

Item#	Decisions / Recommendations	Action taken
	<p>Introduction</p> <p>The Meeting of Expert Members of the IPC Committee on Quality was hosted by the Centre for Quality Control of Goods (PPMB), Ministry of Trade at their office during 16-17 March 2011. The meeting was organized jointly by the PPMB and the IPC Secretariat, Jakarta.</p> <p>Expert members and official representatives from Brazil, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam participated at the Meeting.</p>	Noted
1.	<p>Address by Mr. S. Kannan, Executive Director of IPC</p> <p>Mr. S. Kannan, Executive Director of IPC thanked the IPC Chairman for sparing his busy time and accepting the invitation for inaugurating the meeting and welcomed the Chairman of IPC, Head of PPMB, and all the expert members and other representatives.</p>	Noted
2.	<p>Opening Address by Mrs. Husniaty, Director of PPMB</p> <p>Mrs. Husniaty also welcomed the Chairman of IPC and all the expert members from Brazil, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam and highlighted major areas of importance of the Quality and its regular improvements.</p>	Noted
3.	<p>Inaugural Address by the Chairman of IPC</p> <p>Mr. Gusmardi Bustami, Chairman of IPC in his inaugural address explained the need for harmonisation of quality standards, test methods, conducting regular training programmes on GAP and addressing the pest and diseases for developing the Pepper industry and highlighted the need for strengthening of IPC resources to cope up with the emerging quality requirements.</p>	Noted
4.	<p>Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman & Members of the Drafting Committee</p> <p>The Meeting has unanimously agreed to the proposal of Malaysia to elect Mrs. Husniaty, Head of PPMB Indonesia and Mr. K.R.K Menon, Sr. Scientist, Quality Evaluation and Up-gradation Laboratory of Spices Board, India as the Chairperson and Vice-Chairman of the IPC Committee on Quality respectively, while Mr. Zehnder Jarroop of Malaysia was elected as Co-Chair of the Meeting.</p> <p>A Drafting Committee chaired by Mr. G.V. Srinivasan, Scientist from India, was also constituted consisted of the following members:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Mr. Fabiano Bukhard (Brazil) Dr. Ir. Nurliani Bermawie (Indonesia) Mr. Zehnder Jarroop (Malaysia) Mrs. Iranthi Kaushalya Indrasena (Sri Lanka) Mrs. Nguyen Thi Phuong (Vietnam)</p>	Noted

Review of the various decisions made by the Meeting of Expert Members of IPC Committee on Quality
held on 16th – 17th March 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia

Annex 03

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5.	Adoption of agenda The expert members adopted the provisional agenda	Noted
6.	Review of the actions taken and progress of the decisions made at the 16th Meeting of IPC Committee on Quality held on 8th Nov. 2010 in Cochin, India The Meeting reviewed and took note of the follow up action taken by the IPC and member countries in various recommendations made in the last Meeting of IPC Committee on Quality held in Cochin, India last year.	Noted
7	Review of the IPC Code of Hygiene Practices for Pepper (GMP) The Meeting considered the suggestion made by the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture. Since the Codex Alimentarius has a Code of Hygienic Practices for Spices and Dried Aromatic Plants (CAC/RCP 42 – 1995) ¹ , it was suggested to prepare a separate document for Pepper along with the risk assessment details. The current IPC's document on GMP may be evaluated in comparison with Codex Alimentarius Code only for Pepper and pepper products. Expert members suggested that the relevant points / details that are applicable to pepper are required to be taken from Codex for making appropriate changes in the present IPC GMP document. Hence it was decided to circulate both the Codex Alimentarius Code of Hygiene Practices and the IPC GMP document to the expert members of the Committee on Quality for comments. The comments received from the member countries may be combined by the IPC secretariat. After preparing a combined document, the same may be circulated to member countries for views/comments and consideration. It was further agreed that based on the comments an improved IPC GMP will be further placed for consideration at the next Meeting of IPC Committee on Quality to be held along with the 39th Session in Lombok, during November 2011.	The draft of IPC GMP will be again placed for consideration at the next Quality Meeting <u>Appendix 01.1</u>
8	Pesticide Residues It was decided that all the expert members are requested to submit the monitoring data on permitted pesticides (MRL) to the IPC Secretariat for further follow up action. However, it was clarified by the Executive Director that member countries are requested to collect pepper samples from different sources i.e. farmers, traders, intermediaries and exporters, in their respective countries and evaluate the pesticide residues level at each sources. The data generated through this exercise is required to be sent to IPC for making consolidation. This subject will also be listed as an agenda item for discussion and consideration at the next Committee Meeting. In this connection the IPC Secretariat has also been asked to look at the definition	The IPC has sent requested to all the expert members in member countries vide letter dated April 20, 2011 (N-097/IPC/CQ-MRLS/2011) seeking for inputs for developing a project proposal. However there has not been any response received. As per the proposed revision of the Codex Classification on Tree Nuts, Herbs and Spices

¹ www.codexalimentarius.net

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	for “seeds” and “fruits or berries” in the CODEX MRLs for spices and a list applicable pesticides to pepper, as per the definition for evaluation and conducting the pesticide residue study.	which was discussed and considered at the 43 rd Session of Codex held in Beijing, P.R. China during 4 - 9 April 2011, Black, White, Pink and Green Pepper of the HS-0790 are grouped under Group 028B-Fruit or Berry. Appendix 01.02
	It was also suggested by the member countries, since the collecting samples from the different sources including growing areas, pesticide analysis charges, the cost of chemicals etc. involve high cost. Hence the expenditure for generating monitoring data may be included in next budget of IPC for 2012 for consideration and approval in the next Executive Meeting of Heads of Delegation.	
8.	It was also suggested to seek possible financial assistance from international agencies like FAO, ITC, CFC, etc. for generating monitoring data on various contaminants like pesticide residue, aflatoxins, heavy metal, micro-biology parameters etc. As this monitoring of possible contaminants is expected to have critical control points for taking pro-active measures at every stage and offer safer products of pepper to the consuming countries, such effort may be continued during the next couple of years.	The IPC has developed a project proposal on “ Monitoring of pesticide residue in black pepper in pepper producing countries ”. This proposed project when approved will collect representative samples from all the member countries of International Pepper Community (IPC) and generating the data base on pesticide residues available on pepper and extend the advises to the member countries to check the use of harmful pesticides and suggest achievable MRLs to the CODEX. The proposed project which (Appendix 01.3) will also be placed for consideration by the Peppertech Meeting before it is referred to the Executive Meeting of Heads of Delegation
9	Mycotoxins	
	The Committee has agreed to the earlier decision. In addition to the submission made by India and Indonesia on recovery data for Aflatoxins, Brazil, Malaysia and Vietnam are requested to submit the recovery data on Aflatoxins.	IPC has sent request vide letter ref. N-162/IPC/QS-2011 of July 12 to Brazil, Malaysia and Vietnam to extend their cooperation in providing the Aflatoxin monitoring data, to the extent possible. Responses are yet to be obtained.
	Test method for aflatoxin proposed by India (ASTA) and Indonesia and Vietnam (AOAC) are required to be circulated to the expert members with the request to use both the methods and submit the comparative recovery data of each method along with their comment to the IPC Secretariat for further discussion in the next meeting.	A numbers of test methods which were submitted by experts in the past meetings have been uploaded in IPC website under the Technical section http://www.ipcnet.org/index.php?act=&p=technical . Copy of the methods have also been circulated to the expert members in respective member countries
	It was also noted that currently the laboratory under the Department of Export Agriculture Sri Lanka has no facility for testing Alfatoxins	Noted.
10.	IPC Inter-laboratory Proficiency Testing Programme, 14th round	
	After a detailed discussion on the subject and after taking into consideration of the suggestion made by Brazil, the following were decided:	
	a) PPMB of Indonesia will prepare and provide the sample to the participating laboratories for testing Macro & Micro parameters (IPC Standards)	The PPMB in the mid of July has confirmed that they are preparing samples for micro and macro analysis and will send the samples to the participating laboratories accordingly.
	b) MPB of Malaysia is to prepare and provide samples for Pesticide Residues analysis.	IPC did not received any information on the dispatch of sample for pesticide residues from expert of Malaysia
	c) Spices Board of India is to prepare and provide samples for testing Aflatoxins.	Samples prepared by India for aflatoxins were despatched to participating labs. IPC has received only test results from three laboratories.

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	<p>d) The IPC Secretariat will distribute a questionnaire to the participating laboratories in member countries to assess the facilities and capabilities for analyzing stipulated parameters like aflatoxins, pesticide residue, and microbial contaminants along with relevant ISO certification and other regulatory details. Based on this, samples will be dispatched by the above samples providers to the participating laboratories.</p>	<p>The questionnaire was developed by IPC and subsequently was circulated to the laboratories in member countries in the month of April 2011. For the 14th round, a total of 20 laboratories from Brazil, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam are taking part at the programme. The report of the IPC proficiency test, 14th round, are being sent to the participating labs for their follow up action</p>
	<p>e) It was agreed in principle to extend the program to the interested laboratories in importing countries. However it was requested to prepare a detailed note including the charges, etc to the next Meeting of Committee for consideration. However, such laboratories should comply with the quality management system to operate the program such as fulfilling the requirement of ISO/IEC guide 43, ILAC or equivalent.</p> <p>f) The IPC Secretariat has been requested to collect the required detail for customs clearance, and other regulatory document like plan quarantine certificate for sending samples by providers for testing pesticide residue, aflatoxin and physical parameters.</p>	<p>IPC has prepared a background paper / proposal in this item which will be discussed under the agenda item 5 (See Appendix 2) for consideration by the 17th Meeting of Committee on Quality.</p> <p>The IPC has sent request to get the details for custom clearance, and other imports regulations for sending the samples. Unfortunately In spite of the reminders, IPC has not received any reply. Considering of the importance of the programme and taking into account of the procedures followed in the last programme, IPC then informed the samples providers to make ready phytosanitary and plant quarantine certificate to be sent along with the samples to the participating labs for custom clearance by the participating laboratories. Out of the 20 samples sent by PPMB Jakarta for Macro/micro analysis, one sample was returned back to IPC Jakarta</p>
11.	<p>g) As decided by Vietnam, it was agreed to request the participating laboratories to send the test results along with the test method followed by them to the IPC.</p> <p>Sampling Methods for Pepper</p>	<p>Follow up action is being taken up</p>
	<p>After a detailed discussion on the subject, it was decided to circulate the specific sampling method for aflatoxins provided by India and the sampling method for mycotoxin, microbiology and pesticide residues provided by Indonesia to all the expert members for their information and suggestions.</p>	<p>The methods have been circulated to the expert members. IPC has also uploaded the methods under the technical section of the IPC website. Comments from the expert members are yet to be received.</p>
	<p>This subject will also be discussed in the next Meeting for finalising a comprehensive sampling procedure to the identified parameters for pepper.</p>	
12.	<p>Trainings</p> <p>The next set of GAP training programme will be held in Indonesia during the first half of 2011. ED also informed that IPC has received a format from Brazil for preparing the project document to conduct the GAP training in Brazil. ED mentioned that the IPC will provide the required detail and send it to Brazil in the next few days.</p>	<p>A series of GAP training have been successfully conducted in the rowing areas in Lampung, Bangka Belitung and East Kalimantan which have attracted a numbers of pepper farmers, agricultural officers and local traders in the growing areas. During the training, the IPC GAP Books in local language were also disseminated to the pepper farmers for their reference. The report of the GAP trainings along with the GAP Book in Bahasa is given as</p>

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		<u>Appendix 01-04.</u>
	It was also agreed that other member countries may send their request to IPC for conducting the GAP training. ED has also requested the expert members from Brazil, Vietnam and India to follow up with FAO office in their country for availing possible assistance as per the proposal sent by the IPC under intimation to the concerned liaison officers.	Except for Vietnam, which has conducted GAP training at the growing areas, IPC has not spend amount for such training in Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Brazil, considering that Malaysia, Sri Lanka have regularly conducted such training while in Brazil, programme of such training are also being undertaken by the concerned agencies.
	However, expert members from Malaysia and Sri Lanka informed the meeting that regular training programme for educating farmers on various aspects pertaining to pepper, including GAP are being conducted every year.	Noted
13.	Discussion on the emerging quality issues in the world pepper / spice trade:	
	13.1. Carbon Footprint	
	The expert members have been requested to identify suitable speakers on the subject for presenting a paper in the next Peppertech Meeting. Since the subject is not of immediate concern, if suitable speaker is not identified, this subject may be postponed.	In spite of the communications / request made by IPC to identified speakers, there has not been a positive reply received so far.
	13.2 Traceability The documents on Traceability provided by India have been circulated among the expert members. This document may be used by the members as reference to improve the quality and traceability.	The IPC website has also created links at the Technical section of IPC website to download the traceability documents
14.	Other Matters	
	The following were discussed and decided:	
	a) For assessing the bulk density of pepper, PPMB has agreed to provide one apparatus to IPC as specimen for duplicating. After duplicating the apparatus will be sent to Brazil.	Two sets of BD apparatus have been received by IPC during May. Shipment of BD apparatus to Mr. Johannes, President of ABEP is done on 9 th August 2011. One apparatus is kept at IPC office
	b) For moisture meter it was suggested the PPMB will provide the details and specification of the equipment to IPC Secretariat for sending them to the Brazil.	To follow up / communicate with both PPMB for getting the moisture meter.
	c) For having consistency and continuity in the discussion and deliberation on quality related issues, it was suggested to request the Liaison Officers of member countries to nominate one permanent member and one alternate member to the IPC Committee on Quality.	Communications have been sent to the Los. So far India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam have submitted two names to be expert members of IPC Committee on Quality. While names from Brazil and Sri Lanka are yet to be received and confirmed. The details of Chairperson and members of Committee is given as <u>Appendix 01-5</u>
	d) Chairperson has suggested to IPC Secretariat to collect and compile relevant information in respect of the sampling/testing methods, technical regulations, quality specifications, MRLs for pepper of the different agencies in major consuming countries such as ASTA, ESA, Codex, etc and sampling/testing methods and other documents which have been adopted by the IPC Committee on Quality in the past Meetings.	The sampling methods and other quality related documents have been uploaded in the IPC website under its technical section. For more details please visit http://www.ipcnet.org/index.php?act=&p=technical

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	e) The Chairperson further suggested that such details are required to be updated regularly and upload in the IPC website with an appropriate icon for easy access to the member countries. In response to her suggestion, ED mentioned that some of the details were already uploaded in the IPC website. However, as desired those details not covered will be collected / complied for uploading in the website.	http://www.ipcnet.org/index.php?act=&p=technical
	f) Considering the importance and seriousness of the subjects, the expert members were requested to follow up on the various decisions of the Committee and coordinate with the concerned officers in their country for providing the required comments/inputs to the IPC Secretariat for taking timely action.	IPC is taking follow up action with the existing members in Indonesia, Malaysia, India and Vietnam, while communications to Brazil and Sri Lanka will be taken up immediately after getting expert members nominations from Brazil and Sri Lanka.
	g) For promoting organic pepper the IPC Secretariat has been asked to circulate the details on cultivation procedures, application, certifying agencies etc for organic farming and certification to the member countries and also upload such details in the IPC website. Similarly other information such as Fairtrade certification system and procedure involved may also be circulated for the benefit of members.	While IPC has not developed such documents/manuals, efforts have been made to create links to the relevant documents / manuals and guidelines published by international agencies such as Codex, ITC and Fairtrade. These include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of ▪ Organically Produced Foods, ▪ Marketing Manual and Web Directory for Organic Spices, Culinary Herbs and Essential Oils. ▪ FAIRTRADE Standards for Herbs and Spices for Small Producers' Organization
	h) As proposed by India training program on the analysis of various parameters may be discussed in the next meeting. However in the changed situation India is asked to submit a discussion paper on this subject including budget estimate, list if laboratories, required parameters for training, etc. to the IPC for further consideration.	IPC has sent request to Mr. KRK Menon, Vice-Chairman of the IPC Committee on Quality to prepare a background paper / proposal for discussion at the next meeting. However Mr. Menon in his reply, has requested to obtain information from each member country regarding their labs capability/facility etc. before preparing a proposal for the training. He further suggested that better if the proposal is prepared by the agency in the country who needs the training/ technical supports. India can extend their facilities for training them on any of their analysis needs with a nominal training fee. The meeting may discuss and make a decision on this item.
	i) The expert member from Malaysia has suggested developing a method to identify the origin of pepper. While this was considered, the committee requested the expert member from Malaysia to prepare a discussion paper with the details and suggested method for circulating among the member countries for comments.	Mr. Zehnder of Malaysia has been requested to prepare the background paper for discussion in the next Meeting. Once the paper is received, this will be included and placed for discussion.
15.	Consideration and Adoption of the Report	
	The Committee on Quality approved the report. The approved report will be placed for consideration and adoption in the 18th PepperExim Meeting to be held in November 2011.	Noted