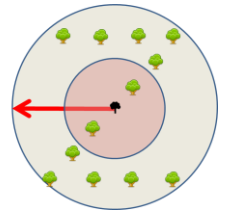




**ORGANISATION EUROPEENNE ET MEDITERRANEENNE
POUR LA PROTECTION DES PLANTES
EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN PLANT PROTECTION
ORGANIZATION**



EPPO Contingency Exercise Workshop for a Forestry Pest

Zlatibor, Serbia, 2018-11-27/29

First Announcement

**To: EPPO Member Countries official contact points (NPPOs)
Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations
EPPO Inspections and Forestry Panels
Permanent Observers
EFSA
Interested stakeholder groups**

Topic leader(s): Martin Ward, Andrei Orlinski & Rob Tanner

Reference: 18-23983

Dear Colleagues,

A *Contingency Exercise Workshop for a Forestry Pest* will be held on **2018-11-27/29** in **Zlatibor, Serbia**. The Workshop will start on Tuesday 27th of November at 09:00 and finish on Thursday 29th at 19:00.

Purpose

The Workshop is part of our continuing follow up to the EPPO Council Colloquium in 2013 which recommended steps to improve contingency planning across the region and the testing of those contingency plans through exercises.

The purposes of the workshop will be to:

- i. Simulate the experience of a plant health emergency
- ii. Experiment with responses to an emergency
- iii. Test whether relevant contingency plans are available and fit for purpose
- iv. Test availability and relevance of other resources, e.g. EPPO guidance
- v. Provide experience in communicating key messages during an emergency
- vi. Learn why and how to develop contingency plans
- vii. Learn how to carry out an emergency response exercise

Participants

Ideally the workshop will include a mix of participants who are potentially involved in outbreaks of quarantine pests for forestry in their own countries, with different roles and expertise (scientific, technical, policy and communications). There will be a maximum of 60 places and if necessary the Secretariat will allocate these to ensure a good mix of expertise and coverage from across the region.

Format

Participants will be split into four groups for the exercise. Each group will act as an “Outbreak Management Team” for a scenario based on a finding of a quarantine pest for forestry with implications also for urban trees. In the three days of the exercise we will work through responses to the development of such an outbreak over the first month. To make the exercise realistic details of the scenario will not be shared with participants in advance, but the necessary information on the chosen pest, reference materials etc. will be provided at the workshop or available online.

Within each group, there will be four roles:

- i. operations (practical issues and resources)
- ii. communications (internal and external, written and spoken)
- iii. scientific and technical (science, mapping, modelling, risk assessment etc.)
- iv. planning (overall management of the response, including policy aspects)

The language of the workshop will be English, but depending on demand it may be possible for one of the groups to work partly in another language. The workshop will include some role playing, for example interviews with journalists about official actions connected to the outbreak, and a public meeting for stakeholders affected by the actions.

Pre-registration

Please indicate your interest in attending this workshop by 15th September 2018 (2018-09-15) using the following link: <http://meeting.eppo.int/meeting.php/X5651>

You will be asked to give a brief description of your current role and expertise. **We will let you know by 18th September if you have been allocated a place** and will invite you to register and book your accommodation by 30th September.

Registration fee for the NPPOs of the EPPO member countries

A registration fee of **120-150 EUR** [*amount to be confirmed*] (which will cover transfers to and from Belgrade airport, meeting rooms, coffee breaks, lunch, all other meeting facilities) can be paid online by credit card, although the possibility to pay by bank transfer still exists. A reduced registration fee of **75-100 EUR** [*amount to be confirmed*] is available to those not requiring the transfers. Explanations of the payment procedure, receipts etc. are given in the online meeting registration system.

The payment should be made by **2018-09-30**.

Accommodation

For your accommodation, rooms have been pre-booked in the **Hotel Zlatibor Mona** at Zlatibor mountain. For all details (prices, deadlines) please contact hotel by mail reservations@monazlatibor.com or by phone +381 31 841 021 with reference to EPPO workshop.

Technical visit

There will be a technical visit to the National Park Visitor Centre at Tara in the afternoon of Thursday 29th. The costs of this are included in the registration fee.

Transfers

Transfers from Belgrade airport to Zlatibor will be arranged, and the cost included in the registration fee for those participants who make use of this possibility. On the return journey on Friday 30th November it may be possible to arrange an additional technical visit to the Serbian Centre for seed "Pozega".

Because of the time taken for transfers, participants are recommended to book flights arriving into Belgrade by 15:00 on Monday 26th November and departing after 15:00 on Friday 30th November.

Please confirm your rooms with the hotel directly by 2018-09-30.

The Workshop will also be announced on the EPPO website at <http://www.eppo.int>. Further information and programme will be circulated to registered participants at a later date. Please forward this message to your colleagues that may be interested in this workshop topic.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Ward

Planning Group:

Sladjana Lukic (MAFWM Serbia), Milka Glavendekic (University of Belgrade-Faculty of Forestry, |RS and EPPO Forestry Panel), Derek McCann (APHA, UK), Maria Rosaria Mannino (EFSA), Karin Visser (NL and EPPO Forestry Panel), Martin Ward (EPPO), Andrei Orlinki (EPPO), Rob Tanner (EPPO).

This workshop is organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Serbia, the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Belgrade, the European Food Safety Authority, and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs UK.