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# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Twelfth Session

**Incheon, Republic of Korea , 5-11 April 2017**

**Report from the CPM Chairperson**

**Agenda item 6**

**Prepared by the CPM Chairperson**

1. The twelfth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures marks a number of important milestones for the IPPC. We celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Convention and it is symbolic that we do this with the first ever CPM meeting outside of Rome, hosted by the Republic of Korea. I would like to acknowledge with sincere thanks and appreciation the Government of the Republic of Korea; Mr Kim Jae Soo, Minister of Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; Mr Park Bongkyun, Commissioner of Korean NPPO Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency, Ms Yim Kyu-Ock; Ms Park Hongsook and her organising team, as well as the IPPC Secretariat and FAO. This has taken a tremendous effort and I know that the meeting will be very successful.

2. On behalf of all contracting parties I am very pleased to welcome the Republic of Gambia to the IPPC community which brought the number of contracting parties to 183. I encourage those countries that are not contracting parties of the convention to seriously consider joining us.

3. In a year of firsts the Bureau held its first ever meeting outside of Rome, being warmly hosted in Beijing, China. This gave the new Bureau an opportunity to get to know each other and establish a strong relationship with the Secretariat. We were able to see something of plant protection in China through the many friends of Mr Xia.

4. In taking on the role of CPM Chair last year, I mentioned five activities that I believe are critical to positioning the IPPC as a mature and relevant organisation that is vital to enabling the achievement of FAO and global development goals. These were:

- 1) Implementing the Implementation Facilitation oversight and governance arrangements to direct this critical work of the Commission

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- 2) Increasing awareness of the value of the IPPC to food security, environment and biodiversity protection and trade facilitation
- 3) Developing the strategic framework for the IPPC through 2020 – 2030
- 4) Agreeing and implementing a sustainable funding strategy for the strategic framework and ensuring ongoing investment in the interim
- 5) Ensuring every effort is made to secure the International Year of Plant Health in 2020 by the United Nations.

5. The work undertaken between CPM meetings is critical to achieving these outcomes and the decisions taken by CPM must enable and support the intersessional activities towards them.

6. The Focus Group that was kindly hosted by EPPO in Paris successfully drafted the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the proposed IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Committee. This would not have been possible without the significant input of the Secretary and Secretariat staff, who both coordinated the meeting and contributed their wealth of experience and expertise.

7. The annual themes, starting with Plant Health and Food Security, have significantly raised the profile of the IPPC – both in Rome and further afield. Several seminars, a side session and resultant engagement within FAO have put the IPPC firmly on the map. This will be further enhanced with the 2017 theme to advocate the importance of Plant Health and Trade Facilitation. Our flagship trade facilitation initiative, ePhyto, is now firmly funded and progressing, with pilot implementation planned this year.

8. A successful Strategic Planning Group meeting looked into the future to help shape the 2020-2030 Strategic Framework and the difficult task of ensuring it is funded. I encourage everyone to have a good think about the future of the IPPC, its role and function, and its funding and be prepared to actively contribute to the CPM discussion of the strategic framework and the sustainable funding paper. Is this going in the right direction? Is there anything missing? What would the IPPC as an organisation look like and how would it work under this vision?

9. It is a testament to the enthusiasm of a number of countries and individuals that the IYPH concept has been agreed by FAO Council and favoured by Conference. The inaugural meeting of the IYPH Steering Committee in November 2016 has established a solid platform for the final push towards approval and proclamation of the year by the United Nations General Assembly in 2018.

10. We risk taking for granted the activities and efforts that sustain the core activities of the IPPC and I would also like to acknowledge the significant contributions of many people to the outcomes that have been achieved this year. To name just a few of these outcomes:

11. An unprecedented number of standards are proposed to CPM for adoption. This is the culmination of many years of work by the Standards Committee and its Technical Panels

12. The highly successful regional workshops, which combined capacity development with standard setting in regional context

13. The coordination of the *Xylella* symposium at Bari, Italy in April by the Secretariat

14. The outcomes that can be achieved by the IPPC are, in the short term, tied to available resourcing. This means that prioritisation is essential so that core functions and critical additional activities that progress the Convention outcomes are appropriately resourced. I acknowledge, with sincere thanks, the successful efforts of the Secretariat and the commitment of donors, which together have created opportunities for ongoing and additional resourcing of the IPPC.

15. The outcomes achieved by the activities outlined in this report would not have been possible without the participation and support of the hundreds of people who involved themselves in meetings

of the CPM and subsidiary bodies, capacity development activities, IPPC standards setting and information sharing processes including surveys, technical resources and contact points, contribution of resources as cash or in-kind, as well as regional and national plant health and protection actions. I encourage everyone to continue to working together to ensure that the IPPC is globally respected as the world leader for plant protection.

16. Finally, I wish to express my appreciation for the commitment and passion of Mr Xia and the Secretariat team. We would not have achieved what we have without them.

17. A bright future awaits, but we must actively reach out and make it happen.

18. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *Note* the Report from the CPM Chairperson