



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

IPPC High-level Symposium on Cooperation of the Phytosanitary Measures among the Chinese Initiative “One Belt” Countries

**Xi-An, China
27-30 May 2019**

IPPC Secretariat

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). 2019. *IPPC High-level Symposium on Cooperation of the Phytosanitary Measures among the Chinese Initiative "One Belt" Countries* Xi'an, China. 16 pages. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

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2019-03-25: Regarding the Strategy and Process for the development of the IPPC Guides and training materials, the "Strategy" for the Development of IPPC Guides and Training Materials was added Appendix 15, and the text on the "Process" was consolidated into Appendix 16.

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1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] Mr Jingyuan XIA, the Secretary of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) opened the session by welcoming all participants to China and to the second High Level Symposium. He further welcomed the representatives from the different Chinese phytosanitary ministries, agencies, departments, and industries. He noted that more than 30 participants from 22 countries attended the symposium and 2 RPPOs (NEPPO and IAPSC).
- [2] The IPPC Secretary outlined the three main objectives for this Symposium: 1) to better understand Chinese initiative BRI and Chinese phytosanitary system; 2) to facilitate the exchange of information at the global, regional and national levels within the Belt region; and 3) to engage in discussions on areas of possible cooperation.
- [3] The IPPC Secretary Xia indicated that the IPPC is implementing the IPPC China South-South Cooperation (SSC) project amounting to USD 2 million for 4 years (2017-2020). He noted that two High Level Symposia have been organized with the support of the IPPC-China project: the first one for the Chinese “One Road” initiative including countries mainly from Asia, the Pacific, the Caribbean and Latin America; and the second one for the Chinese “One Belt” initiative including countries mainly from Central Asia, Eastern Europe, the Near East and Africa.
- [4] The IPPC Secretary highlighted that city Xi’an is the starting point of the ancient Chinese Silk Road. He noted that the Symposium arranged many activities for information sharing and discussion. Besides that, there were two side events for presentation and demonstration of Chinese green plant protection technologies, and the field visit to the local Sex pheromone industry and the agricultural university. He encouraged that the participants be active in each activity to make the Symposium successful.
- [5] Mr Minghui Ning, Division chief of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) of China, Ms Junwen Lou, Deputy Director of the General Administration of Customs of (GAC) of China, Mr Shuren Liu, Deputy Director of the Administration of Forestry and Grassland (AFG) of China, Mr Siguang Huang, Director General of the Agriculture Department (AGD) of Shaanxi Province, and Ms Daria Janjic Nisavic, Assistant Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Serbia, provided welcome addresses and briefed their roles and responsibility on national plant phytosanitary issues and their willingness for the future cooperation under the Chinese “One Belt and One Road” Initiative.

2. Administrative Matters

2.1. Adoption of the Agenda

- [6] The agenda is presented in Appendix 1.

2.2. Participants List

- [7] Participants list is made available in Appendix 2.

2.3 Election of the Rapporteurs

- [8] Ms Faith NDUNGE (Kenya) and Ms Raymonda JOHNSON (Sierra Leone) were elected as Rapporteurs.

3. Keynote Address

3.1. Overview of the IPPC Project on Capacity Development under the Framework of the FAO-China SSC Programme

- [9] The IPPC Secretary Mr Xia highlighted four components of the IPPC-China project on capacity development under the Framework of the FAO-China SSC Programme: 1) Demands for IPPC Contracting Parties (CPs); 2) Relevance of the IPPC FAO-China SSC project; 3) Core Activities and Budget; and 4) Outcome and Output with Key Indicators.
- [10] This project is expected to ensure food security; to increase agricultural productivity of participating pilot countries by 1-2 percent; and to strengthen the capacity of participating CPs to implement the IPPC and its International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). The output indicators include capacity developed for 300 representatives from 100 CPs; bilateral and inter-regional cooperation enhanced; and increased presence and visibility of plant health. Participants were informed of the achievements of the project including: supporting two IPPC Regional Workshops (69 participants from 37 CPs) and two National Reporting Obligations Workshops (49 participants from 34 CPs); setting two pilot sites (Cambodia and Sri-Lanka); organizing the “One Road” High Level Symposium; organizing the “One Belt” High Level Symposium; and supporting the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) activities.

3.2. Overview of the FAO-China SSC Programme in Relation to Plant Health

- [11] Dr Shengyao Tang, the Director of Office of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (OSS) of FAO, made a presentation focusing on FAO’s SSTC Strategy and FAO-China SSC Programme including: introduction of SSC; South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) at FAO; overview of FAO-China SSC Programme; contribution of FAO-China SSC Programme to the Global Plant Health; and the way towards future SSTC of FAO.
- [12] SSC is one kind of cooperation that developing countries can work together to share the experience, technologies and forming broad consensus. Since FAO officially launched South-South Cooperation (SSC) within the framework of SPFS in 1996, China has been an active participator, major promoter and generous contributor of FAO’s SSTC. China contributed USD 80 million to FAO to establish FAO-China SSC Trust Fund (in 2009 and 2015). In January of 2019, the office of SSC changed its name to SSTC for seeking the cooperation assisted with one or more developed countries. Triangular Cooperation involves two or more countries of the global South in collaboration with a third party, typically a multilateral institution, traditional resource partner, or emerging economy, facilitating SSC through the provision of technical or financial resources. In the future, FAO will be fully responsive and proactive to ideals and demands from the Global South, act on leadership and partnership, and use SSTC as a policy and tool utilized to its full potential to achieve FAO’s mandates and 2030 Agenda.

4. Report from China: Regulatory aspects

4.1. Report on Agriculture Phytosanitary System

- [13] Mr Fuxiang WANG introduced the Chinese agriculture phytosanitary system. He covered its laws and regulations; organization and staff; plant quarantine implementation; communication; training; and win-win cooperation. He highlighted the prevention and control work and achievement of Codling moth and Colorado Beetle, Red imported fire ant, citrus greening disease and FAW. He also introduced the Information System Construction in China.

4.2. Report on Border Control Phytosanitary System

- [14] Ms Junwen LOU gave a presentation on the export and import trade of agri-products in China; and the organization, functions and regulatory system of the entry and exit plant quarantine system of China. Last April, because of the institution reform, the AQSIQ was merged into GAC. She noted the challenge brought by emerging issues including articles carried by passengers and delivered by post, sea containers and ePhyto.

5. Report from China: Technical aspects

5.1. Report on Phytosanitary Research System for Agriculture

- [15] Ms Junlian Chen from Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) presented Phytosanitary Research System for Agriculture in China on behalf of Dr Xueping Zhou, DG of Plant Protection Research Institute of CAAS-China. She also gave an overview of the framework for the extension system in China. It was reported that of the 100 most threatening species in the world, more than 50 were found in China. In the past 10 years, more than 20 new species spread in China with an average increment of 1-2 species per year, and the intrusion speed was dozens of times faster than in before 1980s. CASS and some universities, working on both basic and applied research, and more than 30 local plant protection institutions for each Province are also the main organizations working on applied research. CASS presents awards for research achievements.

5.2. Report on Phytosanitary Education System

- [16] Ms Zhihong LI introduced the phytosanitary education system in China. She covered the general situation; common practices and challenges; and opportunities and prospects for phytosanitary education. After they joined to the WTO, China pays high attention to the phytosanitary education. The development of PQIB (Plant quarantine and invasive bio-lab) has three missions: education, research and services. The challenges of Chinese phytosanitary system include increasing movement of pests, global changes and the most important one – evolution of pests.

5.3. Report on e-Certification System

- [17] Ms. Lin Jing of GAC China explained that China Customs is a border agency supervising inbound and outbound activities and has centralized organization structure. Its key functions include: customs control, revenue collection, entry-exit inspection and quarantine, fighting against smuggling and foreign trade statistics compilation. It also manages tasks including port management, management of border operations, audit-based customs control, customs enforcement of intellectual property rights and international customs cooperation. In China,

quarantine operation workforce commenced operation as an integral part of Customs. Customs issues various e-certificates. Chinese e-Cert system is designed according to international standards, it is flexible in terms of data exchange, it is efficient as information can be verified in real time and it is secure. In future, this work will focus on further perfecting the functions of the China e-Cert, promoting international e-Cert development and accelerating the process of paperless certification.

6. Report from China: Operational aspects

6.1 Domestic Plant Quarantine in Shaanxi province

[18] Mr Dongsheng Fan, Director, Plant Protection Station of Shaanxi Province, provided overview of plant quarantine institution in Shaanxi province, pest occurrence prevention and control and plant quarantine law enforcement in Shaanxi province. The Plant Protection department of Shaanxi Province is responsible for monitoring and early warning and technical guidance on prevention and control of crop diseases, pests, weeds and runs investigations of quarantine violations (approximately 100 illegal cases every year).

6.2. Domestic board control in Shaanxi province

[19] Ms Li Zhan from GAC, Shaanxi Province gave an overview of phytosanitary measures of Shaanxi province. Shaanxi Province is large in producing food and exports various fruits and fruit products to many countries. Shaanxi Province is known for apple production. 180 thousand tons of fruit was exported from Shaanxi Province in 2018, majorly apples.

7. Introduction of Chinese Green Plant Protection products

[20] The following Six representatives from China's Agricultural Industry attended the Symposium:

- Ms Huiyuan ZHAO from Hebi Jiaduo Science, Industry and Trade Co. Ltd.
- Mr Cui MO from Pherobio Technology Co. Ltd.
- Mr Jiyang WU from Shaanxi Sunger Road Bio-Science Co. Ltd.
- Mr Yihua XU from Sino-Agri Fengmao Plant Protection Machinery Co. Ltd.
- Mr William XIE from Shenzhen DJI Innovation technology Co. Ltd.
- Mr Aoxiang SHI from Guangxi Nanning Heyi Biological Control Co. Ltd.

[21] They presented products, innovations and technology; and in particular:

- automatic test and control system of plant disease and insect pest;
- application technology of semiochemicals;
- the mechanism and application technology of phthalanilic acid;
- agricultural unmanned aerial vehicle; and
- biological control.

8. Country Reports from Africa Region

- [22] Twelve NPPOs from African region delivered the country reports on their national overview of their phytosanitary systems, such as Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Ghana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. They provided their country profile and information on their phytosanitary system, emerging issues and possible areas for cooperation with China, other “One Belt” countries and the IPPC Secretariat.
- [23] Several pests such as fall army worm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*), Tomato leaf miner (*Tuta absoluta*), Red palm weevils (*Rhyncophorus ferrugineus*), Banana wilt TR4 (*Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp.cubense Race 4), and *Xylella fastidiosa* were of common concern as the emerging pests of the African countries. The opportunities of these countries is their government’s rising awareness of phytosanitary issues. However, there are still some challenges such as limited financial back up and inefficient phytosanitary capacity that includes weak legislation, lack of early warning system etc. Potential improvement areas mainly include phytosanitary capacity evaluation, pest risk analysis, harmonization of regulations, electronic phytosanitary certificate implementation, technical staff training including higher education, quarantine labs, equipment and financial support.

9. Country Reports from East and Central Europe and Central Asia Region

- [24] Six NPPOs from East and Central Europe and Central Asia Region presented the country reports on their national overview of their phytosanitary systems, including Azerbaijan, Latvia, Malta, Russia, Serbia, and Turkey. They provided their country profile and information on their phytosanitary system, emerging issues and possible areas for cooperation with China, other “One Belt” countries and the IPPC Secretariat.
- [25] Major challenges in the region included harmonization of legal framework to accommodate efficient implementation of IPPC standards, pest surveillance, diagnosis, pest recordings and pest risk analysis.

10. Country Reports from Near East Region

- [26] Four NPPOs from Near East Region addressed the country reports on their national overview of their phytosanitary systems: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and Yemen. They provided their country profile and information on their phytosanitary system, emerging issues and possible areas for cooperation with China, other “One Belt” countries and the IPPC Secretariat.
- [27] Major challenges in the region included: legal framework need to be addressed in proactive way to be harmonized with the IPPC and SPS agreements, need for Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation and higher education in the area of phytosanitary issues and plant quarantine.

11. Reports from RPPOs

- [28] Mr Mekki CHOUIBANI from Morocco and Mr Jean Gérard MEZUI M'ELLA from Cameroon provided their regional profile and information on their phytosanitary system.
- [29] After completion of reporting from RPPOs, Mr Xia opened the discussion on Fall Army Worm. He reiterated that Fall Army Worm will most likely become a “super pest” globally in the next 5-10 years, although it only got established in Africa in 2016. He noted that it is extremely important to increase awareness of the Fall Army Worm.

- [30] Solutions on how to tackle FAW were discussed. One CPs proposed altering DNA of the pest to make pests sterile. Other proposed solution bio pesticides, training farmers to recognize FAW, putting traps, global cooperation. Counterfeits of pesticide chemicals, pesticide resistance and harmonized pesticides list were also discussed.
- [31] Chinese actions in fighting FAW were discussed, such as bio-pesticide, special authorization from government to use certain pesticides, system-approach.
- [32] Participants also noted limitations in ability of countries to control this pest.

12. Panel Discussion

- [33] IPPC Secretary invited participants to identify main challenges, areas of cooperation and recommendations in a panel discussion.

12.1. Challenges

- [34] Participants identified main challenges to implement IPPC and its ISPMs, including implementation of ePhyto, pest management, handling emergencies, phytosanitary infrastructure, legal framework, training, and implementation of PCE and market access.

12.2. Area of cooperation

- [35] Participants discussed potential areas of cooperation where they identified that exchange visits among NPPOs and scholarship opportunities in phytosanitary areas provided by countries that can afford to boost international cooperation on phytosanitary issues is vital.

12.3. Recommendation to NPPO, RPPO and China

- [36] Participants discussed and concluded that creation of Pest Free Areas, pilot projects on specific ISPMs, removal of legal barriers, identification of relevant projects and their implementation would be beneficial for participating countries.

13. Conclusions and Future Work

- [37] The IPPC Secretary concluded that the symposium was successful, fruitful and memorable. He stressed that this Symposium was co-organized by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat, the National Agro-technical Extension and Service Centre (NATESC) of MARA-China, and the Agriculture Department of Shaanxi Province. It was financially supported by the IPPC Global Project on Capacity Development under the Framework of the FAO-China SSC Programme. Several major achievements were accomplished as follows:

1. **Increased awareness** of the importance of the Chinese initiative “One Belt and One Road”; the FAO-China SSC programme; and the IPPC project on capacity development under the framework of the FAO-China SSC programme;
2. **Gained a better understanding** of the composition and function of Chinese Phytosanitary Systems, which is big, complex and unique in the world.
3. **Identified** the major phytosanitary challenges among participating countries: i) insufficiency of technical support; ii) insufficiency of resources; iii) insufficiency of capacity; and iv) insufficiency of awareness and coordination.

4. **Agreed** with major areas of cooperation in promoting bilateral and inter-regional cooperation on phytosanitary measures among participating countries and regions, including: i) capacity development (staff capacity-training, institutional capacity); ii) technical support; iii) phytosanitary treatments; and ePhyto.and iv) PCE.
5. **Urged** the IPPC Secretariat, RPPOs, participating countries and the Chinese government to promote bilateral and inter-regional cooperation on phytosanitary measures with China.

[38] The IPPC Secretary finally thanked all participants for their active participation and content that they provided to the Symposium. He acknowledged the efforts of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat, the National Agro-technical Extension and Service Centre (NATESC) of MARA-China, and the Agriculture Department of Shaanxi Province for the excellent organization.

APPENDIX 1: Agenda

Day One –Monday 27 May			
Time	Topics	Presenter/Moderator	Venue
8:00-9:00	Arrival and Registration		
	Section 1: Opening of the Symposium	Moderator: Mr. Marko Benovic	
9:00-10:30	Opening Remarks by International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat	Dr. Jingyuan Xia, IPPC Secretary	
	Welcome Address by International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) of China	Senior officer from International Cooperation Department of MARA-China	
	Welcome Address by Crop Production and Protection Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) of China	Senior officer from Crop Production and Protection Department of MARA-China	
	Welcome Address by General Administration of Customs of (GAC) of China	Senior officer from GAC-China	
	Welcome Address by Administration of Forestry and Grassland (AFG) of China	Senior officer from AFG-China	
	Welcome Address by Agriculture Department (AGD) of Shaanxi Province	Senior officer from AGD of Shaanxi	
	Congratulation Address by Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of Serbia	Senior officer from MOA-Serbia	
10:30-11:00	Group Photo, and Coffee Break	All	
	Section 2: Keynote Address	Moderator: Ms. Marica Gatt	
11:00-11:30	Overview of the IPPC Project on Capacity Development under the Framework of the FAO-China SSC Programme	Dr. Jingyuan Xia, IPPC Secretary	
11:30-12:00	Overview of the FAO-China SSC Programme in Relation to Plant Health	Dr. Shengyao Tang, Director of FAO-SSC Office	
	Section 3: Report from China: Regulatory aspects	Moderator: Ms. Marica Gatt	
12:00-12:30	Report on Agriculture Phytosanitary System	Senior expert from MARA-China	
12:30-13:00	Report on Border Control Phytosanitary System	Senior expert from GAC-China	
13:00-14:00	Lunch	All	

	Section 4: Report from China: <i>Technical aspects</i>	Moderator: Ms. Marica Gatt	
14:00-14:20	Report on Phytosanitary Research System	Dr. Xueping Zhou, DG of Plant Protection Research Institute of CAAS-China	
14:20-14:40	Report on Phytosanitary Education System	Dr. Zhihong Li, Professor of China Agriculture University (CAU)	
14:40-15:00	Report on e-Certification System	Mr. Lianzhu Di, DDG of GAC-China	
	Section 5: Report from China: <i>Operational aspects</i>	Moderator: Marica Gatt	
15:00-15:15	Domestic Plant Quarantine in Shaanxi province	Local expert	
15:15-15:30	Domestic board control in Shaanxi province	Local expert	
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break		
	Section 6: Introduction of Chinese Green Plant Protection products	Moderator: Mr. Xiaodong Feng	
16:00-18:00	Briefing on Green plant health technologies and products from Selected Plant Health Industries (5-6 representatives)	All	
19:00-21:00	Ice Breaker (Poster display and products demonstration of Green plant health technologies and products from all invited Plant Health Industries) with light dinner provided	All	

APPENDIX 2: Participants List

Region/ Role	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address
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Near East Region	Mr Mamoun ALBAKRI Regional representative, Near East, Head of phytosanitary labs Ministry of Agriculture Jordan	mambakri@email.com
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