come and help Niue with setting up of protein bait spraying project as the second control method of the fruit flies.

- Assistance has been sought from SPC for the reviewing of Niue quarantine legislation and Justin Salter from AgriQuality has prepared a draft but we wait for the final copy.
- Office condition needs upgrading

#### **4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003**

- Computers and access to Internet service
- Need a digital camera and scanners to help with pest identification
- Require assistance from SPC to carry out maintenance of computer, and to install updated versions of software for word, virus scan etc
- Assistance in updating quarantine legislation since quarantine act and regulations need reviewing as country is slowly turning to free trade.
- For small countries like Niue, Tokelau and Cook Islands, SPC should be more flexible with the provision of funds in assisting with smaller projects.

#### **5. Acknowledgement**

- SPC and NZODA for the provision of funds to carry out the upgrading of quarantine legislation and operational manual.
  - Ms Barbara Waddel's for willingness of providing copies of the Cook Islands report on export protocol development for Cook Islands agricultural crops constancy report for foreign affairs and trade.
- 

### **A.10 Northern Mariana Islands**

#### **1. Quarantine Staff**

- Total of 18 quarantine staff
- Since 1998 department lost five inspectors
- Two new inspectors have been hired
  - Duties: At the commercial seaport 4 inspectors are stationed, at the airport, for morning shift 5 inspectors, noon shift 4 inspectors and midnight shift 5 inspectors. Officer I, sees the duties of each shift, Officer II tends to all the shifts. Two inspectors are holding additional duties as that of a dog handler as part of our Brown tree Snake Interdiction Program.

#### **2. Activities and Outputs 1998- Feb 2001**

- Besides enforcing our local plant and animal regulations, we also enforce USDA regulations specifically 7CFR and 9CFR, plant and animal sections respectively.
- Training
  - Numerous training and certification programs is conducted by the regional director
  - Also receive training from US Fish and Wildlife Service to assist them in their enforcement duties and soon two more of our inspectors will be given additional responsibilities to correlate directly with USFandW Inspectors about matters pertaining to their status and regulations.
- Government is currently in the process of trying to eradicate certain noxious weed

#### **3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services**

- Need for vehicles to perform our duties out in the field
- Have no uniform
- Recently been given some new office supplies and equipment from the USFandW Service.
- Currently understaffed, thus there is need for additional manpower
- Not sufficient office equipment and safeguarding supplies

#### **4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003**

- Vehicles
- Office equipment
- Safeguard supplies
- Internet service

#### **5. Acknowledgement**

- SPC-PPS

## A.11 Palau

### 1. Quarantine Staff

- Chief quarantine officer- 1
- Quarantine Supervisor – 2
- Quarantine officer – 5
- Plant protection officer – 2
- External Professionals assisting quarantine services – 6

### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- Establishment of fruit fly rearing laboratory [January 1999, funded by Palau / SPC and RMFFP]
- New quarantine regulation: [implemented since July, 1999]
- Eradication
  - African tulip (*Spathodea campanulata*). Eradication commenced on November 2000; five sites in Babeldaob have been treated. Treatment will commence in Koror this year [chemical used is Carlon and Remedy]
  - *Imperata cylindrica*: eradication commenced in November, 2000 [treatment chemical used is Roundup]
- Training
  - Eradication training in Nauru, November, 1998
  - Attachment training on Quarantine Inspection in Honolulu, Hawaii, attended by 1 quarantine officer, 1999, funded by SPC
  - Basic quarantine inspection training in Pohnpei, 1999, (1 officer), Funded By SPC
  - Quarantine Manual Training in Fiji, 1999, (1 officer), Funded by SPC
  - Attachment Training in rearing fruit flies in Koronivia Laboratory, Fiji, January – February, 2000 ( 1 officer) November, 2000 ( 1 officer ); funded by SPC
  - Attachment Training in fruit fly rearing and initiation of heat tolerance research in the Pacific Islands Basin Research Center in Hilo, Hawaii; August, 2000 (1 officer); Funded by SPC
  - IPM workshop in Palau, March, 2000; Funded by SPC
  - Quarantine computer training in Palau, November, 2000; Funded by SPC
  - Training in fruit fly rearing and data collecting and storing in Palau, December, 2000; Funded by SPC

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Hiring of an additional quarantine officer making the total of quarantine officers to six
- Equipment undated
  - Computer
  - Contraband Incinerator
  - Additional Vehicle
  - Two sets of new uniforms
- Public awareness campaign:
  - Two radio interviews on quarantine and fruit flies importance, 1998 and 1999
- Establishing of oriental fruit fly and mango fly colony for non-host tests and heat tolerance tests.
- New rearing Laboratory in Koror, Palau.

### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Training
  - Import Risk Assessment Training
  - Emergency Response Plan Drill Training
- In-flight video production
- Scanner
- Photocopy machine

### 5. Acknowledgement

- (i) SPC-PPS

## A.12 Papua New Guinea

### 1. Quarantine Staff

- Approved NAQIA structure requires staff strength of 148. However, due to lack of funds, the Authority has staff on strength (SOS) of 95, which is 64% of its required capacity. In particular, the Authority needs to develop its capacity towards developing appropriately qualified scientists in the field of veterinary sciences, pathology, microbiology, botany, entomology, and etc. Currently, most of the Authority's scientists are nationals with an exception of 3 expatriates. These expatriates would be phased out as more experienced national scientists become available in the medium term.
- Various staff strength under strength under respective disciplines is:

Discipline	Requirement	Strength of staff	Vacancies	Remarks
Plant/Animal Health	41	23	18	No funds
Quarantine Service	71	50	21	No funds
Directorate	10	9	1	No funds
Corporate Service	26	13	13	No funds
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>Need funds</b>

### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- *Human resource development and placement* by recruiting key quarantine, animal and plant health scientists, laboratory technicians and support staff to implement the national agriculture quarantine and inspection service mandate.
  - The Authority provided series of training for its staff under the joint PNG and AusAID Agriculture Quarantine Support Project (AQSP) between in 1996 to end 2000. Notable staff training completed was on fumigation, prosecution, feral buffalo and cattle tick eradication, training in detection, monitoring and quarantine surveillance, and management.
- *User-pay policy* introduced in early 1999 following zero budget allocation from national government. Following change of government in July 1999, the state provided minimum funding. Currently, NAQIA collects 40% of its operational budget from through its fee for service policy. The balance of its budget comes as direct government grants.
- *Five-year (1999 – 2003) Corporate Plan* was developed and in implementation. A plan formulated to assist NAQIA, manage its resources more efficiently with maximum impact for quarantine service development.
- *Technical manuals* were produced in various quarantine aspects, 11 manuals altogether to assist in effective delivery of quarantine services.
- *Harmonisation of quarantine legislation* with related laws and regulations to minimize duplication and overlaps in order to enhance provision of quarantine services more efficiently.

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Capacity building of PNG quarantine service progressed well despite some turbulence during 1998 – 2000. The AQSP has been very instrumental in helping the Authority in capacity building. Key features of capacity building include:
  - Institutional strengthening, with the recruitment of 95 of the quarantine service staff during the period.
  - 57 Technical Reports, e.g. revenue raising policy, quality assessment policy, By-laws for NAQIA Board, quarantine prosecution manual, etc. were produced.
  - 11 manuals such as import conditions, quarantine operations training, pests of agricultural importance, agricultural botany, etc, were produced over the period.
  - Institutional linkages, in country and international bodies strengthened.
  - Pest and diseases control systems upgraded, e.g., developed pest and diseases status of overseas countries, developed procedures for import protocols, post-entry quarantine facilities upgraded, quality assurance systems developed, community awareness raised, etc.
  - Feral cattle and animal control program to build capacity for the control of feral cattle and buffalo populations.
  - Legal enforcement program resulted in the review of current NAQIA legislation to harmonise it with other related laws and regulations to avoid duplication or overlaps and improves effectiveness of quarantine service.
  - Facilities and housing development progressed well under the AQSP project with building of 7 new houses, 3 new office buildings, 3 new flats built, renovated 8 houses, 7 houses renovated, new incinerator building completed at Jackson's International Airport. This program has boosted the efficiency in operation and general

staff moral within the quarantine service.

- 15 mobile turbo incinerators, 12 fumigation tents, 3 fumigation chambers, 2 vehicles, 18 computers, 23 printers, 33 calculators, 11 refrigerators and freezers.
- VHF radio networks with ports to improve communication and linkages, and uniforms for quarantine officers.

#### **4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003**

- **Services**

- SPC to include its mailing list the Chief Plant Protection and Chief Quarantine Officer (Plants) in NAQIA.
- Dissemination of Pest Information, Pest Alert, Pest Advisory Leaflets and others NAQIA requires twenty-eight (28) copies for distribution to its 20 ports, 2 laboratories and head office.
- Internet Information training workshop to be held in Port Moresby.
- Microscope servicing

- **Equipment**

- Computer and accessories [UPS, modems, coloured printers, zip drive, CD burner]
- 1 x laminar flow cabinet
- 1 x camera for microscope
- 4 x digital cameras
- 1 x scanner

- **Institutional strengthening towards capacity building. Major capacity priorities are:**

- Human resources development,
- Quarantine policies strengthened,
- Strengthen institutional linkages.

- **Plant and animal health and safe environment. Key areas of development include:**

- Establishing information systems on pest and disease status of PNG and overseas countries developed.
- Monitoring and surveillance systems for pests and diseases and weeds.
- Develop contingency and response plans.
- Developing and negotiating export protocols.
- Export quality systems developed.
- Develop systems barrier inspection and clearance.
- Post-entry quarantine facilities upgraded.
- Develop community awareness programs.
- Develop plant quarantine containment standards.

- **Legal enforcement to improve the effectiveness of NAQIA to enforce quarantine processes. It would also harmonise and broaden the scope of the Authority's functions by incorporating human health quarantine currently performed by the Department of Health. As a result, the Authority would become the National Quarantine and Inspection Authority (NAQIA). The outcome of this strategy is to:**

- Powers and application of quarantine legislation understood and applied by quarantine officers for breaches in quarantine laws.
- Harmonise quarantine legislation with other related legislation to minimise overlaps and duplications.

- **User-pay policy was adopted in early 1999 as the strategy to make the Authority financially independent. However, the government expects that in the medium to long term all its parental organisations would have to be self-financing.**

- **Develop collaborative participation in research with regional and neighbouring countries in monitoring and surveillance of exotic pests, diseases, and weeds to control and eradicate outbreaks capable of limiting agricultural production systems.**

#### **5. Acknowledgement**

- (i) SPC-PPS

### A.13 Samoa

#### 1. Quarantine Staff

- Currently total of 19 technical staff are involved with quarantine
  - Assistant Director for Quarantine and Regulatory – 1 [Overall management]
  - Principal Quarantine Officer – 1 [ Border control and inspection (BC and I), Regulatory and enforcement (R and E) Public awareness (PA), Pesticide Registration (PR)]
  - Senior Quarantine Officer – 3 [BC and I, R and E, PA, PR]
  - Quarantine officers – 2 [BC and I, R and E, PA, PR]
  - Quarantine assistant – 12 [BC and I, R and E, PA, PR]
  - 20 New post required

#### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001

- Strategic/Regulatory Framework
  - Strategic plan for biosecurity and protection functions.
  - Quarantine and Export Advisory Committee.
  - Legislative Regulatory framework.
  - A quality system for responsibilities, procedures and standards for IRA, import specifications, and pest status surveillance.
  - Developed an emergency response plan.
- Human Resource and Development
  - Recruitment and training plan; under staff; needs structural review and training plan.
  - Competency-based skills; on job back up provided by the senior staff; need simplified version on procedures and instructions
  - Certified fumigation specialist; Staff working based on past experience; need training and proper facilities.
  - Practical training on diagnostic, monitoring and surveillance; need training on improved technologies
- Public Awareness
  - Quarantine awareness plan
  - Radio Programme (not enough)
  - Designing and implementing an effective campaign regarding quarantine issues.
- Pesticide Registration
  - Register of pesticides
  - Registration and issuing of permits (incomplete)
  - Improvement to cover all pesticides

#### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Staff
  - Personnel shortage by at least 10 thus there is a need to recruit new staff
  - Lack of quarantine and regulatory skills; need for training on technical (e.g. on IRAs), procedures, instructions and public relations
- Quarantine Facilities
  - Facilities such as that for air cargo inspection at main international airport are non-existent; need to develop such facilities
  - No post-entry quarantine facility; need to develop such facility
  - Lack of equipment for inspection, treatment, diagnosis and surveillance; need to upgrade existing facilities
  - Malfunction fumigation equipment; needs repair and maintenance.
- Legislation; old legislation needs to be reviewed
- Transport-currently finding lacks of transport and need two more vehicles.
- Database- Mainly manual; needs to be computerized
- Budget – insufficient budget; should be adequate to cover basic requirements

#### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- The Ministry of Agriculture has requested the government of Australia for assistance to strengthen the quarantine service in Samoa. It is envisaged that this project will commence in 2001.

#### 5. Acknowledgement

- (i) SPC-PPS
- (ii) Australian government



## **A.14 Solomon Islands**

### **1. Quarantine Staff**

- The professional officers are provided under separate Plant Protection Research (plant pathologist/entomologist) and Veterinary services divisions (veterinarian).
- Total of fifteen (15) technical established quarantine officers and five support staff are currently employed in the quarantine service.
- Additional staff needed:
  - Pest surveillance officer –1
  - PRA. officer – 1
  - PEQ technician – 1

### **2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001**

- Introduction of the Bee Industry Regulation (1998)
- Pest Survey on economic crops in Solomon Islands have completed 50% coverage of the country under the NZODA program but may not be continued due program ceased July 2000.
- Formulation of import specifications and export protocols.
- Production of Q posters
- Establish pest surveillance and monitoring (fruit fly)
- Solomon Islands Agriculture and Quarantine Services (SIAQS) has been represented at the following meetings, work-shop and conference etc:
  - Represented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting PPPO Nadi, Fiji. (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> March 1998)
  - Represent SPC. Quarantine at APSA seminar in Thailand (14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1999)
  - International Food Trade Melbourne 11<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1999
  - PACINET BioNET meeting in Nadi, Fiji, SPC(27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> March 2000)
  - Legal Protection of Biological Resources (IPR) SPC. 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March 2000
  - Participated in the ICPM pilot program (August 2000)
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MSG. Trade and Economic officials meeting in PNG. (28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November 2000)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> AOISI meeting on Bio Safety Protocol (4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2000) St. Kits and Nevis.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Inter government meeting on the Cartagena Protocol on Bio Safety (ICCP) Montpellier, France (Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> 2000)

### **3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services**

- SIAQS. Officers have attended PRA /IRA Courses in Vanuatu (3) and in PNG (1) under NZODA and SPC funded programs respectively. One IRA/PRA workshop is proposed for SI, in 2001.
- Whilst the SIAQS has tried to improve its facilities over the three years including; PEQ green house, surveillance and lab-equipment, request for pest surveillance vehicle, new uniforms, public awareness programs, trade protocols etc. However, much of the surveillance lab and PEQ green house has been vandalised during the ethnic tension.

### **4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003**

- Training Needed
  - IRA/PRA training
  - Pest Surveillance and Pest identification
  - On job procedure & inspection training
  - Fumigation auditing
  - Off shore attachments training.
  - Quarantine Qualifying Certificate training
  - Medium to long term under graduate / post grad. training (2-3 years)
  - (plant protection/animal health)

(NB. IRA/PRA Training needs must cover import/export of plant/plant products, animal/animal products and living modified organism/LMOs)

- Information Services Needed
  - Pest surveys and data information
  - Revise AQS. Procedures manual and work instructions
  - Upgrade pest data base system plus improve hardware, computers etc. (PPPIS and PANIS)
  - Office equipment- inter net services, e-mails, etc

- Equipment needed
  - Storage facilities, Surveillance diagnostic lab, materials, lab-equipment and chemicals etc.
  - Inspection kits and fumigation auditing equipment.
  - PEQ. (plant and animal) facilities
  - Treatment facilities e.g.: incinerator, water busting machine, heat treatment equipment etc.
- Revise Quarantine Regulations
  - Update current Quarantine legislation in compliance with WTO, SPS principles in order to facilitate trade.

## **5. Acknowledgement**

- (i) NZODA
  - (ii) SPC-PPS
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## **A.15 Tokelau**

### **1. Quarantine Staff**

- Quarantine services in Tokelau is part of the Agriculture division of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.
  - Tokelau currently has 2 agricultural officers, which at the same time are the Plant Protection officers and also Quarantine Officers.

### **2. Activities and Outputs 1998-Feb 2001**

- Participation at the eradication of the serious fruit flies from Nauru Project.
- Establishment and maintaining of the fruit fly surveillance programme
- There have not been much activities in Tokelau in the past three years in terms of quarantine.

### **3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services**

- With assistance from SPC, Tokelau is hoping to get into serious quarantine business in the next 3 years.
- Although Tokelau needs one more assistant officer, funding constraints have restricted that need.

### **4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003**

- Quarantine training e.g. attachment, national and regional training
- Drafting of quarantine regulation (SPC to assist)
- Pest and disease survey (on all the 3 atolls of Tokelau)
- Control on fruit fly and any other pest or disease identified.
- Follow up with SPC on our computer that was supposed to have been sent a year ago.
- Tokelau has also noted with interest the “Quarantine Operational Manual” that has been adopted by some member countries and would like to explore the opportunity of having one with the assistance of SPC.

## **5. Acknowledgement**

- (i) SPC-PPS
  - (ii) Other funding agencies
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## **A.16 Tonga**

### **1. Quarantine Staff**

- A total of 27 staff have been employed since 1998
- 22 Quarantine Officers and 5 supporting staff
  - 8 officers received attachment quarantine training overseas (USDA/APHIS; AQIS and NZ-MAF Quarantine Service)
  - 12 officers with tertiary education degree (diploma and degree): 1 postgraduate degree, 1 undergraduate degree, 9 diplomas in Agriculture Science and 1 diploma in Seeds Pathology.
  - 2 officers currently attending diploma in Agriculture Science studies (expecting graduation 1 - 2002 and 1 - 2003)

- Supporting Staff: 2 Accounting Clerks and 1 Clerk Typist and 2 Drivers.
- Staff needs: 5 additional quarantine officers: 4 officers for the border protection teams and 1 trained Post Entry Quarantine officer (PEQ-Plants).

## 2. Activities and Outputs 1998 - Feb 2001

- New Legislations: In 1999 six (6) new bills (listed below) were drafted and submitted to Law Reform Committee for review and consideration (amendment and repeal):
  - Agricultural Commodities Exports Bill 1998 and Agricultural Export Commodities Regulations 1998
  - Animal Diseases (Amendment) Bill 1998 and Animals (Importation) Regulations 1998
  - Pesticides (Amendment) Bill 1998 and Pesticides Regulations 1998
- Output: legislations still pending before the law reforms committee after consultation and discussion meetings.
- Training of Staff:
  - National workshop on Import Risk Analysis (Plants/Plant products) in December 1999 sponsored by SPC. 25 participants including importers of fruits and vegetables and seeds, MAF staff and quarantine officers participated. Dr John Landos and Dr Jacqui Wright conducted the training.
  - National workshop on 'Basic Plant Pathology Technique' in Nov. 2000 sponsored by SPC. Ten (10) MAF staff attended. Ms Barbara Ritchie (UK), Tevita Holo and Paelata V.Nai (MAF-Tonga) conducted the training.
  - Disinfestations of Fruit flies Course (April-September 2000). One quarantine officer completed 6 months studies in the Disinfestation of Fruit Flies sponsored by the Japanese government, at Nahpa Plant Protection Station, Okinawa Prefecture, Japan.
  - Conference attended: Head of Quarantine participated in IPPC Import Risk Analysis Open-ended Working Group Bangkok, Thailand July 1998; PPPO GMO's workshop at Nadi; PPPO ExCo meeting at Nadi, Fiji; WTO-SPS seminar at Manila, Philippines; the IPPC-ICPM at FAO Rome, November 1998; and attended the WTO-SPS Conference at Geneva, Switzerland, July, 2000.
  - Installation of HTFA facility: A new High Temperature Forced Air treatment facility was opened and commissioned at Fua'amotu Airport on July 1998.
  - Bilateral Quarantine Agreements (BQA's): BQA's or Work Plans Agreements between Tonga and Niue, and Samoa for the export of agricultural fresh produces from Tonga were signed on July 1998 and April 1999, respectively.

## 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Plants and Plant Products *Import Risk Analysis* national workshop in 1999 (refer 2 b (i)) conducted for quarantine and plant protection staff.
- 1 Pentium III PC, color printer with ink cartridges and UPS, 1 digital Weighing Scales, digital thermometer with probes and 1 spectrometer were supplied by SPC; 2 Pentium II PC and 2 iMAC computers with 2 color printers provided from quarantine budgets.
- 4 fumigation sheets and 1 Mobile fumigation container provided.
- Quarantine Uniforms issued yearly (2 pairs per officer).
- Second revision of our Quarantine and Export manual was completed in 1999.
- Written and development of 27 Modules for the training in the *Tonga Certificate in Quarantine and Exports*. AQIS Training services under the Tonga Quarantine Project Phase II prepared modules. The work was completed in 1999.
- Installation Computer Network (LAN) of Quarantine Office at Nuku'alofa in early 1998.
- Electronic or computerized processing and issuance of Phytosanitary Certificate started in October 2000.)

## 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Equipment:
  - Incinerator for the destruction of quarantine garbage/wastage at Vava'u Island Port of Entry.
  - An X-Ray machine for screening of incoming baggage at the Fua'amotu Airport.
  - PC Computers/Printers with UPS.
  - LCD Projector for presentation
  - Video Camera (Digital)
- Services:
  - Pest and Diseases Survey to update the Pests and Diseases Status (database) to support trade access application.
  - Regional Diagnostic Services.

- Training:
  - Coordination of Training of Quarantine staff, e.g., attachment or national/regional training
- Information services:
  - Development of Quarantine Public awareness materials.
  - Supply of quarantine and plant protection information and materials, e.g., color poster of the *Fruit Flies of Australia 1 and 2* (Scientific Advisory Services Pty Ltd), CD-ROM of the *Crop Protection Compendium-Global Module* (CAB Int'), Up-date CD-ROM of the *EcoPort*.
- Trade facilitation:
  - Attendance in international standards setting meetings.
  - Advisory service in relation to quarantine and trade disputes between PICs.

## 5. Acknowledgement

### (i) SPC-PPS

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#### A.17 Tuvalu

##### 1. Quarantine Staff

- The division comprises of only three staff

##### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998- Feb 2001

- Eradication of coconut scale – Nanumaga Island, the bioagents provided by SPC were well established on the island (*Chilocorus nigritus* and *Telsmia nitid*)
- Regional Fruit Fly Programme
  - Continue to carryout fruit fly surveillance and monitoring on Funafuti, Vaitupu and Nanumaga Island. Other islands will be covered sometimes this year.
- The PPQ Division has received from SPC equipment and materials to facilitate the updating of the PPPIS database on pests and diseases of plants in Tuvalu.
- Quarantine inspection
  - The PPQ Division of the Department of Agriculture continued to provide certification of imports of agricultural produce as well inspection certificate for products of plant origin going out of the country e.g. handicrafts.
  - Continue routine inspection of aircrafts and boats arriving at the only port of entry Funafuti.
  - Inspection of personal effects for arriving nationals from overseas destinations has been imposed at the port of entry.
- Rat control
  - The Department of Agriculture continued to import rat-baits from Fiji for sales to farmers.
  - Extension Division provided advises to farmers to carryout clearing of undergrowth in coconut lands for rat-bait to be more effective.
- Training
  - Training of quarantine staff in the area of IPM, Quarantine Inspection Procedures, PPPIS Database upgrading skills etc.

##### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Quarantine facilities improvement
  - SPC provided a sum of \$10,000 FD for each countries of the South Pacific for purchasing of quarantine equipment (computer and printer, uniforms, water-blaster, amnesty bins etc.)
- Plant Act (1976): appointment of quarantine officers to control plant importation, declaration of infected areas and prohibit movement of plants or their products and empower the Minister to make regulations
- Pesticide Act (1987): appointment of Registrar of pesticides to control the importation of pesticides into the country and declaration and prohibit the importation of dangerous and poisonous chemicals, pesticides into the country.
- Importation of Animal Act (1978): importation of any animal or materials that has come in contact with the animal, and declaration of infected areas and prohibit movements of animals or animal products from that area.
- Falekaupule Act (1997) which provides for the control of activities related to agriculture on each of the different islands of Tuvalu. Where an Act is mentioned in the Schedule the function of the Falekaupule is to be performed in

conjunction with any other authority empowered to implement the Act.

#### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- SPC staff assistance (biocontrol of coconut scale)
- SPC Staff assistance (revision of Act [plant and animal])
- Training on information management and computers
- SPC staff assistance (Pest survey)
- Control of *halticus minutus*
- Control of rain-box termite
- Equipment: 1 binocular 6- 40 times magnification, 1 vacuum cleaner, hand lenses 4-5" diameter, monitor – ibm compatible, fumigation chamber

#### 5. Acknowledgement

- (i) SPC-PPS
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#### A.18 Vanuatu

##### 1. Quarantine Staff

- Principal Plant Protection Officer – 1
- Senior Plant Quarantine Officer – 1
- Quarantine Officer – 3
- Assistant Quarantine Officer – 8 [ 3 vacant]

##### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998- Feb 2001

- EDPR procedures developed and training undertaken for quarantine officers and other stakeholders such as agriculture, forestry, National Disaster Management Office, Public Works Department and Police (2000).
- New incursion – *Wasmannia auropunctata* (fireant) was reported regionally via Agalert, from the islands of Vanua Lava and Mota in the Banks group (1999).
- Giant African Snail (*Achatina fulica*) was detected for the first time on the island of Tanna (1999). Eradication was attempted, but was not successful and the area of infestation has increased.
  - Two officers successfully completed a certificate course on fumigation through a polytechnic in New Zealand.
  - Data from host status testing of squash, cucumber (var. 'Conqueror') and pineapple (var. 'Queen') was submitted to NZ MAF, and these hosts were accepted by MAF as non hosts to the fruit fly *Bactrocera trilineola* (Drew) and cleared for export to New Zealand.
  - Host status testing of chilli (var. 'Long Red Cayenne'), cucumber (vars. 'Beth Alpha', 'Soarer' and 'Super market') and Tahitian lime (var. 'Tahitian') was completed and submitted to NZ MAF for consideration. (2000).
  - External audits were undertaken on quarantine staff adherence to the Border Service Procedures Manual (1999) and the Plant Import Specifications Manual (2000).
- The following training courses were attended by quarantine staff (not including training listed elsewhere in the report):
  - 1998
    - Workshop on pesticide management in the South Pacific. Apia, Samoa, 1999
    - WTO Workshop on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. Melbourne, Australia
    - Tenth Regional Technical Meeting on Plant Protection. Nadi, Fiji
    - USA-Pacific Joint commercial commission workshop on Quarantine and Risk Assessment. Suva, Fiji
    - Fruit Fly Eradication Programme, Nauru
    - Attachment training (3 weeks) with AQIS in Brisbane, Australia
    - Attachment training (2 weeks) in entomology and plant pathology with Landcare in Auckland, New Zealand, 2000
  - 2000
    - Regional management of fruit flies in the Pacific, steering committee meeting. Nadi, Fiji
    - Workshop on Food Safety Initiatives Influencing Public Health and Trade. Auckland, New Zealand
    - Persistent Organic Pollutants Conference. Johannesburg, South Africa
    - Attachment training (2 weeks) in entomology and plant pathology with Landcare in Auckland, New Zealand.
    - Nematode Workshop. Brisbane, Australia

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- A laboratory in the main quarantine office was refurbished as a specialized plant protection laboratory (1999).
- A range of entomology and plant pathology textbooks were acquired for the plant protection lab, courtesy of SPC (EU) and the VASP project (2000).
- Magi-lamps, respirators and various items of laboratory equipment were supplied by SPC (2000).
- Diagnostic kits, including information about the Plant Protection Service, diagnostic forms and prepaid return envelopes were produced and distributed to teachers, rural field assistants and local garden shops (2000).
- A storage facility was refurbished to provide additional office space (2000).
- Three new computers were acquired by the service, courtesy of SPC (1) and the NZODA funded VASP project (2) (2000).
- Two PRA (IRA) workshops were held for quarantine staff in 1998 and 2000.
- A position of Senior Plant Protection Officer was secured through New Zealand VSA, for 1 year from January 2001 (2000).
- A contract was let to Wan Smol Bag theatre to produce two radio plays as part of the continuing public awareness programme for quarantine (2000).
- A quarantine curriculum programme for secondary schools was negotiated with the curriculum development unit of the Vanuatu Education Department a quarantine curriculum booklet produced and circulated for trailing in selected schools (2000).
- Quarantine fact sheets were produced in English and Bislama for fire ant (*Wasmannia auropunctata*), melon fly (*Bactrocera cucurbitae*) and taro leaf blight (*Phytophthora colocasiae*), under the VASP programme, as part of the quarantine awareness campaign (2000). An importers' guide was also produced (1999), along with an information pamphlet for travelers taking gifts home from Vanuatu, and a general quarantine information pamphlet in bislama (2000).
- An audit training workshop was held for senior quarantine staff (2000)

### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- A new photocopier is urgently needed for the quarantine administration office.
- All but one of the quarantine vehicles are old and in urgent need of replacement.
- Succession planning is needed for the replacement of one of the fruit fly personnel, which is approaching retirement.
- Assistance to continue to develop the plant protection and information services.

### 5. Acknowledgement

- (i) NZMAF
- (ii) SPC-PPS
- (iii) NZODA

## A.19 Wallis and Futuna

### 1. Quarantine Staff

- An engineer manages the section.
- The rest of the staff consists of three agents [collaborate with the veterinary and the customs services for border controls]
  - Monitoring agents on Wallis – 2
  - Monitoring agent on Futuna – 1
- Staff needs [Over the next three years]
  - Senior plant protection technicians – 1
  - Monitoring and control agents – 2

### 2. Activities and Outputs 1998- Feb 2001

- Control of major pest
  - *Achatina fulica*: posters were produced in collaboration with the SPC and were then used to educate the community about the various prevention and control methods. (collection and destruction; fabrication of molluscicide cubes; appropriate crop techniques, particularly for yam crops)
  - Network of *Oryctes* traps for biological control
  - Phytosanitary monitoring: a fruit fly surveillance network was setup (from 1999-2000; data available for 6 months: no new introduction, population stable).
  - Territory's phytosanitary status and regulations: certain provisions of the regulations were amended: a search was conducted for funding and a specialized agency to update the Territory's entomological and phytopathological inventory (last inventory 1981). A small insect collection was created.

- A technical assistance agreement was signed with CIRAD

### 3. Capacity Building of Quarantine Services

- Infrastructure and equipment
  - The section has an office at the agricultural section, which used to serve as a laboratory of *Oryctes* control, without any initial identification equipment.
  - No New equipment was purchased. The inspection and control staff have one vehicle, currently being overhauled, in Wallis and used as a joint service vehicle in Futuna
  - Computer equipment is also with the other sections.
  - An inspection area was set up at the airport.
- Training (SPC)
  - Agents participated in the workshop on import risk analysis, Noumea in March 2000.
  - Phytosanitary control awareness campaigns in the media.
  - Training in the phytopathology laboratory techniques.

### 4. Assistance for Capacity Building of Quarantine Services 2001-2003

- Reinstate and strengthen the fruit fly surveillance network
- Increase control of *Oryctes*
- Up date the inventory of pest and diseases (in collaboration with French universities)
- Would like the assistance of the SPC-PPS to make a general review and analysis so that both resources and intervention policies can be completely restructured.
- Training of Staff
  - refresher courses inspection and control (IRA/PRA training, information management)
- Equipment
  - Computer
  - Digital Camera
  - Internet facilities
- ❖ Manuals –CD-
- ❖ Staff uniform
- ❖ Inspection materials [inspection kit, microscope magnilamp]

### 5. Acknowledgement

- (i) SPC-PPS

## Annex B

### B. Presentation by the European Commission Delegation

The European Union, together with other donors, has, since a long time, recognised the importance of agriculture in the Pacific region as one of the main source of employment, export revenues and foodstuff in most of the Pacific Island countries and Territories. The EU has also recognised the importance of assisting the region in protecting this industry from crop damage from pests and diseases that can cause substantial losses to farmers and to the country.

Our member states that union are presently learning the hard way how economically the socially painful can be incursions of diseases and how increasingly difficult and important is to prevent the contain disease in a situation of increasing regional and world trade integration.

The current Pacific Plant Protection Service programme financed the EU and executed by SPC was signed in March 1994 and should come to an end in the middle of this year. Under this programme, SPC provides support to 8 ACP Pacific Countries and 3 Overseas Territories in the framework of a information, quarantine, pesticide regulation, bio-control, tissue culture and sustained increase in farmers income.

The project commenced in June 1994 with a total budget of almost 3 million EUROS, recently increased almost 3.4 millions. The project had a difficult and slow implementation period up to early 1998. After that, following a reorientation and with a new management team, the project became much more effective. An in-depth evaluation undertaken in the middle of last year made an overall positive assessment of the project and strongly recommended the financing of a second phase under the 8<sup>th</sup> EDF financial cycle while minimising gaps between the present and second phase.

As a consequence of the recommendations of the evaluation team, the existing second phase financing proposal has been revised and is now in the last phase of finalisation before presentation for a decision by the EU 15 member states.

I would like to take the occasion of having hence high level technical representatives from all ACP and OCT countries and other non-ACP countries and territories to remind you the importance and commission gives to issues of sustainability and national appropriation / collaboration in the framework of regional projects.

When looking at the present PPPS project, the initial expectation that the national administrations would take over funding of the service provided by the SPC Plant Protection Service has not been fulfilled. While we understand that it was, most probably, an unrealistic assumption, While we understand that in was, most probably, an unrealistic assumption, this had raised doubts regarding sustainability of the present approach and regarding the willingness of the countries to provide national resources to match SPC and donors' efforts.

By definition, Our regional funding priorities have to match national objectives that are better addressed through a regional approach. We therefore, expect the national efforts meeting regional assistance provide through SPC. At the same time we do acknowledge the very important additional challenge to plant protection and quarantine brought by trade globalisation.

These issues have been the main stumbling block for the finalisation of the proposed for a second phase. These factors have been discussed by the evaluation team that, while highlighting the relevance and necessity for a second phase, has also noted the limited input of national staff involved in the day to day activities of the first phase in the formulation of the new follow-up project.

While the delegation believes that the initial difficulties expressed by the commission in financing a second phase have now been overcome, I can only recommend to SPC and the national technical administration to increase communication and national involvement in matters of project formulation and management.

Finally I am sure that SPC, the meeting participants and the other donors involved in Plant Protection Service would like to know what to expect in the short and medium term in regards to EU financing in this sector. The situation can be summarised as follows:

- ◆ The probabilities of EU financing for the proposed second phase of the project are high as a consequence of a general good appreciation of the revised proposal by our technical service.
- ◆ The financing decision is expected towards the end of the year
- ◆ The possibility of a further extension of the present project are good despite an overall policy of not extending current projects that had such a low and slow implementation, A request of extension should therefore be introduced as soon as possible.



## **Annex C**

### **C. ITEM BACKGROUND**

#### **C.1 NZA SPC Pest Management in the Pacific (PMP)**

Consolidation and rationalisation of existing projects, leading to PMP, was driven by SPC and the donors – New Zealand (NZODA) and Australia (AusAID/ACIAR)). PMP consists of seven components each administered by a technical co-ordinator.

The components are:

- 1 Project Management Service
- 2 Fruit Fly Management (formerly Regional Management of Fruit flies Project)
- 3 Taro Beetle Management (formerly Control of Taro beetle funded by EU-PRAP)
- 4 Methyl Bromide Alternatives
- 5 Plant Protection Micronesia
- 6 Information and Extension service
- 7 Plant Protection in Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau

Technically each project remains unchanged. The objectives and outputs are based on the expressed needs of the target countries and the region.

A feature of importance in the overall project design is the Information and Extension Services component that will work with national research and extension services to achieve greater adoption by farmers of more sustainable pest management practices. It will also assist quarantine services with their public awareness campaigns.

The purpose of the consolidation that was jointly driven by the donors and SPC was to introduce rationalisation, integration and administrative efficiency and more cost-effectiveness into Plant Protection Service delivery funded by AusAID and NZODA in the Pacific.

The PHALPS Subcommittee (1999) has endorsed the PMP concept. PMP commenced as a project in November 2000. Funding for the Taro Beetle Management Component is being negotiated with ACIAR.

Their target countries or steering committee (ie, RMFFP) reviewed the proposed work plans of the former projects (components)

#### **C.2 EU SPC Pacific Plant Protection Service Phase II (PPPSII)**

EU-PPPS I has been active for six years funding PPPO, RTMPP and the delivery of all the capacity building mainly to national quarantine services, but also to national plant protection services.

The EU PPPS project is complementary to PMP.

In 2000, PPPS I was evaluated by EC who commissioned Agrisystems UK to conduct the evaluation. They visited all ACP countries and OCT and concluded that the project was making a positive impact in the region and should be continued and receive funding from European Union.

Agrisystems UK also consulted countries and territories about PPPSII project proposal. They concluded that immediately after EU agreed to fund Phase II a conference of target countries (ACP and OCT) be convened to develop a Workplan for PPPSII

#### **C.3 Progress on Regional Emergency Response Planning (ERP)**

PHALPS 13 recommended for SPC to facilitate the development of national plant-pest contingency planning based on a common regional framework.

An Emergency Response Planning Workshop recommended:

1. to adopt a Generic Incursion Management Plan (GIMP) as planning framework for regional, national and pest-specific emergency response planning in the Pacific.
2. that Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) will immediately commence the development of general national emergency response plans to be sent to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community - Plant Protection Service for use in regional Emergency Response co-ordination; to be updated periodically.

Contingency ERP for Fruit flies is well developed in some countries. There is still some progress to be made in the region.

The number of incursions, intercepts and suspected incursions seemed to increase in the 90s, which indicates the benefits of a general emergency response plan that would lead to structured, co-ordinated and speedy responses.

SPC's draft regional emergency response co-ordinating plan is incomplete. General non-pest national plans are not well advanced. To some extent the completion of the SPC regional co-ordinating plan is dependent on national planning.

#### **C.4 Import Risk Analysis Training and Support Systems**

The need to do PRA (now called Import Risk Analysis) is based on the requirement by the WTO that trade not be restricted by "technical barriers" and that all phytosanitary measures be scientifically justified. Compliance with SPS standards will also be required by signatories to the Pacific Free Trade Area agreement. In order to harmonise IRA procedures in the Pacific and to ensure all member countries were familiar with the requirements of the SPS Agreement, a regional Sanitary and Phytosanitary workshop was held in 1999. Representatives developed a Pacific procedure for doing IRA which was then to be taught to quarantine and plant protection staff in the countries. To date, 8 countries have attended phase 1 IRA workshops conducted by Mr John Landos or Dr Robert Ikin and 5 more will be trained this year. An audit of 6 countries revealed that further training/ refresher courses are required.

#### **C.5 A Model Biosecurity Law for the Region**

Following the conduct of several Workshops on IRA/PRA, in the evaluation of the on-going capacity to undertake and incorporate the outcomes, it was concluded that many countries had legislation that neither recognised the process as part of policy development nor could easily translate the outcomes into current regulations. See attached paper.

The post WTO SPS climate requires that countries have legislation that is SPS compliant. The outputs of PRA such as the identification of regulated (quarantine) pests and importation conditions should be published so that countries can be made aware that restrictions are in place. It would be useful to have Guidelines for drafting legislation, similar to that produced by FAO in 1984, to promote harmonisation in the region.

Most PICTs have Laws that have not been amended for many years and are therefore not likely to take into consideration the principles of plant quarantine, and some countries do not have lower level legislation, such as regulations, orders and proclamations that are responsible for guiding operational activity.

Most Quarantine Services operate as Agricultural Quarantine Services, but the legislation has often been drafted as separate plant and animal laws. With the exception of involvement in garbage disposal and aircraft disinsection Human Quarantine activities are minimal. Legislation on the control of threats to the environment at national level generally does not identify risks from incursions. It would therefore be useful in any revision of legislation to incorporate all these regulatory environmental activities into a single set of laws.

#### **C.6 A Model Regional Operational Manual**

An operational manual is the embodiment of the policy position of a country and is essential as an information source for Phytosanitary Inspectors who operate at the border on a day-to-day basis. It is necessary to guarantee that phytosanitary requirements are carried out consistently and in accordance with the measures determined by operational managers and Government policy.

Many PPPO countries do not have operational manuals, and rely upon inspectors to interpret legislation with little or no guidance. Inspectors in this situation are trained in an ad hoc manner learning procedures from the 'buddy' system of more experienced officers. This can lead to differing interpretation of measures and inconsistencies between Inspectors and operational locations.

A manual also serves as a working outline of the operational activities that are required of an Inspector, and therefore is an essential component of any training program. Levels of competency of Inspectors can be gauged on the capability of persons in undertaking the activities that are identified in the manual, and it should be used for the development of any competency-based training. In the past manuals that have been developed for Regional adoption have not reflected the needs of the PICTs but were compilations of developed country information. A number of countries have developed

## ANNEX C

operational manuals that could serve as a template. The content of one of these national manuals is given in the attached document.

The development of a regional format for national manuals will assist in the harmonisation of procedures and in the development of standards for the accreditation of inspectors at a regional level, and greater understanding between NPPOs that should be of benefit in the development of free trade agreements.

### C.7 Cost-effectiveness of Regional Consultation

COST OF PPPO3 MEETING* (FJD)					
	MELANESIA	MICRONESIA	POLYNESIA	OTHER	TOTAL
Airfares	8,659	52,146	15,077		75,882
Perdiems	3,031	10,687	6,764		20,482
Accomm	1,777	2,843	3,647		8,267
Interpretation				10,474	10,474
Staff Resource				6,455	6,455
Equip/venue				5,100	5,100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,467</b>	<b>65,676</b>	<b>25,488</b>	<b>22,029</b>	<b>126,660</b>

\*Indirect costs: additional phone, faxes, staff opportunity cost not included

The direct cost of PPPO meetings has doubled in three years from FJD62,000 to 127,000; Air travel in the Pacific is becoming less reliable. Donor funding has become very limited, with all proposals subject to detailed scrutiny. Funds spent on regional meetings means less funding for national capacity building.

Regional meeting invites and pays for a single representative from each country.

A single visit of one week to a PICT costing FJD4000, can result in consultation with a wide spectrum of Government, NGO and private sectors to assess national needs and priorities

Fully developing electronic systems may avoid the necessity for international (RPPO, ICPM) consultations.

### C.8 Bilateral – Multilateral Assistance for National Quarantine Services

SPC is conscious of the right of countries to independently seek development aid. SPC does not wish to impinge on that sovereign right. However, countries should be aware that independent, non-transparent securing of donor support for capacity building in quarantine may not be in the best interest of the country or the region.

There is little co-ordination between bilaterally funded and multilaterally funded (SPC delivered) quarantine capacity building projects because:

- requests by countries to national donor offices, like EU, AusAID and NZODA, for assistance are processed through different donor channels from that of projects funded by the same donor but delivered by SPC-PPS.
- SPC-PPS deals direct with Canberra or Wellington, while countries deal with the national, country based, donor office.
- countries have no obligation to inform SPC-PPS or PPPO that they are proposing to submit requests to donors via national donor offices because they assume this may affect their support from SPC or that it is not a concern of SPC.

There is therefore no opportunity for SPC-PPS or PPPO Secretariat to interact with the provider of the bilaterally funded national programme to brief them on regional standards, planned regional programmes.

Bilaterally funded projects are normally ad hoc in nature with minimal long term, strategic or supporting components.

That is, countries having had bilaterally capacity building generally need a long term sustaining/supporting programme. Unless SPC-PPS has been fully consulted prior to and during such programmes it is likely to be hesitant to support that quarantine service in the long term.

### **C.9 Import Requirements for Pacific Products Destined for Australia and New Zealand and other countries (USA, Japan)**

As recommended in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee and Technical Review of the Regional Fruit Fly Project in 2000, that SPC facilitate trade negotiations/dialogue with importing countries for fruit fly commodities, particularly, those countries that have taken so long to make PRAs on current requests from PICTs. This agenda item intends to facilitate trade of fresh fruit and vegetables by:

- requesting importing countries to discuss their import requirements for fresh fruit and vegetables.
- Discuss the constraints PICTs have on trade of fresh fruit and vegetables, in relation to import requirements.

### **C.10 Quarantine Risk of Germplasm Movement in the Region**

The objectives of the TaroGen Project are to collect and conserve taro genetic resources and the use of these genetic resources in breeding programmes for taro leaf blight resistance and other desirable characteristics.

Partners in TaroGen include NARI PNG, MAFFM Samoa, MAF Solomon Islands, and MAFF Fiji and the University of the South Pacific Alafua, Samoa. Cook Islands, Niue, Tonga, and New Caledonia have participated by donating germplasm. Hort Research NZ with funding by NZODA is providing technical assistance on diagnostic methods for plant pathology aspects of the breeding programmes.

Queensland University of Technology is developing virus identification indexing procedures for the safe exchange of taro germplasm. This component is very delayed.

The EU funded South Pacific Yam Network (SPYN) was initiated in 1999. SPYN is coordinated by CIRAD with Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, SPC, Natural Resources Institute (NRI) of the UK, and the University of Reading as partners. This project, through national partners, is collecting and describing yam (*Dioscorea alata*) cultivars with commercial potential and anthracnose tolerance. NRI is responsible for the research on the viruses and virus indexing. The University of Reading is researching anthracnose epidemiology. The SPC Regional Germplasm Centre will culture the elite collection, distribute the promising virus indexed yam cultivars for testing and trials in the collaborating countries and maintaining the collection of 150 elite varieties

The movement of both taro and yam are a potential risk to countries in the Pacific because they are susceptible to several viruses each; some are yet to be identified. The distribution of taro and yam viruses in countries of the Pacific has not been fully established. Because of the informal movement of taro and yam between Pacific islands for decades the viruses are likely to be widely and uniformly distributed in the Pacific

### **C.11 Biosafety Protocol Update**

#### *Regionally*

- No requests have been submitted from PPPO member countries to SPC regarding GMOs.
- SPC participated in a GMO workshop in Fiji organised by the Consumer Council of Fiji.
- Training on how to do IRA for GMOs has been included in all IRA national training workshops.
- Draft model quarantine law will include biosafety/GMO/alien invasive species issues in the model biosecurity bill (to be presented by Dr Ikin in Agenda No. XX)

#### *Internationally*

The Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures commissioned an exploratory working group to assess overlap of activities related to GMOs, invasive species and Biosafety by the IPPC, CBD and other relevant international organisations. From this working group came 18 recommendations to be considered at the next Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures meeting to be held in April, 2001.

### **C.12 Methyl Bromide Phase out and Alternatives**

Methyl bromide (MB) is mainly used for soil fumigation (80%), treatment of grains and quarantine purposes (20%). Methyl bromide is subject to phase-out under the Montreal Protocol and the United Nations Environment Programme, but the use of methyl bromide for quarantine is currently exempt.

Quarantine services may face shortages of MB because

1. the protocol places heavy restrictions on methyl bromide production in developed countries, methyl bromide producers do therefore face a shrinking market and methyl bromide production may become unprofitable.
2. countries supporting the 1997 Montreal amendment can ban methyl bromide exports to countries not party to certain versions of the Montreal Protocol.
3. changes to the Montreal Protocol may also affect the use of methyl bromide for quarantine purposes and exemptions for developing countries. Please note that in 2003 there will definitely be a decision on further specific interim reductions on methyl bromide for the period beyond 2005 in developing countries.

Methyl bromide alternatives are Hot Forced Air, Sulfuryl Fluoride (Vikane, Profume), Steam Heating, Phosphine, ECO2FUME and hot water dipping. None are ideal.

PPS proposed to AusAID that they fund a detailed study on the impact of methyl bromide phase out in the Pacific. AusAID suggested it would be more appropriate for ACIAR funding. An FAO funded scope study on methyl bromide alternatives for tropical fruit in Asia and Pacific is underway.

### C.13 Outcomes of RPPO San Diego 11-13 Oct 2000

PPPO (Dr Rapp) attended the RPPO meeting. The report and minutes of the meeting and other papers are attached. Major points for discussion during the meeting:

#### 1. Pink mealybug

Pink mealybug is reportedly present in Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, PNG, Tonga, FSM, Palau, Guam and possibly Northern Australia. APHIS considers pink mealybug a dangerous pest. New Zealand considers pink mealybug a risk group 2 pest (grapes).

The pest has 215 hosts including hibiscus, citrus, coffee, sugar cane, guava, mango, teak, pigeon pea, maize.

- a) PICTs are asked to confirm/report the presence of pink mealybug
- b) Should the bioagent *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* be introduced from a quarantine perspective?

#### 2. Wood packing

Wooden packing material (pallets, crates) can harbour pests like Asian longhorned beetle, pine wood nematodes. A problem related to this issue is that packing materials may be reused and the origin of such material is difficult to trace. A draft ISPM is under preparation (attached) but still lacking detailed treatments. Other Countries and regional organisations are establishing or already have established regulations for such material.

- a) Which PPPO countries have wood-packing regulations?
- b) How urgent is it for PPPO countries to establish such regulations?

#### 3. Auckland as venue for 13<sup>th</sup> consultation from October 29-31, 2001

A good opportunity for international exposure for Pacific countries and to discuss trade related issues with participants.

### C.14 Regional Quarantine Policies on Quarantinable Items in Transit and Re-exports

1. Quarantinable items in transit. Agricultural products may be exported from country A, transit through country B on their way to country C as final destination. These products may form a quarantine risk not for the importing country C but for country B while the shipment is in transit. The San Diego meeting proposed that a specification should be prepared, with a view to setting up a working group to develop a draft ISPM; information from RPPOs on transit systems in the different regions would be useful for this work.

#### 2. Re-exports

A similar issue as items in transit. Agricultural products may be imported from country A to country B. The product may not form a risk to country B. However the same product could be exported again – for example as part of a bigger consignment - from country B to country C and form a quarantine risk for country C.

### C.15 SPC-PPS Policy on Assisting Countries with Import Risk Analysis (IRA)

Following training facilitated by Dr Wright, countries have requested assistance in conducting IRAs. Depending on the nature of the request and due to the fact that only limited SPC staff time can be allocated to IRA, the response to these requests may take considerable time.

To increase the efficiency of the IRA service, SPC has formulated a policy on handling IRA services. This policy was previously distributed on email in Pest Info no. 20.

### C.16 Plant Protection Service Internet Website

Numerous reports around the Pacific have commented on the lack of information or the difficulty of obtaining it. PPS has a large amount of information that can assist in plant protection and quarantine activities and needs to ensure that this is accessible to all its stakeholders. Traditionally this has been done through workshops and meetings, mailing of documents, and sending by electronic mail. These are all-important methods of information delivery and will continue to be so but they are time consuming and expensive, and may not always deliver promptly what a particular stakeholder needs. The Internet offers a powerful alternative medium for information transfer. A major advantage is that, for those that have access, it offers most of the PPS published outputs for immediate scrutiny or downloading without having to wait for a workshop or for something to be manually sent in response to a request. It is a very efficient mode of information transfer. Many, probably most, quarantine and plant protection staff in the Pacific Region do not have Internet access either at all or at an economic rate. Fortunately compact disc (CD) technology enables the entire contents of the PPS Internet website to be copied on to a CD which can then be distributed to all stakeholders who do not have cheap Internet access.

### C.17 Draft ISPMs

The proposed Forum Island Countries (FIC) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will include adherence to the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) for its members. Due to this requirement, even though only Papua New Guinea and the Solomons are contracting parties to the IPPC, it is advised that every PICT participate in the development of ISPMs. Article IX of the 1997 IPPC (Regional Plant Protection Organisations) states, "The Secretary will convene regular Technical Consultations of representatives of regional plant protection Organisations to:

- a) promote the development and use of relevant international standards for phytosanitary measures; and
- b) encourage inter-regional co-operation in promoting harmonised phytosanitary measures for controlling pests and in preventing their spread and/or introduction."

The IPPC has also developed a document entitled "Guidelines for the submission of comments on draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)"

Name of Standard	Stage
Pest Risk Analysis for Quarantine Pests	31 Aug 2000*)
Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates	31 Aug 2000*)
Amendments to the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms	31 Oct 2000
Supplement to the Glossary of phytosanitary terms:	
Guidelines on the Interpretation and Application of the	
Concept of Official Control for Regulated Pests	31 Oct 2000
Guidelines for the Notification of Non-compliance.	31 Oct 2000
Guidelines for the Preparation of Regulated Pest Lists	31 Oct 2000
Inspection Methodology	01 July 1998; ISC
Guidelines for an Import Regulatory System	ISC
Guidelines for Surveillance for Specific Pests: Citrus Canker	ISC
General Considerations and Specific Requirements	
for Regulated Non-quarantine Pests	ISC
ISPM1: Principles of Plant Quarantine as Related to International Trade	R
ISPM2: Guidelines for Pest Risk Analysis	R
Import Requirements for Non-manufactured Wood Packing Material	D
Systems Approaches for Risk Management	D
Pest Reporting	D

**Date:** deadline for official comments by National Plant Protection Organisations and Regional Plant Protection Organisations

**ISC:** under consideration by the ISC (ex CEPIM)

**D:** initiated and under development

**R:** needing revision

\*) The deadline for comment for these drafts has been extended to **31 Aug 2000** as a result of postage delays experienced in getting copies of the draft ISPMs to contracting parties.

### **C.18 ICPM Pilot Project**

In order to be represented and give the ICPM a good grasp of the problems developing nations face, and particularly in the Pacific, it is advisable that the PPPO member countries participate in this activity.

Most PICTs are not members of IPPC

The Landos report (PPPO3 meeting) also covers an assessment of quarantine services of Forum Island countries (FICs) to facilitate trade

### **C.19 Attachment Training Centres for Pacific Quarantine Personnel**

Attachment training in quarantine operations units in Australia, New Zealand and US (Hawaii) is customary way of exposing Pacific island quarantine officers to new technology and quarantine operating procedures.

The changing global trading environment, increasing tourism and cost recovery regimes are placing considerable pressure on Australian, New Zealand and US quarantine services. Understandably there is reluctance on their part to divert their staff to special training needs of Pacific quarantine personnel.

In addition a fee must be paid for training in Australia and NZ and accommodation costs and daily subsistence rates are high in metropolitan areas. Despite needing more practical training for the Pacific, escalating costs mean that fewer staff are being placed in customary attachment locations in the metropolitan areas.

While it may be appropriate for officers in charge of Pacific Island quarantine services to be exposed to sophisticated and advancing quarantine technology, such exposure is possibly inappropriate for general staff until there is a real possibility of this technology being purchased and used in their countries.

Under the circumstances consideration has been given by SPC-PPS to establishing attachment-training centres in the Pacific to meet the growing need for general attachment training of quarantine staff in appropriate quarantine operating environments.

There may even be a linkage established between the proposed certificate course in quarantine and such practical training centres.

### **C.20 National Authorisation of Pest Records for PALs**

In accordance with Article IX (Regional plant protection Organisations): “2. The regional plant protection Organisations shall function as the coordinating bodies in the areas covered, shall participate in various activities to achieve the objectives of this Convention and, where appropriate, shall gather and disseminate information”, the SPC-PPS as the operational arm of PPPO is now consulting with countries in the revision and development of plant pest distribution lists in PALs. When these are produced, care is taken to validate (as far as is possible) the source of the record.

### **C.21 National Pest Records and Reports**

Much information has been collected over the past 20-30 years. Some examples follow.

- Peter Maddison conducted a major survey in the late 1970s. Some of the records were incorporated into PPPIS, GPPIS. Most of the disease samples but not all insect samples were identified. There are still some thousands of insect specimen records from the initial survey awaiting conversion to electronic form. We are exploring the prospects of capturing this data. Pest incidence records waiting processing exist for French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, PBG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tolelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.
- LandCare carried out a survey in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu on selected crops with export potential in 1999 and 2000.
- FAO funded officers in Fiji, Cook Islands, Vanuatu and Samoa to screen publications, reports etc. to update their pest lists in the late 90s.
- SPC funded a pest survey in Niue in 2000.
- SPC funded identifications for several countries of about 200 insect pests over several years.
- Several publications contain pest records of countries.

Some systems have been developed to manage such information, such as PPPIS, which gave way to GPPIS and then

Ecoport. Stakeholders in the Pacific are very poorly served by these systems partly because they are out of date, are too difficult to use, and or they require Internet connectivity. Against this background a number of countries have been attempting to create their own systems, often ending in frustration.

## **C.22 Information Needs in Quarantine and Plant Protection**

Two main thrusts have been undertaken.

1. Several reports have been studied to learn what is already known about information needs and shortcomings. The reports studied include:
  - a. EU Project Phase 1 final review
  - b. PRAP 9: Information. Project Review by Jan van der Berg. 1999.
  - c. Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures Workshop, Nadi, 15-18 February 1999. Report from the meeting.
  - d. 10<sup>th</sup> Regional Technical Meeting on Plant Protection, Nadi, Fiji, 29 March – 1 April 1999.
  - e. PPPO 2 meeting in Nadi, Fiji, 2-5 March 98
  - f. Plant Protection Information Systems for Decision-Making: Suva, Fiji, 17-28 Aug 1992. Proceedings.

The findings are available as a working paper. In essence, numerous instances, some quite specific, were found of calls for better information delivery.

2. An information survey of SPC PPS was conducted. The information survey comprised an 8-page questionnaire sent to 80 stakeholders in 2000, of whom 40 completed and returned it. This Agenda item reports on the findings and suggests recommendations.

Note also that PPS is expanding its information management facility, and creating an extension facility, as a means to increase the delivery of information to all stakeholders.

## **C.23 Pacific Analytical Services**

Some countries are in a position to establish national analytical laboratories. However they are expensive to re-equip, operate and maintain. National health laboratories are in a better shape and are in a position provide some analytical facilities for the exports and imports, but normally not on a routine basis.

Analytical services are available in the region from metropolitan countries, but they are expensive and not dedicated to Pacific needs. The use of expensive analytical services adds to the cost of the commodity that may affect its competitiveness in export markets.

The University of the South Pacific has been the leading institution for the provision of analytical services in the Pacific. However the service is now very limited and specialised. Fiji MAFF and other countries also have basic facilities. Health services have laboratories in several countries but it seems that there is little systematic testing for compliance with export and national standards in the Pacific.

A regional network of health laboratories has been established in the Pacific which may be a model system on which to base quality assurance laboratories for the Pacific if there is a need.

## **C.24 Plant Quarantine Containment Standards/Guidelines**

Considering the fragile ecosystem and import dependent of the FICs introductions of plants and Bias still pose potential risks, even if IRA/PRA has been executed both within the containment facility and in field releases. Risk analysis is the centre point in minimising risks and with such containment standards will compliment the IRA and further reduce the unintentional escape of pests, diseases and BCAs.

The facilities need consideration for the development of standards:

- 1) Post-entry quarantine
- 2) Insectory
- 3) Micro-organisms in vitro laboratory studies

Containment standards shall address the following: -

- A) Administration
- B) Facility



## **D. LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

The PPPO-3 meeting recommended that:

### **Agenda Item 8 – Fruit Fly Management in the Pacific**

- SPC/FFM continue with activities as recommended by the Fourth Fruit Fly Steering Committee Meeting and Technical review and as reflected in the work plan for 2001 to ensure that fruit fly management is maintained and enhanced nationally and regionally,
- the issues of sustainability of the fruit fly programme in Pacific Island Countries and Territories are raised at the PHALPS meeting in June,
- to ensure the continuation of the Steering Committee, meetings be carried out whenever possible back-to-back with Regional Technical Meetings such as PPPO and RTMPP and annually with the Executive Committee meetings of PPPO,

### **Agenda Item 9 – NZA Pest Management in the Pacific**

- The PPPO endorse the concept of PMP and recommend that members review the Project Design Document (PDD) and brief their PICTs representative (directors of agriculture or equivalent officers) on the PMP-Project Co-ordinating Committee (PCC) which was to meet in May 2001.

### **Agenda Item 10 – EU SPC Pacific Protection Service Phase 2 Plan**

- European Union fund the second phase of PPPS so that it continue to build the capacity of national quarantine services, supports plant protection services, assists quarantine services to facilitate trade under global and regional free trade agreements;
- PPPO-3 recommends strongly that) funding is provided to give an uninterrupted transition between phases I and II of PPPS; and
- funding is provided in PPPS-II to facilitate early consultation with ACP and OCT countries to formulate detailed work plans to provide for the quarantine and plant protection needs of target countries.

### **Agenda Item 11 – PPPO Work Programme 1998-2000**

- SPC publishes COGENT Guidelines for the Safe Movement of Germplasm into and within the Asia-Pacific Region.

### **Agenda Item 12 – Regional Emergency Response Planning**

- PPPO secretariat finalise the draft “regional emergency response-co-ordinating plan” within the first half of 2001, omitting the national ERP elements, followed by the distribution of an electronic version to PICTs for review.
- Depending on available funding, SPC-PPS facilitates planning for national emergency response within the framework of the regional plan, incorporating the fruit fly and other high-priority pest response plans.

### **Agenda Item 13 – Quarantine Training Programme 2001–2003: IRA and ERP**

- SPC-PPS continue IRA phase-1 training for all PICTs that require it, and following the conduct of an audit continue on to phase-2 based on the needs of the countries concerned.
- SPC-PPS develop IRA, a computer-based decision support system.

### **Agenda Item 14 - Proposed Standardised Format for Legislation, Risk Analysis and Operational Manuals**

- SPC-PPS investigates the needs of PICTs for legislation reviews in agricultural quarantine and environment, with a view to producing a single set of Biosecurity Legislation Drafting Guidelines that include provisions for plant, animal, human health and the environment.

### **Agenda Item 15 – A Model Regional Operational Manual**

- SPC develop guidelines for a standardised format for operational manuals. This could be done with consideration given to the content of such a manual from the viewpoint of regional harmonisation, standardisation of training and the development of a competency standard for Quarantine Inspectors.

### **Agenda Item 16 – Cost-effectiveness of Regional Consultation**

- the PPPO Secretariat in consultation with the Executive explore whether there are more cost-effective means of regional and sub-regional consultation, and that meanwhile the Secretariat would continue to seek donor support,
- the PPPO continue to implement the original purpose for which it was established (“PPPO focuses on improv-

ing the capacity of Pacific nations to comply with global quarantine and trade standards, and links the region to international Organisations such as the WTO, and to the Food and Agriculture Organisation's Interim Commission for Phytosanitary Measures and Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)"); and

- the PPPO put forward the Pacific region's concern with respect to the Rome meetings, through its Chairperson.

#### **Agenda Item 17 – Bilateral/Multilateral Assistance for National Quarantine Service**

- In the interest of developing harmonised quarantine services based on regional norms. PPPO request members to be transparent about their requests for bilateral donor support and to inform donors about the regional role of PPPO, and to ensure that providers consult PPPO Secretariat on regionally harmonised quarantine systems and standards.

#### **Agenda Item 18 – Import Requirements for Pacific products destined for Australia and New Zealand**

- SPC continue to facilitate provision of technical advice and information in the area of generic treatments for fresh fruit and vegetables; and
- importing countries be requested to expedite the provision of information on import requirements.

#### **Agenda Item 19 – Quarantine Risks of Germplasm movement in the Region**

- Quarantine services of PPPO members explore and, if appropriate, facilitate the movement of taro and yam tissue culture between countries to assist with breeding for taro blight and yam anthracnose resistance, and conservation of taro and yam in the Regional Germplasm Centre in Suva, without compromising quarantine standards.

#### **Agenda Item 20 – Biosafety Protocol Update**

- PPPO member countries participate in the biosecurity model law project,
- PPPO member countries assess and comment on any draft standards that are developed by the ISC (Interim Standards Committee) of the ICPM,
- PPPO member countries identify capacity building needs in this area by completing the survey questionnaire available on the web site: <http://icpm.massey.ac.nz> or that PPPO provides the questionnaire as hard copy to be filled out by PPPO member countries.
- ICPM members (as defined: "The members of the Commission are the contracting parties to the Convention and are the governing body as established in the New Revised Text (NRT) of the IPPC") participate wherever possible as in ICPM exploratory working group recommendation 15.

#### **Agenda Item 21 – Methyl Bromide Phase-out and Alternatives**

- PPPO Secretariat advise members on any changes to the Montreal Protocol that are likely to adversely affect PICTs with regard to MB availability;
- PPPO recommend that the Pacific Islands quarantine services reduce methyl bromide fumigation to a minimum,
- PPPO Secretariat continue to seek funding for Pacific-specific studies on cost-effective alternatives to methyl bromide.

#### **Agenda Item 22 – Outcome of RPPO San Diego 11-13 October, 2000**

- SPC consider the introduction of *Cryptoleamus montrouzieri* against pink mealybug (*Maconellicoccus hirsutus*) in co-operation with infested countries;
- A survey of the current status of wood packing regulations and practices is carried out by PPPO Secretariat with a view to taking action to reduce the associated quarantine risk; and
- PPPO Secretariat seek funding to assist members to attend RPPO13, Auckland 2001.

#### **Agenda Item 23 – Regional Quarantine Policies on Quarantine Items in Transit and Re-exports**

- PPPO Executive Committee forms working groups to draft a regional policy on re-export shipments for review by countries, to be finalised by September 2001.

#### **Agenda Item 24 – Policy on Assistance with National Import Risk Assessment (IRA)**

- PPPO endorse the SPC-Plant Protection Services IRA assistance policy;
- SPC make provisions in future work programmes and in its requests for donor support to provide additional IRA services on a regional basis, especially to countries where the provisions of national resources to conduct IRAs would not be cost-effective; and

PPPO strongly support efforts of countries to make available datasheets on pests derived from completed PRAs for PICTs to support their conduct of PRAs.

#### **Agenda Item 25 – PPS Web Site**

- SPC PPS continues development of the PPS web site; and
- PPS continues to distribute its website contents by CD ROM to those PICTs staff that do not have good low-cost direct access to the Internet.

#### **Agenda Item 26 – Draft ISPMs**

- PICTs become contracting parties to the IPPC;
- IPPC contracting party PICTs participate in the development of ISPM by reviewing and commenting on drafts to ensure that the Pacific concerns be expressed to the working groups developing the standards;
- Non-IPPC contracting party PICTs participates in the development of ISPMs by reviewing and submitting their comments to ISC through the PPPO Secretariat.

#### **Agenda Item 27 - ICPM Pilot Project**

- All countries that have access to the Internet take the time to complete the Massey questionnaire;
- PPPO Secretariat provide copies on disk or CD to distribute to countries;
- PPPO Secretariat request FAO to put in a link to the technical assistance questionnaire (Massey website) on their technical assistance and co-operation web page and that Massey be approached to make this questionnaire able to be easily downloaded;
- Assistance for capacity building of PICTs be requested through ICPM by the PPPO Secretariat based on the findings of the Landos report; and
- IPPC/ICPM be requested by the PPPO Secretariat to distribute the results of the pilot study on capacity of quarantine services carried out in the Asia Pacific region.

#### **Agenda Item 28 - Attachment Training Centres for Pacific quarantine personnel**

- SPC-PPS, in collaboration with PPPO Executive and other Pacific Island countries concerned, facilitate the establishment of suitable attachment training centres in the Pacific while maintaining parallel programmes that permit staff to interact with counterpart and trade partners and appropriate senior quarantine staff to adopt advanced quarantine technology.

#### **Agenda Item 29 - National Authorisation of Pest records for PALs**

- SPC with PPPO ensure regular updating of the PALs.

The following procedures be followed for a PAL that is revised or newly written:

1. drafts go to the Heads of plant protection and quarantine of the countries mentioned in the pest distribution lists and a cover letter to Foreign Affairs;
2. Attached to this will be the reference for the scientific publication that is the basis for the country record;
3. The country has one month to accept, dispute or add to the record;
4. SPC to send out a reminder after the first month requesting a response within a month;
5. Dispute of a record by a country to be resolved between SPC and country as soon as possible, preferably within 30 days; and
6. Should a country not respond after one reminder or after the dispute is resolved SPC will proceed with the publication.

#### **Agenda Item 30 - National Pest Records and Reports**

- PICTs supply and SPC gathers and audits existing pest lists and that:
- [method: countries process already existing records while SPC arranges identification of already available specimens depending on availability of funds]
- country pest lists for the most important crops (emphasis on crops with export potential) are updated by surveys by 2004, with support from SPC;
- country / regional model database(s) be developed jointly by SPC and countries;
- appropriate photographic records be included where possible in the new PPPIS database to facilitate in country pest identification; and
- SPC-PPS considers the development and publication of a handbook or handbooks on arthropod pests to facilitate pest identification in the field, thereby complementing the available weed and plant disease handbooks.

**Agenda Item 31 Information Needs in Quarantine and Plant Protection**

- SPC-PPS in consultation with PICTs takes steps to identify and implement a programme to reduce the information deficits identified by the survey and reports;
- The information needs survey is extended to more people, and to all 22 PICTs; and
- It be repeated annually perhaps in a shorter version, to keep PPS up to date about its client's needs.

**Agenda Item 32 – Pacific Analytical Services**

- SPC-PPS in collaboration with the PPPO executive and other stakeholders, including USP:
- establish the in collaboration with PICTs whether there is a need for a centralised or network of quality assurance laboratories that can provide minimal analytical services required for traded commodities and food industries in the Pacific; and
- examine the most cost-effective and practical way to provide the analytical service, and if it is justified, seeks funding to establish, operate and sustain the service, possibly on a cost recovery basis.

**Agenda Item 33 – Logo for PPPO**

- The PPPO Executive and Secretariat investigate and, if possible, proceed with the use of the logo on letter-heads and create a web site for the PPPO.

**Agenda Item 33.2**

- PPPO endorse the development of regional plant quarantine containment guidelines; and
- SPC/PPPO seek funding assistance for the development of RPQCS by a consultant from the member countries.

**Agenda Item 33.3 - In Flight Movies**

- SPC-PPS assists PICTs to develop videos for the purpose of raising public awareness of quarantine services and the obligation of the public,  
and / or
- explore an agreement with airlines to accept a laminated quarantine brochure to be placed in the seat pocket, as Fiji has on some flights.

PNG moved that these recommendations be accepted. Seconded by Fiji.

## Annex E

### E. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
ACP	Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific
APHIS-PPQ	Animal Plant Health Inspection Service-Plant Protection Quarantine of (USDA)
APPPC	Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission
AQIS	Australian Quarantine Inspection Service
ASDOA	American Samoa Department of Agriculture
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
BioNET	BioNET-INTERNATIONAL
BQA	Bilateral Quarantine Agreement
BTA	Bilateral Trade Agreement
CABI	CAB International
CBD	Convention of Biological diversity
CIRAD	Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement
CNT	Cook Is, Niue and Tokelau
COGENT	Coconut Genetic Resources Network
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FFM	Fruit Fly Management Project
FICs	Forum Island Countries
GAS	Giant African Snail
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
GPPIS	Global Plant Protection Information Service
HTFA	High Temperature Forced Air (Treatment Facility)
ICPM	Interim Commission for Phytosanitary Measures
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
IRA	Import Risk Analysis
ISC	Interim Standards Committee of the ICPM
ISPM	International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures
MAFF	Ministry for Agriculture Fisheries and Forest (Fiji)
NAKIA	National Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Authority of Papua New Guinea
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NPPO	National Plant Protection Organisations
NRT	New Revised Test of IPPC
NZ MAF	New Zealand Ministry for Agriculture
NZODA	New Zealand Official Development Assistance
OCT	Overseas Countries and Territories
PAL	Pest Advisory Leaflets
PARTA	Pacific Regional Trade Agreement
PCC	PMP-Project Co-ordinating Committee
PDD	Project Design Document
PEQ	Post Entry Quarantine
PHALPS	Permanent Heads of Agriculture and Livestock Production Services
PICTs	Pacific Island countries and territories
PMP	Pest Management in the Pacific
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PPPIS	Pacific Plant Protection Information System
PPPO	Pacific Plant Protection Organisation
PPPS	Pacific Plant Protection Service
PRA	Pest Risk Analysis
PRAs	Participative Rural Appraisals
RGC	Regional Germplasm Centre (SPC)
RMFFP	Regional Management of Fruit Fly in the Pacific
RPPO	Regional Plant Protection Organisation
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WTO-SPS	WTO agreement on the application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
WTO	World Trade Organisation

## **Annex F**

### **F. AGENDA**

#### Monday 19 March

1. Official Opening
2. Adoption of the agenda and daily time schedules
3. Selection of drafting committee
4. Adoption of the report of PPPO2, 1998
5. Election of a Chairperson , Vice-Chairperson and Executive Committee of PPPO
6. Country reports on national quarantine services

#### Tuesday 20 March

7. Workshop 1: Trade facilitation - Landos report on quarantine constraints to trade and the impact of WTO-SPS agreement on regional trade

#### Wednesday 21 March

8. Workshop 2: Fruit fly management for the region (see separate programme sheet)
9. NZA SPC Pest Management in the Pacific (PMP)
10. EU SPC Pacific Plant Protection Service Phase 2 plan
11. PPPO work programme 1998-2000
12. Regional emergency response planning
13. Quarantine training programme 2001 – 2003: IRA and ERP
14. Proposed standardised format for legislation, risk analysis and operational manuals
15. A Model Regional Operational Manual
16. Cost-effectiveness of regional consultation
17. Bilateral – multilateral assistance for national quarantine services
18. Import requirements for Pacific products destined for Australia and New Zealand

#### Thursday 22 March

19. Quarantine risk of germplasm movement in the region
20. Biosafety Protocol
21. Methyl bromide phase out and alternatives
22. Outcomes of RPPO San Diego 11-13 Oct 2000
23. Regional quarantine policies on quarantinable items in transit and re-exports
24. Policy on assistance with national Import Risk Assessments (IRA)
25. PPS Website

#### Friday 23 March

26. Draft ISPMs
27. ICPM assistance to developing countries
28. Attachment training centres for Pacific quarantine personnel
29. National authorisation of pest records for PALs
30. National pest records and reports proposed for PPPIS
31. Survey on regional needs for information services
32. Pacific analytical services

## Annex G

### G. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, OBSERVERS AND RESOURCE PERSONNEL

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