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**Report on the 28th Technical Consultation (TC) among Regional Plant
Protection Organizations (RPPOs)**

Agenda item 12.2

Prepared by the Near East Plant Protection Organization - NEPPO

English only

1. The 28th Technical Consultation among regional plant protection organizations (TC-RPPOs) was hosted by the Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) in collaboration with the Moroccan Department of Agriculture, The National Office for Health Security of Food Products (ONSSA), which is the Moroccan NPPO. The meeting was held in Rabat from November 14 to 18 2016. Present at the Consultation were representatives of the IPPC Secretariat, the CPM Bureau and nine RPPOs:
 - Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC),
 - Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE),
 - Comunidad Andina (CA),
 - European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO),
 - Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC),
 - North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO),
 - Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO),
 - Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA), and Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO).
 - The Caribbean Agricultural Health Food Security Agency (CAHFSA) attended as observer.

For the first time, all RPPOs plus the potential future RPPO (of the Caribbean region) were together.

2. The full report of the meeting is available at <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/international-cooperation/partners/technical-consultation-among-rppos/2016-27th-tc-among-rppos-1/>

I. Pending matters from the 27th Technical Consultation

Status of RPPO roles and functions document – The IPPC Secretariat indicated that the Bureau did not make any change to the document on RPPO roles and functions. The contribution of the RPPOs in the elaboration of this document was acknowledged and added to the document. The TC-RPPO recognized that a modification to this document might be needed at CPM-12 when the new name of the IPPC implementation subsidiary body is decided and/or its functions are agreed upon. A suggestion was made to engage FAO Regional and sub-regional Offices as necessary to ensure continuity of work, particularly when dealing with projects.

The TC-RPPO suggested that:

- The RPPOs should be prepared to amend the document at CPM-12 to account for the decisions, where relevant, on the establishment of the implementation and capacity development subsidiary body;
- the FAO Regional and/or sub-regional Offices of the hosting region are to be invited to attend future TC-RPPO and virtual meetings, as appropriate.

Status of a Caribbean RPPO – Regarding the Caribbean RPPO, the Secretariat:

- indicated that a consultation between countries in the Caribbean and the FAO Legal Service (LEGA) was held early in the year on how to move forward with the creation of the RPPO;
- informed that LEGA and IPPC advised on the requirements for recognition of any entity as an RPPO;
- informed that countries in the region came to the conclusion that CAHFSA meets the criteria to be recognized as an RPPO and should be considered a better option;

- would provide CAHFSA with the current procedures for the establishment of an RPPO, as well as ensure that FAO legal advice continues to be provided to CAHFSA as it prepares to assume its role as an RPPO.

The TC-RPPO reaffirmed:

- its commitment to support the Caribbean to establish its RPPO and welcomed the progress made so far.

II. IPPC Secretariat Updates

IPPC Secretariat – The TC-RPPO was updated on the activities of the Secretariat on Standard Setting, National Reporting Obligations, Implementation Facilitation, its projects including recent new initiatives, the Implementation Pilot Programme on pest surveillance, the Implementation Review and Support System and IPPC Regional Workshops. Information was also provided on the outcome of the focus group to establish a new IPPC subsidiary body on Implementation. The IPPC Secretary reaffirmed that following CPM-11, the focus will be on implementation, on IYPH activities and on emerging pest issues. He confirmed that CPM-12 would be held in the Republic of South Korea.

Bureau – The Bureau representative gave an update of the Bureau meeting held in the past (?) year. He highlighted several of the Bureau decisions and urged the RPPOs to consider them in their workplans.

RPPOs update on follow-up actions from CPM – Several RPPOs provided an update on their activities in line with the key elements of the workplan outlined in the presentation done by NAPPO during CPM-11.

III. Review of the RPPO Activities

Each RPPO informed on their regional activities over the past year related to the following:

1. Specificities of the RPPO
2. Technical and capacity development achievements
3. Emerging pests and issues
4. Surveillance projects and activities
5. Proposals for further collaboration

Details for each RPPO can be found in the full Technical Consultation report

The RPPOs discussed the need for developing training material on PRA, including on pest modelling and how it can inform PRA. EPPPO and NAPPO offered their help in this project. The RPPOs discussed and reaffirmed interest in the implementation of ePhyto in their respective regions.

The RPPOs exchanged information on how they are resourced, their staffing and language requirements. The great heterogeneity among RPPOs concerning the above was noted.

The RPPOs agreed that:

- They would provide 3 to 5 pictures of their respective regions related to the plant health for the IPPC calendar and the 2017 theme plant health and trade facilitation.

IV. Brainstorming and discussion: enhancing technical cooperation among RPPOs and NPPOs

State of Plant Protection in the World – The Secretariat indicated that in relation with the State of Plant Protection in the World (SPPW), during the 2016 SPG, KEPHIS (the Kenyan NPPO) had made a proposal for the organization of a regular phytosanitary conference with different topics which could address the SPPW. Kenya will further elaborate its proposal and present it during the 2017 SPG. The Secretariat suggested that the RPPOs could be associated to this topic and asked their views on this proposal.

The TC-RPPO considered that:

- The objective and focus of this event should be further detailed.
- RPPOs will consult and provide their suggestions to the Secretariat on their possible contribution to the SPPW and the proposal made by Kenya by the end of January. EPPO will coordinate this consultation.

Implementation pilot project on surveillance –

The Secretariat informed on

- the IPPC call for technical resources;
- the informal working group on the IPPC Implementation Pilot Project on Surveillance (Bangkok, Thailand, 11-12/06/2016);
- the revision of ISPM 6 “Guidelines for surveillance”;
- the session on the implementation pilot on surveillance during 2016 IPPC Regional Workshops; and
- the collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency on fruit fly work.

The Secretariat invited the RPPOs to promote the IPPC pilot project on surveillance within their member countries

Activities on IYPH – The IPPC Secretary informed

- on the 1st steering committee on the IYPH, held on 7-9 November, this committee will meet twice a year;
- that there was almost a 100% attendance with active participation;
- That the meeting would in the future be open to stakeholders from the private sector;
- that the 2020 IYPH is in the process of being officially approved by the FAO Conference;
- that upon FAO approval, the steering group will be merged with the FAO IYPH coordinating group, and FAO will lead the process;
- that further to the steering committee, 3 working groups would be established, one on finance, one on planning and one on communication and advocacy;
- that the IPPC received financial support for the IYPH from Ireland, China, the Republic of Korea and the USA;
- that factsheets will be developed on each thematic year as advocacy material;
- that a logo for the IYPH will be developed;
- and suggested that a network of contributors for the IYPH be established, with each region having an IYPH working group to plan for at least 2 or 3 activities.

The TC-RPPO agreed to:

- Promote the IYPH within their regions, either by creating working groups, or by simply mentioning the initiative during their events.

National Reporting Obligations – The Secretariat informed that..

- a series of advocacy materials was prepared, including a guide for IPPC contact points and editors, and reminders automatically sent to them;
- additional script for 5 e-learning on NROs are under preparation and should be available by June 2017;
- a monthly NROs update is issued every month in 5 languages;
- regular assistance is also provided to editors and contact points;
- a workshop on NROs was held in China for the Asian region, and similar workshops are expected to be conducted in other regions over the coming years.

The TC-RPPO:

- noted the activities on NROs and was invited to promote the NROs within their member countries.
- invited the Secretariat to fix bugs in the IPP to improve reporting of NROs as early as possible to avoid discouraging its users from contributing.

Implementation and Review Support System (IRSS) – The Secretariat updated on:

- the future plans of the IRSS including the launch of the new IRSS webpage;
- the launch of 2016 IPPC General Survey;
- a Secretariat training on the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework;
- the questionnaire on global emerging risks;
- resource mobilization for the global funding support initiative (GEF);
- the IRSS study in progress – Analyzing the benefits of implementing the IPPC;
- the development of a contracting party donor guidance; the preparation of a CPM-12 side session on the benefits of the IPPC; and,
- the study on Diversion from Intended Use (DFIU).

The TC-RPPO:

- noted the IRSS activities.
- agreed that NAPPO would lead the aggregation of comments from RPPOs on DFIU to be provided to the Secretariat by the 1st of May to be submitted to the Bureau in June 2017. NAPPO will circulate to the RPPOs the document being prepared by NAPPO as a starting point.
- the RPPOs will also meet during CPM-12 to discuss this issue, among others.

2017 theme “IPPC and Trade Facilitation” – The Secretariat informed that a small working group is expected to be established to manage the thematic year and to coordinate all planned activities for the year 2017.

The TC agreed:

- To promote the 2017 theme flyer to be published by the IPPC Secretariat in their publications.

Transboundary pests – RPPOs and research centers – NAPPO presented the proposal for RPPOs to interact with the CGIAR centers and other research entities to share information on current or past work being done on emerging pests of common interest. The RPPOs welcomed the idea and offered a number of ways this could be done including a suggestion on several pests. The Secretariat offered to host the page on the phytosanitary.info site for compiling the information volunteered through this initiative.

The TC agreed:

- That COSAVE would produce a document to exchange its experience on the activities undertaken with research centers by the 13th of the February.
- CAN will draft a pilot document by the 13th of February on the existing research projects and institutions involved on *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense*, with indications on the best way to provide this information on a website. Other RPPOs will be invited to contribute to this work.

The IPPC Secretariat would explore how this information can be published on the phytosanitary.info webpage with the CDC

EUPHRESKO network for phytosanitary research co-ordination and funding – EPPO presented the EUPHRESKO network of research funders and managers. New members were welcome and EUPHRESKO could now become a global network or be a model for other regions.

Recommendations on ISPM 15 from the NAPPO workshop – NAPPO reported that a workshop to implement ISPM 15 with emphasis on the Americas was held in Costa Rica Aug. 29 – Sept. 3, 2016 and presented the recommendations made by the participants. The workshop was organized by NAPPO in cooperation with CAN, COSAVE, OIRSA, IICA and the NPPO of Costa Rica. NAPPO indicated that all the information is available on the NAPPO website and indicated that the IPPC explanatory document on ISPM 15 will be translated into Spanish and French.

The TC-RPPO agreed:

- To consider to organize a similar workshop between EPPO, NEPPO and IAPSC.

V. TC among RPPOs – Action Points

The TC discussed the 2017 action points and agreed on the activities indicated in the table below.

Activity / Topic		Responsible body
1	Investigate an operative mechanism for pest reporting through RPPOs	Secretariat All RPPOs
2	a) Continue work to arrange recognition of a RPPO for the Caribbean and b) Cooperate in the technical aspects of its establishment.	Secretariat All RPPOs
3	RPPOs support to IPPC Regional Workshops and IPPC Workshops on NROs	All RPPOs
4	Contingency planning or systems approaches - On HLB: EPPO, OIRSA, CAN, NEPPO and COSAVE. - Fruit flies through the surveillance pilot project: IPPC, IAEA, all RPPOs	All RPPOs Secretariat

	Activity / Topic	Responsible body
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense</i>: OIRSA, CAN, CAHFSA, COSAVE, IAPSC - <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>: NEPPO, EPPO, with information from OIRSA, COSAVE, CAN 	
	Collabotation on research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense</i>: CAN initiative to develop mechanism to collect information on research activities with all RPPOs to contribute by providing the link to their researchers 	CAN to lead the work with contribution from all RPPOs
5	e-Phyto: encourage all NPPOs to participate in developments and exchange of information.	All RPPOs Secretariat
6	RPPOs input into the IRSS (Implementation review and support system).	All RPPOs Secretariat
7	Translate the Roles and Functions of RPPOs in the framework of the IPPC by the 15 th of December.	NAPPO for ES, NEPPO for AR, EPPO for FR & RU
8	Management of preparations for further TC meetings – periodic communication to provide updates and reminders.	All RPPOs Secretariat EPPO for 2017 planning
9	Support activities intended to encourage NPPOs to implement the Convention and the standards and particularly implementation programs. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Possible increased involvement by RPPOs in capacity development activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Facilitation of the fulfilment of NROs b) Support the implementation pilot project on surveillance c) Holding workshops on implementation, in particular on ISPM 15. d) Support to initiatives on ISPM 23, 31 and pest free areas. 	All RPPOs EPPO/NEPPO to consider ISPM 15 workshop with contribution from IAPSC
10	Discussion on new concepts of strategic value for the Convention	All RPPOs

Activity / Topic		Responsible body
11	Consideration of specific requests coming from the Bureau and CPM bodies	All RPPOs
12	IYPH and annual themes, including participation of RPPO representatives in the steering group	Secretariat All RPPOs
15	RPPO representation in IPPC governing bodies	RPPOs
16	Present RPPO activities to CPM and participate in side events	RPPOs NEPPO to present at CPM 12

The TC-RPPO agreed:

- I. That analysis should be performed on the emerging pests and categories of lists of pests.
- II. To collaborate on initiatives concerning inspection.
- III. To contribute to the call on diagnostic resources and biological collections.

VI. Special and side sessions topics for CPM-12 (2017) and CPM-13 (2018)

The Secretariat presented information on the Special topic session and side session to be organized during CPM-12 respectively on e-commerce and on the benefits of implementing the IPPC. EPPO proposed that a CPM side session in 2018 be organized on science and plant health with an emphasis on EUPHRESKO.

The TC-RPPO agreed to:

- Provide experiences and information on e-commerce and on case studies on the benefits in implementing the IPPC in their region by the 19th of December.
- Contribute to a joint side event during CPM-13 to be by EPPO related to science and plant health.

VII. Other Business

Attendance of RPPOs to other IPPC meetings – NEPPO will report to CPM-12 on the review of this document and inform that the TC would like to preserve specific roles and functions and add new areas for their participation (e.g. enhancement study, implementation plan, the IYPH).

IPPC 65th anniversary – The TC was updated on what is planned during CPM-12 for the 65th anniversary of the IPPC. *The TC agreed to promote the IPPC 65th anniversary through their channels.*

VIII. Date and location of the twenty-eight TC-RPPOs

The TC-RPPOs agreed that the next Technical Consultation will be held during the period of 27 November to 1 December 2017, in Paris, France. The TC thanked EPPO for offering to host the meeting. NAPPO and NEPPO shall assist EPPO with the organization of the meeting.

CPM is invited to

- 1) *note* the report.