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**FINAL REPORT OF AN AUDIT
CARRIED OUT IN
ITALY
FROM 08 SEPTEMBER 2015 TO 17 SEPTEMBER 2015
IN ORDER TO
EVALUATE THE SYSTEM OF IMPORT CONTROLS FOR PLANT HEALTH**

Executive Summary

This report describes the outcome of an audit carried out in Italy from 8 to 17 September 2015. The objectives were to audit the capability and the performance of the official bodies responsible for import controls and the adequacy and effectiveness of import checks carried out for plant health purposes to ensure compliance with EU requirements. Particular attention was paid to follow up on the action taken in Italy in response to the recommendations of previous reports.

Overall, some progress has been made in Italy since the previous audit (2013). The planned (comprehensive) national computer-based manual of procedures has become operational recently. It has a significant potential to address a number of the weaknesses of the plant health import control system. Certain recommendations of the previous audits have now been satisfactorily addressed, and the actions planned in response to the remaining recommendations are ongoing, albeit with a delay. Many of the shortcomings identified during the previous audit are still present, in particular, the shortage of resources, the lack of instructions and specific technical training to carry out meticulous plant health checks. In most of the regions visited, phytosanitary risks presented by the imported commodities are not taken into account and adequate inspection facilities, although available, are not used. Therefore, the current plant health import control system does not ensure that these controls are risk based and effective. This is reflected in the number of interceptions notified by Italy of imported plant consignments and of wood packaging material originating in all Third Countries which is low compared to the volume of trade.

Recommendations are made in the report to address the deficiencies found.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

Abbreviation	Explanation
BTSF	Better Training for Safer Food
CIRCA	Website of the European Commission, with access for the Member States administrators
COM	European Commission
Customs clearance	Release of consignments into free circulation into EU after the completion of Customs formalities
EC	European Community
EPPO	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation
ERSAF	Agricultural and Forest Services Regional Agency
EU	European Union
EUROPHYT	EU's notification system for interceptions for plant health reasons
EUROSTAT	The statistical office of the European Union
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
ISPM	International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
MIPAAF	Ministry of Agriculture, Foodstuffs and Forest Policies
MS	Member State of the EU
NPHC	National Plant Health Committee
NPHS	National Plant Health Service
PC	Phytosanitary Certificate
PQR	Database of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation on quarantine organisms including data on host plants, pathways and geographical distribution
Regulated articles	Refers to those items for which a official phytosanitary certificate is required for import into the Community, which includes those items listed in Annex V, part B to Council Directive 2000/29/EC
RPS	Regional Plant Health Service
SA	Single Authority in the meaning of the Article 1(4) of Directive 2000/29/EC
SIAN	National Agricultural Information System
TARIC	Integrated Tariff of the European Communities
WPM	Wood packaging material

1 INTRODUCTION

The audit took place in Italy from 8 to 17 September 2015 as part of the DG Health and Food Safety planned audit programme.

The audit team, which consisted of two auditors from DG Health and Food Safety and one national expert from a Member State, was accompanied during most of the audit by representatives of the Single Authority.

A questionnaire was sent to the Single Authority in advance of the audit, which was completed and returned to our services, assisting the planning and conduct of the audit.

An opening meeting was held on 8 September in Rome, during which, the objectives and itinerary for the audit were confirmed. A closing meeting was held at the same location on 17 September.

2 OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

The objectives of the audit were to evaluate the following:

1. the procedures for importing consignments of regulated plants, plant products and other objects into the EU, and the adequacy and effectiveness of import checks carried out for plant health purposes to ensure compliance with EU requirements; this includes imports under Commission Directive 2008/61/EC ("scientific imports")
2. the capability and the performance of the official bodies responsible for implementing relevant European Union (EU) legislation in the sector audited and
3. the actions taken by Italy in response to recommendations of reports DG(SANCO)2011/8975 and DG(SANCO)2013/6790.

In pursuit of these objectives, the following sites were visited:

Visits and meetings		No.	Comments
Single authority	Central	1	MIPAAF
Other responsible official bodies	RPSs	3	Veneto, Lombardy, Campagna and Calabria
Other authorities	ERSAF	1	Malpensa Airport
	Customs	3	Venezia-Marghera, Malpensa Airport, Naples
Plant health control sites			
Points of Entry	Airports	1	Malpensa
	Sea Ports	2	Venezia-Marghera and Salerno were visited and a representative of Gioia Tauro met

3 LEGAL BASIS

The audit was carried out under the general provisions of EU legislation, in particular Article 21 and Article 27a of Council Directive 2000/29/EC.

3.1 RELEVANT EU LEGISLATION

All EU legislation referred to in this report is listed in Annex 1 to this report. References to legislation are to the latest amended version, where applicable.

3.2 STANDARDS

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) are issued by the International Plant Protection Convention and are therefore recognised international benchmarks for phytosanitary control. Those of particular relevance to this audit are listed in Annex 2 to this report.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 Previous relevant audits

This was the fourth audit on import controls for plant health carried out by DG Health and Food Safety in Italy. The three previous audits were carried out in 2006 (ref DG(SANCO)8260/2006), 2011 (ref DG(SANCO)2011-8975) and 2013 (ref DG(SANCO)2013-6790). The corresponding reports are available on the website (http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/ir_search_en.cfm) as well as the Single Authority (SA)'s comments on the report and its response to the recommendations. A country profile for Italy is also available on http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/controlsystems_en.cfm?co_id=IT.

4.2 IMPORT DATA

Based on the EUROSTAT data and as also detailed in the previous audit reports Italy is one of the largest EU importers of commodities of plant health concern.

In 2014, and in the case of

- citrus fruits, Italy was the fourth largest importer with 98 851 t (5% of all EU import);
- potatoes, Italy was the largest importer with 60 134 t (20% of all EU import);
- live plants (including cuttings and excluding bulbs), Italy was the fourth largest importer with 3 605 t (4% of all EU import) and
- cut flowers from Thailand, over 50% were imported to the EU via Italy.

4.3 INTERCEPTION DATA

In the period between 1 January 2013 and 1 September 2015, Italy notified a total of 625 interceptions in EUROPHYT, the EU's notification system for interceptions for plant health reasons. This compares to the 424 interceptions in the three year period 2010 – 2012.

Table 3 below provides details of the number and reason for the interceptions notified between 2013-2015.

Table 3: Interceptions notified by Italy 2013 - 2015 (source: *EUROPHYT*)

	2013	2014	2015*
Total	278	191	156
- with harmful organisms	58	68	28
- wood packaging material	30	29	9

* - to 1 September 2015

The data indicates that interceptions of harmful organisms account for only a small proportion of the total interceptions notified during that period. Interceptions of wood packaging material (WPM) constitute a similarly small proportion of total interceptions.

According to the EUROPHYT annual reports for 2013 and 2014, which are published by the DG Health and Food Safety¹, the number of interceptions of harmful organisms in Italy has remained relatively low in relation to its geographical and international trade position despite the 12.1% increase in interceptions of harmful organisms noted in 2014.

The action taken following an interception is detailed in section 5.9 below.

5 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 ORGANISATION OF OFFICIAL CONTROLS

Legal requirements

Article 2 of Directive 2000/29/EC provides requirements relating to the organisation of official plant health controls in the EU.

Point 1 of the Annex to Directive 98/22/EC specifies the minimum conditions for performing official plant health controls at inspection posts at or nearby the point of entry.

5.1.1 Designation of Single Authority and Responsible Official Bodies

Findings

1. There have been no major changes in the general structure of the Single Authority and Regional Plant Health Service (RPS) since the previous audit. For further details see audit report DG(SANCO)2013-6790.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/europhyt/index_en.htm

2. Recommendation 1 of report 2013-6790 was to *"Ensure that the regional plant health services are effectively supervised by the Single Authority, within the limits established by the national legislation, in line with 2nd indent of Article 2(1)(g)(ii) of Directive 2000/29/EC. In particular tools considered essential by the Single Authority to perform the coordination and guidance related activities (e.g. Audit programme) should be developed and implemented. Furthermore, the system in place should be adapted to timely deliver decisions, tools and guidance to Regions."*

In response to this recommendation the Single Authority stated that:

- A national supervision/audit system is planned to be set up within the National Plant Health Service (NPHS) with a view to supervising the operation of the RPSs. A Ministerial Decree to establish the audit system was foreseen by the end of 2015. An audit plan would be then prepared. Audits are planned from the middle of 2016 onwards.
- In preparation of the audit system, questionnaires had been sent to the RPSs in February 2015, requesting information on their structure, organisation and laboratory facilities, and a second questionnaire on points of entry. The Single Authority indicated that they had received replies to the questionnaires, although these were not available. Three audit checklists have been prepared, and a final decision on which one will be used for planning plant health audits, is foreseen to be taken in the National Plant Health Committee (NPHC) in October 2015.
- As detailed in the previous report, the Single Authority also plans to establish a computerised plant health system under the National Agricultural Information System (SIAN), aimed at collecting all data on the activities of the RPS. The system is planned to include a register of holdings and a national register of plant health inspectors and importers, and an inspection database, which will record inspections as well as outbreaks of harmful organisms. The Single Authority intends to use a number of these components for their supervision plan. The deadline for completion of the SIAN is the end of 2016. The project is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Foodstuffs and Forest Policies (MIPAAF). The plant health component is a small element of SIAN and progress on its implementation is dependent on progress of the overall project. The work is in the initial phase.
- Eight additional staff have been requested by the Single Authority in order to address recommendations of previous audits and to fulfil the obligations arising from EU plant health legislation. Regarding the recruitment of additional staff see 5.1.2.

The above actions are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation. However, the adoption of the Ministerial Decree regarding the audit system was originally planned for the end of May 2015. It is therefore delayed. All the other actions have been progressing within the proposed deadlines.

3. Recommendation 2 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that there is close cooperation between the regional plant health services and the Single Authority as required in Article 2(1)(g) 6th paragraph of Directive 2000/29/EC.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- the NPHC represented by each RPS meets monthly to discuss and decide on plant health related issues. The decisions by the NPHC which are agreed by the regions are obligatory for all RPSs. In order to give official status to the decisions, Ministerial Notes are issued. This system aims to ensure close cooperation between the regional plant health services and the Single Authority.
- The audit system due to become operational in the middle of 2016 is intended to ensure that plant health requirements are adequately met throughout Italy.

The above actions are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation as noted in (2) above. Some delay is foreseen in starting the audits.

4. The RPS in Lombardy informed the audit team that there had been an improvement in the flow of information from the NPHS, outside of the NPHC. Examples included provision of information on developments at the EU Standing Committee and information posted on CIRCA.
5. All visited import points reported an improved communication between the central and regional levels.
6. The seaports visited had received the Ministerial Notes and other information sent by the Single Authority.

5.1.2 Staffing provisions

Findings

7. The Single Authority stated that in order to implement the Action Plan submitted in response to previous reports they requested eight new staff at central level. So far, two new staff have been recruited and six more are anticipated to start in the next few months. They further stated that the recruitment of all these new personnel is essential to make progress in the implementation of the Action Plan. Due to financial constraints the regional RPSs cannot recruit new staff. Recruitment is blocked by Government at present.
8. As a result of a Ministerial Decree issued on 7 August 2015, the Forestry Corps has been merged with the Carabinieri. The Decree provides the opportunity for their 500 staff to become available for the plant health service. An Implementing Decree will be necessary for this; after such a Decree is adopted, member of Forestry Corps staff are planned to be trained to perform plant health checks.

9. The audit team visited Venice-Marghera seaport in Veneto, Malpensa airport in Lombardy and Salerno seaport in Campania and met with a representative of Gioia Tauro seaport and noted that:

- At Venice-Marghera port four full time inspectors carry out import controls, among other activities, including export and nursery controls, grain and dried legumes checks. At Salerno port eight full time inspectors carry out import controls and have other tasks including territorial monitoring, similarly to Venice-Marghera port.
- Due to the wide range of tasks, the time available for performing inspections of regulated articles is limited. This is reflected in the shortcomings identified with the plant health checks (see also section 5.5.3).
- At Malpensa Airport, the Agricultural and Forest Services Regional Agency (ERSAF) is responsible for implementing the import controls. ERSAF stated that two inspectors were replaced by two new staff to address the shortcomings identified during the previous audit. In total, three full time inspectors are now allocated to import control and where necessary two additional staff are available. ERSAF stated that this ensures effective work also during peak times.

5.1.3 Staff qualifications, working instructions and internal communication

Findings

10. Recommendation 3 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that staff performing plant health checks have technical competence especially in the detection of harmful organisms as required in paragraph 2 of the Annex to Directive 98/22/EC.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- In order to ensure that plant health inspectors and support technicians have the necessary skills, a national Working Group had been established to provide guidance on this. Their report is expected in September 2015, and will be presented to the NPHC in October 2015 for discussion and possible adoption.
- At present, the RPSs organise their own training courses, including induction programmes for new staff. These courses will be based, in the future, on a national programme. A list of 20 courses have been identified by the NPHC for inclusion in the national training programme, including seminars to ensure the transfer of knowledge obtained at Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) sessions.
- The above actions are planned for the near future once new staff have been recruited at MIPAAF.

The above actions are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation. However, their completion has been delayed; this was originally foreseen to be achieved by the end of July and 1 September 2015.

11. The audit team noted that:

- At Marghera, Salerno and Gioia Tauro ports, no commodity specific instructions were available for inspectors to carry out import checks of consignments representing high plant health risk.
 - The newly recruited staff at Malpensa Airport received a comprehensive induction training of three months, involving external institutes. The ERSAF had developed a training programme and a programme to ensure that the professional competence of staff performing checks is maintained, as part of its preparation for its application for International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 17020 accreditation. The staff present during the visit by the audit team was competent to perform plant health checks, which is an improvement compared to the previous audit in 2013.
 - In Veneto, a newly recruited inspector received on-the-job training from the regional chief inspector.
 - In Campania, RPS staff is provided with 150 hours/year training on plant health issues, most of which, however, does not relate directly to import controls.
 - In the case of new trade (e.g. potatoes in Veneto) training is received from colleagues from other import points with experience of that trade.
12. Recommendation 4 of report 2013-6790 was to *"Ensure that up-to-date national manual of procedures for inspectors is available in all points of entry as required in indent 6(a) of paragraph 1 of Annex to Directive 98/22/EC. In particular the manual should contain detailed instructions on how documentary, identity and plant health checks should be performed including the check of additional declaration and the minimum sample size for visual inspection."*

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- The national computer-based manual of procedures was completed and has been available to all inspectors in all regional RPSs since June 2015.
- The Single Authority informed the audit team that the system had been developed by two specialists based on a multi-annual contract, which provides for a continuous updating of the system and guidance.
- The inspection and sampling instructions provided in the system must first be approved by the NPHC prior to being uploaded.
- Operational information sheets including photos for individual genera or plant species and for plant and plant products or other items are available for inspectors. A regularly updated EU and national legal reference is incorporated.
- The system is linked with, among other things, the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO) PQR database and the website of the EU Commission.
- Some significant elements of the manual were still under development, in particular the specific instructions for performing checks by species, and a calculator to establish the size of samples to be taken. In the latter case, the system currently includes a calculator based on tables 1 and 2 of ISPM 31. Additional guidance on the level of detection has been included. However, as noted in section 5.5.3 below, there

are significant differences in the level of sampling applied across the RPSs. The NPHS stated that further clarification on the final format and use of the calculator is a subject of consultation at national level; a proposal was planned to be presented to the NPHC in October 2015.

The above actions and their implementation are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation.

13. Recommendation 5 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that instructions on plant health checks are adapted as quickly as possible in the light of new plant health risks as required in indent 7 of paragraph 1 of the Annex to Directive 98/22/EC.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- MIPAAF informs the regional RPSs at NPHC meetings, in the form of technical Ministerial Notes.
- The national computer based manual of procedures also includes information about new risks (e.g. *Xylella fastidiosa*) and is regularly updated in the light of new plant health risks.
- MIPAAF is planning to launch a new national plant health website to provide documentation needed for RPSs control activities and guidelines on how to act in the case of emerging risks. It is also planned to establish an e-mail list of all inspectors in the NPHS to provide updated information in the near future.

The above actions and their implementation are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation, with the exception of the national website. According to the Action Plan the national plant health website was planned to be launched by 1 June 2015, therefore it is delayed.

14. The audit team noted that:

- New harmful organisms which could represent high risk are not identified in the commodity specific data sheets in the computerised manual. At the time of the audit, they listed only those pests that are regulated by Directive 2000/29/EC or EU emergency measures.

5.1.4 Organisation of official controls

Findings

15. As detailed in the previous report, there is a multi-annual control programme on monitoring activities established at national level part of which includes import controls.
16. In addition, the regional services visited also had such plans in place. In Veneto, the regional control plan did not include plant health import control as these are done on demand.

Conclusions on the organisation of official controls

17. Some progress has been made since the previous audit (ref DG(SANCO)2013/6790) as the implementation of actions in response to Recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 5 is ongoing, albeit with some delay. Recommendation 4 has been satisfactorily addressed.
18. At central level, steps have been taken to address the critical staff shortages that have been identified. However, the necessary staff have only been partially recruited due to a general ban on recruitment. Therefore the critical resource shortage and its adverse effects on the work of the central service remain.
19. The staff resources allocated at the three ports are too limited for the range of duties that they are required to perform, to ensure that plant health checks can be, and are carried out meticulously (see also section 5.5.3 below).
20. There are no commodity specific instructions available at the sea ports reviewed for performing import checks of high-risk consignments. The roll-out of the national manual of procedures has a significant potential to address this shortcoming.
21. Training is currently provided to staff performing plant health checks. However, as noted in section 5.5.3 below this is not sufficient to ensure that checks are always carried out appropriately.

5.2 RELEVANT NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND RULES

Legal requirements

Article 291.1 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU requires that the Member States adopt all measures of national law necessary to implement legally binding Union acts.

Findings

22. Annex XXI of Legislative Decree No 214 of 19 August 2014 regulates the import control of cereals and leguminous commodities, which are listed in Annex VI to Directive 2000/29/EC. The Decree requires that all such commodities from Third Countries with the exception of those from the Mediterranean basin and those not destined for Italy are controlled.
23. The following technical Ministerial Notes related to import controls had been issued since the last audit :
 - Ministerial Note No 4967 of 04 March 2015 - Procedure for import controls on the Solanaceous seeds.
 - Ministerial Notes No 24025 of 17 November 2014 and n.6437 of 20 March 2014 - Combined codes for import regulated articles.
 - Ministerial Note No 382 of 10 January 2014 - Import controls on wood packaging material originating in China (Decision 2013/92/UE).

- Ministerial Note No 18693 of 24 September 2013 - Import controls on wood packaging material originating in China (Decision 2013/92/UE).
 - Ministerial Note No 22899 of 22 November 2013 - Procedure for import controls on wood packaging material originating in China (Decision 2013/92/UE).
 - Ministerial Note No 19456 of 07 October 2013 - Import controls on citrus fruits originating in South Africa.
 - Ministerial Note No 13821 of 15 July 2013 - Notification of interception in the EUROPHYT system.
24. Two Ministerial Decrees regarding the updated list of approved import points (see section 5.4.1) and another concerning the national audit system (see section 5.1.1) were to be signed by the Minister soon.

Conclusions on national legislation and rules

25. The national legislation is in line with EU requirements. The two pending Ministerial Decree will provide a legal basis for the implementation of the national Audit System which is part of the Action Plan.
26. The mandatory checks of cereal and leguminous commodities undermine the ability of the Italian authorities to carry out meticulous plant health checks of regulated articles (see section 5.5.3 in particular paragraph 61).

5.3 IMPORT PROCEDURES

Legal requirements

Article 13 of Directive 2000/29/EC establishes requirements for the import procedures for plant health. The same Article requires that regulated articles which come from a third country and are brought into the Customs territory of the EU shall, from the time of their entry, be subject to supervision by customs and the responsible official body.

Article 6 of Commission Directive 2004/103/EC requires that Member States shall ensure cooperation, where applicable, between official bodies and customs offices of point of entry or destination.

Findings

5.3.1 Registration and notification of import

27. The Single authority informed the audit team that there had been no changes to the procedures for registration and the advance notification of import since the previous audit. For further details see audit report DG(SANCO)2013-6790.

5.3.2 Customs supervision

28. Recommendation 2 of report 2011-8975 was to "*Ensure that official cooperation and communication with Customs for import controls at national level is established in*

order to apply Article 1 (4) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC and to meet the requirements for a “rapid communications system with [...] the customs authorities...” mentioned in Point 3 (a) of the Annex to Commission Directive 98/22/EC.”

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- The Customs services no longer use joint manuals with other State services. This practice has been replaced by individual bilateral agreements between services.
- Based on the statements of Customs, these national and regional level agreements between Customs and the plant health services ensure close communication and cooperation.
- A MIPAAF note was issued on 20 March 2014 identifying TARIC codes to be used to declare imports, which also constitute the basis for control by Customs. Based on this, the use of specific eight digit TARIC codes can be decided at regional level, which will enable specific commodities to be identified more easily than using the more general four digit codes. Import agents are required to use these codes when providing notification of import and making an entry to Customs. Currently, four digit codes are used.

29. The audit team met with representatives of the Customs service in Veneto, Lombardy and Campania and noted that:

- In the Lombardy and Campania regions, the Customs services have established a One Stop Shop, which means that the customs declaration (Single Administrative Document) now contains the information needed for all State services, including plant health. In the regions with these agreements, inspections are carried out in a co-ordinated manner by multiple services.
- In all cases, Customs identified consignments requiring plant health inspections based on specified TARIC codes. The consignments remained under Customs control until clearance was authorised by the plant health service.

Conclusions

30. The import procedures for plant health are in line with EU legislation.
31. The cooperation with Customs is appropriate to ensure that goods subject to plant health checks are kept under Customs supervision until approved by the plant health service.
32. Therefore, Recommendation 2 of report 2011-8975 has been satisfactorily addressed.

5.4 POINTS OF ENTRY, INSPECTION POSTS AND APPROVED PLACES OF INSPECTION

Legal requirements

Article 13c(4) of Directive 2000/29/EC requires that Member States forward to the Commission and the other Member States, the list of places designated as points of entry.

Decision 2011/787/EU requires the same for points of entry authorised for the import of tubers of *Solanum tuberosum* originating in Egypt.

Directive 98/22/EC lays down the minimum conditions for carrying out plant health checks in the EU, at inspection posts other than those at the place of destination.

Directive 2004/103/EC establishes the procedures and conditions for carrying out identity and plant health checks of regulated articles at a place other than the point of entry into the EU or a place close by.

Findings

5.4.1 Points of entry

33. Recommendation 6 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that any change to the list of places designated as points of entry is notified to the Commission and the other Member States in writing and without delay.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- A Ministerial Decree updating the authorised points of entries listed in Annex VIII of Legislative Decree No 214 of 19 August 2014 was due to be adopted soon. The draft text of the decree was provided during the audit. Following publication the Single Authority will notify the Commission and the other Member States of the change in writing and without delay. See also 5.4.2 for further details.

The above action is in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation. However the original deadline was 1 May 2015, therefore the implementation of the action has been delayed.

5.4.2 Inspection posts at or near the point of entry

Legal requirements

Findings

34. Recommendation 7 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that plant health checks are only carried out at places that have the appropriate minimum conditions specified in the Annex to Directive 98/22/EC as required in Article 1 of the same Directive. In particular, at seaports, plant health checks should be carried out in areas covered where consignments can be unloaded, equipped with inspection tables and appropriate lighting.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- They had revised the list of approved points of entry because, among other things, entry points that were not compliant with the Directive 98/22/EC had been closed; plant health checks are no longer carried out at these sites. In the future, it is

intended that audits will be carried out to verify compliance with the Directive, as part of the national audit plan.

The above action is in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation. However, the original deadline was 1 May 2015, therefore the implementation of the action has been delayed.

35. During the audit visits the audit team noted that:

- An inspection facility for plant health checks, including binocular microscope, a kit to detect nematodes and a desk-top computer, was available at the Venice-Marghera sea port but not used for other than documentary work and checks of cereals. Inspections are carried out outdoor and in the warehouse on the floor. The warehouse had a recently allocated room dedicated for plant health inspections which had an inspection table. This was intended to be used to inspect potatoes, however, none had yet been imported.
- At Malpensa airport a dedicated plant health inspection post was available with suitable equipment including magnifying glasses, binocular microscope for performing visual examination of samples and an inspection table with adequate lighting.
- At Salerno port, inspections of citrus fruits were carried out in a container which was covered but open on the sides. An inspection table was available but the inspector did not use it to spread out the produce to carry out the visual inspection. The inspectors were exposed to sun and high temperature while inspecting refrigerated commodities such as citrus fruits. A different inspection facility was used for another inspection, which the audit team considered as adequate. The port has a container office for RPS which has an inspection table, binocular microscope and tools necessary for phytosanitary inspection. The office facilities are generally not used.

Conclusions on points of entry, inspection posts and approved places of inspection

36. The list of places designated as points of entry is being updated with some delay.
37. At Malpensa airport appropriate facilities are available to carry out plant health inspections in line with Directive 98/22/EC. However, at Venice-Marghera and Salerno ports although adequate inspection facilities are available they are not used for performing plant health checks when samples are taken.
38. Therefore, the above recommendation 7 of report 2013-6790 has only been partially addressed.

5.5 IMPORT INSPECTIONS

Legal requirements

The requirements for, and the objectives of, documentary, identity and plant health checks are established in Articles 13 and 13a of Directive 2000/29/EC. The requirements for

phytosanitary certificates are laid down in Articles, 13a (3), 13a (4)(b), (c) and (d) of the same Directive.

Article 13a(2), last sub-paragraph of Directive 2000/29/EC and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1756/2004 provide the possibility of performing import checks at a reduced frequency.

ISPM 31 establishes guidelines for the sampling of consignments.

Findings

5.5.1 Documentary checks

39. Recommendation 8 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that documentary checks are always meticulous as required in Article 13a(1) of Directive 2000/29/EC, in particular so as to ensure that the additional declaration is appropriate and the phytosanitary certificate is not fraudulent.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- The national computer based manual of procedures assists documentary checks to be carried out meticulously throughout the country.
- Audits to check how import controls are performed are planned to be carried out from middle of 2016.

The above actions are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation.

40. The audit team witnessed documentary checks and examined Phytosanitary Certificate (PC)s that had already been considered to be compliant by the RPS/ERSAF at Venice-Marghera and Salerno ports, and Malpensa airport and noted that:

- in the regions visited, the documentary check was done prior to the identity and plant health checks. The inspectors confirmed that the required information was present on the original PC, that the importer was registered and that the information reported on the different documents was consistent.

5.5.2 Identity checks

Legal requirements

The requirement for, and objective of, identity checks to be carried out are laid down in Article 13a(1)(b)(ii) of Directive 2000/29/EC.

Findings

41. Recommendation 9 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that identity checks are always meticulous as required in Article 13a(1) of Directive 2000/29/EC in particular by ensuring that inspectors have access to the whole consignment and perform the identity check against the phytosanitary certificate.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- The national computer based manual of procedures allows for plant health import controls to be carried out meticulously throughout the country.
- The manual of procedures is also planned to include, in the future, instructions for random checks of non-regulated material.

The above actions are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation.

42. The audit team witnessed identity checks at Venice-Marghera and Salerno ports, and Malpensa airport and noted that:

- The identity check included comparing the documentation with the content of the consignment.
- At Malpensa airport, the import procedures had been changed since the previous audit. Importers are required to present the whole consignment at the inspection post so that identity and plant health checks can be performed on the whole consignment. Each consignment is unloaded and inspectors access the entire consignment when performing identity checks.
- At the seaports visited, in the case of one of the two citrus inspections observed, most of the container was unloaded and in the case of the WPM inspections, the inspector had access to the entire content of the containers to be inspected.

5.5.3 Plant health checks

Legal requirements

The requirement for, and objective of, plant health checks is laid down in Articles 13(1)(i) and 13a(1)(b)(iii) of Directive 2000/29/EC. Article 13a(1)(a) states that the formalities referred to in Article 13(1) shall consist of meticulous inspections by the responsible official body on at least each consignment, or in the case of a consignment which is composed of different lots, each lot declared to consist of, or to contain, relevant plants.

ISPM 31 establishes guidelines for the sampling of consignments.

Findings

43. Recommendation 10 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that plant health checks are always meticulous as required in Article 13a(1) of Directive 2000/29/EC. In particular for those commodities where the frequency of interceptions of harmful organisms is significantly lower in Italy than in the EU, the method for inspection should be appropriate.*"

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- The NPHC is planned to identify non-regulated commodities which will be subject to random checks on the basis of EUROPHYT interceptions and the EPPO alert list.
- Specific control procedures are planned to be provided for goods with a low ratio of interceptions to the volume of import compared to the EU average.

The above actions are in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation. These measures are to be linked with the SIAN system and the deadline for implementation is by end of 2016.

The plant health inspection facilities were described in section 5.4.2.

44. Recommendation 11 of report 2013-6790 was to *"Ensure that plant health checks are always based on a representative sample as required in Article 13a(1)(b)(iii) of Directive 2000/29/EC. In particular the minimum sample size should take into account the phytosanitary risk presented by the commodities and should result in a satisfactory probability for finding pests in accordance with ISPM 31."*

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- The sampling section of the national manual of procedures has not been finalised yet. The calculation tool to determine the size of the sample to be taken is based on ISPM31. It will be finalised once the NPHC has decided on risk level for the different types of products. This decision is foreseen for October 2015. The preliminary version is already available for inspectors on a trial basis.

The above action is in line with the Action Plan of the Single Authority submitted to address this recommendation. However, the original deadline was 1 June 2015, therefore the implementation of the actions has been delayed.

45. The audit team witnessed plant health checks and examined PCs that had already been considered compliant by the RPS/ERSAF at Venice-Marghera and Salerno ports, and Malpensa airport and noted that:
- There were significant differences in the sampling procedures followed by the RPSs visited.
 - At Venice-Marghera port, the inspector explained that they use 80% confidence level and 5% detection level to determine the size of the sample to be taken. Although these are minimum values in ISPM31, the RPS stated that the sample size was too large to implement in practice. However, the RPS could not explain what was meant by this, or what the actual sample size applied was.
 - At Malpensa Airport the audit team observed an inspection of orchids from Thailand. The inspector explained that it was considered to be a medium risk commodity as such commodity had not been subject to interceptions for a long time. He picked a confidence level of 90% and used the smallest unit declared on the phytosanitary certificate, in this case stems, to calculate the size of the sample, in stems. In practice the inspector applied the suggested sample size to bunches to increase the number of sampled units. In this case the sample was taken from 20% of

the boxes of the consignments. The inspection observed was carried out thoroughly using a standard inspection technic for such products.

- At Salerno port the audit team witnessed inspections of citrus fruits. A fixed sample size of 200 fruit was taken regardless of the origin. The RPS stated that the fixed sample size is based on the minimum sample size specified in Decision 2014/422/EU for citrus fruits from South Africa considered to be a high risk of citrus black spot. The conditions and the way the visual checks observed by the audit team were carried out were not ideal to detect quarantine harmful organisms (see section 5.4.2).

5.5.4 *Reduced frequency of checks*

Legal requirements

Article 13a(2), last sub-paragraph of Directive 2000/29/EC and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1756/2004 apply regarding reduced frequency checks.

Findings

46. There have been no changes since the previous audit. Italy still does not avail of the possibility to apply the reduced frequency of inspection regime.

5.5.5 *Checks for non-regulated items*

Legal requirements

Article 13(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC requires that Member States shall provide that non-regulated plants, plant products and objects may be subject to supervision.

Findings

47. There was no significant change to the control system of non-regulated items since the previous audit.
48. As noted in section 5.2 above, Italy has provided that the material listed in Annex VI to Directive 2000/29/EC be subject to mandatory checks. The main aim of these checks is the detection of storage pests, and in wheat *Tilletia indica*. The RPS staff at Venice-Marghera and Salerno ports indicated that the checks of such non-regulated commodities may account for 90% of their workload.
49. There are no systematic checks of other non-regulated articles, however, these may be subject to supervision, either at the request centrally or locally, by each RPS. The Customs service can detain such commodities on behalf of the RPS, based on the TARIC code.
50. The RPS in Campania informed the audit team that they had found the pine tortoise scale (*Toumeyella parvicornis*) on *Pinus* trees in the vicinity of Naples port during a survey for non-indigenous pests. The scale insect is native to the eastern United States

and southern Canada, where it causes significant dieback and mortality of pine trees. The RPS stated that since the import into the EU of all host material is prohibited, systematic checks of non-regulated consignments originating in North America were carried out in an effort to identify the pathway for its introduction. No problems were detected during these checks, and the pathway for introduction remains unknown.

51. At Malpensa airport, commodities, not subject to obligatory controls, but presenting a particular phytosanitary risk for the EU are regularly controlled. The goods are selected in cooperation with Customs. (E.g. coffee plants imported via the Netherlands have been targeted for inspection. As *Xylella fastidiosa* was detected, 10 plants were destroyed in total from one lot in October 2014 and another one in March 2015).

5.5.6 Checks for prohibited and non-declared items

Legal requirements

Article 13b(1) of Directive 2000/29/EC requires that Member States shall ensure that consignments or lots which come from third countries, which are not declared to contain regulated plants, are also inspected if there is a serious reason to believe that regulated plants are present.

The second paragraph of this Article requires that Member States ensure that if a customs inspection reveals that a consignment or lot contains non-declared regulated items, the inspecting custom office shall immediately inform the official body of its Member State.

Article 12 requires Member States to organise official checks to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Directive. Article 4 requires Member States to ban the introduction into their territory of the plants or plant products listed in Annex III, Part A where they originate in the relevant countries referred to in that part of the Annex.

Findings

52. Recommendation 12 of report 2013-6790 was to "*Ensure that non-declared regulated lots or consignments are inspected as required in Article 13b(1) of Directive 2000/29/EC, in particular by ensuring that inspectors have access to the whole consignments for performing the identity and plant health check.*"
53. The RPS of Lombardy informed the audit team that, following the previous audit, the inspection procedures at Malpensa airport were revised in order to ensure that inspectors have access to the whole consignment. Import agents are now required to present the entire consignment in a designated area of the inspection post before identity and plant health checks are carried out. The audit team observed this in practice during their visit to the inspection post. The import agent present also confirmed the change in procedure.
54. The RPS staff in both Venice-Marghera and Salerno ports informed the audit team that they had access to the whole of the consignments on request. It was noted during the

checks of citrus fruits observed by the audit team at Salerno, that the containers were partially unloaded to provide access to all of the pallets in the consignments.

Conclusions on import inspections

55. The planned action in response to recommendations 8 and 9 of the previous report has not been fully completed, however, based on the findings of the current audit, documentary and identity checks are now carried out in line with EU requirements. Recommendations 8 and 9 of report 2013-6790 have therefore been satisfactorily addressed.
56. Action taken to address Recommendations 10 and 11 of report 2013-6790 is in progress.
57. Plant health checks witnessed at the airport visited were meticulous and sampling is in line with the EU requirements and adjusted to the risk.
58. Plant health checks carried out at the sea ports visited are not in line with Directive 2000/29/EC as adequate facilities are not used and the conditions do not ensure that the plant health inspection is meticulous enough to detect pests.
59. Currently, the sample size is determined differently by the regions visited. At the sea ports visited, it is not determined taking into account the sampling guidance in ISPM 31 for large lots, therefore, the necessary probability for finding pests in accordance with ISPM 31 and Directive 2000/29/EC is not ensured.
60. A system of reduced frequency of checks is not applied in Italy.
61. Non-regulated items may be subject to supervision in Italy as required by EU legislation. A significant amount of time of the plant health controls is dedicated to such articles, and controls are mandatory under national legislation. However, the articles in question are cereals and leguminous commodities generally of low plant health risk and spending resources on their control hinders efficient plant health controls of other, more high risk commodities.
62. Recommendation 12 of report 2013-6790 has been satisfactorily addressed.
63. Prohibited and non-declared items are generally checked in line with Directive 2000/29/EC.

5.6 CHECKS FOR WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL

Legal requirements

Annex IV Part A Section I, point 2 of Directive 2000/29/EC includes wood packaging material originating in all Third countries. Article 13(3) of the same Directive provides that such material, may be subject to supervision in the EU.

Decision 2013/92/EU establishes requirements for the supervision, checks and measures to be

taken on (high-risk) WPM actually in use in the transport of specified commodities originating in China and imported to the EU.

Findings

64. Recommendation 13 of report 2013-6790 was to *"Ensure that plant health checks carried out on WPM specified in Annex 1 to Decision 2013/92/EU are meticulous. In particular these checks should be carried out on unloaded consignments and should be performed in order to detect any signs of presence of harmful organisms as well as the presence of mark. When performed, sampling should target marked WPM so as to detect fraudulent marking and inadequate treatment."*

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- Three Ministerial Notes regarding WPM had been issued since the previous audit (see section 5.2 above). These specify implementing measures of the EU legislation.
65. The audit team observed WPM inspections at each of the points of entry visited and noted that it was checked whether the ISPM 15 mark is present and whether there is any sign of presence of any pests. In the absence of symptoms, no samples are taken. The inspectors accessed the entire consignment, where it was feasible.
66. The inspector in Veneto stated that they can unload the consignment to inspect the WPM, but there are cases where it is not done as it is complicated due to the size of the goods.
67. Although Italy has major sea ports and large volumes of import the authorities report a low number of WPM interceptions. This is also referred to in the EUROPHYT Annual report 2014.

Conclusions on checks of wood packaging materials

68. A control system has been established for inspection of WPM. WPM originating in China is checked, based on the inspections observed by the audit team, in line with Decision 2013/92/EU.
69. However, the number of interceptions of WPM originating in all Third Countries is low compared to the volume of import.
70. Recommendation 13 of report 2013-6790 has been satisfactorily addressed.

5.7 IMPLEMENTATION OF DIRECTIVE 2004/103/EC

Legal requirements

Directive 2004/103/EC establishes conditions for performing identity and plant health checks at places other than at the point of entry or nearby.

Findings

71. The Single Authority informed the audit team that 10 places other than at the point of entry or nearby, had been approved since the previous audit. These places are mainly approved for the inspection of WPM arriving in consignments for which checks must be carried out in line with Decision 2013/92/EU.
72. Each RPS is responsible for approving such places. Authorisation by the Customs service is required before the application for approval may be submitted to the RPS. The places are required to have at least the minimum conditions specified in Directive 2004/103/EC available. On receipt of an application, the relevant RPS carries out an inspection of the premises, to confirm that the minimum conditions are satisfied. If this is the case, the RPS endorses the application, which is then sent to the Single Authority for approval, and inclusion on the national list of approved places of inspection.

Conclusions on implementation of Directive 2004/103/EC

73. There is a system in place for approval of places of inspection which is in line with the EU requirements.

5.8 FEES FOR IMPORT CHECKS AND EXEMPTIONS FOR SMALL QUANTITIES

Legal requirements

Regarding fees for import checks Article 13d of Directive 2000/29/EC applies.

Article 13b(3) of Directive 2000/29/EC provides that requirements in Article 13(1) need not apply to the entry into the EU of small quantities of plants, plant products and foodstuffs, providing there is no risk of harmful organisms spreading in the Community, and that they are intended for use by the owner or recipient for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes.

Findings

74. There have been no major changes since the previous audit.
75. Passenger luggage is checked at Malpensa airport and information material is provided.

Conclusions on fees for import checks and exemptions for small quantities

76. The system of fees for import checks and the exemptions for small quantities are in line with the EU requirements.

5.9 NOTIFICATION OF INTERCEPTIONS AND ACTION TAKEN

Legal requirements

Article 13c(7) of Directive 2000/29/EC specifies the action that should be taken immediately following an interception in the EU.

Directive 94/3/EC establishes a procedure for notification of interception of harmful organisms or consignments presenting an imminent phytosanitary danger.

Article 16(2) second subparagraph of Council Directive 2000/29/EC requires necessary measures to be taken in respect of consignments from third countries considered to involve an imminent danger of the introduction or spread of harmful organisms.

Findings

77. Recommendation 14 of report 2013-6790 was to *"Ensure that notification of an interception is only made in the event of an action taken as required by Article 2 of Directive 94/3/EC. In particular, attention should be paid to the Commission guidelines for submitting notifications in EUROPHYT."*

In response to this recommendation, the Single Authority stated that:

- The Single Authority stated that the system for the submission of notifications has been revised since the previous audit. The RPS are responsible for submitting a draft notification in EUROPHYT, this is then verified and validated at central level, at which point it is submitted in the EUROPHYT system. The Single Authority confirmed that notifications are only approved in the event that action is taken by the RPS.
- The EUROPHYT Annual Report for 2014 includes an analysis of the time taken by Member States and Switzerland to submit notifications of interception. For 2014, Italy notified interceptions of harmful organisms on average within 8 working days; interceptions for other reasons were notified on average within 10 working days. Although the time taken to notify interceptions is in line with the EU average (of 10 and 9 working days respectively) for 2014, it is considerably longer than the two working days or preferably sooner, specified in Directive 94/3/EC for interceptions of harmful organisms.
- In the event that a consignment is found to be infested with a harmful organism, or is accompanied by incorrect documents, the RPS either refuses entry or destroys the consignment. The audit team noted that in such cases, the RPS endorses the phytosanitary certificate with a triangular stamp in red, marked 'certificate cancelled', in line with Article 13(c)7 of Directive 2000/29/EC.

- The Single Authority and the RPSs visited informed the audit team that they do not adapt their established programme of checks in light of new plant health risks associated with non-regulated material. However new risks associated with regulated materials are taken into account during the import checks.

Conclusions on notifications of interception, and action taken

78. The procedures for submitting a notification of interceptions in EUROPHYT have been revised; this is now done in line with EU legislation. Recommendation 14 of report 2013-6790 has therefore been satisfactorily addressed.
79. However, the average time taken to notify interceptions of harmful organisms is considerably more than the two working days, required by Article 2(1) of Directive 94/3/EC.
80. Appropriate action is taken following an interception of a harmful organisms or a finding of non-compliance.
81. The established programme of inspections is adapted in light of new plant health risks associated with regulated material, which are already subject to import checks, but not to non-regulated material. This is not fully in line Article 16(2) second subparagraph of Council Directive 2000/29/EC, and means that known and emerging risks on such material are not addressed during the import checks in Italy.

6 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

Overall, some progress has been made in Italy since the previous audit (2013). The planned (comprehensive) national computer-based manual of procedures has become operational recently. It has a significant potential to address a number of the weaknesses of the plant health import control system. Certain recommendations of the previous audits have now been satisfactorily addressed, and the actions planned in response to the remaining recommendations are ongoing, albeit with a delay. Many of the shortcomings identified during the previous audit are still present, in particular, the shortage of resources, the lack of instructions and specific technical training to carry out meticulous plant health checks. In most of the regions visited, phytosanitary risks presented by the imported commodities are not taken into account and adequate inspection facilities, although available, are not used. Therefore, the current plant health import control system does not ensure that these controls are risk based and effective. This is reflected in the number of interceptions notified by Italy of imported plant consignments and of wood packaging material originating in all Third Countries which is low compared to the volume of trade.

7 CLOSING MEETING

A closing meeting was held on 17 September 2015 with representatives of the Single and regional authorities in Rome. At this meeting, the audit team presented the main findings and preliminary conclusions of the audit. The authorities provided their preliminary comments.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

The single Authority in Italy should

No.	Recommendation
1.	<p>Make commodity specific instructions available to ensure that inspectors performing import checks of consignments representing high plant health risk obtain technical competence especially in the detection of harmful organisms as required in paragraph 2 of the Annex to Directive 98/22/EC.</p> <p><i>Recommendation based on Conclusion No. 20</i></p> <p><i>Associated findings No. 11</i></p>
2.	<p>Ensure that plant health checks are always meticulous as required in Article 13a(1) of Directive 2000/29/EC. In particular for those commodities where the frequency of interceptions of harmful organisms is significantly lower in Italy than in the EU, the method for inspection should be appropriate.</p> <p><i>Recommendation based on Conclusion No. 58</i></p> <p><i>Associated findings No. 35, 43 and 45</i></p>
3.	<p>Ensure that plant health checks are always based on a representative sample as required in Article 13a(1)(b)(iii) of Directive 2000/29/EC. In particular the minimum sample size should take into account the phytosanitary risk presented by the commodities and should result in a satisfactory probability for finding pests in accordance with ISPM 31.</p> <p><i>Recommendation based on Conclusion No. 59</i></p> <p><i>Associated findings No.45</i></p>
4.	<p>Ensure that wood packaging material used in imports is checked at an appropriate frequency in order to ensure that requirements of point 2, Section I, Part A of Annex IV to Directive 2000/29/EC for such material are met.</p> <p><i>Recommendation based on Conclusion No. 69</i></p> <p><i>Associated findings No.67</i></p>
5.	<p>Ensure that interceptions of harmful organisms are notified not later than two working days as required by Article 2(1) of Directive 94/3/EC.</p> <p><i>Recommendation based on Conclusion No. 79</i></p> <p><i>Associated findings No. 77</i></p>

No.	Recommendation
6.	<p>Ensure that instructions and the established programme of plant health checks are adapted to address imminent danger in relation to plant health risks from non-regulated commodities as required by Article 16(2) second subparagraph of Council Directive 2000/29/EC.</p> <p><i>Recommendation based on Conclusion No. 81</i></p> <p><i>Associated findings No.77</i></p>

The competent authority's response to the recommendations can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/rep_details_en.cfm?rep_inspection_ref=2015-7603

ANNEX 1 – LEGAL REFERENCES

Legal Reference	Official Journal	Title
Dir. 2000/29/EC	OJ L 169, 10.7.2000, p. 1-112	Council Directive 2000/29/EC of 8 May 2000 on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community
Dir. 92/90/EEC	OJ L 344, 26.11.1992, p. 38-39	Commission Directive 92/90/EEC of 3 November 1992 establishing obligations to which producers and importers of plants, plant products or other objects are subject and establishing details for their registration
Dir. 94/3/EC	OJ L 32, 5.2.1994, p. 37-40	Commission Directive 94/3/EC of 21 January 1994 establishing a procedure for the notification of interception of a consignment or a harmful organism from third countries and presenting an imminent phytosanitary danger
Dir. 98/22/EC	OJ L 126, 28.4.1998, p. 26-28	Commission Directive 98/22/EC of 15 April 1998 laying down the minimum conditions for carrying out plant health checks in the Community, at inspection posts other than those at the place of destination, of plants, plant products or other objects coming from third countries
Dir. 2004/103/EC	OJ L 313, 12.10.2004, p. 16-20	Commission Directive 2004/103/EC of 7 October 2004 on identity and plant health checks of plants, plant products or other objects, listed in Part B of Annex V to Council Directive 2000/29/EC, which may be carried out at a place other than the point of entry into the Community or at a place close by and specifying the conditions related to these checks
Reg. 1756/2004	OJ L 313, 12.10.2004, p. 6-9	Commission Regulation (EC) No 1756/2004 of 11 October 2004 specifying the detailed conditions for the evidence required and the criteria for the type and level of the reduction of the plant health checks of certain plants, plant products or other objects listed in Part B of Annex V to Council Directive 2000/29/EC

Dir. 2008/61/EC	OJ L 158, 18.6.2008, p. 41-55	Commission Directive 2008/61/EC of 17 June 2008 establishing the conditions under which certain harmful organisms, plants, plant products and other objects listed in Annexes I to V to Council Directive 2000/29/EC may be introduced into or moved within the Community or certain protected zones thereof, for trial or scientific purposes and for work on varietal selections (Codified version)
Dec. 2008/840/EC	OJ L 300, 11.11.2008, p. 36-41	2008/840/EC: Commission Decision of 7 November 2008 on emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Community of <i>Anoplophora chinensis</i> (Forster)
Dec. 2013/92/EU	OJ L 47, 20.2.2013, p. 74-77	2013/92/EU: Commission Implementing Decision of 18 February 2013 on the supervision, plant health checks and measures to be taken on wood packaging material actually in use in the transport of specified commodities originating in China

ANNEX 2 – STANDARDS QUOTED IN THE REPORT

International Standard	Title
ISPM No. 15	International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No 15, Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade, Food and Agriculture Organisation
ISPM No. 31	International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No 31, Methodologies for sampling of consignments, Food and Agriculture Organisation