

INTERNATIONAL PEPPER COMMUNITY
REPORT OF THE 36TH PEPPER TECH MEETING

24th November 2011, Senggigi, Lombok Island, Indonesia

Introduction

The 36th Peppertech Meeting was held on 24th November 2011 at Senggigi, Lombok Island, Indonesia. The meeting was held in conjunction with the 39th Session and other Meetings of IPC, which was hosted by the Ministry of Trade, Government of Indonesia and organized jointly by the Ministry of Trade and the International Pepper Community.

The meeting was attended by scientists, officials and trade delegates from the member countries as well as the representatives from the other producing and consuming countries. The list of delegates is given in *Annex 1*.

1. Welcome address by Mr. S. Kannan, Executive Director of IPC

Mr. S. Kannan, Executive Director of IPC welcomed all the delegates and also stressed the need for addressing the pests and diseases issues as well as developing new varieties, which are pest and disease resistant, high yielding and high oil / oleoresin content.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda which is given in *Annex 02*

3. Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of Drafting Committee

The meeting unanimously agreed to elect Dr. Nuriani Bernawie, Head of Indonesian Medicinal and Aromatics Crops Research Institute (BALITTRO) of Indonesia to be the Chairperson and Mr. D.A. Perera of Sri Lanka as the Vice Chairman of the Meeting.

The Vice Chairman will be the Chairman of Drafting Committee which consists of the following members:

Mr. Johannes Torrecillas of Brazil
Dr. Tamil Selvan of India
Ms. Nanan Nurdjanah of Indonesia
Ms. Angela Tida of Malaysia
Mr. WDL Gunaratne of Sri Lanka
Mr. Tran Duc Tung of Vietnam

4. Review of the progress report on recommendations of the 35th Peppertech Meeting

The meeting took note of the statement on recommendations and action taken of the last year meeting, which was presented by Executive Director. The action sheet is given in *Annex 03*.

5. Presentation and Discussion of country papers by:

Mr. Johannes Torrecillas, President of ABEP, informed the meeting that country paper on Germplasm Exchange programme has been circulated to all the delegates.

a) India

Dr. P.M. Suresh Kumar from Spices Board of India presented an overview of the factors affecting current Production and Productivity of Pepper in India and the initiatives that has been taken to face the challenges including setting up a research facility to boost the production level.

The paper is given in *Annex 04*.

b) Indonesia

Dr. Agus Wahyudi of Indonesian Spices and Industrial Crops Research Institute (BALITTRI) delivered a presentation about pepper cultivation in Indonesia, quality improvement measures, problems faced by the pepper growers as well as the pests and diseases management strategies in Indonesia. He also highlighted the recent achievement that had been made by the Indonesian government in pepper cultivation.

The paper is given in *Annex 05*.

c) Malaysia

Mr. Lau Ee Tiing of Malaysian Pepper Board presented a paper regarding strategy and innovation for sustainable pepper production and quality. He highlighted the current status of pepper genome research and emphasize the potential of biotechnological approach in sustaining the pepper industry.

The paper is given in *Annex 06*.

d) Sri Lanka

Dr. Aruna P. Heenkende of Department of Export Agriculture, Sri Lanka presented a paper regarding strategies for integrated crop nutrient management of pepper being followed in Sri Lanka. He also shared the research findings in nutrient management and organic farming of black pepper programme implemented in Sri Lanka.

The paper is given in *Annex 07*.

6. Discussion and Consideration of the Brazilian Proposal to have Black Pepper Germplasm Exchange programme among IPC member countries

Mr. Johannes Torrecillas President of ABEP Brazil, has briefed the meeting on the concerns of the Government of Brazil on the Germplasm Exchange program. He has also requested all the member countries to support the Brazilian proposal (*see Annex 08*).

While responding to the proposal, Mr. Paulus Amin Det, Sr. Scientist of the Agriculture Research Centre, Dept of Agriculture, Sarawak Malaysia, explained that during early 90s, a programme called “Exchange of planting materials for inter-country varietal trial” among the member countries was implemented by IPC with the participation of India, Malaysia and Indonesia. However, this had not benefitted the respective countries in terms of obtaining resistant varieties. Hence suggested that what is required is a programme on the identification, isolation and use of resistance genes from other Piper species through biotechnological approaches.

Expert from India said that considering the difficulties on quarantine and intellectual property right, exchanging registered genes may be a better way to address the issue. This view was also endorsed by Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

India further proposed to establish a sub-Committee representing scientists from member countries to develop a proposal for developing effective mechanism for Resistance Genes Exchange programme.

7. Sri Lanka’s experience on Integrated Productivity Management/Soil Fertility and IPM as well as organic farming

Dr. Asoka Seneviratne shared about Sri Lankan experiences in improving the productivity of black pepper through integrated approaches. One of these approaches is the Productivity Improvement Programme (PIP), which is the most comprehensive programme implemented by the Department of Export Agriculture in Sri Lanka to improve existing pepper cultivations, through GAP. Dr. Asoka’s paper is given in *Annex 09*.

Another paper on production improvement of pepper through intercropping in tea and coconut was presented by Mrs. Shanta Senevirathna, Assistant Director of the Dept of Export Agriculture. She also mentioned that research studies has found that intercropping can reduce the fertilizer cost and also as one of the best solutions for land scarcity for pepper cultivation in Sri Lanka. Her paper is given in *Annex 10*.

8. Consideration of the statement on black pepper equivalent

The statement and the conversion ratio for estimating the total pepper required for exporting pepper, including the process and value added products was discussed. In this connection the ratio used for converting process products into black pepper was considered and approved by the Meeting.

The ratio statement is given in *Annex 11*.

9. Discussion and consideration of the revision of the Pepper Harvesting Chart

The revised pepper harvesting chart proposed was considered by the Meeting.

However Sri Lanka has reported that the first harvesting can be between June and July and the second harvest is from January to February. Cambodia informed that the harvesting season is during February to May. Brazil representative informed that the crops start from October to December. As far as India, Indonesia and Malaysia are concerned, there is no change proposed to the revised pepper harvesting chart.

After taking into the consideration of the changes proposed, a revised harvesting chart is prepared and is given in **Annex 12**

10. Discussion and consideration on the proposal for monitoring data on Pesticide Residues in Pepper

After careful examination on the proposal, the meeting agreed to the proposal. However it was reported that some of the pesticides listed in the proposal are already banned by the member countries. Hence a revised list needs to be collected from the member countries for revising the proposal before submitting it to funding agencies.

It was also suggested that strengthening extension support and control on indiscriminate uses of plant protection chemicals may also be taken into consideration for inclusion in the proposal.

The draft proposal is given in **Annex 13**.

11. Discussion and consideration on the proposal to conduct International Training cum Workshop on “*Phytophthora* and other virus diseases management in Black Pepper”

The proposal was approved for implementation during 2012. India has agreed to host and conduct the training cum workshop on the management of *Phytophthora* and other diseases in Black Pepper. It was also suggested that the extension and GAP training being conducted in the member countries should be integrated with it. Experts from other countries outside the IPC member countries should also be included in this training. The travelling cost for scientists participating in this programme would be borne by the respective member countries.

Similar international training cum workshop on this subject can be considered by the IPC as detailed in the proposal, based on the request from other member countries.

The proposal is given in **Annex 14**.

12. Discussion and consideration on the proposal to have training on “Bio-control measures for healthy planting materials and promoting R&D kit for diagnosing virus”

The member countries agreed with the proposal to have this training. Representative from India stated that they have implemented programme and technology regarding the use of bio control measures in pepper cultivation.

They also expressed their willingness to share information regarding this with other member countries and be the host for this training. The travelling cost for scientists participating in this programme would be borne by the respective member countries. The meeting also agreed to conduct the training along with the GAP training being conducted in the member countries.

The proposal is given in **Annex 15**.

13. Discussion and consideration to constitute:

13.a. IPC Committee on Research and Development

The meeting unanimously agreed to the proposal. All the member countries are also requested to nominate expert members for the R&D Committee.

13.b. IPC Editorial Board for the IPC technical publication / journal

The Committee agreed to the proposal. All the member countries are also requested to nominate a panel of experts in different subjects/disciplines to the IPC Secretariat for referring the article, research papers for further review before publishing.

14. Other matters

Mr. Sarada de Silva of Sri Lanka asked the IPC Secretariat to examine the possibility of exploring financial support for providing extension support to the farmers / agricultural assistants on transfer of technology, quality improvement, and production development from International donor agencies.

The expert from India has also suggested to have a farmers' page in the IPC website which provide updated and useful information to pepper farmers on information related to the production and development at farm level.

Dr. Tamil Selvan of India also made suggestion that articles on farmers' success story may be published in the IPC journal and the proposed farmers' page of the IPC website.

15. Discussion on the date and venue for the 37th Peppertech Meeting

Mr. Vajira Naramparawa, Secretary of the Ministry of Minor Crop informed the meeting that the Government of Sri Lanka will be hosting the next Peppertech Meeting along with the 40th Session of IPC during October / November 2012. The dates and venue will be communicated to the IPC Secretariat in due course

16. Consideration and adoption of the report of the 36th Peppertech Meeting

The Meeting adopted the report on 24th November 2011.

17. Vote of thanks

Dr. Nuriani Bernawie, Chairperson of the 36th Peppertech Meeting highlighted the major points presented and extended her sincere thanks for selecting her as the Chairperson. She also thanked all the representatives from IPC member countries and scientists for very fruitful deliberation and approving new programmes for implementation during 2012 for the benefit of the pepper community.
