






## INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION (IPPC)

### STANDARD SETTING UNIT (SSU) STAFF

*Updated 2026-05-01*

TECHNICAL STAFF – Regular Programme posts		
	<p><b>Avetik NERSISYAN</b> Standard Setting Unit Leader / Senior Officer: 100% <b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>Room:</b> B707 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Avetik.Nersisyan@fao.org">Avetik.Nersisyan@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Unit lead for standard setting:</u> Overall coordination of the SSU, including staff, work plan and budget management. Overview of phytosanitary systems to support setting policies and strategic directions for standard setting process. Provides direction in the development of ISPMs in line with the guidance and priorities set by the CPM, addresses phytosanitary issues in line with both IPPC community and FAO strategic objectives. Coordination of Standards Committee and SC-7 work programme. Coordination of the SC-SSU / IC-IFU interactions</p> <p><u>Liaison:</u> liaison with relevant organizations and other stakeholders, including CBD, IMO, OZONE, UNECE, EEC, ISO, WTO- SPS, COA, GSF, WSC, ICL, PMRG.</p>
	<p><b>Descartes KOUMBA</b> Standard Setting Officer <b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>Room:</b> B708 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Descartes.Koumba@fao.org">Descartes.Koumba@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard setting:</u> Support to the organization of Standards committee (SC) meetings May and November, coordination of the SC-7, coordination of the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary treatments (TPPT), coordination of the IPPC Call for treatments, coordination of the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG), Technical support to the Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP), support to the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers, Support to IPPC Regional Workshops.</p> <p><u>Liaison:</u> IPRRG, BWC,</p>
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF – Regular Programme posts		
	<p><b>Giulia GAVIANO</b> Standard Setting Unit Assistant: 100% <b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>Room:</b> B706 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:giulia.gaviano@fao.org">giulia.gaviano@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard Setting and Administration:</u> Administrative support to the organization of meetings, virtual meetings and webinars, quality management and SOPs. Provision of input to outreach material.</p> <p>Coordination of Non-staff HR rosters and Procurement activities.</p> <p>Support to the coordination of the SC and other related activities.</p>

	<p><b>Oleksandra BARKOVA</b> Standard Setting Unit Assistant: 100%</p> <p>Based in: Rome (HQ) Room: B706 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Oleksandra.Barkova@fao.org">Oleksandra.Barkova@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Administration support:</u> Administrative support to the organization of meetings, virtual meetings and webinars.</p> <p>Coordination of Non-staff HR rosters and Procurement activities.</p> <p>Support to the coordination of the SC and other related activities.</p>
<b>CONSULTANTS – Trust funds or regular programme budget</b>		
	<p><b>Marina MARTINO</b> Phytosanitary Standard Setting Specialist 100%</p> <p><b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>Room:</b> B765 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:marina.martino@fao.org">marina.martino@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard setting:</u> Technical support to the IPPC Standard Setting Unit work programme.</p> <p>Support to the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP), Technical Panel on Commodity Standards (TPCS), CPM Focus Group on Diagnostic Laboratory Networking and CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and other Humanitarian Aid.</p> <p>Assist with the meetings of the IPPC Standards Committee (SC), including preparation of final texts for publication.</p>
	<p><b>Daniel Lorenzo TORELLA</b> Phytosanitary Standard Setting Support Specialist: 100%</p> <p><b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>Room:</b> B765 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:daniel.torella@fao.org">daniel.torella@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard Setting:</u> Support in the organization and facilitation of regional and international IPPC meetings, in particular the Standards Committee Working Group (SC-7), the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG), the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT), the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers, and the IPPC regional workshops.</p> <p>Translation liaison for the SSU.</p>
	<p><b>Emmanuel Plarhar KRAH</b> Phytosanitary Standard Setting Support Specialist: 100%</p> <p><b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>Room:</b> B765 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:emmanuel.krah@fao.org">emmanuel.krah@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard Setting:</u> Support in the organization and undertaking of the SC. Support in maintaining the IPPC automated calls and management of the Online Commenting System (OCS). Update and maintain the List of Topics for IPPC Standards (LOT) and the Framework for Standards and Implementation. Facilitate and provide evaluation tools for the IPPC meetings (surveys, statistics, etc.) Support the coordination of the IPPC Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation.</p>
	<p><b>Stefano PRETI</b> Phytosanitary Standard Setting Specialist: 100%</p> <p><b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>Room:</b> B765 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Stefano.Preti@fao.org">Stefano.Preti@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard Setting:</u> Supports the work of the Technical Panel on Commodity Standards and the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols, including the provision of technical and Secretariat support across standard development and maintenance activities, and contributes to the implementation and coordination of activities under the Africa Phytosanitary Programme.</p>

	<p><b>Aixa DEL GRECO</b> Standard Setting Unit Specialist: 60% <b>Based in:</b> Rome (home-based) <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Aixa.DelGreco@fao.org">Aixa.DelGreco@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard Setting:</u> ISPMs' Language Review Groups (LRGs) process coordination (4 FAO languages). Responsible for ink amendments implementation (all 6 FAO languages). Responsible for finalization and online publication of adopted ISPMs and CPM recommendations (all 6 FAO languages). Support to the TPG activities.</p>
	<p><b>Karen ROUEN</b> Consultant (Editor): 75% SSU, 25% other units <b>Based in:</b> United Kingdom <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Karen.Rouen@fao.org">Karen.Rouen@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard setting:</u> Scientific copy-editor of IPPC standard setting documents, in particular ISPMs, CPM Recommendations and meeting reports. Report writer for Standards Committee and other meetings. Other units: Copy-editor and report writer.</p>
	<p><b>Anita TIBASAAGA</b> Communication Specialist: 50% SSU, 50% IST <b>Based in:</b> Rome (HQ) <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Anita.Tibasaaga@fao.org">Anita.Tibasaaga@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard Setting:</u> Development and implementation of communication plans for SSU and the Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP) e.g. production of leaflets, videos, social media content and updating APP web page. Coordinate the review, publishing and promotion of APP survey protocols. Support event communication and promotion of APP and SSU-led events/activities e.g., workshops, webinars etc. Draft, where necessary and review SSU content for the IPPC website e.g. announcements and calls. Develop and promote content e.g. country case studies on standards development and importance in plant health.</p>
	<p><b>Levon RUKAVISHNIKOV</b> IPPC Programme Specialist: 100% APP <b>Based in:</b> Rome <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:levon.rukavishnikov@fao.org">levon.rukavishnikov@fao.org</a></p>	<p><u>Standard setting:</u> Assistant coordinator for the IPPC Regional Workshops 2025, general support for standard setting process, supporting the planning, organization, and scheduling of SSU meetings. Contributor to drafting, reviewing, and formatting IPPC documents, including reports, briefs, and meeting notes. Content manager for the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP), ensuring SSU-related information is current and accessible. Responsible for uploading and verifying meeting agendas and reports on the IPP. Provide financial advice and support to the African Phytosanitary Programme.</p>