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# Quarantine and Pre-shipment definitions



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## Quarantine Applications

- Decision VII/5 definition

*treatment that aims to prevent the introduction, establishment and/or spread of quarantine pests, or to ensure their official control, where the official control is that performed by, or authorised by, a national plant, animal or environmental protection or health authority*



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## Quarantine Applications (Practical definition of Decision VII/5)

**Quarantine** – treatments against officially-controlled quarantine pest(s).



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## Pre-shipment application

- Decision VII/5 definition

*those applied **directly preceding** and in relation to export to meet phytosanitary or sanitary requirements of the importing country or existing phytosanitary or sanitary requirements of the exporting country*



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## Pre-shipment application

- Decision XI/12

*that preshipment applications are those non-quarantine applications **applied within 21 days prior to export to meet the official requirements of the importing country or existing official requirements of the exporting country. Official requirements are those which are performed by, or authorised by, a national, plant, animal, environmental, health or stored product authority.***



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## Pre-shipment application (Practical definition of Decision XI/12)

- Treatments to be within 21 days of export
- Either – to meet the *official* phytosanitary or sanitary requirements of the exporting country.
- Or – to meet the *official* phytosanitary or sanitary requirements of the importing country.



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## **Notion of “official authority”**

Always means a national governmental authority that controls plant, animal, environmental or health standards



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## **Contractual VS. official requirement**

**Contractual requirements** are those requested by the importing company to ensure pest free imports/exports and NOT by the government authority

**Official requirement** as per the definition always means a national governmental authority that controls plant, animal, environmental or health standards



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## Why is MB used in QPS

- rapid treatment needed especially for perishables
- low cost of fumigation
- non-corrosive
- long history of use
- broad registration for use
- greater penetration for better pest control
- rapid release of gas after exposure



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## Disadvantages of MB

- high level of toxicity to humans
- odourless, not easy to detect in products
- significant ODP
- adverse effects on some commodities, changes in viability, taint
- chemical residues retained in products



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## Some questions and Answers on QPS

Is the MB used exempt if used for pre- shipment that is exported more than 21 days after treatment?

Decision XI/12 defines presipment are “those non quarantine applications applied within 21 days prior to export...”

Not considered pre-shipment under the Montreal Protocol definitions



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## Some questions and Answers on QPS

If an exporter decides to fumigate with MB at point of export to kill live pests and avoid treatment on import, is this considered QPS and exempt?

If the treatment is neither officially authorised by the “..national plant, animal and environmental health or stored product authority...” in both the exporting or importing country for a specific quarantine or non-quarantine pest, then NO.

If the official authority declares it to be a quarantine treatment, then the pest would need to be determined.



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## Examples of official quarantine treatment before export

- Treatment of packed commodities subject to infestation such as rice, spices, or wooden crates and pellets from countries that have the khapra beetle and wish to export to countries where this beetle is a quarantine pest under official control



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## **Examples of official quarantine treatment in destination country**

- Treatment of grapefruit from Florida infested with Caribbean fruit fly on arrival in Japan required or initiated by the official authority in Japan



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## Recapture

*Decision XI/11(7) urges adoption of recovery technology*

Methyl bromide can be recaptured on carbon after use.

- requires a gastight system

- eliminates emissions, and protects the ozone layer



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## **A common problem.....**

Some A5 countries have voluntarily prohibited the treatment of goods with MB. However importing countries may require MB fumigation of specific goods originating from these countries. In such cases, each treatment has to be carefully checked whether this is officially mandated by the authorities in the importing countries. If so, consult with the authorities whether they will accept scientifically tested and officially recognized alternative treatments (ex those identified by the MBTOC, FAO) as effective. If these are not acceptable, the exporter should also check whether domestic policies prohibit him from using MB.



## Quarantine

## Pre-shipment

Not Quarantine or Pre-shipment

