



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Plant Protection Department of Viet Nam

2024 Quarantine Regulators Meeting

15 to 17 May
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam



Quarantine Regulators Meeting 2024

The 2024 Quarantine Regulators Meeting (QRM) was co-hosted by Viet Nam's Plant Protection Department (PPD) within the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). The event was held in Ho Chi Minh City (Sai Gon), Viet Nam and discussed a variety of topics related to this year's theme; 'Regulation and Collaboration: the future of biosecurity'.

The 14th QRM was officially opened by Dr Huynh Tan Dat, Director General, PPD and Ms Anna Brezzo, acting First Assistant Secretary, DAFF.

Dr Dat welcomed the delegates and expressed his pleasure that Viet Nam could co-host the meeting. Dr Dat also reinforced the importance of the QRM in providing biosecurity agencies with a forum for collaboratively tackling issues relating to the movement of goods in trade.

Ms Brezzo reflected on the challenges faced over the recent years and highlighted the importance of timely collaboration and international connectivity to support effective biosecurity risk management. Ms Brezzo also acknowledged the value of scientific research, innovation and analysis in overcoming current and emerging challenges relating to border management.



Dr Huynh Tan Dat and Ms Anna Brezzo

Delegates were exposed to topics from a broad range of presenters and were able to learn more about the importance of analytics in decision making, plant pest diagnostics and supporting technologies, and ways to support safe trade regionally (through strong partnerships). These presentations, among others, were complemented by overviews of biosecurity systems in various countries, including the challenges faced and potential mitigation measures. These presentations reinforce a core principle underpinning the QRM, that biosecurity agencies from around the world share common challenges and stand to benefit in learning from each other's experiences.

This year, delegates were able to hear more about specific scientific and electronic advancements in technologies including electronic advance data, using statistical analysis and artificial intelligence to identify treatment non-compliance, CRISPR-Cas9 and alternative biosecurity treatment methods. All presentations stimulated useful and in-depth discussion, with further (and equally productive) conversations had informally during the breaks.



Quarantine Regulators Meeting 2024 continued ...

On 16 May, Delegates were treated to a field trip and official dinner hosted by PPD. The field trip showcased the rich culture of Viet Nam and emphasised the warm hospitality of her people. During the field trip, delegates enjoyed a local dragon fruit orchard and processing facility experience, including a vapour heat treatment process, and explored the majestic sights around the Mekong Delta.



Delegates on the field trip

On the final day in her closing remarks, Ms Brezzo thanked Viet Nam's PPD and the Australian Embassy in Hanoi for all their planning and preparation, ensuring a highly successful meeting. Ms Brezzo also thanked delegates and presenters for their enthusiastic involvement over the past three days and noted the progress made on several topics.

Mr Nathan Reid, Principal Director, DAFF, echoed Ms Brezzo's sentiments and emphasised the value of the meeting and opportunities presented. Mr Reid went on to underscore the importance of the

follow-up work that will be conducted over the coming months and urged delegates to consider the biosecurity risk management initiatives that their agencies have implemented in-country, in response to evolving risks and emerging challenges.

In summary, the 2024 QRM continued to showcase the immense value of the forum in fostering dialogue, driving change and encouraging collaboration to support secure and safe trade across borders. Information and technical exchange, shared knowledge, and most importantly, decisive action continue to be the foundations of the QRM. The outcomes of the 2024 QRM were new or reinvigorated government-to-government relations, shared ideas for innovation and a commitment to invest effort and time in nurturing these partnerships.

As a panellist in the final session of the QRM aptly said, 'if you protect my country, I will protect your country'; one of the central tenets of the QRM is the mutual concern for each other's borders.

Although the location of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed, expressions of interest have been received from a few countries to host the 2025 QRM. DAFF welcomes countries who are considering hosting the 2025 meeting to forward their intention to do so.

Again, our heartfelt gratitude is extended to all delegates and presenters (virtual and in-person) at this year's meeting; your participation made the 2024 QRM a success and we look forward to seeing you all in 2025!



2024 QRM attending countries

2024 QRM COUNTRY/REGION/ORGANISATION IN ATTENDANCE



1. Australia	8. CEBRA	15. Laos	22. Papua New Guinea	29. Solomon Islands
2. Argentina	9. Cuba	16. Malaysia	23. Peru	30. Sri Lanka
3. Bahrain	10. Ecuador	17. Nepal	24. Philippines	31. Taiwan
4. Bangladesh	11. Hong Kong	18. New Zealand	25. Qatar	32. Thailand
5. Belgium	12. India	19. OIRSA	26. Republic of Korea (South Korea)	33. Türkiye
6. Cambodia	13. Indonesia	20. Oman	27. Saudi Arabia	34. Vietnam
7. Chile	14. Japan	21. Pakistan	28. Singapore	35. World Bank
				36. WTO/STDF

More information

Further information about the Quarantine Regulators meeting can be found at:

- website - [Quarantine Regulators Meeting - DAFF](#)
- email - qrm@aff.gov.au