PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION
between the Eurasian Economic Commission and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization for 2017 – 2020

The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), hereinafter referred to as «Parties»,

taking into consideration that the Eurasian Economic Commission in accordance with the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union of 29 May 2014 is a permanent regulatory body of the Eurasian Economic Union,

considering that EPPO in accordance with the Convention on the establishment of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization of 18 April 1951 and subject to the provisions of the International Plant Protection Convention of 6 December 1951 is a Regional Plant Protection Organization, which currently includes 51 member countries,

giving a special importance to the harmonization of phytosanitary measures in the Eurasian Economic Union and within the EPPO region subject to the provisions of the International Plant Protection Convention, Agreement on the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures of the World Trade Organization, international and regional standards for phytosanitary measures and exchange of experience in the field of plant quarantine,

for the purpose of facilitating the prevention of introduction and spread of quarantine pests,

given the membership of the Republic of Belarus, Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation in EPPO and recognizing their role in the activities of the EPPO,

hereby agree to the following:

1. The Parties intend to cooperate in the sphere of plant quarantine within its competence in the following areas:

a) promotion of phytosanitary security;

b) harmonization of phytosanitary measures in the Eurasian Economic Union and within the EPPO region with international standards in the field of plant quarantine;

c) other areas of mutual interest.

2. Cooperation between the Parties under this Programme is carried out by:

a) information exchange on the new regulations in the field of plant quarantine (including respective lists of regulated pests), as well as plans of activities of the Parties in the field of plant quarantine for the next calendar year (before September) with the aim of identifying opportunities for cooperation between the Parties;

b) the participation of representatives of EEC:

in the annual session of the EPPO Council as observers without voting rights;

in the meetings of the EPPO Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations as observers to provide comments on recommendations for phytosanitary measures, draft specifications and regional standards;

in discussions organized by EPPO on draft international standards for phytosanitary measures;

in workshops and conferences organized by EPPO on the implementation of international and regional standards for phytosanitary measures, including harmonization of phytosanitary procedures at import and export of plants and plant products, as well as implementation and use of electronic phytosanitary certificates;

c) joint organization (in the office of the EEC) of workshops on issues of plant quarantine and plant protection, in particular the international workshop on the Euphresco project and international cooperation in the field of phytosanitary research;

d) joint organization of events to celebrate the International Year of Plant Health in 2020;

e) informing member-states of the Eurasian Economic Union about activities in the field of phytosanitary research in the EPPO region, including in the framework of Euphresco

f) conducting in the office of the EEC (subject to feasibility) of training on implementation of international and regional standards and pest risk analysis involving experts from EPPO.

3. The Parties will hold if necessary joint meetings on the implementation of this Programme, including meetings for the purposes of evaluating in the framework of implementation of this Programme of conducted activities and planning further areas of cooperation.

4. The EEC encourages states members of the Eurasian Economic Union to play an active role in the activities of the EPPO, as their Regional Plant Protection Organization.

5. Implementation of this Programme is realised within existing financial budgets of the Parties. Each Party shall independently bear expenses arising from the participation of its representatives in events organized by the Parties.

6. This Programme does not create rights and obligations governed by international law and does not entail any financial obligations for the Parties.

7. This Programme applies from the date of its signing.

Signed in the city Paris « 1 » December 2017 in two copies, each in Russian and English languages one for each Party. In case of any inconsistency the text in English is used.

For The Eurasian Economic Commission

For the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization