



COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Twelfth Session

Incheon, Republic of Korea , 5-11 April 2017

Summary of the Strategic Planning Group report

Agenda item 8.1

Prepared by the Chair of the SPG

1. The Strategic Planning Group (SPG) meeting was held in Rome from 4-6 October 2016. Over 30 participants attended the meeting, who came from more than over 25 IPPC contracting parties as well as all team leaders of the IPPC Secretariat. While this report brings some key points to the CPM's attention, a number of specific recommendations from SPG are included in other CPM agenda papers. The full SPG report is available on the IPP
2. The theme of the SPG was "IPPC Contribution to Achieving UN 2030 SDGS"; Mr. Jingyuan Xia, the IPPC Secretary presented a Keynote elaborating on the theme. As a result of discussion afterwards, the SPG supported that the IPPC programs be closely tied to the SDGs.
3. The SPG meeting was the official launch of the development of the IPPC Strategic Framework from 2020 to 2030. Consensus in the SPG was reached on the strategic objectives in the document offered by the drafters. As a result of the discussion, five priority initiatives were identified: (1) Commodity standards to harmonize and simplify rules-based trade, (2) Strengthened focus on implementation of the Convention and the ISPMs, (3) Enhanced communication and advocacy of the IPPC; (4) Electronic systems to facilitate trade and generic certification systems; and (5) Monitoring plant health and IPPC impact. One significant contribution from the SPG was that the group considered an enhanced role for RPPOs in capacity development and implementation to be of considerable strategic importance. The consensus of the SPG was that a specific timeline should be followed which would include a technical consultation between 2018 and 2019 to negotiate the strategic framework and a financial mechanism in advance of a 2020 ministerial meeting. The next step to be taken after that would be to have the CPM in 2019 to adopt the strategic framework, with the Ministerial CPM adopting the framework in the 2020.

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4. SPG received an update on the IYPH, to share again at this CPM, and was informed that the IPPC has dedicated a page for IYPH. SPG discussed potential plans for the thematic years of 2017 “Plant health and trade facilitation” and 2018 “Plant health and environmental protection”.
5. While discussing the review of the global plant health situation, SPG welcomed a general proposal from Kenya to host an International Phytosanitary Conference. There was a general consensus that this proposal has merit, and the SPG requested a discussion paper for the next SPG with greater detail on such a conference.
6. Other important discussion topics for the SPG were the development of a sustainable funding mechanism for the IPPC Secretariat, how to have the Secretariat deal with plant health emergencies (including how to obtain the resources to do so). The issue of sustainably funding the IPPC also was a key part of last year’s SPG meeting, with emerging issues, short and long term funding ideas all discussed. The emerging issues topic was considered vital to the IPPC, and the SPG recommended that the topic of emerging pests continue as a standing agenda item to the TC-RPPO. On short and long-term funding, there was a strong recommendation to establish a voluntary assessed contribution mechanism. Other funding suggestions included: the introduction of a levy on phytosanitary certificates, using IYPH as a basis for soliciting funds and the use of a pay-as-you-go” approach. These will be the subject of discussion later on in the SPG agenda, and they are very important for this CPM to consider and make recommendations. The SPG discussed a potential donors conference and provided thoughts regarding putting such a meeting together. The SPG endorsed both a ministerial and a donor’s conference for the IPPC, and encouraged the Secretariat to continue planning for both events in the future.
7. As far as implementation, the SPG received a report on the focus group for the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee, as well as a review of the proposed terms of reference for the new proposed body. The SPG recommended that the NROAG, TRG, and SBDS be dissolved at the same time as the IC is established and the functions and procedures of these committees be transferred to the IC.
8. While we have a lot to do before we arrive at the IYPH in 2020 as well as in preparing the strategic framework for 2020 to 2030, this SPG has provided a strong basis from which to move forward.
9. Over the years, some members of the IPPC community had been of the opinion that the SPG was outliving its usefulness; however, it seems that this is no longer the case. Over the past three years, we have seen the SPG develop into a true strategic think tank for the Convention, and with this year’s focus on our strategy for the future to 2030, as well as great discussions on the International Year of Plant Health. I believe that this will be evident in the discussions we will be having this week and into the future.