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**REPORT**

CPM Bureau Meeting (teleconference)

**Rome, Italy**

**9 April 2020**

**IPPC Secretariat**

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# Opening of the Meeting

1. Mr Francisco Javier TRUJILLO ARRIAGA, Chairperson of the CPM, welcomed participants to the meeting, underlining the importance of ensuring the continuity of work during the Covid-19 outbreak. Mr Gameel Anwar Mohammed RAMADHAN sent his regrets, clarifying that he did not have a stable internet connection to be able to fully participate in the meeting.

# Meeting Arrangements

## Documents list

1. The Documents list was introduced and it is attached to the Report as Annex 1.

## Participants list

1. The List of Participants is attached to the Report as Annex 2.

# Agenda

1. The CPM Bureau adopted the Agenda with the agreement to focus first on those items requiring a decision and deferring all others to future meetings as appropriate. The Agenda is attached to this Report as Annex 3.

# Update from Bureau Members on COVID-19 Impacts on Plant Health

1. Mr Lucien KOUAME KONAN (African Region) discussed the situation in his region briefly, informing the CPM Bureau that the essential work is continuing despite the lockdown. He underlined how the IPPC community should provide an assessment of the COVID-19 impacts on plant health and guidance to National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) on how to best address the current situation and share best practices.
2. Mr Greg WOLFF (North American Region) shared some information regarding the resource issues that some offices are facing due to the pandemic, with reduced staff. Some staff are teleworking when possible. He also informed the CPM Bureau that NPPOs facing these challenges of less resources, would have to prioritize their activities, and should focus on activities that present the highest risk. Mr WOLFF also noted that some countries have stopped accepting physical versions of phytosanitary certificates offering flexibility by accepting scanned copies. He noted that this was not an issue with those NPPOs that have joined the ePhyto solution.
3. Ms Marica GATT (European Region) informed the CPM Bureau that most of the EU Member States are currently under strict lockdown. She mentioned that EU institutions have reduced the number of meetings and only a few meetings are now being held virtually. Ms GATT also informed the CPM Bureau that EPPO has been holding its meeting virtually. She concluded that all field activities have been halted, except for those that cannot be postponed.
4. Mr Fuxiang WANG (Asian Region) updated the CPM Bureau on the progress China has experienced since the COVID-19 outbreak as it is moving toward lifting their lockdown in a step wise manner. He mentioned some concerns related to reduced food supplies, such as grain, but he informed the CPM Bureau that the government has adopted appropriate measures to help secure the continuation of field activities, including phytosanitary ones. He also noted that action is still needed to help manage transboundary pests such as Fall Armyworm (FAW) and wheat rust. Mr WANG underlined that the situation is improving, expecting similar advancements in other countries.
5. Mr Stephen BUTCHER (South-West Pacific Region) informed the CPM Bureau that the Region has adopted similar preventive measures, with similar consequences and expecting similar results as reported by other CPM Bureau Members. He conveyed the support for those countries that had to face both the COVID-19 outbreak and a recent hurricane.
6. Mr Francisco Javier TRUJILLO ARRIAGA (Latin American and Caribbean Region) informed the CPM Bureau that several countries in the Region expect similar numbers as in Europe in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak and that special attention is being directed to help ensure access to imported food. He shared the importance of developing a message to spread to the IPPC community and to a broader audience to underline the key role of the IPPC community to helping ensure food security during the pandemic.

# Update from the IPPC Secretariat

1. Mr Jingyuan XIA, Secretary of the IPPC, provided important updates on the IPPC Secretariat activities during this initial phase of the COVID-19 outbreak, including:

* The IPPC Secretariat, being part of FAO is aligning with the Italian government’s preventive measures to ensure the safety and well-being of staff while being proactive and a message, outlining the key issues facing the IPPC community as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak was prepared and distributed on 19 March 2020. The IPPC Secretariat informed the Bureau that a dedicated page on COVID-19 issues is being set up on the IPP.
* The IPPC Secretariat has been moved under the supervision of the FAO Deputy Director-General Programmes (DDG-P) together with the Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP) and the Secretariat of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG), as part of a whole management restructuring of the Organization.
* Mr Mirko MONTUORI was the successful candidate for the Project Post (P-3), as the IYPH Project Officer.

1. The IPPC Secretariat also reported that IPPC Secretariat Staff and their respective relatives are healthy.

# Issues Related to Impact of COVID-19

## IPPC message on COVID-19 impacts on plant health

1. Mr WOLFF introduced a paper[[1]](#footnote-1) that was drafted by two Bureau Members on some of the key issues that should be made to the IPPC Community regarding COVID-19. He highlighted how the paper underlined the importance of adhering to phytosanitary principals and ISPMs, he also wanted to emphasize the important contribution that plant health continues to have to help ensure food security.
2. The CPM Chairperson suggested a merger between the paper on plant health and COVID-19 developed by the IPPC Secretariat and the proposal by Mr WOLFF, inviting CPM Bureau members to share their views on the matter.
3. One CPM Bureau Member agreed to merge the two papers and underlined the importance of having a single IPPC message for the world. Other CPM Bureau Members also agreed to merge the two documents. One Member suggested to note in the statement that the CPM Bureau would provide periodic updates and to note that the CPM Bureau and IPPC Secretariat will continue to progress their work during this time, noting that some work will be done virtually (e.g. via e-mail discussions, virtual meetings and e-Decisions, noting that the Standards Committee will be using the Online Commenting System to review draft ISPMs). One Bureau Member suggested to include a section in the CPM Bureau message that government actions were still needed on some transboundary pests such as Fall Armyworm and Desert Locust.
4. The CPM Bureau:
5. *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to prepare a single document merging the two existing ones and share it via email by Friday 10 April 2020 for CPM Bureau approval.

## Resource mobilization for 2020

1. This item was deferred to a later meeting of the CPM Bureau.

## Adjustments to IPPC governing and subsidiary bodies meetings for 2020 (CPM-15, Bureau, FC, SPG, SC, IC, TC-RPPOs)

1. The IPPC Secretariat presented the options to hold or suspend the meetings, underlining that FAO is still discussing the opportunity not to postpone meetings in June or July.
2. The CPM Bureau:
3. *Agreed* to reschedule the frequency, capacity and modality of the meetings as follows during the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond as necessary:

* The pre-scheduled June/July CPM-15 meeting be postponed until further notice (subject to the advice from FAO Senior Management).
* CPM Bureau to meet virtually on a monthly basis, adopting a very structured approach and addressing the key selected elements, with the possibility to hold an additional meeting if any matter is deemed urgent.
* FC meetings be held virtually at least once in the first semester of 2020.
* May 2020 SC and IC meetings be cancelled while keeping the November 2020 ones scheduled.
* SPG and TC- RPPOs meetings be postponed until further notice.

## Authority and decision-making role for the Bureau on behalf of the CPM during the COVID-19 crisis

1. The Chairperson introduced the discussion, noting that any decisions regarding the authority and the decision-making role for the Bureau on behalf of the CPM should be legally assessed and limited to the duration of the crisis.
2. Some CPM Bureau Members suggested that some CPM-15 Agenda items which are considered procedural and urgent could be considered by the CPM Bureau. One CPM Bureau Member proposed the following items as potential points to be placed under the authority of the CPM Bureau in the current timeframe:

* CPM recommendations on food aid and on contaminating pests
* Extending the reporting period of the Sea Containers Task Force from 2021 to 2022
* Continuation of work on the Pest Outbreak Alert and Response System
* Progress the work on commodity standards.

1. Several CPM Bureau Members recommended that FAO Legal Service should be consulted to clarify which types of decisions can be taken by the CPM Bureau as a result of the postponement of the CPM. The Chairperson suggested to make use of the coming month to clarify the types of decisions that can be made by the Bureau on behalf of the CPM. Other CPM Bureau Members suggested to review the CPM-15 Agenda items and to identify those that should and could be considered by the Bureau and their order of priority.
2. The CPM Bureau noted that the Convention text does not include provision for the Bureau to operate without the CPM taking place and it is necessary to acquire additional legal views to move forward.
3. The CPM Bureau:
4. *Asked* CPM Bureau Members to review the CPM-15 Agenda items and to identify those that should and could be considered by the Bureau and their order of priority and submit them to the IPPC Secretariat by 17 April 2020.
5. *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to consult with FAO LEG to clarify which types of decisions can be taken by the CPM Bureau on behalf of the CPM.

# International Year of Plant Health

1. The IPPC Secretariat presented an update on the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) 2020[[2]](#footnote-2) and highlighted the modifications to some of the IYPH key global events, which require postponement to a later date that may be beyond 2020. The IPPC Secretariat further noted the importance of supporting some of the legacy events, such as the International Day of Plant Health.
2. The CPM Bureau:
3. *Noted* the update on the IYPH 2020.
4. *Endorsed* the possibility of an extension of upcoming IYPH 2020 key global activities beyond 2020.
5. *Decided* to discuss ways to further nurture the IYPH 2020 campaign in the current global situation during coming Bureau monthly meetings.

# Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

1. This item was deferred to a later meeting of the CPM Bureau.

# Any Other Business

**Proposed items:**

**Bureau membership and replacements**

1. The CPM Bureau agreed that the current CPM Bureau membership will continue until the CPM could meet, even though their two-year terms expired in April 2020.

**Selection of IC members, and role of IPPC Secretariat in disputes**

1. The IPPC Secretariat presented the outcome of the discussions of the CPM Bureau regarding the selection of IC members via e-Decision where the Bureau had agreed to the seven regional representatives. In this e-Decision, the Bureau also discussed the selection of five IC experts with differing views. After further discussion during this meeting the CPM Bureau agreed to the selection of four experts but would continue their discussions on the selection of the fifth IC expert and requested the IPPC Secretariat to set up a discussion via e- Decision.
2. The CPM Bureau:
3. *Selected* the followingImplementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) members, seven regional representatives and four experts:

* IC Regional representatives: Africa: Ms. Faith NDUNGE (Kenya), Asia: Ms. Kyu-Ock YIM (Republic of Korea), Europe: Ms. Olga LAVRENTJEVA (Estonia), Latin America and Caribbean: Mr Francisco Adrian GUTIERREZ (Belize), Near East: Mr. Ahmed M. Abdellah ABDELMOTTALEB (Egypt), North America, Mr Dominique PELLETIER (Canada) and Southwest Pacific, Mr Nilesh Ami CHAND (Fiji).
* IC Experts: Mr Christopher DALE (Australia), Ms Ruth AREVALO MACIAS (Chile), Ms Magda GONZALEZ ARROYO (Costa Rica) and Mr Thorwald GEUZE (The Netherlands).

1. *Requested* the IPPC Secretariat to set up a discussion via e-Decision. Agree to consider the remaining nominations for IC experts in order to select the final (fifth) IC expert and if necessary to discuss the selection of the final (fifth) IC expert at the next CPM Bureau meeting.

**Update on ePhyto**

1. This item was deferred to a later meeting of the CPM Bureau.

# Next Meeting

1. The next meeting is scheduled on 7 May 2020 at 12:00 (CEST) through virtual means.

# Closing of the Meeting

1. The Chairperson thanked all participants and closed the meeting.

# Annex 1 – Document List

| **DOCUMENT NO.** | **AGENDA ITEM** | **DOCUMENT TITLE (PREPARED BY)** | **DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 01\_Bureau­\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 03 | Agenda | 2020-04-08 |
| 02\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 02.1 | Documents List | 2020-04-08 |
| 03\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 02.2 | Participants List | 2020-04-07 |
| 04\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 06.3 | Adjustments to IPPC governing and subsidiary bodies schedules | 2020-04-07 |
| 05\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 07 | IYPH 2020 | 2020-04-07 |
| 06\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 08 | Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework | 2020-04-08 |
| 07\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 06.1 | IPPC messaging for COVID-19 impacts on plant health | 2020-04-08 |
| 08\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 06.2 | Resource mobilization | 2020-04-08 |
| 09\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | 09 | Bureau selection of experts for the IC | 2020-04-08 |
| **IPP LINKS:** | | | **Agenda item** |
| [Report Bureau Dec 2019](https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/88226/) | | | 03 |
| [SPG October 2019 Report](https://www.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2019/12/SPG_2019_Oct_Report_2019-12-06.pdf) | | |  |

# Annex 2 – Participants List

Bureau members

| **Attending** | **Participant role / Region** | **Name, mailing address, telephone** | **Email address** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ✓ | Africa  *Vice-Chairperson* | **Mr Lucien KOUAME KONAN**  Inspecteur  Direction de la Protection des Végétaux, du Contrôle et de la Qualité  Ministère de l'Agriculture  B.P. V7 Abidjan,  Ph.: (+225) 07 903754  **COTE D'IVOIRE** | [l\_kouame@yahoo.fr](mailto:l_kouame@yahoo.fr) |
| ✓ | Europe | **Ms Marica GATT**  Director General ( Veterinary and Phytosanitary Division)  (VPRD), Abettori Street, Albertown, Marsa  HRS 1123,  Ph.: (+356) 2292522  Mob.: (+356) 99421791  **MALTA** | [marica.gatt@gov.mt](mailto:marica.gatt@gov.mt) |
| ✓ | Asia | **Mr Fuxiang WANG**  Deputy Director General,  National Agriculture Technical Extension and Service centre (NATESC)  Ministry of Agriculture  Room 630, Building No. Mai Zi Dian Street  Chao Yang District, Beijing 100125  Ph.: 86-10-59194548  Mob.: 86-10-13701330221  **CHINA** | [wangfuxiang@agri.gov.cn](mailto:wangfuxiang@agri.gov.cn) |
| ✓ | Latin America and Caribbean  *Chairperson* | **Mr Francisco Javier TRUJILLO ARRIAGA**  Director General de Sanidad Vegetal  Punto de Contacto Oficial de la CIPF  Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria, Sagarpa,  Phone: (+52) 55 59051000 Ext. 51319  **MEXICO** | [trujillo@senasica.gob.mx](mailto:trujillo@senasica.gob.mx); |
| *✓* | North America | **Mr Greg WOLFF**  Canadian Food Inspection Agency  59 Camelot Drive,  OTTAWA, ON. K1A 0Y9  Ph.: (+1) 613 773 7060  Mob.: (+1) 613 325 2941  **CANADA** | [greg.wolff@canada.ca](mailto:greg.wolff@canada.ca) |
| *✓* | Southwest Pacific | **Mr Stephen BUTCHER**  Ph.: (+61) 262723241  **NEW ZEALAND** | [stephen.butcher@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:stephen.butcher@mpi.govt.nz); |
|  | Near East | **Mr Gamil Anwar Mohammed RAMADHAN**  General Director of Plant Protection Department of Yemen, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation,  Aden  **YEMEN** | [abuameerm21@gmail.com](mailto:abuameerm21@gmail.com) |

**Secretariat/Observers**

|  | **Region /**  **Role** | **Name, mailing, address, telephone, nationality** | **Email address** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Jingyuan XIA** | Jingyuan.Xia@fao.org |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Avetik NERSISYAN** | Avetik.NersisyanA@fao.org |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Brent LARSON** | Brent.Larson@fao.org |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Arop DENG** | [Arop.Deng@fao.org](mailto:Arop.Deng@fao.org) |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Craig FEDCHOCK** | Craig.Fedchock@fao.org |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Mirko MONTUORI** | [Mirko.Montuori@fao.org](mailto:Mirko.Montuori@fao.org) |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Marko BENOVIC** | Marko.Benovic@fao.org |
| ✓ | IPPC Secretariat | **Mr Riccardo MAZZUCCHELLI** | [Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org](mailto:Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org) |
| ✓ | APHIS/USA | **Mr John GREIFER** | [john.k.greifer@usda.gov](mailto:john.k.greifer@usda.gov) |

# Annex 3 – Provisional Agenda

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

*Updated 2020-04-08*

| **AGENDA ITEM** | | **DOCUMENT NO.** | **PRESENTER** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Opening of the Meeting** | -- | XIA / TRUJILLO |
| **2** | **Meeting Arrangements** |  | DENG |
| 2.1 | Documents list | 02\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr |  |
| 2.2 | Participants list | 03\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr |  |
| **3** | **Agenda** | 01\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | TRUJILLO |
| **4** | **Update from Bureau Members on COVID-19 Impacts on Plant Health** | -- | BUREAU MEMBERS  (interventions by each member, less than 5 minutes) |
| **5** | **Update from the IPPC Secretariat** | -- | XIA |
| **6** | **Issues Related to Impact of COVID-19** |  |  |
| 6.1 | IPPC message on COVID-19 impacts on plant health | 07\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr  10\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | FEDCHOCK/LARSON  BUREAU MEMBERS |
| 6.2 | Resource mobilization for 2020 | 08\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | XIA/BENOVIC |
| 6.3 | Adjustments to IPPC governing and subsidiary bodies meetings for 2020 (CPM-15, Bureau, FC, SPG, SC, IC, TC-RPPOs) | 04\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | DENG |
| 6.4 | Authority and decision-making role for the Bureau on behalf of the CPM during the COVID-19 crisis | -- | BUREAU MEMBERS |
| **7** | **International Year of Plant Health** | 05\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | MONTUORI |
| **8** | **Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework** | 06\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr | NERSISYAN |
| **9** | **Any Other Business**  Proposed items:  -Bureau membership and replacements  -Selection of IC members, and role of IPPC Secretariat in disputes  -Update on ePhyto | --  09\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr  -- | TRUJILLO  DENG  LARSON  FEDCHOCK |
| **10** | **Next Meeting** | -- | XIA/TRUJILLO |
| **11** | **Closing of the Meeting** | -- | TRUJILLO |

# Annex 4 – Action List

| **N.** | **Action** | **Lead** | **Lead within**  **Secretariat/CPM Bureau/**  **Persons involved** | **Deadline** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Prepare a single document merging the two existing ones and share it via email to CPM Bureau for approval by Friday 10 April 2020. | IPPC Secretariat and CPM Bureau | Craig FEDCHOK  CPM Bureau Members | 17 April 2020 |
| 2 | Announce the rescheduling of 2020 meetings as agreed (subject to FAO Senior Management decisions). | IPPC Secretariat | Arop DENG  Mirko MONTUORI | As soon as possible |
| 3 | Publish a news item on CPM Bureau virtual meeting. | IPPC Secretariat | Riccardo MAZZUCCHELLI | 17 April 2020 |
| 4 | Submit agenda items to be discussed in coming monthly meetings of the Bureau. | CPM Bureau | All CPM Bureau Members | 17 April 2020 |
| 5 | Come up with a list of decisions that would have arisen from CPM-15 papers in view of dividing them into “for possible CPM Bureau decision” and “for CPM-15 decision”, and consult with FAOLEG to acquire an opinion regarding the authority of the Bureau to take decisions on behalf of CPM. | IPPC Secretariat | Jingyuan XIA  Arop DENG  Mirko MONTUORI | 07 May 2020 |

1. Ref. Doc. 10\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Ref. Doc. 05\_Bureau\_2020\_Tel\_Apr [↑](#footnote-ref-2)