



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



International  
Plant Protection  
Convention

## **REPORT**

# **Thirty-Sixth Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations**

**Panama City, Panama  
1–4 October 2024**

**IPPC Secretariat**

Required citation:

IPPC Secretariat. 2025. *Report of the Thirty-Sixth Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations, 1–4 October 2024*. Rome. Published by FAO on behalf of the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

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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 <sup>1</sup>	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization
ePhyto	electronic phytosanitary certificate
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GICSV	Inter-American Coordinating Group in Plant Protection
IC	Implementation and Capacity Development Committee
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
IPP	International Phytosanitary Portal
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
MIDA	Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario (Ministry of Agriculture), Panama
NEPPO	Near East 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
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

<sup>1</sup> 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 Welcome by the TC-RPPO chairperson**

- [1] The Chairperson of the Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO), Raúl RODAS, Executive Director of the International Regional Organisation for Plant and Animal Health (OIRSA), opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

### **1.2 Welcome remarks from the coordinator for FAO's Subregional Office for Mesoamerica**

- [2] Adoniram SANCHES PERACI, Coordinator for FAO's Subregional Office for Mesoamerica, welcomed all participants to Panama and noted how the alignment and synergy of the TC-RPPO plays an important role in protecting plant resources. Recognizing that pests do not recognize borders, he emphasized that collaboration and interregional cooperation were essential to stopping pest threats. Mr SANCHES PERACI mentioned how RPPOs are a platform to work together, share solutions and move forward with phytosanitary goals.

### **1.3 Virtual welcome by the IPPC Secretariat**

- [3] The Officer-in-Charge for daily matters of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), Arop DENG, welcomed all participants to the TC-RPPO, and thanked Raúl RODAS for his leadership as Chairperson of the Thirty-Sixth TC-RPPO. Mr DENG underlined that the regional cooperation facilitated by RPPOs was vital to the work of the IPPC community in protecting global plant resources and facilitating safe trade. He also stressed the need for a strong pest management network.

### **1.4 Opening meeting by Panama's Minister**

- [4] A representative on behalf of Roberto LINARES, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development of Panama, welcomed participants and highlighted Panama's strategic importance in global trade, given the role of the Panama Canal as a major trade pathway. He emphasized the significance of controlling pest risks associated with wood trade and containers, and stressed Panama's active participation in IPPC initiatives. He concluded by expressing hopes for a productive meeting.

## **2. Meeting arrangements**

### **2.1 Brief introductions**

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

### **2.2 Selection of the rapporteur**

- [6] TC-RPPO members selected Nico HORN, Director-General of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) as rapporteur of the meeting.

### **2.3 Adoption of the agenda**

- [7] TC-RPPO members adopted the agenda as presented in Appendix 1 to the report. During the meeting, a recommendation was made to keep all RPPO reports in the agenda under one dedicated agenda item (6 - RPPO reports), while reports from other organizations should be addressed separately under their own agenda item (8 - Other organizations reports). Original agenda items 8.4, 8.5 and 8.6 (presentations by NAPPO, NEPPO and OIRSA, respectively) became agenda items 6.7, 6.8 and 6.9, respectively. The RPPO, the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO), did not deliver a presentation (original agenda item 8.7). Original agenda item 8.1 (presentation by NPPO – MIDA) was not delivered, and therefore agenda item 8 included 8.1 (IICA), 8.2 (FAO), 8.3 (Discussion – connect opportunities for collaboration)) and 8.4 (RPPO vacancies on the POARS, Observatory and One Health Groups). Later on in the meeting, original agenda item 4.2 (Update – harmonizing RPPO information on the IPP) was delivered under agenda item 7 (IPPC Secretariat updates), and original agenda item 4.3 (Review IPPC Regional Communications Networks and Steering Group terms of reference) was delivered first, to become agenda item (4.1).

### 3. Administrative matters

#### 3.1 Document list

- [8] The IPPC Secretariat (hereafter referred to as “the 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.

#### 3.3 Local information

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

### 4. Pending matters from the Thirty-Fifth TC-RPPO (2023) and proposals for the Thirty-Sixth TC-RPPO (2024)

#### 4.1 Review of IPPC Regional Communications Network and Steering Group terms of reference

- [11] The secretariat provided a virtual update, detailing the background of the IPPC Regional Communications Network (RCN). The secretariat explained that the network’s objectives included the establishment of seven regional networks, each with a designated communications focal point. The aim of these networks is to enhance and streamline communication efforts in alignment with FAO guidelines, while also amplifying plant health messages across the regions. Additionally, the secretariat outlined the next steps which involve forming a steering group and inviting nominations for membership.
- [12] One member inquired about the rationale for having seven networks and questioned the consideration of languages. To this inquiry, the secretariat responded that the number of networks corresponds approximately to the number of RPPO regions, and the language used would depend on the specific needs of each region.
- [13] Members also raised concerns about the potential duplication of existing platforms and the role of communications focal points. The secretariat clarified that the focal points were intended to facilitate communication between the IPPC and the regions to strengthen the overall communication between RPPOs and national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) in their respective regions; and facilitate communication between RPPOs with the secretariat, FAO regional and national offices, and with other relevant organizations. The secretariat clarified that the role was designed not to overburden members but to ensure effective two-way communication.
- [14] One member suggested that a decision be made on how to proceed with reviewing the terms of reference for the steering group, to gain a comprehensive understanding of the situation. The secretariat clarified that the terms of reference would be reviewed ahead of their presentation at the upcoming CPM Bureau October meeting. The secretariat explained that a call for members would be sent out, after which, the steering group members would be determined. It was proposed that the communications focal points could either be members or observers, depending on their role. The steering group’s main responsibility would be to provide strategic management and guidance for the network.
- [15] Members noted the three-week deadline for the call to members and requested that the terms of reference for the steering group be circulated beforehand. It was agreed that two RPPO members, Nico HORN (EPPO) and Saliou NIASSY (Inter-African Phytosanitary Council of African Union (AU-IAPSC)), would meet with the secretariat while they were in Rome for the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) October meeting, to discuss the next steps in moving forward.
- [16] The Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations:
- (1) *agreed* that the terms of reference for the steering group will be circulated, and comments provided within the next two weeks to allow for feedback and finalization to ensure it is ready for presentation at the upcoming SPG October meeting; and

- (2) *agreed* that two RPPO members, EPPO and AU-IAPSC, will meet with the secretariat to discuss next steps.

## **4.2 Update on templates to collect RPPO communication on events and sharing information on pests of concern**

- [17] Members discussed how to utilize these two templates effectively, and proposed the integration of weekly updates, narrative descriptions and event flyers. Concerns among members were noted regarding the IPPC's approval process, and participants discussed ways to streamline communication.
- [18] Regarding the template for the pests of concern, members discussed how to manage sensitive information and suggested to adjust the template based on regional needs, with the option of withholding certain pest data if needed.
- [19] Participants asked for an email list in order to send the information to other RPPOs. The secretariat agreed to develop this list and send this to all RPPOs.
- [20] The Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations:
- (3) *agreed* to test both templates with the distribution list that will be provided by the secretariat, and *agreed* that further feedback will be collected until the TC-RPPO side meeting during CPM-19 (2025).

## **5. IPPC Secretariat updates**

### **5.1 IPPC Secretariat updates of IPPC subsidiary bodies (study on e-commerce)**

- [21] The representative from the TC-RPPO in the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) presented updates on the IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce, as well as key developments within the IC. The representative began by outlining the role of the IC, which supports the implementation of IPPC strategies. The representative then provided an overview of the May 2024 meeting in Rome, where members of the IC discussed the impact of their work plan, and exchanged ideas on potential projects that the committee could support. The representative encouraged participants to attend future meetings, particularly those focused on plant health topics, and mentioned that invitations would be sent out to those interested.
- [22] The representative mentioned the IC's plan to relaunch the IPPC Observatory e-commerce survey, which aims to gather insights on how countries are managing the pest risks associated with e-commerce and postal pathways. It was emphasized that the survey's results would help guide future policymaking and capacity-building efforts. Participants were reminded to begin answering the survey early (as it must be completed by 31 October 2024) and were encouraged to contact the secretariat if they required any further assistance with completing the survey.
- [23] One member asked how information from the survey would be managed, particularly in terms of tailoring it to each country's needs. The representative responded that the study aims to balance regional interests, ensuring that the results benefit the majority, while still addressing specific needs through collaborative guidelines.

### **5.2 Conclusions on IPPC Regional Workshops**

- [24] The secretariat provided an update on the organization of the 2024 IPPC Regional Workshops. The secretariat Regional Workshop debrief, conducted through August and September 2024, indicated overall satisfaction by participants, who attributed the success of the Regional Workshops to the collaboration of RPPOs.
- [25] A number of improvements were also identified, namely financial support, training on the Online Comment System, and that IPPC representatives attend workshops in person to enhance engagement.
- [26] One member appreciated the overall environment of the workshops and noted the importance of formal recognition for NPPOs and RPPOs for their contributions.



[27] The secretariat encouraged all RPPOs to begin planning for the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops well in advance and underlined that each Regional Workshop organizing committee was encouraged to mobilize resources to support the Regional Workshop in their region.

[28] The secretariat concluded by noting that IPPC funding for the 2025 Regional Workshops is expected to remain at similar levels as 2024, unless a donor could be secured. 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 2025.

## 6. RPPO reports

[29] RPPOs presented their activities including:

- technical and capacity-development achievements;
- emerging pests and issues;
- surveillance projects and activities; and
- proposals for further collaboration.

[30] All presentations delivered by RPPOs are available on the [International Phytosanitary Portal](#).

### 6.1 Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)

[31] The APPPC representative presented a recorded presentation on its recent initiatives, including a surveillance workshop on pest freedom concepts in Bali, and a workshop on managing fruit flies in mangoes in Mumbai. The organization also conducted training in regional phytosanitary measures development and in biopesticide application in Nepal.

### 6.2 Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)

[32] CAHFSA's report covered technical capacity-building activities, improvements in policy and legislative frameworks, and updates from its working groups. A key focus was strengthening national surveillance programmes and the development of a regional priority pest list.

### 6.3 Comunidad Andina (CAN)

[33] The CAN representative presented their projects and outcomes in three primary directions: plant health, pesticide management, and agri-food safety. The organization emphasized its efficient framework for harmonizing plant protection and pesticide regulations, with lessons to be shared across regions. CAN also requested to have a presentation on the *Fusarium* TR4 simulation exercise in the side session at CPM-19 (2025).

### 6.4 Southern Cone Plant Health Committee (COSAVE)

[34] The COSAVE representative informed the change of Presidency from Argentina to Uruguay in March 2024 and the integration of the new Secretary of Coordination. The representative presented an overview of the strategic guidelines of the RPPO (2024–2025) and its activities for the year, highlighting its continued focus on strengthening interaction with public sectors, improving public-private coordination and increasing regional cooperation. The representative emphasized the importance of continuing to collaborate on future activities and welcomed further engagement in phytosanitary practices.

### 6.5 European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

[35] The EPPO representative presented its work on plant protection, including 150 standards for efficacy evaluation of plant protection products, and on Phytosanitary Regulations. The representative discussed harmonization efforts for data collection and making them available in databases, pest risk assessment, and other plant quarantine activities. EPPO's early warning system and pest risk analysis (PRA) platforms are key tools in addressing emerging pests and invasive alien plants.

### 6.6 AU-IAPSC and Africa's Plant Health Strategy

[36] The representative from the AU-IAPSC presented the objectives of Africa's Plant Health Strategy (PHSA) for Africa 2022–2036, which focuses on plant health initiatives. The representative emphasized

the importance of collaboration with international organizations, noting that political challenges and resource limitations hinder progress. However, with IPPC support, small milestones can be achieved through the PHSA. The plan focuses on long-term goals to improve plant health across Africa, acknowledging both successes and challenges in implementation.

## 6.7 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)

[37] The NAPPO representative provided an overview of its mission and governance, emphasizing its commitment to stakeholder engagement through newsletters, annual meetings, and collaborations with other organizations. They introduced the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in phytosanitary work and recommended this initiative to be included in the CPM-19 (2025) agenda for further exploration. NAPPO's updates also welcomed the involvement of Mexico in OIRSA.

[38] The IPPC representative welcomed the proposal of having a side session on AI during CPM-19 (2025).

## 6.8 Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO)

[39] The NEPPO representative shared its recent activities, including virtual pre-CPM meetings, member participation in the IPPC bodies, and expert nominations. NEPPO's ongoing projects, such as the management of red palm weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*) in Tunisia and a joint activity with EPPO for practical simulation exercises, were highlighted.

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

[40] The OIRSA representative presented its phytosanitary programmes focused on emergency response, including its Banana *Fusarium* TR4 programme, which incorporates satellite monitoring AI to assist in preventing outbreaks. The organization also conducted epidemiological risk mapping and simulations for fruit fly eradication. Their technical programmes extended to citrus management, with a focus on rapid response to citrus greening (Huanglongbing) and *Tuta absoluta*. OIRSA's international collaborations and high-level technology transfers, including partnerships with international organizations, were also highlighted.

[41] The chairperson thanked all speakers for their informative presentations.

[42] The Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations:

- (4) *supported* the request from CAN to have a presentation on the *Fusarium* TR4 simulation exercise in the side session at CPM-19 (2025); and
- (5) *agreed* to propose a side session on AI during CPM-19 (2025), pending information from NAPPO on organizing issues.

## 7. Other IPPC Secretariat updates

### 7.1 Harmonizing RPPO information on the IPP

[43] The secretariat provided a live demonstration showing how content from RPPOs could be shared on the IPP with the IPPC community. The secretariat demonstrated the processes for publishing news and updates.

[44] One member asked about the possibility of adding multiple languages, to which the secretariat confirmed that it was feasible.

[45] Another member raised the need to update RPPO listings to reflect 10 RPPOs, and suggested publishing the video on RPPOs presented during CPM-18 (2024). The secretariat confirmed that videos could be uploaded.

[46] Participants agreed to set a deadline for sending updated information by the end of October 2024.

## **7.2 Considerations on the potential role of the IPPC regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) in supporting the work of the CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid**

- [47] The secretariat provided an update on the focus group's activities. RPPOs were invited to contribute through webinars, case studies and implementation materials. Feedback from participants was encouraged, and it was noted that there would be a meeting the following week with support from the NPPO of Barbados.
- [48] OIRSA shared plans for a regional simulation in 2025, involving Panama and the Dominican Republic, because of their proximity to Haiti and ongoing humanitarian activities. The simulation will engage various stakeholders, including the military and the Red Cross, to gather critical feedback. The OIRSA representative also mentioned coordination with FAO Mesoamerica for support and guidance.
- [49] In response, the secretariat expressed support for the initiative and promised to report it to the focus group in the following week.
- [50] One member suggested to assess the impact of webinars, particularly their usefulness for NPPOs, which was acknowledged as a possible area for improvement.

## **7.3 Climate-change impacts on plant pests: technical resource to support national and regional plant protection organizations by the CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI)**

- [51] The secretariat presented the objectives of the CPM FG-CCPI: emphasizing awareness raising, enhancing pest evaluation and management, and offering technical resources. The presentation covered pest phenology changes, agricultural and environmental effects, and forecasting models. The secretariat discussed case studies from NPPOs and RPPOs that demonstrate responses to climate change.
- [52] OIRSA shared plans for the upcoming AI modelling for climate change and pest impacts. Members stressed the need for awareness campaigns, linking climate change to humanitarian efforts and the importance of harmonizing methodologies and data sharing.
- [53] In response, one member suggested including technical expertise on climate change in discussions on PRA standards.

## **8. Other organizations' reports**

- [54] Other organizations presented their activities.
- [55] All presentations delivered by other organizations are available on the [International Phytosanitary Portal](#).

### **8.1 Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)**

- [56] The IICA representative presented its programmes aimed at strengthening and modernizing capacity building in plant health, and food safety and quality. The organization emphasized its involvement in the "One Health" initiative, which integrates plant, animal and human health. Additionally, IICA is coordinating the Inter-American Coordinating Group in Plant Protection (GICSV) integrated by the RPPOs of North America and are working on a potential joint ePhyto event in 2025, with plans to involve the RPPOs and the IPPC, and conduct webinars on locust emergencies.
- [57] The chairperson thanked the representative of the IICA for his informative presentation.

### **8.2 Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

- [58] The FAO representative presented the work of the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean within the One Health framework within the region. Recent projects included capacity building in the Dominican Republic, simulation exercises in Bolivia and Ecuador, and emergency technical assistance in Venezuela.

- [59] The chairperson thanked the representative of FAO for her informative presentation.

### **8.3 Discussion – connect opportunities for collaboration**

- [60] The chairperson noted that many RPPOs developed resources for pests that were a common concern in multiple regions, and that it would be beneficial to share such resources among the TC-RPPO. One participant suggested that collecting input on resources from RPPOs would result in a richer, final product that captured a broader range of experiences.
- [61] One participant noted that by working together on pests of common concern, RPPOs could ensure that those pests were prioritized in the international agenda.
- [62] The chairperson noted that there were opportunities for RPPOs to come together and discuss points of view on key papers in advance of CPM-19 (2025).

### **8.4 RPPO vacancies on the POARS, Observatory and One Health Groups**

- [63] Three open vacancies for a representative of RPPOs were noted: one for the CPM Focus Group on Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems (POARS), one for the IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory, and one for the CPM Focus Group on Plant Health in the context of One Health.
- [64] One member expressed that the representation of RPPOs in the CPM focus groups and IC subgroup cannot depend on a few RPPOs, and that all RPPOs should contribute to these initiatives.
- [65] One member suggested to find a mechanism for focus groups members to update TC-RPPO members on the group's activities by email throughout the year and at the annual TC-RPPO meeting.
- [66] One member suggested to create a list of names of focus group, subgroup and steering group members representing the RPPOs. The representative from EPPO volunteered to share a draft.
- [67] The TC-RPPO agreed that the secretariat would reach out to APPPC and PPPO to propose these vacancies. The group also decided that there should be a procedure for filling future RPPO vacancies in the wider groups.

## **9. Field visit**

- [68] A field visit was arranged to visit The Panama Canal – Miraflores Locks, The Biomuseo – The Amador Causeway (an exhibition of natural history) and Casco Antiguo (Spanish for “Old Quarter”).

## **10. TC-RPPO action plan**

- [69] The IPPC representative presented the TC-RPPO action plan covering the group's core activities, schedule and follow-up actions for the forthcoming year.
- [70] As regards to the functioning of the TC-RPPO and the planning and agenda of the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025), the chairperson informed members that the terms of reference were updated and are available in English. He invited the RPPOs to translate the terms of reference and Rules of Procedure of the TC-RPPO into all six FAO languages. NEPPO was confirmed as the chair of the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025), who will lead for hosting and organizing the meeting. Members were encouraged to submit agenda proposals by March 2025, ensuring key phytosanitary topics are included for discussion. An item will be added to the agenda to discuss the outcomes of the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops. One member proposed that the vice-chairperson of the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025) should be decided, as that RPPO would be responsible for the Thirty-Eighth TC-RPPO (2026).
- [71] The TC-RPPO agreed that the terms of reference for the IPPC Regional Communications Network (RCN) Steering Group would be circulated among the group, to allow for feedback before the SPG October meeting. It was also agreed that representatives from EPPO and AU-IAPSC will meet with the IPPC Secretariat to discuss the next steps in advancing the establishment of the IPPC RCN.
- [72] In regard to RPPO attendance, representation and collaboration in IPPC bodies, committees and workshops, the chairperson noted that it was important for all RPPOs to attend meetings of the CPM,

where the TC-RPPO report will be presented by OIRSA. The TC-RPPO agreed that it would be beneficial to hold a side meeting during CPM-19 (2025) to discuss the organization of the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025) and future initiatives.

- [73] The TC-RPPO noted representation on IPPC bodies, with calls for RPPOs to volunteer for focus groups and other groups, including the CPM Focus Groups on POARS and Plant Health in the context of One Health, and the IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory. It was agreed that an email would be sent to the APPPC and PPPO inviting them to join these focus groups. The chairperson encouraged TC-RPPO representatives on IPPC bodies to report back to the TC-RPPO on issues of interest, and not to wait until the following TC-RPPO to provide updates.
- [74] In regard to collaboration and information exchange among RPPOs, the chairperson noted that there were opportunities for collaboration on pests of common concern, which highlighted the usefulness of the template to collect information on pests of concern. TC-RPPO members agreed to test the new templates for sharing information about pests of concern, and regional events.
- [75] The chairperson highlighted the importance of collaboration on climate change impacts on plant health. A proposal for a side session on AI during CPM-19 (2025) was agreed upon, with the aim of exploring AI's potential role in phytosanitary management and assessing its benefits and risks. NAPPO mentioned that they would return to the committee for approval before submitting the proposal for a side session on AI at CPM-19 (2025).
- [76] On broader collaboration and information exchange, RPPOs agreed to contribute to the IPPC Regional Workshops and continue providing input on the harmonization of RPPO information on the IPP web page by the end of October 2024.
- [77] The chairperson noted that the TC-RPPO Action Plan was a living document and invited all RPPOs to further add to the document their actions in support of the development agenda items (DAIs).
- [78] The Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations:
- (6) *agreed* to submit agenda proposals for the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025) by March 2025, ensuring key phytosanitary topics are covered, including the outcomes of the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops;
  - (7) *agreed* that representatives from EPPO and AU-IAPSC will meet with the IPPC Secretariat, when they are in Rome for the SPG October meeting, to discuss the next steps in advancing the establishment of the IPPC Regional Communications Network;
  - (8) *supported* the request made by the TC-RPPO to provide translation of the TC-RPPO Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure into all six FAO languages;
  - (9) *supported* the invitation of APPPC and PPPO to join CPM focus groups such as POARS and One Health, and the IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory;
  - (10) *agreed* to the proposal for a side session on AI at CPM-19 (2025); and
  - (11) *agreed* to test the new templates for sharing information about pests of concern and regional events with the distribution list that will be provided by the secretariat.

## 11. Any other business

- [79] No other business was discussed.

## 12. Review and adoption of the report

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

## 13. Selection of new chairperson; date and location for next meeting

- [81] The TC-RPPO regrets again the absence of APPPC in the annual meeting and has concerns about the interaction of APPPC with the TC-RPPO. The APPPC has deferred from the chairmanship for seven years.

- [82] The TC-RPPO is happy that NEPPO is willing to become the chairperson for the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025) in the absence of APPPC.
- [83] NEPPO proposed to host the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025) on 30 September to 3 October 2025, in Morocco (tentative location).
- [84] Members proposed that APPPC be offered the vice-chairperson for the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025).
- [85] The Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations:  
(12) *agreed* to propose that APPPC be offered the vice-chairperson of the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPO (2025).

#### **14. Close of the meeting**

- [86] The chairperson thanked the participants and organizers for their contributions and closed the meeting.



**Appendix 1: Agenda**

# **THIRTY-SIXTH TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS**

**1–4 October 2024**

Venue – Miraflores Room (mezzanine Floor (M))  
Colon 2 Room, Venue - Marriott Panama Hotel - Albrook  
Albrook Mall, Roosevelt Avenue  
Panama City, Panama

## **AGENDA**

(Updated 2024-09-06)

Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter	Approx. Time
<b>Tuesday 1 October</b>			
<b>1. Opening of the Meeting</b>			<b>9:00</b>
1.1	Welcome by the TC-RPPO Chair	Chair – Raul Rodas, Executive Director OIRSA	
1.2	Welcome by Coordinador para la Oficina Subregional de FAO-Mesoamerica	Adoniram Sanches Peraci – Coordinador para la Oficina Subregional de FAO-Mesoamerica	
1.3	Virtual welcome by acting IPPC Secretary	Acting IPPC Secretary	
1.4	Opening meeting	Minister – Roberto Linares	
<b>2. Meeting Arrangements</b>			<b>9:15</b>
2.1	Introduction of the Participants	Participants	
2.2	Selection of Rapporteur	Chair	
2.3	Adoption of the Agenda	Agenda	Chair
<b>3. Administrative Matters</b>			<b>9:30</b>
3.1	Documents list	Document	Gilmore
3.2	Participants list	Document	Gilmore
3.3	Local information	Document	Rodas
<i>Coffee break – 30 minutes</i>			9:45
<b>4. Pending matters from the 35<sup>th</sup> TC-RPPO and proposals for the 36<sup>th</sup> TC-RPPO</b>		<b>Chair</b>	<b>10:15</b>
4.1	Update templates to collect RPPO communication on Events and sharing information about Pests of Concern	Documents Events and Pests	Chair / All
4.2	Update - harmonizing RPPO information on the IPP	Discussion	Secretariat P. Sentinelli (virtual) / All
4.3	Review IPPC Regional Communications Network and Steering Group TORs	Document/Presentation	Secretariat M. Frio (Virtual) / All
<i>Lunch – 1 ½ h</i>			12:00
<b>5. IPPC Secretariat updates 10 min. Future plans</b>		<b>Chair</b>	<b>13:30</b>
5.1	IPPC Secretariat updates of IPPC subsidiary bodies (study on e-commerce)	Document	M. Nedelskji (Virtual)

5.2	Conclusions and discussions about IPPC Regional Workshops	Document and presentation	Secretariat (Gilmore) / All	
<b>6.</b>	<b>RPPO &amp; other organizations</b> <i>Reports 10 min</i>		<b>Chair</b>	<b>16:00</b>
6.1	APPPC	Presentation	Yubak (Virtual)	
6.2	CAHFSA	Presentation	Goldsmith (Virtual)	
6.3	CAN	Presentation	Rojas	
6.4	COSAVE	Presentation	Melcho	
6.5	EPPO	Presentation	Horn	
6.6	IAPSC & Africa's Plant Health Strategy	Presentation	Niassy	
<i>Welcome dinner</i>				<b>18:45</b>
<b>Wednesday 2 October</b>				
<b>7.</b>	<b>RPPO and other organizations</b> <i>Reports 10 min</i>		<b>Chair</b>	<b>8:30</b>
7.1	Considerations on the potential role of the IPPC regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) in supporting the work of the CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid	Document/Presentation	IPPC Secretariat Stirling (Virtual) / All	
<i>Coffee break – 30 minutes</i>				<b>10:30</b>
7.2	Climate-change impacts on plant pests: technical resource to support national and regional plant protection organizations by the CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues	Presentation	IPPC Secretariat Frio (Virtual)	<b>11:00</b>
<i>Lunch – 1 ½ h</i>				<b>12:30</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>RPPO &amp; other organizations</b> <i>Reports 10 min</i>		<b>Chair</b>	
8.1	Panama NPPO – MIDA	Presentation	Invited Guests (Virtual)	
8.2	IICA	Presentation	Invited Guests	
8.3	FAO	Presentation	Invited Guests	
8.4	NAPPO	Presentation	Trujillo	
8.5	NEPPO	Presentation	Ben Jamaa	
8.6	OIRSA	Presentation	Euceda	
8.7	PPPO	Presentation	Timote (Virtual)	
8.8	Discussion – connect opportunities for collaboration		All	
8.9	RPPO vacancies on the POARS, Observatory Groups and One Health	Discussion	All	<b>17:00</b>
<b>Thursday 3 October</b>				
<b>9.</b>	<b>Field Visit</b>		<b>Chair</b>	<b>7:30</b>
9.1	The Panama Canal – Miraflores Locks			
<i>Lunch – 1 ½ h</i>				<b>12:00</b>
9.2	The Biomuseo – The Amador Causeway (an exhibition of natural history)			<b>14:00</b>
9.3	Casco Antiguo (Spanish for Old Quarter)			<b>18:00</b>
<b>Friday 4 October – half-day meeting</b>				
10.0	TC-RPPO Action Plan	Document	All	
11.0	Any other business			
12.0	Review/Adopt report			
13.0	Election of new Chair, date and location for next meeting			
14.0	Close meeting			
15.0	Adjourn			<b>12:30</b>



**Appendix 2: Document list**

**THIRTY-SIXTH TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG  
REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS  
1–4 October 2024**

**DOCUMENT LIST**

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
01_TC-RPPO_2024	2.3	Agenda	18-09-2024
02_TC-RPPO_2024	3.1	Documents list	18-09-2024
03_TC-RPPO_2024	3.2	Participants list	18-09-2024
04_TC-RPPO_2024	3.3	Local information	18-09-2024
05_TC-RPPO_2024	4.1	Update templates to collect RPPO communication on events and sharing information about Pests of Concern	18-09-2024
06_TC-RPPO_2024	4.2	Update – harmonizing RPPO information on the IPP	18-09-2024
07_TC-RPPO_2024	4.3	Review IPPC Regional Communications Networks and Steering Group TORs	18-09-2024
08_TC-RPPO_2024	5.1	IPPC Secretariat updates of IPPC Subsidiary Bodies (study on e-commerce)	18-09-2024
9_TC-RPPO_2024	5.2	Conclusions and discussions about IPPC Regional Workshops	18-09-2024
10_TC-RPPO_2024	6.1	APPPC - Presentation	
11_TC-RPPO_2024	6.2	CAHFSA - Presentation	
12_TC-RPPO_2024	6.3	CAN - Presentation	
13_TC-RPPO_2024	6.4	COSAVE - Presentation	Shared during the meeting
14_TC-RPPO_2024	6.5	EPPO - Presentation	
15_TC-RPPO_2024	6.6	IAPSC and Africa's Plant Health Strategy - Presentation	
16_TC-RPPO_2024	7.1	Considerations on the potential role of the IPPC Regional plant protection organizations (RPPOS) in Supporting the work of the CPM Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid	18-09-2024
17_TC-RPPO_2024	7.2	Climate-change impacts on plant pests: technical resource to support national and regional plant protection organizations by the CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues	18-09-2024
18_TC-RPPO_2024	8.1	Panama NPPO - MIDA	

**Appendix 3: Participant list**

**THIRTY-SIXTH TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG  
REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS  
1–4 October 2024**

**PARTICIPANT LIST**

*List of members attending the meeting*

(Updated 2024-10-15)

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

	Organization/Region	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address	Present
1	Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU-IAPSC)	<b>Mr Saliou NIASSY</b> Coordinator Inter-African Phytosanitary Council of the African Union (AU- IAPSC) 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	✓
2	Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO)	<b>Mr Mohamed Habib BEN JAMAA</b> Executive Director, Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) Rabat, Morocco Tel: +212 537 704 810 Mobile: + 212 722114061 Fax: +212 537 7087 63	benjamaamh@neppo.org; neppo2023@gmail.com	✓
3	Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)	<b>Mr Yubak DHOJ G. C.</b> Senior Agricultural Officer (Plant Protection) FAO Regional Office for Asia (RAP) Bangkok, Thailand Tel: +662974268 Mobile: +66858758784 Fax: +662 6974445	yubak.gc@fao.org; yubak.gc@yahoo.com	✓*
4	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)	<b>Mr Nico M. HORN</b> Director-General European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO/OEPP) Paris, France Tel: + 33 (0) 1 45 20 77 94	nico.horn@epo.int	✓
5	Comunidad Andina (CAN)	<b>Ms Katty Rojas QUIROGA</b> Plant Health Specialist Head of the Andean Community (CAN) Lima, Peru	krojas@comunidadandina.org	✓
6	International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)	<b>Mr Raul RODAS</b> Executive Director International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA) San Salvado, El Salvador Apdo. Postal (01) 61, San Salvador El Salvador Tel: +503 2263 1127 Mobile: +503 7737 9999	dejecutiva@oirsa.org; rrodas@oirsa.org; svegetal@oirsa.org	✓

	Organization/Region	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address	Present
		Fax: +503 2263 1128		
7	International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)	<b>Mr Xavier Isaac EUCEDA FÚNEZ</b> Regional Coordinator for Plant Health Projects International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA) San Salvador, El Salvador Tel: +503 2209 9200 Mobile: +503 7600 9083 Fax: +503 2263 1128	xeuceda@oirsa.org	✓
8	International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)	<b>Mr Carlos Ramon URIAS MORALES</b> Regional Director of Plant Health International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA) San Salvador, El Salvador Tel: +503 2209 9200 Mobile: +503 7729 7292 Fax: +503 2263 1128	curias@oirsa.org	✓
9	International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)	<b>Mr Cesar Junior Alifonzo MUNOZ</b> Technical Assistant-Specialist International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA) San Salvador, El Salvador Tel: +503 2209 9200	califonzo@oirsa.org	✓
10	Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)	<b>Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH</b> Plant Health Specialist Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) Paramaribo, Suriname Tel: + 597 422 546 Mobile: + 597-725 2922	Juliet.goldsmith@cahfsa.org; rppo.secretariat@cahfsa.org	✓*
11	Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)	<b>Ms Sairah STIPPEL</b> Technical Assistant Plant Health Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)	sairah.stippel@cahfsa.org	✓*
12	North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)	<b>Mr Javier TRUJILLO</b> Chief Scientist North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Secretariat United States of America Tel: (919) 617-4040 (office) Tel: +52 55 5409 8876 (mobile)	javier.trujillo@NAPPO.org	✓
13	North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)	<b>Mr Alonso SUAZO-CALIX</b> Technical Director North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Secretariat United States of America	alonso.suazo@NAPPO.org	✓
14	North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)	<b>Mr Nedelka MARÍN-MARTÍNEZ</b> Translation Specialist North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Secretariat United States of America	nedelka.marin-martinez@NAPPO.org	✓

	Organization/Region	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address	Present
15	Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO)	<b>Mr Visoni TIMOTE</b> Executive Secretary Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Pacific Community (SPC) Land Resources Division Suva, Fiji Tel: (+679) 337 9220 or (+679) 337 0733 Ext:35220 Mobile: (+679) 863 3542 Fax: (+679) 337 0021	visonit@spc.int; timotev@gmail.com	✓*
16	Southern Cone Plant Health Committee (COSAVE)	<b>Ms Beatriz MELCHO</b> Secretary Coordinator Southern Cone Plant Health Committee (COSAVE) Tel: (+598) 2309 8410	cosave@cosave.org secretaria_coordinacion@cosave.org	✓
17	COSAVE – the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC)	<b>Ms Melisa NEDILSKYJ</b> Ing. Plant Protection Specialist NPPO of Argentina Representative of RPPOs in the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) of the IPPC	mnedilsk@senasa.gob.ar	✓*
18	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	<b>Mr Rodrigo ASTETE</b> International Specialist Sanidad Agropecuariae Inocuidad de los Alimentos (SAIA) [Agricultural Health and Food Safety] Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Tel: +56 9 9872 7706	rodrigo.astete@iica.int	✓*
19	FAO Panama	<b>Mr Adoniram SANCHES PERACI</b> Sub-Regional Coordinator FAO Panama	adoniram.sanches@fao.org	✓
20	FAO Panama	<b>Ms Raixa Elena LLAUGERRIVERÓN</b> Agricultural Officer FAO Panama	raixa.llauger@fao.org	✓
21	Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), Panama	<b>Dr Emmeris QUINTERO</b>		✓
22	Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), Panama	<b>Ms Stephanie CASTILLO</b>	stcastillo@mida.gob.pa	✓
23	Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), Panama	<b>Mr Luis ALVARADO</b>	lalvarado@mida.gob.pa	✓
24	Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), Panama	<b>Mr Marcos BUITRAGO</b>	mbuitrago@mida.gob.pa	✓
25	Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA), Panama	<b>Mr Militz SANCHE</b>	mi.sancho@mida.gob.pa	✓
26	USDA / APHIS	<b>Mr Robert APPLER</b>	robert.appler@usda.gov	✓
27	NAPPO	<b>Mrs Nedelka MARIN-MARTINEZ</b>	nedelka.marin-martinez@nappo.org	✓

IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Arop DENG</b> Agricultural Officer	✓*
IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr John GILMORE</b> Agricultural Foreign Service Officer	✓
IPPC Secretariat	<b>Ms Paola SENTINELLI</b> IPPC Knowledge Management Specialist	✓*
IPPC Secretariat	<b>Ms Colleen STIRLING</b> Standard Setting Unit Specialist	✓*
IPPC Secretariat	<b>Ms Mariam ALMASRI</b> Communication Specialist	✓
IPPC Secretariat	<b>Ms Mutya FRIO</b> Communication Specialist	✓*