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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES
IN PEST RISK IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT**

WTO SPS COMMITTEE – PROPOSED THEMATIC SESSION

COMMUNICATION FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

The following document, received on 6 September 2021, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the European Union.

SESSION OVERVIEW

The plant health international standards laid down by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) are aiming on one hand at protecting sustainable agriculture and enhancing global food security, the environment and biodiversity, and on the other hand facilitating economic development and safe trade. Over the years, IPPC has developed numerous important guidance such as the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 20: Guidelines for a phytosanitary import regulatory system which provide a foundation for the organization and regulation of safe trade in plants and plant products. Other important achievements of the IPPC to be highlighted in this context are ISPM 2 (Guidelines for pest risk analysis), ISPM 11 (Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests) and ISPM 21 (Pest risk analysis for regulated non-quarantine pests).

Although these accomplishments in streamlining procedures are facilitating international trade, the approval procedures for plants and plant products, including fruit and vegetables still can be complex and on some occasions long and burdensome.

This thematic session will provide an opportunity for WTO Members to increase their awareness about the relevant international standards, to get a global overview of the current epidemiological situation for the main pests and to share best practices in conducting pest risk analyses efficiently and apply effective risk management options that are conducive to trade.

DRAFT AGENDA

1 INTRODUCTION

2 OVERVIEW: INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, WORLDWIDE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

- FAO
- IPPC

3 SHARING OF NATIONAL EXPERIENCES AND BEST PRACTICES

- Risk assessment
- Risk management
- Risk communication

4 CASE STUDIES

5 CLOSING REMARKS
