Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

International Plant Protection Convention

National Reporting Obligations

Camilo Beltran Montoya – Agricultural Officer

Implementation and Facilitation Unit



National Reporting Obligations (NROs) are part of the IPPC commitment

Contracting parties cooperate by exchanging official phytosanitary information.

Convention basis

> Cooperate in the exchange of information on plant pests — especially reporting occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests of immediate or potential danger.

IPPC Article VIII.1(a) · supported by ISPM 17

1 Official information

Reliable national information on the IPP.

2 Safe trade

Measures can be based on official data.

3 Preparedness

Countries can prepare and respond.

4 Trust

Updated information builds confidence.

NROs are not only administrative tasks. They are part of how countries implement the Convention.

When official information is missing, what fills the gap?

Read the following possible situations:

A **Unclear requirement**

A shipment is stopped because of a "new requirement" your NPPO cannot verify officially.

B **Uncertain pest information**

A pest is reported near your border, but the first information comes from media, growers or a scientific article.

C **Non-compliance**

An importing country notifies the interception of a regulated pest in a certified consignment.

D **Unclear entry point**

A high-risk consignment arrives through a port that is not clearly listed for that commodity.

Quick decision pulse

Choose ONE situation.

If official information was missing or outdated, which situation would be the hardest for your NPPO to manage immediately?

Vote silently when called:

A / B / C / D

All four situations matter. The common need is official, accessible, and updated phytosanitary information.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Public National Reporting Obligations

Practical exercise
Is your country's information up to date?

- **5-minute** country page check
- Open the IPP and go to your country page.
- Choose ONE public NRO to check.
- Write two sticky notes:

GREEN — One thing that works well
YELLOW — One thing to check, update, or improve

Place your sticky notes on the wall.

You do not need to name your country unless you wish to.

Countries List: - International Plant Protection Convention

1 **Official IPPC Contact Point**
Who is the official contact for IPPC communication?

2 **Description of the NPPO**
How is the NPPO organized and what are its main functions?

3 **Phytosanitary requirements, restrictions and prohibitions**
What official rules apply to imports of plants and plant products?

4 **List of entry points**
Which points of entry are officially designated for specific consignments?

5 **List of regulated pests**
Which quarantine pests and regulated non-quarantine pests are regulated?

6 **Pest reports**
What occurrence, outbreak or spread of pests has been officially reported?

7 **Emergency action**
What phytosanitary actions have been taken in new or unexpected situations?

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Bilateral National Reporting Obligations

Practical exercise: Match the request to the NRO

A contracting party sends your NPPO a request. Which bilateral NRO applies?

Work in pairs. Match each request with the correct NRO number.

Request received	Which NRO?
A. “Why does your country require this phytosanitary treatment?”	___
B. “We detected a regulated pest in a consignment from your country.”	___
C. “Please provide pest status information for Pest X.”	___
D. “How are plant protection responsibilities organized in your country?”	___

Timing
2 minutes in pairs
1 minute to reveal answers

1 ▨ **Organizational arrangements for plant protection**

How are plant protection functions and responsibilities organized?

2 ? **Rationale for phytosanitary requirements, restrictions and prohibitions**

Why are specific phytosanitary measures required?

3 ! **Significant non-compliance with phytosanitary certification**

What significant non-compliance has been detected by an importing country?

4 ✓ **Result of investigation into non-compliance**

What did the exporting or re-exporting country find after investigation?

5 ◌ **Information on pest status**

What official pest status information is available on request?

6 ✎ **Technical and biological information for pest risk analysis**

What technical information is needed to support PRA?

Pest Reporting Lab: Hypothetical case of Plantasia and the *Quarantine Pest X*

Scenario

A university team reports a possible detection of Pest X in a commercial greenhouse producing host commodities in Plantasia. Pest X is regulated and relevant to export requirements. The NPPO has not yet officially confirmed the detection.

What should the NPPO do first?

Group task — 8–10 minutes

1. Work in groups of 4–6 people.
2. Read actions A–G on the next slide.
3. Write only the letters A–G on sticky notes.
4. Place each sticky note under the best flipchart column.
5. Report back with one sentence.

"Our first step is ___ because ___."

Flipchart setup

Create these columns before the exercise:

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	IN PARALLEL	NOT YET
What must happen first?	What follows?	What comes next?	What can happen at the same time?	What is premature or not appropriate yet?

The task is not to find one perfect answer.
Decide the sequence: first, next, parallel, and not yet.

Possible actions

Write the letters A–G on sticky notes and place them on the flipchart.

Use all actions if possible. Decide what comes first, what follows, what can happen in parallel, and what is not appropriate yet.

A Contact the university team

Request specimens, records, photos, location and methods.

B Confirm pest identity officially

Use the official diagnostic process or an authorized laboratory.

C Initiate targeted detection activities

Inspect the greenhouse and relevant nearby hosts, sites or pathways.

D Publish a pest report on the IPP immediately

Report Pest X as officially present in Plantasia before confirmation is completed.

E Assess export and certification implications

Identify affected host commodities, production sites and certificates.

F Wait for the article to be formally published

Take no official verification or response action until the scientific information is public.

G Prepare communication lines

Coordinate internal messages for growers, exporters and relevant authorities.

Report back

Each group shares one sentence only:

"Our first step is ___ because ___."

From official information to action

NROs are useful when information is official, accessible and up to date.

1. Check

Review your country page on the IPP.
Is the information clear, complete and current?

2. Coordinate

Follow up with your Official Contact Point, IPP editor and relevant NPPO units.

3. Update

Keep public NROs and pest reports aligned with verified official information.

Official information builds trust. Trust supports safe trade.

! Call to action | Identify one NRO item your NPPO will check or update.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

International Plant Protection Convention

Thank you

IPPC Secretariat

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations (FAO)

ippc@fao.org | www.ippc.int

