



NAPPO

North American Plant Protection Organization
Organización Norteamericana de Protección a las Plantas

Agenda Item 4

Report of the NAPPO Secretariat on Implementation of the Strategic Plan

October 20, 2014

When the Strategic Plan was adopted in 2013, the Executive Committee agreed that it should be monitored and reported on annually (see Item 8. Modernize the business practices of NAPPO). The purpose of this report is to discuss key activities undertaken by NAPPO during 2014, particularly as these activities relate to implementing the Strategic Plan, as well as to highlight where work remains to be done.

The Executive Committee is invited to:

1. *Note* the results of this report and determine if this is a suitable format for reporting on implementation of the Strategic Plan
2. *Note* the project proposal form and agree with the evaluation criteria
3. *Consider* whether the criteria describing industry involvement in expert groups (Appendix 1) is adequate or requires revision (see point 6b)
4. *Consider* options for enhancing industry involvement identified in 6c of this report
5. *Consider* options related to point 5b (Establish procedures and/or mechanisms to organize resources) including the criteria for NAPPO attending meetings and meeting report template (included under agenda item 18a).
6. *Consider* if there are areas in the Strategic Plan where implementation should be improved and *recommend* steps for improvement within the constraints of available resources.

Implementation of the Strategic Plan

GOAL	RESULT
1. Protect North American plant resources, including the environment, from the introduction and spread of regulated plant pests	
a. Apply a regional NAPPO approach for phytosanitary measures, especially by developing standards and providing a framework / mechanism for implementing them	<p>NAPPO Annual Meeting Symposium on Implementation of electronic phytosanitary certification.</p> <p>A regional approach was ensured in RSPM 40, RSPM 28, AWM of HLB, <i>Tetranychus</i> and Trapping documents (see 2a).</p>
b. Identify offshore threats (particular pests or pathways or both) that present significant risks to the NAPPO member countries and develop a scientific and technically sound harmonized approach to manage them, including where possible a regional approach to pest risk analysis	<p>No projects were carried out in 2014 that specifically address this point. A project to examine risks associated with Lymantriids related to Asian Gypsy moth was approved but not initiated.</p> <p>Sources of information were monitored (APS, ESA news, EPPO website). As a result, at the EPPO- WP on phytosanitary regulations, Austria notified the risk of <i>Anoplophora pini</i> and the NAPPO WG was informed in June. Citrus and Potato EGs and GISCV were forwarded relevant articles from APS journals.</p>
2. Harmonize phytosanitary measures while facilitating trade and protecting the environment in the region	
a. Develop high priority NAPPO standards and other NAPPO documents using science-based information	<p>NAPPO completed work on the standard for pest risk management (RSPM 40), completed revision of RSPM 28 “Authorization of Entities to Perform Phytosanitary Services”, started work on a standard for criteria for determining host status, and is in various stages of revising existing standards. The Secretariat developed a table showing status of work on key items which is updated on a regular basis for ease of follow-up by the WG.</p> <p>This item is described in detail in agenda items 9 and 10.</p>
b. Perform a comprehensive review to determine what standards should be developed, maintained, updated or archived. Review and update existing NAPPO standards using a priority and project-driven approach.	<p>The Working Group began revision of RSPM 6 “Development and Amendment of NAPPO RSPMs” as a first step. During 2014, NAPPO has been shifting to project-based approaches for most of the project assignments. Project proposal process was developed by the Working Group, and has been implemented in 2014. This includes identification of criteria for evaluating project proposals (see Appendix 1).</p> <p>A draft framework of NAPPO standards has been developed, using the IPPC framework as a basis, to determine gaps and potential topics for the NAPPO work program.</p>
c. Monitor and promote the implementation of NAPPO	<p>When standards are adopted, each country should submit an implementation plan that discusses how the standard will be</p>

GOAL	RESULT
standards	<p>implemented in the country. The Secretariat provides a status document twice a year to the WG for follow-up. Currently 43/53 plans are up to date.</p> <p>This process may need to be revisited if it is not viewed as effective.</p>
3. Provide leadership in the international phytosanitary community	
a. Promote the development of IPPC standards relevant to NAPPO member countries	Comments and suggestions are made when relevant at the IPPC Standards Committee meeting; in turn, the Secretariat provides feedback to the WG on adopted ISPMs, those moving forward, etc.
b. Present and advocate for the use of relevant NAPPO standards as models for IPPC standards	NAPPO is developing a standard on criteria for host status; this is also a priority for a standard in the IPPC; NAPPO also developed a standard on Pest Risk Management which is a priority in the IPPC. The NAPPO seed standard completed in 2013 contributed to the development of an IPPC standard under review in 2014. Work on the oversight could provide insights to the IPPC on the term “preclearance” currently in debate.
c. Conduct workshops in support of NAPPO strategic goals	NAPPO conducted a joint workshop with APPPC on implementation of ISPM 15 (Wood Packing Material).
d. Participate and collaborate with the Inter-American Coordinating Group in Plant Protection, RPPOs, and other international organizations (e.g., NAFTA, IPPC, industry organizations) relevant to NAPPO activities	NAPPO cooperated with several other organizations during 2014 (COSAVE, OIRSA, APPPC, EPPO, GICSV, IPPC, IICA) in promoting work in key areas such as citrus, forestry and forest pests, and ePhyto.
e. Contribute leadership at the Technical Consultation of RPPOs.	NAPPO participated in the TC of RPPOs in 2013 and will participate in 2014. NAPPO is scheduled to host the TC of RPPOs in 2015. This is an opportunity for NAPPO and North America to provide substantial leadership among the RPPOs, advance issues of importance to NAPPO countries on a broader scale, and to contribute to the work of the IPPC.
4. Promote and maintain the scientific and technical basis of NAPPO plant protection activities and phytosanitary measures	
a. Provide and promote a dynamic mechanism for the timely exchange of scientific and technically sound information among members	NAPPO administers the Phytosanitary Alert System (PAS). The PAS includes <i>official</i> pest reports as well as (currently) <i>unofficial</i> pest reports (reports from open sources). NAPPO also publishes a periodic newsletter where members can publish technical articles of interest to other members.
b. Promote the use and work to	NAPPO Annual Meeting symposium topic is electronic

GOAL	RESULT
facilitate the implementation of effective technologies (e.g., ePhyto, pest detection & identification and information exchange)	phytosanitary certification and implementation challenges. A USDA-APHIS EG member also represented NAPPO by including information within her presentation at the EFSA-EPPO Workshop on 'Data collection and information sharing in plant health' in Parma, Italy, in April.
c. Strengthen partnerships with relevant research organizations to identify research needs which support NAPPO activities	NAPPO has participated in the American Phytopathological Society and other regional or national organizations and meetings. The purpose of participating in these meetings is to promote the work of NAPPO to a largely scientific audience, while at the same time working to stay current on scientific information of interest to NAPPO member countries.
5. Adopt a focused, priority and project-driven approach, within available resources	
a. Ensure that NAPPO processes and procedures are responsive to and reflect shared member country priorities and emerging issues (e.g., unexpected pest threats)	<p>Projects are proposed within each member country, and each member country can determine whether such projects are considered to be of priority. Collectively, the Executive Committee determines whether projects are appropriate for NAPPO, and a priority for all three countries.</p> <p>The Secretariat role of facilitator and consensus builder led to successfully negotiated acceptable format for trapping protocols; facilitated HLB and RPSM 28 discussions.</p>
b. Establish procedures and/or mechanisms to organize resources (e.g., human and financial) to support this project-driven approach	<p>The Executive Committee of NAPPO agreed in 2013 – 2014 work year to provide up to \$15,000 for each country, to be paid from the reserve fund, for experts to travel to NAPPO meetings. The Executive Committee may wish to consider whether similar funds should be made available for 2014 – 2015 work year.</p> <p>The Secretariat worked with the US to draft a paper that establishes criteria for NAPPO to attend meetings – thereby providing more transparency to how resources are assigned within NAPPO to carry out work, both directly related to NAPPO as well as external to NAPPO.</p>
6. Maintain Active Industry /Stakeholder Engagement in NAPPO Activity	
a. Establish procedures for soliciting and considering Industry/stakeholder input on NAPPO priorities and future annual work plans. This may include specific activities at the Annual Meeting	<p>The Working Group refined the project proposal form and criteria used for evaluating projects. This form has been provided to the NPPOs and is available from the NAPPO Secretariat.</p> <p>The Annual Meeting format has been changed to create opportunities for interested parties to provide feedback on proposed NAPPO projects or to propose projects in the meeting. It is also an opportunity for stakeholders to learn about or provide feedback on projects that have been started</p>

GOAL	RESULT
	or completed.
b. Develop and adopt terms of reference for future NAPPO expert groups which ensure consistent Industry/stakeholder representation, as appropriate	A decision document on stakeholder / industry participation in “panels” was agreed on a few years ago (see Appendix 1). In light of changes to projects / expert groups, it may be necessary to revisit this document and determine if any changes are needed.
c. Adopt other practical approaches to foster ongoing dialogue with industry/stakeholders on plant protection and trade harmonization issues through the IAG and its standing commodity group	<p>Very little has been done on this point. Two possible ideas would be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask industry representatives to submit “industry perspectives” articles to newsletter 2. Consider a lunch-time or after-meeting session with industry at Annual Meeting for industry to meet with NAPPO to discuss ideas
7. Develop and implement ongoing NAPPO communication and promotion strategies	
a. Clearly demonstrate and communicate the relevance and importance of NAPPO work and the importance of plant resources to:	NAPPO is in the process of developing a “Spotlight On” feature for television. Additionally, NAPPO has participated in meetings such as American Phytopathological Society meeting (joint meeting with Canadian Phytopathological Society), Forestry Pest Management Forum and “Weeds Across Borders” meeting.
Senior officials in each member country	See above (7a)
Industry associations	See above (7a)
Other stakeholders	Mexico has provided a paper on local (state or provincial) government participation in NAPPO. See Agenda Item 17.b
b. Promote NAPPO’s role in plant protection and trade facilitation in NPPO budget considerations and advocate for appropriate resource provisions. Explore alternative communication mechanisms to disseminate information	See above (7a)
8. Modernize the business practices of NAPPO	
a. Implement this strategic plan	
Develop, monitor and report on annual work plans to achieve these strategic goals	The Report of the Secretariat is intended to meet this goal.
Establish a transparent annual	The project proposal process now includes opportunities for

GOAL	RESULT
work program and prioritization procedure linked to the strategic goals and plan	consultation at the domestic level (up to each NAPPO member country); further there are opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback during the Annual Meeting. This process is intended to improve transparency as to how projects are proposed, evaluated and ultimately added to the work program.
Establish a clear and predictable decision-making process to support a project-driven approach (e.g. identifying priorities)	Criteria have been established to evaluate the priority of projects in the NAPPO framework. These criteria were drafted in 2013 and further refined in 2014 ahead of the call for topics. See attached project proposal form.
b. Review and revise the annual meeting objective and format to reflect government and stakeholder needs and resources taking into account the project-driven approach	Beginning in 2013 NAPPO has worked to adjust the NAPPO Annual Meeting format to improve stakeholder interactions. The 2013 meeting conducted a participant survey and received mixed reviews. Additional adjustments have been made to the Annual Meeting format for 2014; NAPPO will include another survey this year to obtain feedback on these changes in order to continue to improve the Annual Meeting.
c. Review the feasibility of adding French as another official NAPPO language in order to include North America's francophone community and to expand the international influence of NAPPO.	Not feasible at this time.
d. Identify technological gaps and needs in the Secretariat to improve efficiency in the dissemination of information, etc.	No specific action taken on this point.
e. Enhance processes supporting overall transparency and accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revised project proposal process - Inclusion of a "Report of the Secretariat" as part of the meeting documents for Executive Committee in addition to periodic updates provided to the Executive Committee from the Executive Director - Inclusion of specific and clear decision points for consideration by Executive Committee - Development of a meeting report template for NAPPO reporting from attendance at external meetings - Exploring options for tracking decisions, such as developing a procedure manual and maintaining a historic record of key decisions involving NAPPO processes (involvement of industry in meetings, translation needs, timing of comment periods, formation of Expert Groups, evaluation of project proposals and

GOAL	RESULT
	prioritization, revision of RSPM 6, etc.)