TC-RPPO

**30 October – 3 November, 2017**

Paris, France

Seeking regional input on International Year of Plant Health

# IYPH latest developments

The International Year of Plant Health Steering Committee (IYPH StC) convened its second meeting in Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 12-13 April 2017, on the margins of the twelfth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-12), which had just adopted the IYPH outputs and outcomes document[[1]](#footnote-1). During the meeting, members reviewed the action plan arising from the first meeting, planned for the support to be given for the proclamation process at the following FAO Conference, and developed an IYPH Communications Plan[[2]](#footnote-2).

The 40th Session of the FAO Conference, held 3-8 July 2017, adopted Resolution 5/2017 on the declaration of the year 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health.[[3]](#footnote-3)

The third meeting of the IYPH StC will take place at FAO-HQ in Rome from 8 to 10 November 2017. For the first time, an international organization, namely the International Seed Federation, will be invited to attend as an observer. The agenda for the meeting will include follow-up and updates on the IYPH communications plan, discussion of partnership development, and initiation of the IYPH 2020 programme development.

The final step towards the IYPH proclamation will be the tabling of the IYPH resolution to the Second Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September 2018. In this context, co-sponsors, particularly from developing countries, are needed to support the proposal to be made by Finland.

Development of a list of IYPH events and activities

A series of events has been and will be planned to support the IYPH proclamation process, and more generally to raise awareness on the importance of plant health and its links to the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030.

For the first time, a side event on Plant Health and Climate Change will be organized at the Conference of the Parties at the UNFCCC (COP23). The side event will be held on 12 November in Bonn with speakers from FAO, the IPPC Secretariat, Tonga, Australia, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and Finland.

The IYPH StC is developing a list of IYPH events and activities at the global, regional and national level. The list will be a living document, and it will be distributed to all contracting parties, along with a template on how to organize those events. In fact, such a list will be instrumental in assessing the IYPH success after 2020.

2017 IPPC regional workshops feedback

In 2017, seven IPPC regional workshops were organized in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Near East and North Africa, Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Southwest Pacific, and the Caribbean. A total number of 206 participants from 117 countries benefited from the workshops.

A session was dedicated to update the participants on the latest achievements regarding the IYPH and to gather their inputs and choices for topics of international, regional and national events. The presentation is available on the IPP[[4]](#footnote-4).

During regional workshops, ideas for an International Plant Health Conference in 2020 (in addition to a Ministerial-level CPM meeting) were raised. Some of the most recurrent topics included:

* plant health and food safety;
* plant health and food security;
* plant health and economic development / new technologies;
* tourism and the spread of pests.

Based on the information provided in this paper, RPPOs are requested to:

* *Reflect* on the proposed topics for an International Plant Health Conference in 2020.
* *Gather additional information* by NPPOs or *propose* additional IYPH events and activities.
* *Share* this information with their regional representatives in the IYPH StC, to contribute to the list of IYPH events and activities.
* *Provide* any additional feedback on the IYPH programme development to the IYPH StC.
* *Identify and promote* Contracting Parties within regions to co-sponsor the “IYPH resolution to the Second Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA” in September 2018

1. Adopted Outputs and Outcomes of the IYPH, Appendix 13 of CPM-12 (2017) Report (p. 89): <https://www.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2017/05/CPM-12_Report-2017-05-30_withISPMs.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. IYPH Communications Plan, Annex 3 to IYPH StC Report (pp. 17-25), to be considered as a living document: <https://www.ippc.int/static/media/uploads/iyph/2017/06/30/Report_for_the_2nd_IYPH-StC_Meeting-2017-05-10.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Report of the 40th Session of the FAO Conference (Appendix F, p. 51): <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mu208e.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 2017 IPPC regional workshop presentation “The International Year of Plant Health (IYPH)” <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/84603/> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)