**FAO GLOBAL ACTION FOR FALL ARMYWORM CONTROL: FAO/IPPC TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON QUARANTINE AND PHYTOSANITARY IN RELATION TO TRADE**

**Launch Event**

**Implementation of FAW prevention under the Framework of FAO Global Action on FAW control**

**Proposed date: Early November 2020**

**09.00 – 11.00 AM (Rome time)**

Background

1. Fall Armyworm (FAW) has recently become a threat to global food security and the livelihoods of millions of smallholder families worldwide. This transboundary pest has increasingly spread around the world, affecting more than 80 countries in Africa, the Near East, Asia and the Pacific. To contain the spread of FAW and scale up international efforts against the pest, in December 2019 FAO launched a three-year [Global Action for Fall Armyworm Control](http://www.fao.org/fall-armyworm/global-action/en/)[[1]](#footnote-1).
2. The FAW Global Action (GA) recognizes the outmost importance of prevention and preparedness as key factors to better respond to FAW rapid spread. As the sole international standards setting body for plant health, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), is working closely together with FAO, national and regional plant health authorities, and other relevant partners to tackle this global threat.
3. The newly established FAO/IPPC Technical Working Group on Quarantine and Phytosanitary in relation to Trade and relevant Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) play a crucial role in implementing the FAW Global Action and lower the risks of further FAW spread to new territories. In particular, the actions of the IPPC community target about 20 countries in Southern Europe, Near East and North Africa, and the South West Pacific, where FAW has a limited distribution or has not been reported yet.
4. The FAO/IPPC TWG and the IPPC working group jointly plan to launch an **inaugural teleconference** that aims at highlighting the role of FAO and the IPPC community in the global battle against Fall Armyworm. The teleconference will bring together **approximately** **100** plant health actors drawn from national plant protection organization (NPPOs), governments, academia and research institutions as well as industry and private sector operators in the three operational regions. Keynote speakers from FAO and IPPC will highlight mechanisms and strategies put in place by FAO and IPPC to implement the FAW Global Action during the entire project period (2020-2022).

Objectives

* Increase awareness on the FAO led global action for FAW control, its governance and implementation modalities.
* Deepen understanding of the prevention and preparedness pillar of the GA for FAW control and the role of the IPPC community in implementing its action plan.
* Enhance understanding of the status of FAW in the three target regions of Southern Europe, Near East and North Africa, and South West Pacific, and their risk mitigation strategies and challenges.

Expected Outcomes

* Knowledge of GA for FAW control, its prevention and preparedness strategy is enhanced.
* IPPC community in the three regions better understands their role in the implementation of the prevention and preparedness pillar of GA for FAW control.

Target audiences

* Surveillance officers, diagnostic officers, field operations officers
* Practitioners at the NPPOs of Europe, Near East and North Africa and the Pacific
* Researchers and academia representatives (Euphresco network, CSIRO, etc.)
* Private sector representatives
* FAO staff

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| **Provisional Agenda** | | |
| **Activity** | **Presenter** | **Time (min.)** |
| Opening   * Welcoming remarks * Opening remarks | Mr Arop Deng,  *Moderator/ Chair IPPC FAW WG)*  Mr Jingyuan Xia  *Director, Plant Production and Protection (NSP)* | 05 |
| Establishment of Task Force on Prevention | Avetik Nersisyan | 05 |
| An overview of FAO Global Action for FAW Control: FAW Secretariat, structure and implementation strategies | Mr Jingyuan Xia  *Chair, FAO FAW Secretariat* | 10 |
| Technical Support for Prevention | Mr Chris Dale  *Chair, FAO-IPPC FAW TWG* | 10 |
| Three years Action Plan for prevention | Ms Sarah Brunel  *Vice Chair, FAO-IPPC FAW TWG* | 10 |
| Regional status of FAW, risk mitigation and challenges   * + Near East and North Africa   + South West Pacific   + Southern Europe | Mr Mekki Chouibani  Mr Viliami (Pila) Kami  Mr Valerio Lucchesi  *RPPOs Representatives* | 30 |
| Interactions from countries and partners: | * NPPOs (3) * Academia & Research * Private sector * Industry | 30 |
| Q&A: planning to prevent FAW together | Panelists and attendees | 15 |
| Closing | Mr Jingyuan Xia | 05 |

1. Global Action for Fall Armyworm Control: <http://www.fao.org/fall-armyworm/global-action/en/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)