	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国粮食及农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura

ASIA AND PACIFIC PLANT PROTECTION COMMISSION

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ASIA AND PACIFIC PLANT PROTECTION COMMISSION (APPPC)

Sydney, Australia, 30 November – 4 December 2026

Agenda Item no. 15.

Country Eligibility for Travel Assistance

Presented by Australia

For DECISION

Recommendations:

That the Session:

1. **NOTE** that the 33rd Session of the APPPC agreed that travel funding support managed through the APPPC Secretariat for APPPC activities would follow the same criteria as the IPPC.
2. **AGREE** that APPPC Members that are not IPPC Contracting Parties, though not eligible for IPPC funding support, **are eligible** to receive travel assistance at the same level as an IPPC Contracting Party when, financial support is appropriate in line with the World Bank Data for Gross National Income rating.

Issues

1. There is not a requirement for APPPC members to be IPPC Contracting Parties and vice-versa. Where APPPC members are not IPPC Contracting Parties, the IPPC criteria table for prioritising travel assistance may not be directly applicable to every case of an APPPC member seeking assistance.

a) The application of these criteria without reference to the additional IPPC Contracting Party overlay resulted in an APPPC member country initially being assessed as ineligible for travel assistance for this Session, as the existing criteria are fundamentally based on IPPC Contracting Party status. However, the APPPC member country in question is, at the time of this paper, classified by the World Bank as a **lower-middle-income economy** and its circumstances are broadly comparable to those of other APPPC Members that have received both airfare and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) support. As a result, concerns were raised that the outcome may not have been consistent with the intent of the APPPC travel assistance framework or with previous funding decisions.

b) This highlighted a gap in the current arrangements and the need for greater clarity regarding the consideration of APPPC Members that are not IPPC Contracting Parties when assessing eligibility for travel assistance.

Background

1. The organisation employing an APPPC meeting participant is responsible for meeting that participant's travel and daily subsistence costs to attend meetings organized by the APPPC Secretariat.

2. Where an organisation is unable to provide sufficient funding, participants are encouraged to seek support from alternative sources before requesting financial assistance from the APPPC Secretariat. Requests for travel assistance may be considered where reasonable efforts to secure external funding have been unsuccessful.

3. As APPPC funding for meeting participation is generally limited, the Commission has agreed to apply the IPPC Criteria for Prioritising Travel Assistance (Attachment A) when determining funding support for National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs).

4. While these criteria provide a useful framework, they do not account for APPPC Members that are not IPPC Contracting Parties. Clarifying eligibility in these circumstances will ensure consistent and equitable consideration of future requests for travel assistance.

Attachments

Attachment A: IPPC Criteria for Prioritising Travel Assistance