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للأمم المتحدة

# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

<b>Thirteenth Session</b>
<b>Rome, 16-20 April 2018</b>
<b>EU written statement on IPPC Strategic Framework for 2020-2030</b>
<b>Agenda item 8.3</b>
<b>Prepared by the European Union and its 28 Member Countries</b>
<b>English only</b>

### Agenda item 8.3 – Strategic Framework – Written statement

The EU and its Member States welcome the draft of the Strategic Framework and would like to thank all involved in this endeavour. In general, we consider that the Strategic Framework accurately reflects the mandate and activities of the IPPC. We also like the innovative way in which the Strategic Framework has incorporated new activities by including a 'Development Agenda'. We believe that the adoption of the Strategic Framework at the 2020 ministerial level CPM meeting will be a high point in the history of the IPPC.

In order for the Strategic Framework to be approved by ministers, we must go through a painstakingly careful approval process, in which detailed opinions of all contracting parties must be sought. For that reason, we would strongly advocate that 2018 should be utilised to conduct a full country consultation of the draft strategy with a view to obtaining preliminary approval of the Strategic Framework at CPM-14 in 2019.

To facilitate this country consultation process, we would like to highlight some issues which we consider to be of importance and which could be incorporated before the Strategic Framework is submitted for comments:

1. With regard to the mission statement, we have noted that there are slight textual differences between the mission statement provided in the body of document CPM 2018/28 and that stated in the Annex in which the full Strategic Framework is provided. In this context, we would like to stress that the mandate of the IPPC is to protect global plant resources from pests. We therefore believe that if the trade facilitation component is maintained, it should be worded as in the Annex of document CPM 2018/28:

**'Protecting global plant resources from pests and facilitating safe trade'**

2. With regard to the strategic objectives, we would like to suggest that they are rearranged. In today's world, the fight against hunger and environmental degradation is of paramount importance to human societies and should therefore be mentioned before trade facilitation. We would also like to suggest a small addition to the strategic objective on food security (currently objective B) so that it reads:

**'Enhance global food security and increase sustainable agricultural productivity'**

We are of the opinion that the sustainability of agricultural production is key to successfully reducing hunger.

3. As already pointed out, we very much welcome the new concept of a Development Agenda. We are unsure, however, as to whether topic number 7, 'New Phytosanitary Treatments', would qualify as a sufficiently new activity as to merit being listed in the Development Agenda, since we do already have an ambitious work programme in place for phytosanitary treatments. On the other hand, work on new phytosanitary treatments could be intensified to create a scientific foundation for commodity- and pathway-specific ISPMs. For this reason we would like to combine topic 2 ('Commodity & Pathway Specific ISPMs') with topic 7 ('New Phytosanitary Treatments').
4. We are somewhat disappointed that the section on international research cooperation, which featured in the version of the Strategic Plan discussed at SPG, has been deleted. We believe that international research coordination is vital to compensate for the reduction of research budgets for plant health-related research activities, which is happening worldwide. We would like to suggest that this subject be reintroduced into the Development Agenda.
5. We are also surprised that forests and forestry production, and their importance to the environment, climate and as renewable materials and energy, amongst others, have been slightly neglected in the

Strategic Framework. We would suggest that some references to the protection of forests from pests be added.

6. In addition, we would like to point out that in the 'Core Activities' section, under 'Standard Setting', Key Result Area SS1 indicates that 'Major traded commodities and trade pathways are covered by an ISPM adopted or being developed by the commission'. We believe that all traded commodities are already covered by an ISPM. We therefore think that there should be an amendment which would read:

'Specifically identified commodities and trade pathways are covered by a **commodity- or pathway-specific** ISPM adopted or being developed by the commission.'

We would also kindly request that the list of organisations and institutions with whom the IPPC Secretariat has some form of cooperation be deleted because such a list is extremely fluid, and it also gives the impression that these are organisations with whom the IPPC Secretariat prefers to cooperate.

7. Finally, we would like to draw attention to the fact that the Strategic Framework contains a section called 'Pest Case Studies', in which two pests – the pine wood nematode and *Xylella fastidiosa* – are described in a slightly colloquial manner. We would be happy to provide wording, in the framework of a country consultation procedure, to correctly reflect the distribution of these pests.

We have multiple minor comments which would be best addressed through a country consultation procedure. We are, however, fully convinced that this Strategic Framework should be adopted at CPM-15 in 2020 and that it will represent a milestone in the development of the IPPC.