



REPORT

BUREAU OF THE COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES (TELECONFERENCE)

**Rome, Italy
9 July 2020**

IPPC Secretariat

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1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] Mr Jingyuan XIA, Secretary of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), welcomed all participants to the meeting and informed the CPM Bureau that Ms Beth BECHDOL, FAO Deputy Director-General (DDG), sent her regrets, promising to join the next CPM Bureau session.
- [2] Mr XIA welcomed new members and raised three points for CPM Bureau's consideration:
- planning for 2022 IPPC work plan and budget, together with IPPC Secretariat team leaders to set up guiding principles;
 - adjustment to “new normal”, including the adaptation to the adjusted FAO budget, in alignment with the IPPC Strategic Framework (SF) 2020 – 2030, with special attention on the first five years of planning and in defining the investment plan from 2021 – 2025, and 2026 – 2030 plan to draft;
 - the Development Agenda eight points of the IPPC SF distributed to IPPC Secretariat units.
- [3] He informed the CPM Bureau about the ongoing discussion in the FAO Council on the restructuring of FAO, and about the establishment of an IPPC Secretariat Task Force on IPPC re-structuring that aims at providing input into the process.
- [4] Mr XIA highlighted the importance of the normative work, articulating it as in its definition, its relevance with regards to the new mission of the renewed FAO and the application of the Theory of Change in the United Nations system, and its visibility. He noted two potential areas of work:
- policy regulations, guidelines, Standards and public information, such as statistics and publications;
 - alignment with UN SDGs and FAO Strategy;

2. Meeting Arrangements

2.1. Documents list

- [5] The List of Documents was circulated and is attached to this report as Annex 1.

2.2. Participants list

- [6] The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau that Mr Peter THOMSON, New Zealand attending the meeting as an observer, and will be replacing¹ Mr Stephen BUTCHER, who is retiring. The List of Participants is attached to this report as Annex 2.

3. Agenda

- [7] The Agenda was adopted without any modifications and is attached to this report as Annex 3.

¹ CPM Bureau Replacements Membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81733/>

- [8] Mr John GREIFER (Alternate for North America region) suggested to hold a discussion on a potential contingency plan in case CPM-15 may not take place in March 2021.

4. Review of CPM Bureau Action List

- [9] The IPPC Secretariat reported on the List of Actions, informing the CPM Bureau that all actions listed since the previous meeting were carried out successfully.

5. Update from the IPPC Secretariat

- [10] Mr XIA, IPPC Secretary, reported that FAO DDG Ms Beth BECHDOL has been participating in several IPPC meetings, expressing great support for the work of the IPPC community, particularly on International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) and ePhyto and partnership initiatives, encouraging additional partnerships with the private sector. He concluded about resource mobilisation, which has a pivotal role in the coming decade.
- [11] Mr Peter THOMSON asked the IPPC Secretariat to provide reports on meetings regarding ePhyto and blockchain technology, which are being compiled and will be shared accordingly, the IPPC Secretariat promised to share the requested reports.

6. Confirmation of IPPC Governing and Subsidiary Body Meetings Dates (2021 CPM-15, 2020 pre-SPG FC and Bureau, 2020 SPG)

- [12] The IPPC Secretariat introduced the discussion² by highlighting the calendar of meetings of IPPC governing bodies, especially those that have been cancelled, postponed or gone virtual.
- [13] Mr Stephen BUTCHER (South West Pacific region) commented that it is still unlikely that face-to-face meetings will take place also in 2021, including CPM-15, suggesting discussing potential alternatives and contingency plans. He proposed that two meetings may occur back-to-back, taking advantage of some international events such as the International Plant Health Conference.
- [14] The CPM Bureau suggested to make all the necessary arrangements for CPM-15 to be held in March 2021 and agreed to have a contingency plan drafted together by the IPPC Secretariat, and to hold the next session of the Strategic Planning Group over a period of two days, with two sessions per day (four in total) on 8 – 9 October 2020, with the understanding that the IPPC Secretariat will circulate all documents well in advance and emphasis would be placed on strategic issues linked to the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020 – 2030.
- [15] Mr Javier TRUJILLO, Chairperson of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), suggested holding a two-hour CPM Bureau meeting prior to the SPG, which was accepted by the CPM Bureau.
- [16] The CPM Bureau:

² 09_Bureau_2020_Tel_July

- (1) *Decided* to hold the coming session of the SPG during a period of two days, with two sessions per day (four in total) on 8 – 9 October 2020.
- (2) *Agreed* to hold a two-hour session of the Finance Committee (FC) on 6 October from 12:00 to 14:00 (CEST) and a two-hour CPM Bureau session on 7 October from 12:00 to 14:00 (CEST) in preparation for the SPG meeting.
- (3) *Agreed* to make all necessary arrangements for CPM-15 to take place face-to-face on 15-19 March 2021, as currently scheduled.
- (4) *Tasked* the IPPC Secretariat to prepare a contingency plan in the eventuality CPM-15 may not take place face-to-face.

7. Definition of areas of Bureau decision, on behalf of CPM during COVID-19 period

[17] The CPM Bureau discussed the definition of areas of Bureau decision, on behalf of CPM during COVID-19 period taking into consideration the clarifications from FAO Legal Counsel.

[18] The CPM Bureau:

- (5) *Noted* the FAO Legal Counsel advice.
- (6) *Decided* to continue acting on behalf of the CPM with wisdom by taking decisions through virtual means, properly informing and communicating all relevant information with IPPC contracting parties (CPs).

8. Brainstorming on Work Plan and Budget of the IPPC Secretariat for 2022

[19] The IPPC Secretariat introduced the modifications to the work plan and budget of the IPPC Secretariat for 2022. The CPM Bureau asked the IPPC Secretariat to provide the CPM Bureau members with a summary of the current financial situation, which was delivered. The IPPC Secretary encouraged the CPM Bureau to provide suggestions and guidance on the proclamation for the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH), celebrations on IPPC 70th anniversary and the first International Trade Facilitation Conference, both in 2021 - amongst others, so that the IPPC Secretariat may begin drafting proposals.

[20] Mr John GREIFER (Alternate for North America region) suggested to hold one of the SPG sessions to examine the “new normality” of the post-pandemic world (e.g. digital transformation, affecting the way business is conducted), possibly focusing on the ways it is affecting the IPPC community both in the short and long-term.

[21] Mr Brent LARSON (IPPC Secretariat) highlighted that the “new normality” may be already affecting the work of the IPPC community, noting that the frequency of meetings has already increased to a weekly basis. He informed the CPM Bureau that the Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU) of the IPPC Secretariat is implementing a pilot project on IPPC guide uptake by contracting parties (CPs).

[22] Mr Peter THOMSON (Alternate for South West Pacific region) suggested to exercise caution in attempting to implement all the development agenda at once, reminding members that it is a ten years plan and we have limited capacity for implementation particularly given the current and expected impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[23] Mr Craig FEDCHOK (IPPC Secretariat) underlined the fact that the IPPC objectives and activities will remain central even after the end of the current global sanitary crisis and focused the attention on how the IPPC community manages the transition to the post-COVID-19 crisis.

9. Standard Setting

9.1. Guidance on topic of “authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions”

[24] Mr Stephen BUTCHER (South West Pacific region) introduced the paper³ summarising the SC’s points presented to the CPM to the CPM Bureau for discussion. The IPPC Secretariat clarified that a side event on this topic had been planned for CPM-15, and it is proposed to convert into a webinar to clarify the concept of authorization and to specify that the adoption of this standard does not have automatic implications for CPs.

[25] One CPM Bureau member asked for clarifications, in terms of adoption of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), in case a country objects to the SC submitting the ISPM for adoption without the necessary technical justification. The CPM Bureau discussed the matter, making some comparison with a similar precedent, and reached the conclusion that the normal IPPC standard setting procedure may be followed, where the SC records the remaining concerns in the meeting report while recommending the ISPM for adoption. The CPM reviews the objections and the justification provided along with it, providing guidance to the relevant IPPC bodies on the matter.

[26] The CPM Bureau:

(7) *Recommended* the Standards Committee (SC) to proceed with recommending the adoption of the draft ISPM to the next CPM session.

9.2. Guidance on re-organization of standards related to Pest risk analysis (PRA)

[27] Mr Stephen BUTCHER (South West Pacific region) introduced the paper on the topic⁴ summarising the SC’s points to be presented to the CPM in 2020. He clarified to CPM Bureau members that this paper specified the preferred options available on decision on this matter, as previously discussed and outlined by the Standards Committee (SC) for the reorganization of PRA-related ISPMs.

[28] The CPM Bureau discussed the available options and decided for option six, considering it the most thorough, which would result in one overarching standard with an annex for each of the three stages of PRA.

³ 06_Bureau_2020_Tel_July

⁴ 07_Bureau_2020_Tel_July

[29] The CPM Bureau:

(8) *Recommended* the Standards Committee (SC) to proceed with option six on the re-organization of standards related to Pest risk analysis (PRA).

(9) *Added* the topic “reorganization of Pest Risk Analysis standards” to the List of Topics accordingly.

10. Possible Extension of the Mandate of the Sea Container Task Force

[30] The CPM Bureau discussed the opportunity to extend the mandate of the Sea Container Task Force (SCTF) until the end of 2021 to compensate for the anti-COVID-19 restrictions causing the SCTF to halt all its activities.

[31] The CPM Bureau:

(10) *Agreed* to extend the mandate of the Sea Container Task Force for one additional year, until the end of 2021.

11. Moving Forward with the Focus Group on the Pest Outbreak Alert and Response System

[32] The IPPC Secretariat introduced the paper⁵ to the CPM Bureau, seeking for directions in the decisions as outlined in the paper.

[33] The CPM Bureau:

(11) *Agreed* to establish a CPM Focus Group on Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems.

(12) *Agreed* to hold the CPM Focus Group on Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response System meeting virtually, possibly before the end of 2020.

(13) *Agreed* that the IPPC Secretariat to make a call for experts for this Focus Group on Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems.

12. Any Other Business

[34] All items under Any Other Business were deferred to another meeting due to time constraints.

- **Phytosanitary Treatments Research Tool**
- **One Health and IPPC community**
- **Appreciation of the outgoing Bureau members**

13. Next Meeting

[35] The CPM Bureau agreed to hold the next CPM Bureau session on Thursday 10 September 2020, from 12:00 to 14:00 (CEST).

⁵ 04_Bureau_2020_July_Tel

14. Closing of the Meeting

[36] Mr Javier TRUJILLO thanked all participants and closed the meeting.

Annex 1 – List of Documents

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
01_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	03	Agenda	2020-07-07
02_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	02.1	Documents List	2020-07-07
03_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	02.2	Participants List	2020-06-28
04_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	10	Focus Group on the Pest Outbreak Alert and Response System	2020-06-28
05_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	09	Possible Extension of the Mandate of the Sea Containers Task Force	2020-06-28
06_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	08.1	Pending Decisions Related to Standard Setting-Authorization	2020-06-28
07_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	08.2	Pending Decisions Related to Standard Setting-PRA	2020-06-28
08_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	11	Expansion of the PT search tool	2020-06-28
09_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	06	IPPC Governing and Subsidiary bodies meeting dates	2020-06-28
10_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	12	Plant Health in One Health	2020-06-30
11_Bureau_2020_July_Tel	05	Update from the IPPC Secretariat	2020-07-03
IPP LINKS:			
Report Bureau June 2020			
Report Bureau May 2020			
Report Bureau April 2020			
Report Bureau Dec 2019			
SPG October 2019 Report			

Annex 2 – List of Participants

Attending	Participant role / Region	Name, mailing address, telephone	Email address
✓	Africa <i>Vice-Chairperson</i>	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
✓	Europe	Ms Marica GATT Director General (Veterinary and Phytosanitary Division) (VPRD), Abettori Street, Alberttown, Marsa HRS 1123, Ph.: (+356) 2292522 Mob.: (+356) 99421791 MALTA	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
✓	Latin America and Caribbean <i>Chairperson</i>	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 ;
✓	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
✓	Southwest Pacific	Mr Stephen BUTCHER Ph.: (+61) 262723241 NEW ZEALAND	stephen.butcher@mpi.govt.nz ;

Attending	Participant role / Region	Name, mailing address, telephone	Email address
	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

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
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Craig FEDCHOCK	Craig.Fedchock@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Mirko MONTUORI	Mirko.Montuori@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Marko BENOVIC	Marko.Benovic@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI	Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org
✓	APHIS/USA	Mr John GREIFER	john.k.greifer@usda.gov
✓	New Zealand	Mr Peter THOMSON	Peter.Thomson@mpi.govt.nz

Annex 3 – Provisional Agenda

	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1	Opening of the Meeting	--	Introduced by Jingyuan XIA
1.1	Opening remarks by FAO Deputy Director-General (DDG)	--	Beth BECHDOL
2	Meeting Arrangements		Arop DENG
2.1	Documents list	02_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	
2.2	Participants list	03_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	
3	Agenda	01_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Javier TRUJILLO
4	Review of CPM Bureau Action List	Link to CPM Bureau June 2020 meeting report	Arop DENG / Mirko MONTUORI
5	Update from the IPPC Secretariat	11_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Jingyuan XIA
6	Confirmation of IPPC Governing and Subsidiary Body Meetings Dates (2021 CPM-15, 2020 pre-SPG FC and Bureau, 2020 SPG)	09_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Arop DENG / Mirko MONTUORI
7	Definition of areas of Bureau decision, on behalf of CPM during COVID-19 period	--	Javier TRUJILLO
8	Brainstorming on Work Plan and Budget of the IPPC Secretariat for 2022	--	Marko BENOVIC
9	Standard Setting		
9.1	Guidance on topic of “authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions”	06_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Stephen BUTCHER / Avetik NERSISYAN
9.2	Guidance on re-organization of standards related to Pest risk analysis (PRA)	07_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Stephen BUTCHER / Avetik NERSISYAN
10	Possible Extension of the Mandate of the Sea Containers Task Force	05_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Brent LARSON / Greg WOLFF
11	Moving Forward with the Focus Group on the Pest Outbreak Alert and Response System	04_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Brent LARSON
12	Any Other Business	08_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Javier TRUJILLO
	- Phytosanitary Treatments Research Tool	10_Bureau_2020_Tel_July	Avetik NERSISYAN / Brent LARSON
	- One Health and IPPC community	--	Mirko MONTUORI / Craig FEDCHOCK
	- Appreciation of the outgoing Bureau members		XIA
13	Next Meeting	--	Jingyuan XIA / Javier TRUJILLO
14	Closing of the Meeting	--	Javier TRUJILLO

Annex 4 – List of Actions

N.	Action	Lead	Lead within Secretariat/CPM Bureau/ Persons involved	Deadline
1	Make arrangements to hold FC (6 October), CPM Bureau (7 October) and SPG (8-9 October) meetings in October 2020	IPPC Secretariat	Arop DENG Mirko MONTUORI	30/09/2020
2	Make arrangements to hold CPM-15 on 8-12 March 2021.	CPM Bureau IPPC Secretariat	CPM Chairperson Jingyuan XIA Arop DENG	30/09/2020
3	Prepare a contingency plan to hold CPM-15 in case travel restrictions are still in place in March 2021.	IPPC Secretariat	Core Team Members	30/09/2020
4	Ensure that the mandate of the SCTF is extended by one year.	IPPC Secretariat	Ketevan LOMSADZE	30/08/2020
5	Add the topic “reorganization of Pest Risk Analysis standards” to the List of Topics.	CPM IPPC Secretariat	CPM Chairperson	30/09/2020