



24 October 2018

**Virtual Meeting Report of the IPPC ePhyto project Technical Committee  
& IPPC ePhyto Steering Group**

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**Present Participants:**

Peter Neimanis (AU, Chair)  
Younes Kabbab (MAR)  
Laura Vicaria (IPPC Secretariat)  
Venkat Venkateswaran (UNICC)  
Gianluca Nuzzo (UNICC)

**Participants not able to attend:**

Christian Dellis (US)  
Walter Alessandrini (AR)  
Heqin Yang (CN)  
Craig Fedchock (IPPC Secretariat)  
Nico Horn (NL)  
Josiah Syanda (KE)

*Hub/GeNs overview ( GeNs Demo call outcome, and next steps) – UNICC*

**Hub:**

Regular maintenance is taking place and the main changes will be reflected in the relevant documents. These changes will be announced and shared by the end of the month. The request for changes to the mapping, by NPPOs using the hub, will need to be discussed at the ESG meeting in Japan

**GeNs:**

The demo calls with the ESG members took place last week. The UNICC is expecting to receive more feedback once ESG members begin to test the system.

There is currently some delay in the system development, particularly with the company perspective. The timeline agreed at this stage:

- Week of the 29<sup>th</sup> of October – set up introduction calls with GeNS Pilot countries
- Weeks 5-16 of November pre-pilot testing week

This current approach will allow some general feedback for discussion about the GeNS at the next ESG meeting

- Pilot phase initiating in January



- ***Brazil discussion and outcome – Christian/ Gianluca***

A call with Brazil took place to assist them with their system development. They are currently developing their own system and asked if the GeNs is an open source system. The UNICC team and ESG members present at the call were able to advise them in different areas and provide sample codes to aid them in their own system development. The next steps will be for them to start looking at the requirements, building the system and for them to request assistance if needed. It was recommended for Walter to follow up with them before our meeting with the ESG in Japan.

- ***SPG review and strategic plan – Laura***

There was general support towards the 5 year strategic plan at the recent SPG Meeting. The draft report of the SPG will be completed soon, where the Secretariat will share with the ESG the exact decision and discussion points made. Should there be any changes made to the report, these will be applied and the new version circulated for feedback to the ESG and discussed thoroughly at the next ESG meeting in Japan.

- ***Status of Near East and Africa Workshop – Josiah/Younes***

Muscat, Oman has been recommended as an alternative location for the ePhyto Workshop, Due to lack of response from previously discussed location of U.A.E. Younes has redrafted the proposal based on this newly recommended location. The next step is for IPPC to send out an official letter first, and then followed by the NEPPPO letter. It was agreed, that once we receive confirmation from Oman, the U.A.E will be informally informed of this change of location.

***Additional topics:***

**ESG Meeting Japan**

The draft agenda will be circulated to ESG members for input. The chair urged all members to review the agenda carefully and bring forward any discussions they wish to cover.

**Translation Documents:**

Laura informed the ESG that currently Hub and GeNS specification documents were sent for translations. She enquired which code documents currently on the Hub console also required translation and were not going to be modified significantly in the near future. The UNICC agreed to send all relevant documents to Laura in word format.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Task	Owner	Due Date
Set up introduction calls with GeNS countries	Laura	Done
Walter to follow up with Brazil on their progress	Walter	Before ESG japan meeting
5 year strategic Plan to be edited based on SPG feedback and circulated to ESG for further review	Craig	Next 2 weeks



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



International  
Plant Protection  
Convention

Letter to Oman regarding the ePhyto workshop	Laura	Done
ESG Japan agenda to be reviewed by the ESG	ESG	Send out- awaiting feedback
UNICC to send all required documents for translation in word format to Laura	UNICC	ASAP