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International  
Plant Protection  
Convention

# **REPORT**

## **BUREAU OF THE COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES (TELECONFERENCE)**

**ROME, ITALY  
16 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**IPPC SECRETARIAT**

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## 1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] Mr Lucien KONAN KOUAMÉ, Chairperson of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. He asked Mr John GREIFER, CPM vice-Chairperson, to facilitate the meeting due to connection instability.

## 2. Meeting Arrangements

### 2.1. Documents list

- [2] The List of Documents was circulated and is attached to this report as [Annex 1](#).

### 2.2. Participants list

- [3] The List of Participants is attached to this report as [Annex 2](#).

## 3. Adoption of the Agenda

- [4] Mr John GREIFER acknowledged the proposal by Mr Lucien KONAN KOUAMÉ to discuss the IPPC Secretary selection process as well as the request by Mr Peter THOMSON (CPM Bureau representative for South-West Pacific) to add a discussion on the IPPC Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) tool. The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau of the draft proposal for IPPC governing body meetings dates for the next biennium, following the FAO calendar. Mr GREIFER also asked for some discussions on the linkages between the IPPC and new FAO Strategic Framework, if time allows. The modified Agenda was adopted and is attached to this report as [Annex 3](#).

## 4. Update

### 4.1. CPM Focus Groups: [add titles]

- [5] The CPM Bureau noted that the work of the following three CPM Focus Groups (FGs) is at a very early stage and may not be sufficient to hold a strategic discussion at the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) 2021 in October: 1) Implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020 – 2030 2) Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues; and 3) Communications. Updates on the work of these FGs are being prepared to help trigger a strategic discussion during the SPG.
- [6] The IPPC Secretariat reported that the CPM FG on Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems has been meeting since January 2021 and is preparing an overview document to present to the SPG to get strategic input on their proposed recommendations to CPM.
- [7] Mr Peter THOMSON, CPM Bureau representative on the CPM FG on the *Implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework (2020 – 2030) Development Agenda Items* provided an update on their first meeting. The IPPC Secretariat presented the work of the IPPC community on the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020 – 2030 and summarised the CPM FG's Terms of Reference. Mr THOMSON noted that the next FG meeting is planned for on 22 September 2021 to advance its work, elect a Chairperson, draft an update for the coming meeting of the SPG 2021 and discuss a potential action plan with a timeline indicating milestones and key performance indicators. He reported that the IPPC Secretariat

informed the FG about the interlinkages between the work of this CPM FG and the IPPC work plan in implementing to the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020 – 2030.

[8] Mr Arop DENG (IPPC Secretariat) reported that the CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues held its first meeting, following a similar structure in terms of providing its members orientation and guidance through various presentations and background documents. Ms Maria Lodovica GULLINO, lead author of the Scientific Review of the Impact of Climate Change on Plant Pests, delivered a presentation summarising the key elements of the publication, which was well received by the CPM FG, which agreed to hold three additional meetings before the SPG meeting in October to draft an update and to progress on the action plan.

[9] Mr Fuxiang WANG (CPM Bureau member for Asia) reported that the CPM FG on Communications met twice already and elected a Chairperson and a Co-Chairperson to reflect the dual nature of the FG: technical expertise in communication and on phytosanitary matters. He informed the CPM Bureau that this FG also received a similar orientation meeting on its Terms of Reference and expected deliveries, noting the active participation of all its members. Mr WANG concluded that this FG is holding a third meeting prior to the SPG meeting in October 2021 to finalise a brief update as requested as well as to advance its work.

[10] The CPM Bureau:

- (1) *Noted* the updates.

#### **4.2. Strategic Planning Group 2021**

[11] The IPPC Secretariat confirmed that the meeting of the SPG 2021 is taking place on 19 and 21 October, from 10:00 to 12:00 and 14:00 to 16:00 (Rome time).

[12] Some Bureau members informed that their regions are preparing discussions papers to the SPG meeting. Mr John GREIFER (SPG Chairperson) asked the IPPC Secretariat to schedule a meeting to plan and assess the adequate time allocation of each agenda item to ensure that all agenda items in the SPG agenda will be discussed in an effective time management. The IPPC Secretariat reminded that there is an ongoing process to revised and merge the IPPC Dispute Settlement Procedures and suggested the CPM Bureau to consider this topic for SPG discussion.

[13] The CPM Bureau:

- (2) *Noted* the update.

#### **5. Sixteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures**

[14] The IPPC Secretariat updated the CPM Bureau regarding the ongoing preparation of the sixteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-16). The CPM Bureau noted the request to anticipate the decision regarding the CPM-16 modality (virtual, hybrid or in presence) and agreed that travelling is likely to be either restricted or extremely complex for the most part of 2022, also

building on the experience of CPM-15, which was extremely positive. One CPM Bureau member expressed a strong preference towards meetings either in person or hybrid as per each country's regulations, noting that many countries are progressing in vaccinating the population against the SARS-CoV-2. The CPM Bureau concluded that holding CPM-16 virtually would be the preferable option to avoid last-minute changes that may disrupt the IPPC work plan deliverance.

[15] The CPM Bureau asked the IPPC Secretariat to initiate all the necessary procedures to verify FAO interpreters' availability as well as the latest procedure to hold governing body meetings in a virtual setting. The CPM Bureau agreed to dedicate its November meeting to consolidating the current preliminary draft CPM-16 Provisional Agenda.

[16] The IPPC Secretariat welcomed the anticipated decision by the CPM Bureau and noted that CPM-15 indicated 4 – 8 April 2022 as potential dates for CPM-16, which will be checked for FAO interpreters' availability along with additional options, should those dates be taken already.

[17] The CPM Bureau:

(3) *Decided* to hold the sixteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-16) virtually and *requested* the IPPC Secretariat to begin preparation accordingly.

(4) *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to dedicate the November CPM Bureau meeting to consolidating the preliminary draft CPM-16 Provisional Agenda.

## **6. Steering Committee of the International Day of Plant Health**

[18] The IPPC Secretariat summarised the evolutions of the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) Steering Committee (StC), later IYPH Technical Advisory Board (TAB), which ceased to exist once the IYPH International Steering Committee (ISC) was established in 2019. The IPPC Secretariat recalled the CPM-15 decision to function as the IPPC preparatory body for the planning and organization of the First International Plant Health Conference and the webinars leading to it and IYPH ISC decision suggesting to transform the IYPH Technical Advisory Board into the International Steering Committee of the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH ISC) too.

[19] The CPM Bureau asked the IPPC Secretariat to draft more specific Terms of Reference for the IDPH ISC and submit them to the CPM FG on Communications for its preliminary assessment and evaluation, noting that the current work of the CPM FG on Communications may contribute highly to the planning and deliverance of the IDPH-related activities.

[20] The CPM Bureau also suggested to consider the Chairperson of the CPM FG on Communications as a member of the IDPH ISC, if appropriate, and concluded that the IDPH work plan should reflect the actual expected engagement by the IPPC community and propose adequate activities.

[21] The IPPC Secretariat reported that the IYPH action plan included two more webinars of the IYPH series paving the way towards the first International Plant Health Conference: one on remote sensing, in

collaboration with Euphresco, and another on the importance of plant health for the UN 2030 Agenda, with the objective to advocate for the inclusion of a plant health-related indicator in the SDGs. The CPM Bureau requested the IPPC Secretariat to provide additional and in-depth information about the webinars content but noted that that the general topics are timely.

[22] The CPM Bureau:

- (5) *Noted* the update
- (6) *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to draft and circulate the Terms of Reference of the International Steering Committee of the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH ISC) with the CPM Focus Group on Communications for commenting.
- (7) *Requested* the IPPC Secretariat to provide additional and in-depth information about two more webinars of the IYPH series paving the way towards the first International Plant Health Conference: one on remote sensing, in collaboration with Euphresco, and another on the importance of plant health for the UN 2030 Agenda, with the objective to advocate for the inclusion of a plant health-related indicator in the SDGs.

## **7. EU proposal to move the oversight of Dispute Settlement and Avoidance (DAS) from the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) to the CPM Bureau**

[23] The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau about the EU comments on the IC Terms of Reference of the Dispute Settlement and Avoidance (DAS). Ms Marica GATT clarified that this matter is now under the competence of the European Commission (EC), which is discussing this item in the coming week. She informed the CPM Bureau that the EC is drafting a paper for SPG 2021, which will be submitted by the 30 September.

## **8. Any Other Business:**

- *Update on the IPPC Secretary selection process*

[24] Mr Lucien KONAN KOUAMÉ expressed his concerns about the delays regarding the slow selection process for the IPPC Secretary, noting that it has been ongoing for over one year. The CPM Chairperson clarified that the final report from the selection panel was submitted in June 2021 and is currently in the hands of the FAO office of human resources. He asked the CPM Bureau to address a letter to the FAO Director-General on behalf of the CPM Bureau to express such concerns highlighting the negative impact on the IPPC community and the IPPC Secretariat. Mr KOUAMÉ will also ask FAO Director-General to expedite the selection process as much as possible. The CPM Bureau agree to send such a letter and underlined the excellent work delivered by Mr Avetik NERSYSIAN, IPPC Secretary Officer-in-Charge, as well as the whole IPPC Secretariat during the past thirteen months.

[25] The CPM Bureau:

- (8) *Agreed* to the CPM Chairperson's initiative to address a letter on its behalf to the FAO Director-General to express their concerns and expedite the selection process.

- *Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation*

[26] Mr Peter THOMSON informed the CPM Bureau that he will be contacting the IPPC Secretariat Implementation and Facilitation Unit to discuss some issues related to the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) and will report about the outcome at the next CPM Bureau meeting.

- *IPPC governing body meeting over the biennium 2022 – 2023*

[27] The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau that the FAO Conference Services (CS) asked all FAO divisions to consider the scheduling of governing body meetings during the next biennium and presented the dates. The CPM Bureau noted the dates, understanding that the dates would need to be finalized by FAO. The proposed dates are attached to this report as Annex 05.

[28] The CPM Bureau:

(9) *Noted* the update

- *The IPPC and new FAO Strategic Framework*

[29] This item was deferred due to time constraints.

## **9. Next Meeting**

[30] The next meeting of the CPM Bureau is scheduled for 14 October 2021, 12:00 – 14:00 (CEST).

## **10. Closing of the Meeting**

[31] Mr Brent LARSON (Lead of the Implementation and Facilitation Unit) announced that he began procedures to retire, which may happen in early 2022. The CPM Bureau expressed its gratitude towards Mr LARSON's work for the plant health world and IPPC community, and suggested to seek a way to prolong his stay until CPM-16.

[32] Mr John GREIFER thanked all participants and adjourned the meeting.



**Annex 1 –Document List**

DOCUMENT NO.		DOCUMENT TITLE (PREPARED BY)	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
01_Bureau_2021_Sep_Tel	3	Agenda	2021-09-13
02_Bureau_2021_Sep_Tel	2.1	Document list	2021-09-13
03_Bureau_2021_Sep_Tel	2.2	Participant list	2021-09-13
04_Bureau_2021_Sep_Tel	5	16 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures	2021-09-13
05_Bureau_2021_Sep_Tel	6	Steering Committee of the International Day of Plant Health	2021-09-13
06_Bureau_2021_Sep_Tel	7	Revision of IC TOR and ROP	2021-09-13

**Annex 2 –Participant List**

Attending	Participant role / Region	Name, mailing address, telephone	Email address
✓	Africa <i>Chairperson</i>	<b>Mr Lucien KOUAMÉ KONAN</b> Inspecteur Direction de la Protection des Végétaux, du Contrôle et de la Qualité Ministère de l'Agriculture B.P. V7 Abidjan, Ph.: (+225) 07 903754 <b>CÔTE D'IVOIRE</b>	<a href="mailto:L_KOUAMÉ@yahoo.fr">L_KOUAMÉ@yahoo.fr</a>
✓	Europe	<b>Ms Marica GATT</b> Director General ( Veterinary and Phytosanitary Division) (VPRD), Abettori Street, Alberttown, Marsa HRS 1123, Ph.: (+356) 2292522 Mob.: (+356) 99421791 <b>MALTA</b>	<a href="mailto:marica.gatt@gov.mt">marica.gatt@gov.mt</a>
✓	Asia	<b>Mr Fuxiang WANG</b> Deputy Director General, National Agriculture Technical Extension and Service centre (NATESC) Ministry of Agriculture Room 630, Building No. Mai Zi Dian Street Chao Yang District, Beijing 100125 Ph.: 86-10-59194548 Mob.: 86-10-13701330221 <b>CHINA</b>	<a href="mailto:wangfuxiang@agri.gov.cn">wangfuxiang@agri.gov.cn</a>
✓	Latin America and Caribbean	<b>Mr Francisco Javier TRUJILLO ARRIAGA</b> DIRECTOR EN JEFE Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASICA) Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (SADER) Insurgentes Sur 489, Mezzanine Col. Hipódromo, 06100 Cuauhtémoc, CDMX MEXICO Phone: (+52) 55 59051000 Ext. 51005; 51100 <b>MEXICO</b>	<a href="mailto:trujillo@senasica.gob.mx">trujillo@senasica.gob.mx</a>
✓	North America ( <i>Vice-Chairperson</i> )	<b>Mr John GREIFER</b> Assistant Deputy Administrator Plant Protection and Quarantine APHIS, USDA 1400 Independence Av. SW Washington, DC 20250 <b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<a href="mailto:john.k.greifer@usda.gov">john.k.greifer@usda.gov</a>
✓	Southwest Pacific	<b>Mr Peter THOMSON</b> Director Plants & Pathways Biosecurity New Zealand - Tiakitanga Pūtaiao Aotearoa Ministry for Primary Industries - Manatū Ahu Matua TSB House   147 Lambton Quay   PO Box 2526   Wellington 6140 DDI: +64 4 894 0353   Mbl: +64 29 894 0353 <b>NEW ZEALAND</b>	<a href="mailto:Peter.Thomson@mpi.govt.nz">Peter.Thomson@mpi.govt.nz</a>

✓	Near East	<b>Mr Ahmed Kamal EL-ATTAR</b> Professor of molecular virology. Head of Egyptian Plant Quarantine (NPPO of Egypt); Chief of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology unit; Plant Pathology Research Institute  Agricultural Research Center. Phone (Cell.): 00201006602373 Phone (Lab): 002037766451 Giza <b>EGYPT</b>	<a href="mailto:ippc@capq.gov.eg;">ippc@capq.gov.eg;</a> <a href="mailto:ahmadkamal-arc@hotmail.com">ahmadkamal-arc@hotmail.com</a>
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**Secretariat/Observers**

	<b>Region / Role</b>	<b>Name, mailing, address, telephone, nationality</b>	<b>Email address</b>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Avetik NERSISYAN</b>	<a href="mailto:Avetik.Nersisyan@fao.org;">Avetik.Nersisyan@fao.org;</a>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Brent LARSON</b>	<a href="mailto:Brent.Larson@fao.org;">Brent.Larson@fao.org;</a>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Arop DENG</b>	<a href="mailto:Arop.Deng@fao.org;">Arop.Deng@fao.org;</a>
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✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Marko BENOVIĆ</b>	<a href="mailto:Marko.Benovic@fao.org;">Marko.Benovic@fao.org;</a>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI</b>	<a href="mailto:Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org;">Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org</a>

**Annex 3 – Provisional Agenda**

AGENDA ITEM		DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1.	Opening of the Meeting	--	Mr Lucien KONAN KUAME <i>CPM Chairperson</i> Mr Avetik NERSISYAN <i>IPPC Secretary O-i-C</i>
2.	Meeting Arrangements		Mr Arop DENG <i>IPPC Secretariat</i>
2.1.	Document list	02_Bureau_2021_Sept_Tel	
2.2.	Participant list	03_Bureau_2021_Sept_Tel	
3.	Adoption of the Agenda	01_Bureau_2021_Sept_Tel	Mr Lucien KONAN KUAME
4.	Updates	--	
4.1.	CPM FG on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of IPPC SF DAI</li> <li>- CC and PI</li> <li>- Communications</li> </ul>	--	CPM Bureau members: Mr Peter THOMSON Ms Marica GATT Mr Fuxiang WANG
4.2.	Strategic Planning Group 2021	--	Mr Arop DENG
5.	Sixteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures	04_Bureau_2021_Sept_Tel	Mr Arop DENG
6.	Steering Committee of the International Day of Plant Health	05_Bureau_2021_Sept_Tel	Mr Arop DENG
7.	EU proposal to assign the Dispute Settlement and Avoidance (DAS) to the CPM Bureau	06_Bureau_2021_Sept_Tel	Mr Lucien KONAN KUAME Mr Brent LARSON <i>IPPC Secretariat</i>
8.	Any Other Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update on the IPPC Secretary selection process</li> <li>- PCE</li> <li>- IPPC Governing Body Meetings for 2022-2023 Biennium</li> <li>- Linkages between the IPPC and new FAO Strategic Framework</li> </ul>		Mr Lucien KONAN KUAME  Mr Peter THOMSON  Mr Arop DENG  Mr John GREIFER
9.	Next Meeting	--	Mr Lucien KONAN KUAME
10.	Closing of the Meeting	--	Mr Lucien KONAN KUAME

**Annex 4 – Action List**

N.	Action	Lead	Lead within Secretariat/CPM Bureau/ Persons involved	Deadline
1	Initiate CPM-16 preparation virtually	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Arop DENG Ms Tanja LAHTI	ongoing
2	Draft and circulate the Terms of Reference of the International Steering Committee of the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH ISC) with the CPM Focus Group on Communications for commenting	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Arop DENG Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI Ms Sara GIULIANI	29/10/2021
3	Provide additional and in-depth information about two more webinars of the IYPH series paving the way towards the first International Plant Health Conference: one on remote sensing, in collaboration with Euphresco, and another on the importance of plant health for the UN 2030 Agenda, with the objective to advocate for the inclusion of a plant health-related indicator in the SDGs	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Arop DENG Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI	29/10/2021
4	Address a letter on its behalf to the FAO Director-General to express IPPC community's concerns of the IPPC community regarding the negative impacts on the IPPC work plan as well as to expedite the selection process.	CPM Chairperson	Mr Lucien KONAN KOUAMÉ	01/10/2021

**Annex 5. IPPC Governing Body meeting planning for 2022- 2023**

Easter Friday - Monday 15 - 18 April 2022

Easter Friday – Monday 7 - 10 April 2023

**Proposal for 2022**

- 4-8 April 2022 **CPM-16**
- 9 – 13 May 2022 **SC May**
- 16-20 May 2022 **SC -7**
- 16-20 May 2022 **IC May**
- 10-14 October **SPG (four days)**
- 14-18 November 2022 **SC Nov**
- 21-25 Nov. **IC Nov**

**Proposal for 2023**

- 27-31 March 2023 **CPM-17**
- 8-12 May 2023 **SC May**
- 15-19 May 2023 **SC-7**
- 15-19 May 2023 **IC May**
- 23-27 October **SPG (four days)**
- 13-17 Nov 2023 **SC Nov**
- 20-24 Nov 2023 **IC Nov**