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Bangkok, Thailand

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Abbreviations and acronyms

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| APPPC | Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission |
| AI | Artificial Intelligence |
| AU-IAPSC | Inter-African Phytosanitary Council of the African Union |
| CAHFSA | Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency |
| CAN | Andean Community |
| COSAVE | Southern Cone Plant Health Committee |
| CPM | Commission on Phytosanitary Measures |
| CPM-18 | Eighteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures |
| CPM-19 | Nineteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures |
| DAI | Development Agenda Item |
| EPPO/OEPP ¹ | European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization |
| ePhyto | Electronic Phytosanitary Certificate |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| IC | Implementation and Capacity Development Committee |
| IICA | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture |
| IPP | International Phytosanitary Portal |
| IPPC | International Plant Protection Convention |
| NEPPO | Near East and North Africa Plant Protection Organization |
| NAPPO | North American Plant Protection Organization |
| NPPO | National Plant Protection Organization |
| OIRSA | International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health |
| PHSA | Plant Health Strategy for Africa of the African Union |
| POARS | IPPC Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems |
| PPPO | Pacific Plant Protection Organisation |
| PRA | Pest risk analysis |
| RCN | Regional Communications Network |
| RPPO | regional plant protection organization |
| RSPM | Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures |
| SC | Standards Committee |
| SPG | Strategic Planning Group |
| TC-RPPO | Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations |
| TR4 | <i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>cubense</i> Tropical Race 4 |

¹ EPPO can also be written in its original language format as Organisation Européenne et Méditerranéenne pour la Protection des Plantes (OEPP)

1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Opening Remarks – Department of Agriculture, Thailand

- [1] Mr. Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs, Director-General, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand, welcomed participants to Bangkok, emphasizing Thailand's commitment to implementing phytosanitary measures, complying with international standards, and sharing best practices. He highlighted Thailand's training efforts, regional leadership aspirations, and the need for cross-border collaboration to address pest threats affecting Asian crops amid global warming. He expressed confidence that the meeting would strengthen regional cooperation and wished attendees a pleasant stay.

1.2 Welcome by the TC-RPPO Chairperson

- [2] The Chairperson of the Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO), Yubak GC Dhoj, Executive Secretary of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC), welcomed participants and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He emphasized the importance of regional coordination in standards implementation, facilitation of safe trade, and collective responses to emerging pests and climate-related challenges.

1.3 Welcome Remarks – Acting IPPC Secretary Representative

- [3] The representative of the IPPC Secretariat, Mr Russel Coplen, welcomed participants and stressed that challenges such as climate change and increasing trade volumes require enhanced global coordination. He highlighted the central role of RPPOs in strengthening international cooperation and mutual trust among contracting parties.

1.4 Opening Remarks - FAO Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific

- [4] Mr Robert Simpson, FAO Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, delivered pre-recorded opening remarks. He acknowledged the growing impact of climate change on plant health and underlined the importance of regional and international collaboration through RPPOs. He wished participants a successful consultation.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Brief introductions

- [5] All participants introduced themselves to the group.

2.2 Selection of the rapporteur

- [6] The Chair noted that consultations were ongoing and that the rapporteur would be announced at the end of the meeting.

2.3 Adoption of the agenda

- [7] TC-RPPO members adopted the agenda as presented in Appendix 1 to the report.

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Document list

- [8] The IPPC Secretariat presented the documents as listed in Appendix 2; participants had no comments thereon.

3.2 Participant list

- [9] The participant list is available in Appendix 3.
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3.3 Local information

- [10] APPPC provided the local information; participants had no questions thereon.

4. Follow-up to the Thirty-Sixth TC-RPPO (2024)

4.1 RPPO feedback on updated templates (Events; Pests of Concern)

- [11] The Secretariat invited feedback on the uptake and utility of the templates.
- [12] On “Pests of Concern”: Members discussed scope, ownership, and potential duplication. NAPPO noted that NPPOs are best placed to share pest tables; several members questioned the validity and placement of the RPPO template. It was proposed that POARS is the more appropriate forum for coordinating emerging pest information.
- [13] On “Events”: The Secretariat asked whether alternative mechanisms for regional event sharing should be explored. The Chair suggested IPPC coordination for a central, filtered channel to avoid overburdening RPPOs; several members cited existing regional channels (e.g., CAHFSA’s centralized listing) and stressed resource constraints and the need to filter items before forwarding to IPPC for broader distribution.
- [14] Members asked that the matter be elevated to the CPM Bureau for guidance on a central events hub; funding constraints for RPPO participation in major IPPC events were noted. Members shared upcoming events (e.g., an e-commerce workshop in the Philippines) as test cases.
- [15] The Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations:
- (1) *agreed* that emerging pest information should be coordinated through the CPM Focus Group on POARS, rather than via a separate RPPO template;
 - (2) *invited* the IPPC Secretariat to explore a centralized, lightly curated mechanism for regional event sharing, with Bureau consideration of roles and resourcing; and
 - (3) *encouraged* RPPOs to share near-term major events with the Secretariat for pilot dissemination.

5. IPPC Secretariat updates

5.1 IPPC Secretariat updates of IPPC subsidiary bodies

- [16] The Secretariat provided an update on the work of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee, which oversees the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework and the Development Agenda Items.
- [17] Key highlights included progress on the ePhyto programme, with secured funding through 2027, continued work on e-commerce pathways, and the launch of the IPPC Pest Alert System under the POARS Focus Group. Upcoming activities include work on authorization procedures, updates to the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool, and the addition of new Spanish-language courses to the Plant Health Campus.
- [18] RPPOs were invited to nominate representatives to the POARS Steering Group, contribute to expert working groups, and promote participation in the FG-CCPI climate change webinar series.

5.2 Conclusions on IPPC Regional Workshops

- [19] The Secretariat provided an update on the organization of the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops. The Secretariat reported that seven IPPC Regional Workshops were held across all regions in August and September 2025, with 267 participants from 119 countries. The workshops included the Secretariat
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updates, discussions on draft ISPMs through the Online Commenting System (OCS), capacity development sessions, and field visits.

- [20] The success of the workshops was attributed to strong collaboration among regional organizing committees, FAO regional offices, and RPPOs. Participants welcomed the refresher training on the OCS and emphasized the value of in-depth discussions on standards and implementation issues.
- [21] Members encouraged early planning for funding and continued RPPO engagement to enhance regional participation. Key areas for improvement identified included earlier communication on budget allocations, enhanced financial support, and additional training on the OCS.
- [22] One member raised concerns regarding the application of the IPPC funding criteria and requested clarification on the exclusion of certain countries from financial support in 2025. It was noted that several countries were unable to attend due to insufficient funding. Members emphasized the importance of equitable participation and requested that the IPPC explore more flexible funding mechanisms for future regional meetings.
- [23] RPPOs agreed to mobilize resources where possible to support participation from underrepresented countries and to provide logistical assistance for future workshops.
- [24] The Secretariat will confirm the allocated budget for each IPPC Regional Workshop in due course. The Secretariat looked forward to working with the other members of the Regional Workshop organizing committees in 2026.

6. Invited guest presentations

6.1 Implementation of phytosanitary measures to facilitate exports (Thailand DOA)

- [25] Dr Charuwat Taekul presented Thailand's export facilitation framework, including regulatory arrangements, certification processes (GAP and GMP), phytosanitary certification procedures, and the implementation of the ePhyto Solution.
- [26] The presentation covered institutional arrangements for plant standards and certification, research and development support, and the legal basis for SPS implementation. Thailand's network of 50 plant quarantine stations, on- and off-site inspection modalities, and digital certification systems were outlined. Export statistics for seeds and fresh fruit for the period 2023–2025 were also presented.
- [27] During the discussion, members exchanged views on e-commerce regulations, shipment traceability, quarantine processes, and paperless trade arrangements. Questions addressed postal consignments, tracking through the Plant Quarantine System and third-party platforms, and bilateral arrangements supporting electronic certification.

6.2 Recent plant protection initiatives of APAARI

- [28] Dr Ravi Khetrpal presented APAARI's initiatives to strengthen phytosanitary compliance and public–private partnerships to support seed trade in the Asia–Pacific region, including SPS modernization efforts and seed health testing gap analyses.
- [29] He also highlighted the EUPHRESCO III project on global phytosanitary research coordination and the Asia Pesticide Residue Mitigation project, which reduced pesticide residues through biopesticide use. The Asia-Pacific Biopesticides Community of Practice (ABCoP), launched in 2024, was introduced to support regional collaboration.

6.3 One Health in Southeast Asia and implications for plant health

- [30] Dr Tikiri Wijayathilaka (WOAH) presented the One Health approach, emphasizing linkages between plant, animal, human, and ecosystem health.
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- [31] He outlined the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022–2026) and highlighted the role of plant health in food security, climate change, and antimicrobial resistance. He encouraged stronger integration of plant health into national One Health strategies and collaboration through the IPPC.

6.4 USDA-APHIS Bangkok Office: incorporation of IPPC guidance

- [32] Mr Russell Duncan presented USDA-APHIS activities to facilitate safe trade through science-based measures, pest risk analysis, and systems approaches.
- [33] He highlighted preclearance operations, noting that over 2.2 million metric tons of produce were inspected in 2024, and outlined APHIS engagement with IPPC initiatives, including POARS, ePhyto, and One Health.

6.5 JIRCAS R&D activities in Southeast Asia

- [34] Dr Youichi Kobori presented JIRCAS research supporting sustainable agriculture, including scalable technologies for pest and disease management.
- [35] He highlighted work on fall armyworm IPM, rapid diagnostics, and drone-based applications, emphasizing the importance of regional collaboration to address transboundary pest risks.

7. RPPO reports

- [36] RPPOs presented their activities including:
- technical and capacity-development achievements;
 - emerging pests and issues;
 - surveillance projects and activities; and
 - proposals for further collaboration.
- [37] All presentations delivered by RPPOs are available on the International Phytosanitary Portal.

7.1 Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)

- [38] The APPPC representative reported on key regional activities, including a training workshop on minor crop pesticide application and management held in Hangzhou, which supported harmonization of pesticide registration and promoted green pest control technologies. APPPC also reported on the development of draft Regional Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (RSPMs), including a draft standard on sea containers prepared during an Expert Working Group meeting in Auckland and two commodity standards developed in Bangkok for submission to the Standards Committee. The organization conducted regional ISPM consultation workshops in Seoul and continued SALB hands-on training activities in Malaysia. Upcoming activities include workshops on e-commerce biosecurity in the Philippines and fall armyworm management in China.

7.2 Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)

- [39] The CAHFSA representative reported on the implementation of the Regional Agricultural Health and Food Safety (AHFS) Policy, including progress in developing the Caribbean AHFS Early Detection and Response System (CAEDRS) and plans to establish a regionally integrated risk analysis unit. Capacity-building activities included virtual and in-person pest risk analysis (PRA) training conducted with CABI and national PRA mentoring support. Surveillance programmes were strengthened with FAO assistance, including diagnostic capacity development for soursop pests in Grenada. CAHFSA also updated members on the 2024 Regional Priority Pest List, highlighting Mediterranean fruit fly, TR4, khapra beetle, and tomato brown rugose fruit virus as key threats. Emergency pest updates included cassava witches' broom disease and Fusarium outbreaks affecting sugarcane in Belize. Opportunities for future collaboration were noted, including shared pest diagnostics, PRA training, contingency planning, and potential RPPO twinning or study tours.
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7.3 Comunidad Andina (CAN)

- [40] The representative of CAN was absent from the meeting.

7.4 Southern Cone Plant Health Committee (COSAVE)

- [41] The COSAVE representative presented the organization's 2024–2025 strategic guidelines, highlighting strengthened public-sector engagement, public–private coordination, and support for safe trade through regional standards. COSAVE reported progress on its 2025 Work Plan, including harmonized phytosanitary requirements for citrus fruit, regional pest risk analyses for emerging pests, inspection guidelines for used machinery, and training on wood packaging inspection. Updates were also provided on the Regional Center for Phytosanitary Intelligence project and ongoing efforts to harmonize bio-input regulations. COSAVE continues to actively contribute to several IPPC bodies, including the Bureau, Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC), Standards Committee (SC), and various focus groups, and is part of the organizing committee for the 2025 IPPC Global Workshop on Systems Approaches to be held in Santiago, Chile.

7.5 European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

- [42] The EPPO representative reported on extensive activities during 2024–2025, including the adoption and revision of several phytosanitary standards (PM3, PM7 and PM9 series) and diagnostic protocols, as well as pest risk analyses for invasive species such as *Euphorbia davidii* and *Pseudips mexicanus*. Updates were provided on the EPPO PRA platform, which now hosts more than 2,400 documents and has expanded participation to two non-EPPO countries. EPPO also highlighted progress in biological control standards, forestry pest preparedness, particularly regarding *Agrilus planipennis*, and communication initiatives, including webinars and awareness campaigns. Additional updates covered work on plant protection product standards, resistance databases, and collaboration with NEPPPO on contingency planning workshops.

7.6 AU-IAPSC and Africa's Plant Health Strategy

- [43] The AU-IAPSC representative presented the Plant Health Strategy for Africa, which aims to strengthen continental plant health systems to reduce pest risks, enhance trade, and support biodiversity, and establish a practical continental plant health system by 2029. Flagship programmes highlighted included the African Phytosanitary Programme (APP), adoption of ePhyto, implementation of Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations (PCE), engagement through the Plant Health Campus, and a new STDF-funded project on Banana Bunchy Top Virus. AU-IAPSC also noted ongoing collaboration with partners such as CropLife, CABI, and the WTO to strengthen regional capacity and encouraged RPPOs to support implementation through joint training and resource mobilization.

7.7 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)

- [44] NAPPO representative reported progress in implementing its 2022–2026 Strategic Plan, including harmonization of diagnostic protocols for tomato brown rugose fruit virus (ToBRFV) in tomato and pepper seeds, with results published in *PhytoFrontiers*. A “Decision Sheet” to support the recommendation by the NAPPO expert group to use selected protocols for the detection of ToBRFV in the NAPPO region was approved by the NAPPO Executive Committee. Updates were also provided on work related to alternatives to methyl bromide, revisions of RSPMs 8 and 26, and forestry-related science documents, including water bath heat treatment protocols and a discussion document on the risks of introducing forest pest in wood packaging material. NAPPO further reported that a discussion paper on emergency response to *Phthorimaea absoluta* is under development and highlighted continued support for ePhyto, the Phytosanitary Alert System, and pest reporting tools. NAPPO informed members that its upcoming Annual Meeting in Ottawa in October 2025 will include a symposium on artificial intelligence in plant health, focusing on potential applications, risks, and opportunities, and encouraged RPPO participation. NAPPO also proposed holding a side session on artificial intelligence during CPM-20, which received support from members.
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7.8 Near East and North Africa Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO)

- [45] The NEPPO representative reported on outcomes of the 2024 Governing Council meeting held in Jeddah, including the official amendment of the organization's name to include "North Africa" while retaining the NEPPO acronym. Membership expansion was also noted, with Mauritania's ratification expected to take effect in May 2025 and Qatar, Lebanon, and Yemen anticipated to join. NEPPO highlighted progress in developing regional standards for the certification of date palm, citrus, and olive propagative material, as well as the organization of its annual ISPM regional meeting in Rabat and the NENA Regional Workshop planned for September 2025 in Muscat. Additional activities included contingency exercises for *Xylella fastidiosa* in Tunisia, training on ePhyto implementation in Iraq, and regional initiatives addressing *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*, *Phytophthora palmivora*, and *Xylella fastidiosa*. NEPPO also confirmed that it will host the Thirty-eighth TC-RPPO meeting in Saudi Arabia in 2026 and encouraged strengthened collaboration through donor mobilization and joint capacity-building programmes.

7.9 International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)

- [46] The OIRSA representative presented major phytosanitary programmes, highlighting advances in the Fusarium TR4 Programme, including the use of rapid immunostrip diagnostics, canine detection units, resistant cultivar validation, and satellite monitoring technologies. Updates were also provided on the regional fruit fly programme, including taxonomy workshops, risk communication campaigns, and environmentally friendly management manuals. OIRSA reported progress in developing artificial intelligence arenas for phytosanitary simulations, modernization of its virtual training platform, and new protocols for the prevention of Banana Bunchy Top Virus (BBTV). The Integrated Citrus Management Programme continues to monitor production units and prepare for the Fourth International Citrus Forum scheduled for October 2025. Phytosanitary surveillance activities were further strengthened through updated pest monitoring platforms and simulation protocols for coffee blight and cocoa moniliasis.

7.10 Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO)

- [47] The PPPO representative reported progress in reviewing and strengthening regional biosecurity legislation, including the enactment of amendments in Tuvalu and Papua New Guinea and the development of key standard operating procedures. Capacity-building initiatives included training on pest risk analysis and import risk analysis, pest surveillance, systems approach workshops, and the provision of biosecurity equipment such as X-ray machines and fumigation chambers across member states. PPPO also reported upgrades to the regional Pest List Database and progress in developing the Pacific Strategy for the Sea Container Pathway and a draft RSPM on shipping containers currently under consultation. Additional activities included participation in the International Day of Plant Health, contributions to ISPM consultations, and responses to pest outbreaks such as coconut rhinoceros beetle, fall armyworm, African swine fever tick, and little fire ant. Challenges related to resourcing phytosanitary capacity evaluations in small island states were noted, alongside opportunities for strengthened regional cooperation.

- [48] The Chairperson thanked all speakers for their informative presentations.

8. Other IPPC Secretariat updates

8.1 Updates on Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems (POARS)

- [49] The Secretariat provided an update on the Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems (POARS) programme, one of the IPPC Development Agenda Items.
- [50] The POARS Steering Group, established in 2024, finalized criteria for classifying emerging pests and launched the first global call for nominations, which closed in March 2025. The pilot phase resulted in refinements to the guidance document and the launch of the IPPC Pest Alert System, with the first alert issued in March 2025.
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[51] The Secretariat highlighted ongoing efforts to build global expert networks, mobilize resources, and develop contingency plans, diagnostic protocols, and simulation exercises to improve preparedness and rapid response capacity.

[52] One member emphasized the need to harmonize terminology related to “emerging pests” and “invasive species”. The Secretariat noted that clear classification criteria are essential for consistent reporting.

8.2 IPPC Regional Communications Networks

[53] The Secretariat updated members on the development of the IPPC Regional Communications Networks (RCNs), recalling the CPM-18 (2023) decision to establish the networks and subsequent consultations with RPPOs and former members of the CPM Focus Group on Communication.

[54] The survey to assess NPPO information needs was finalized and approved by the CPM Bureau. Its results will inform the design of a feasible and scalable communications network.

[55] Further discussions will take place with the incoming IPPC Secretary in October 2025 to clarify roles, responsibilities, and next steps for implementation.

8.3 Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP) update

[56] The Secretariat presented updates on the Africa Phytosanitary Programme, highlighting the launch of Phase 2 through a Train-the-Trainer workshop in South Africa involving nine new countries.

[57] Participants are now master trainers who will cascade surveillance and diagnostic skills at national level. Tablets and field supplies have been distributed, and procurement is underway for additional equipment.

[58] Survey results indicated substantial improvements in pest surveillance systems, inspection efficiency, and reporting quality. Key challenges remain in relation to funding, infrastructure, and training needs.

[59] Donor contributions from the United Kingdom, the European Union, and FAO were acknowledged. Members were encouraged to support long-term resource mobilization.

8.4 Updates on ePhyto

[60] The Secretariat reported continued expansion of the IPPC ePhyto Solution, with 97 countries exchanging certificates live and the HUB processing approximately 250 000 exchanges per month. The Generic National System supports around 25 000 certificates monthly, with more than 8 200 users across 375 offices. Studies indicate per-shipment savings ranging from USD 3.70 to 83.50.

[61] The Secretariat outlined a roadmap to improve harmonization, interoperability, and reporting, and described the transition towards proactive support through standardized implementation packages.

[62] Planned enhancements include mixed commodity definitions, improved non-compliance notification systems, and new multilingual learning tools on the Plant Health Campus.

[63] Members welcomed the update on sustainable funding through 2027. Questions were raised regarding post-implementation support, data security, and legal frameworks.

8.5 Updates on the Plant Health Campus

[64] The Secretariat presented updates on the IPPC Plant Health Campus, a global learning platform providing free, certified e-learning courses and training materials. Since June 2024, more than 6 200 students have enrolled. The platform is now fully available in French, with Spanish and additional language versions under development.

[65] The Campus issues digital certificates and badges to recognize learner achievements. NPPOs were encouraged to integrate Campus courses into staff development programmes.

[66] One member noted the importance of assessing course quality and impact.

8.6 Plant health as a component of One Health

- [67] The Secretariat updated members on activities of the IPPC Observatory, which monitors implementation of the IPPC, ISPMs, CPM Recommendations, and the Strategic Framework 2020–2030.
- [68] Key achievements included completion of the Observatory Study on E-commerce, with 76 responses, and ongoing data collection for the antimicrobial resistance study.
- [69] Preparations are underway for the redesigned Third IPPC General Survey, scheduled for launch in early 2026. Collaboration with Codex and WOAHA was highlighted to improve survey quality and data sharing.
- [70] One member inquired about mechanisms for evaluating the implementation of the Strategic Framework.

8.7 International Day of Plant Health

- [71] The Secretariat reported on the successful celebration of International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) 2025, hosted by OIRSA in El Salvador, the first event held outside FAO Headquarters. The event attracted more than 1 300 participants, involved 45 media outlets, and reached over 187 million users worldwide.
- [72] The Secretariat proposed exploring a rotational hosting model among RPPOs. Members noted the importance of securing adequate funding and broad participation.
- [73] OIRSA highlighted the financial burden associated with hosting. RPPOs acknowledged the importance of promoting the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH). However, given existing resource constraints, members indicated a preference to support these efforts through their established communication channels, including newsletters, social media, annual meetings, and official notifications.
- [74] Members requested that IPPC and FAO consider providing financial support if a rotational model is adopted.
- [75] It was suggested that the Secretariat issue a call to RPPOs to assess interest and capacity for future hosting.

8.8 Provisions of humanitarian aid in the phytosanitary context

- [76] The Secretariat and AU-IAPSC presented updates from the CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid. Members were reminded that CPM-18 extended the mandate of the Focus Group until CPM-20 to develop a new ISPM addressing pest risks from humanitarian aid.
- [77] AU-IAPSC reported survey results indicating pest interceptions associated with donated maize and cereals, including weevils, bruchids, and grain borers. Recommendations included mandatory inspection and fumigation, strengthened warehouse controls, and enhanced NPPO capacity.
- [78] PPPO highlighted that Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), while contributing minimally to climate change, are expected to face disproportionate impacts, including increased frequency and severity of natural disasters. As a result, a rise in humanitarian aid to the region is anticipated. PPPO expressed appreciation for ongoing international support and clarified that its advocacy for the development of an ISPM is intended to ensure that aid can be delivered and received effectively without compromising biosecurity.
- [79] Members agreed to share case studies and interception data by 21 November 2025.

9. Updates on sea containers

- [80] The Secretariat updated members on the work of the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers, whose mandate has been extended until 2027. Key activities included the 2024 International Symposium in Rotterdam on optimizing container design to reduce contamination risks.
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[81] The Group continues to promote regulatory and non-regulatory measures and the “custodial responsibility” approach.

[82] Members were encouraged to share container cleanliness data using the IPPC template. Plans include a CPM-20 side session and a 2026 international workshop.

10. CPM Focus Group on Laboratory Diagnostic Networking

[83] The Secretariat provided an update on the CPM Focus Group on Laboratory Diagnostic Networking.

[84] The Focus Group is developing a global network to strengthen laboratory capacity, harmonize diagnostic protocols, and improve response times.

[85] Activities include literature reviews, stakeholder interviews, and case studies. The first in-person meeting is planned for October 2025.

[86] Outcomes will include an implementation framework and recommendations to CPM by 2028.

11. Field visit

[87] Participants visited a mango orchard and packing house in Bang Khla District, Chachoengsao Province, where they observed production practices, post-harvest handling, and export preparation procedures. Following lunch, participants visited the plant quarantine station at Suvarnabhumi Airport and observed quarantine officers conducting inspections of plants and plant products prior to export.

[88] The visits provided practical insights into Thailand’s phytosanitary systems for domestic and international trade.

12. TC-RPPO action plan

[89] The Chairperson invited RPPOs to submit agenda proposals for the Thirty-Eighth TC-RPPO (2026) by March 2026, including key phytosanitary topics and outcomes from the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops.

[90] Members agreed on the following actions:

[91] The IPPC Secretariat will explore options to streamline regional event communications and propose a centralized mechanism for sharing information on pests and events.

[92] The IPPC Secretariat will communicate earlier regarding funding allocations for IPPC Regional Workshops.

[93] The IPPC Secretariat will consider issuing a call to RPPOs to express interest in hosting future International Day of Plant Health celebrations and explore options for funding support and partner engagement.

[94] NAPPO will submit a proposal for a scientific session on artificial intelligence at CPM-20.

[95] The Chairperson emphasized that the TC-RPPO Action Plan is a living document and encouraged RPPOs to propose additional actions in support of the IPPC Development Agenda Items.

13. Any other business

[96] OIRSA shared two videos from the Thirty-Sixth TC-RPPO, hosted in Panama City.

[97] No additional business was raised.

14. Review and adoption of the report

[98] TC-RPPO members reviewed and adopted the draft report.

15. Selection of new Chairperson; date and location for next meeting

[99] NEPPO was confirmed as Chair of the Thirty-Eighth TC-RPPO (2026) and will host the meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The meeting dates will be confirmed in due course.

[100] NEPPO, the IPPC Secretariat, and Saudi Arabia will hold a coordination meeting during CPM-20 to discuss organizational arrangements and the draft agenda.

[101] PPPO offered to host the TC-RPPO meeting in 2027.

16. Close of the meeting

[102] The Chairperson thanked the participants and organizers for their contributions and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Agenda

THIRTY-SEVENTH TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS

23 - 26 September 2025

The Sukosol Hotel
Bangkok, Thailand

Zoom link: [<https://fao.zoom.us/j/99825390314?from=addon>]

Meeting ID: [998 2539 0314]

Passcode: [68181278]

| Agenda Item | | Document No. | Presenter | Approx. Time |
|---|--|-----------------|---|--------------|
| Tuesday September 23 | | | | |
| 1. | Opening of the Meeting | | | 9:00 |
| 1.1 | Moderator | | IPPC Secretariat Representative | ok |
| 1.2 | Session Chair – Objectives of TC-RPPO Meeting. | | Yubak GC, TC-RPPO Chair | ok |
| 1.3 | Welcoming remarks | | Robert Simpson, FAO Deputy Regional Representative (DRR) for Asia and the Pacific | ok |
| 1.4 | Welcoming remarks | | Representative of the Acting IPPC Secretary | ok |
| 1.5 | Opening remarks | | Director General (DG) Representative, Department of Agriculture, Thailand | ok |
| 1.6 | Introduction of the Participants | | Participants | ok |
| <i>Group Photo & Coffee/Tea Break – 15 minutes (DRR and DG representative depart meeting)</i> | | | | |
| 2. | Meeting Arrangements | | | 10:00 |
| 2.1 | Selection of Rapporteur | | Yubak GC, TC-RPPO Chair | ok |
| 2.2 | Adoption of the Agenda | 01_TC-RPPO_2025 | Yubak GC, TC-RPPO Chair | ok |
| 3. | Administrative Matters | | | |
| 3.1 | Documents list | 02_TC-RPPO_2025 | M. Almasri, IPPC | ok |
| 3.2 | Participants list | 03_TC-RPPO_2025 | R. Caplen, IPPC | ok |
| 3.3 | Local information | 04_TC-RPPO_2025 | P. Boonphun, APPPC | ok |
| <i>Coffee break – 30 minutes</i> | | | | 10:15 |
| 4. | 36 th TC-RPPO Follow Up, | | | 10:45 |

| | | | | |
|-----|---|-----------------|---|--|
| 4.1 | RPPOs provide feedback on the updated templates to collect information on Events and Pests of Concern | 05_TC-RPPO_2025 | Yubak GC, TC-RPPO Chair & All Participants | |
|-----|---|-----------------|---|--|

| Agenda Item | | Document No. | Presenter | Approx. Time |
|---|---|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Tuesday, September 23 (continued) | | | | |
| 5. | Invited Guest Presentation (approx. 30 minutes & 15minute Q&A) | | | 11:15 |
| 5.1 | Implementation of Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Exports of Crop Seeds, Vegetables, and Fruit Commodities | Presentation | Dr. Charuwat Taekul, Export Plant Quarantine Service Group, Thailand DOA | ok |
| Note: Four Additional Invited Guest Presentations on September 24 th | | | | |
| Lunch – 1 ½ h | | | | 12:00 |
| 6. | IPPC Regional Workshops & Subsidiary Bodies Updates (approx. 15 minutes each) | | | 13:30 |
| 6.1 | Conclusions and Discussions about IPPC Regional Workshops | 06_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat /All Participants | ok |
| 6.2 | Implementation & Capacity Development Committee (IC) Update | 07_TC-RPPO_2025 | | ok |
| 6.3 | Standards Committee (SC) Update - phytosanitary treatments - diagnostic protocols | 08_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| 6.4 | Update on Commodity Standards | 09_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| 6.5 | Update on Systems Approach Workshop | 10_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| 7. | IPPC Secretariat updates 15 min. | | | 14:45 |
| 7.1 | Update on POARS | 11_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| 7.2 | IPPC Regional Communications Networks and Steering Group | 12_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| Coffee break – 30 minutes | | | | 15:15 |
| 7.3 | Update on APP | 13_TC-RPPO_2025 | | ok |
| 7.4 | Update on ePhyto | 14_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| 7.5 | Update on Plant Health Campus | 15_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | |
| 7.6 | Update on Plant Health as a Component of One Health | 16_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | |
| 7.7 | Update on IPPC Observatory Activities | 17_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | |
| 7.8 | Rotating RPPO hosting of International Day for Plant Health (IDPH) | 18_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | |

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|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| 7.9 | Provisions of humanitarian aid in the phytosanitary context: survey/questionnaire on experiences, success and challenges | 19_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| 7.10 | Update on sea containers | 20_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | ok |
| 7.11 | Update on CPM Focus Group on Laboratory Diagnostic Networking | 21_TC-RPPO_2025 | IPPC Secretariat | |
| Day 1 Meeting Concludes | | | | 17:45 |
| Welcome Dinner | | | | 18:45 |

| Agenda Item | | Document No. | Presenter | Approx. Time |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------|--|--------------|
| Wednesday September 24 | | | | |
| 8. | RPPO & Other Organizations Reports <i>15 min</i> | | | 9:00 |
| 8.1 | APPPC | Presentation | Yubak | |
| 8.2 | CAHFSA | Presentation | Stippel | |
| 8.3 | CAN | Presentation | Rojas (Pre-Recorded Presentation) | |
| 8.4 | COSAVE | Presentation | Melcho | |
| 8.5 | EPPO | Presentation | Tikka (Pre-Recorded Presentation) | |
| 8.6 | IAPSC & Africa's Plant Health Strategy | Presentation | Niassy | |
| Coffee break – 30 minutes | | | | 10:30 |
| 8.7 | NAPPO | Presentation | Suazo | 11:00 |
| 8.8 | NEPPO | Presentation | Ben Jamaa | |
| 8.9 | OIRSA | Presentation | Euceda | |
| 8.10 | PPPO | Presentation | Gosai | |
| Lunch – 1 ½ h | | | | 12:00 |
| 5. (Cont.) | Invited Guest Presentations <i>(continued from Sept. 23rd)</i> | | | 13:30 |
| 5.2 | Recent Plant Protection Initiatives of the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) | Presentation | Dr. Ravi Khetrapal, APAARI | |
| 5.3 | Overview of One Health in Southeast Asia & Implications for Plant Health as a Component of One Health | Presentation | Dr. Tikiri PRIYANTHA World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), Bangkok Sub-Regional Office | |
| Coffee break – 30 minutes | | | | 15:00 |
| 5.4 | USDA-APHIS Bangkok Office: Overview on incorporation of IPPC guidance into work activities. | Presentation | Mr. Russell Duncan, USDA-APHIS | 15:30 |
| 5.5 | JIRCAS' R&D Activities for Pest and Disease Management in Southeast Asia | Presentation | Dr. Youichi KOBORI Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS) | |
| 5.6 | Discussion – connect opportunities for collaboration | | All | 17:00 |

| Thursday September 25 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 9. | Field Visit | | See Appendix for Full Itinerary | |
| 9.1 | Visit mango orchard and packing house for both domestic and export Bang Khla District, Chachoengsao Province | Field Visit | All | 08:30 to 12:00 |
| Lunch – 1 ½ h | | | | 12:00 to 13:30 |
| 9.2 | Visit plant quarantine station at Suvarnabhumi airport. Observe how plant quarantine officers examine products and plants for pests prior to export | Field Visit | All | 13:30 to 16:30 |
| Friday September 26– half-day meeting | | | | |
| 10. | TC-RPPO Action Plan | | IPPC Secretariat | 9:00 |
| 11. | Any other business | | | |
| 12. | Review/Adopt Report | | | |
| 13. | Election of new Chair, date, and location for next meeting | | | |
| 14. | Close Meeting | | | |
| 15. | Adjourn | | | 12:30 |

Appendix 2: Document list

THIRTY-SEVENTH TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS

DOCUMENT LIST

| DOCUMENT NO. | AGENDA ITEM | DOCUMENT TITLE | DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED |
|-----------------|-------------|---|------------------------------|
| 01_TC-RPPO_2025 | 2.2 | Agenda | |
| 02_TC-RPPO_2025 | 3.1 | Documents lists | |
| 03_TC-RPPO_2025 | 3.2 | Participants list | |
| 04_TC-RPPO_2025 | 3.3 | Local information | |
| 05_TC-RPPO_2025 | 4.1 | Update templates to collect RPPO communication on Events and sharing information about Pests of Concern | |
| 06_TC-RPPO_2025 | 6.1 | Conclusions and Discussions about IPPC Regional Workshops | |
| 07_TC-RPPO_2025 | 6.2 | Implementation & Capacity Development Committee (IC) Update | |
| 08_TC-RPPO_2025 | 6.3 | Standards Committee (SC) Update | |
| 09_TC-RPPO_2025 | 6.4 | Update on Commodity Standards | |
| 10_TC-RPPO_2025 | 6.5 | Update on Systems Approach Workshop | |
| 11_TC-RPPO_2025 | 7.1 | Update on POARS | |
| 12_TC-RPPO_2025 | 7.2 | IPPC Regional Communications Networks and Steering Group | |
| 13_TC-RPPO_2025 | 7.3 | Update on APP | |
| 14_TC-RPPO_2025 | 7.4 | Update on ePhyto | |
| 15_TC-RPPO_2025 | 7.5 | Update on Plant Health Campus | |

Appendix 3: Participant list

THIRTY-SEVENTH TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPANT LIST

List of members attending the meeting

A check (✓) in the last column indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting.

A (*) indicates virtual attendance.

| Present | Region/ Role | Name, mailing, address, telephone | Email address |
|---------|---|---|--|
| | Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC) | Mr Saliou NIASSE Coordinator of Interafrican Phytosanitary Council of African Union African-Union Interafrican Phytosanitary Council / Conseil Phytosanitaire Interafricain de l'Union Africaine P.O.B ox 4170 Nlongkak, Yaoundé, Cameroon Tel:(+237) 222 21 19 69, (+237) 694 89 93 40, +237 673275853 Fax:(+237) 222 21 19 67 | NiassyS@africa-union.org |
| | Near East Plant Protection Organisation (NEPPO) | Mr Mohamed Habib BEN JAMAA Executive Director Near East Plant Protection Organisation (NEPPO) NEPPO Batiment C de l'INRA, Angle des Avenues Ibn Al Ouazzani et Hassan II. Rabat. Morocco Tel:+212 537 704 810 Mobile: + 212 722114061 Fax:+212 537 7087 63 | benjamaamh@nepo.org nepo2023@gmail.com |
| | Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) | Mr Yubak DHOJ G. C. Senior Agricultural Officer (Plant Protection)FAO Regional Office for Asia (RAP) 39 Phra Atit Road Bangkok 10200, Thailand Tel: +662974268 Mobile:+66858758784 Fax:+662 6974445 | yubak.gc@fao.org ; yubak.gc@yahoo.com |
| | European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) | Mr Samuel WARNER PhD, EPPO Scientific Officer, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO/OEPP) 21 boulevard Richard Lenoir 75011 PARIS FRANCE Tel:+ 33 (0) 1 45 20 77 94 | samuel.warner@epo.int |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| | Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA) | Mr Xavier Isaac EUCEDA FÚNEZ Coordinador Regional Proyectos Sanidad Vegetal Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA) Edificio OIRSA Calle Ramón Belloso, final pasaje Isolda Colonia Escalón, San Salvador Apdo. Postal (01) 61, San Salvador El Salvador Tel:+503 2209 9200 Mobile:+503 7600 9083 Fax:+503 2263 1128 | xeuceda@oirsa.org |
| | Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA) | Mr Carlos Ramon URIAS MORALES Director Regional Sanidad Vegetal Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA) Edificio OIRSA, Calle Ramón Belloso, final pasaje Isolda. Colonia Escalón, San Salvador, Apdo. Postal (01) 61, San Salvador, El Salvador Tel:+503 2209 9200 Mobile: +503 7729 7292 Fax:+503 2263 1128 | curias@oirsa.org |
| | Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) | Ms Sairah STIPPEL Technical Assistant - Plant Health Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) | sairah.stippel@cahfsa.org |
| | North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) | Mr Alonso SUAZO-CALIX Technical Director North American Plant Protection Organization Secretariat 1730 Varsity Drive, Suite 145, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606 United States of America | alonso.suazo@NAPPO.org |
| | Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO) | Mr New AUE Chairperson for the Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO) Pacific Community (SPC) Pacific Community, Land Resources Division, Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji Tel:(+679) 337 9220 | new.auc@gov.nu |
| | Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO) | Riten Gosai Coordinator for the Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO) | riteng@spc.int |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE) | Ms Beatriz MELCHO Secretaria de Coordinación Tel: (+598) 2309 8410 ext 102 | cosave@cosave.org secretaria_coordinacion@cosave.org |
| | USDA-APHIS | Mr. Russell Duncan | russell.a.duncan@usda.gov |
| | USDA-APHIS | Dr Meera Chandra | meera.chandra@usda.gov |
| | USDA-APHIS | Dr Jitlada Vasuvat | jitlada.vasuvat@usda.gov |
| | APAARI | Dr Ravi Khetrpal | ravi.khetarpal@apaari.org |
| | APAARI | Ms Homaira Jahan SONOM | h.sonom@apaari.org ; homairasonom.sau@gmail.com |

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|--|------------------|---|--|
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| | JIRCAS | Dr. Youichi KOBORI | Koboriy0243@jircas.go.jp |
| | WOAH | Dr Tikiri PRIYANTHA | t.priyantha@woah.org |
| | Thailand DOA | Dr Charuwat Taekul | epqsg2023@yahoo.com |
| | IPPC Secretariat | Mr Russell CAPLEN Agriculturalist, organizer | russell.caplen@fao.org |
| | IPPC Secretariat | Ms Mariam ALMASRI Communication Specialist, organizer | mariam.almasri@fao.org |

| | | | |
|--|-------------|---|-----------------------------|
| | FAO Bangkok | Mr Robert Simpson Sub-Regional Representative | robert.simpson@fao.org |
| | FAO Bangkok | Dr. Takayuki Amano Agricultural Officer (Plant Protection) | Takayuki.amano@fao.org |
| | FAO Bangkok | Mr Posatorn Boonphun Administrative Assistant, organizer | posatorn.boonphun@fao.org |
| | FAO Bangkok | Mr Sridhar Dharmapuri Senior Food Safety and Nutrition Officer, organizer | sridhar.dharmapuri@fao.org |
| | FAO Bangkok | Ms Sarinna Sunkphayung Office Assistant, organizer | sarinna.sunkphayung@fao.org |

IPPC Secretariat

| | | |
|------------------|---|----|
| IPPC Secretariat | Ms. Adriana Moreira Agricultural Officer | ✓* |
| IPPC Secretariat | Mr Russel Caplen Agricultural Foreign Service Officer | ✓ |
| IPPC Secretariat | Ms Mariam ALMASRI Communication Specialist | ✓ |
