



Food and Agriculture
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International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

IPPC Financial Committee Meeting

**Virtual meeting
6 October 2020**

IPPC Secretariat

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1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] The new FC Chair Mr. Greifer welcomed the FC participants noting his interest in continuing the tradition of engaging the whole of the Bureau in the FC meetings to promote full awareness among all Bureau colleagues on IPPC financial matters and realities.
- [2] Mr. Nersisyan, Officer in Charge for daily matters of the IPPC Secretariat, welcomed all participants and reiterated his commitment to sound financial management, budgetary transparency and efficacy, as well as accountability to the IPPC Contracting parties.
- [3] The Chair noted his interest in wanting the FC be forward looking and strategic in how it addresses funding and budget issues, including taking a practical look at the next year's priority activities and the resources needed to support that work.
- [4] The primary objectives of the meeting were to review the current 2020 budget situation, preview the funding outlook for 2021, and then begin a conversation about the resource implications of the new 10 year strategic framework. The key question driving this conversation is how to ensure that IPPC's limited resources are directed to supporting CPM's highest priority initiatives, particularly in relation to the topics on the development agenda.

2. Meeting Arrangements

2.1 Documents list

- [5] No documents were envisaged for this meeting.

2.2 Participants list

- [6] The List of Participants is attached to this report as Appendix 02.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

- [7] The FC adopted the agenda (Appendix 01).

4. Financial and budgetary matters of the IPPC Secretariat

4.1 Work plan and budget for 2020 – update on implementation

- [8] Secretariat briefly touched upon 2019 financial year noting that it was the best year (in financial terms) for the IPPC Secretariat.
- [9] Regarding Regular programme budget for 2020, Secretariat informed the FC that due to IPPC Secretariat's transition from AG department to NSP division, approximately USD 200,000 in the budget were still not transferred to the IPPC Secretariat. IPPC Secretariat expressed concern about the lack of clarity on the total budget of the IPPC Secretariat for 2020. Also, transition generated several new budget codes, which further complicates the work of the Secretariat. Secretariat is in contact with relevant FAO divisions, trying to resolve these issues.
- [10] There is a general estimate (rough) that there is a surplus of USD 300,000 - 360,000 due to non travel during the pandemic in 2020. The FC discussed the carry-over of this surplus amount into 2021. However, the Secretariat noted that while such a carry over is allowable within the biennium, that FAO has an ability to take that surplus to cover other costs in FAO. The surplus will be used to mitigate the decrease in IPPC Multi-donor trust fund contributions.
- [11] Trust fund contributions (to the multi-donor TF) in 2020 are halved, from approximately USD 1.2 million to USD 0.6 million. This funding source had represented a growing portion of the overall IPPC budget. The

Chair noted that future voluntary contributions, at least from contracting parties, was not promising given the pandemic and the diversion of governmental funds to respond to the disease and economic crisis at the national level.

[12] The FC:

- (1) *Urged* the Secretariat to seek clarity from FAO on the total level of funding for the IPPC Secretariat and *offered* support in this pursuit.

4.2 Work plan and budget for 2021

[13] The Secretariat presented the 2021 Work plan and budget and discussion with the FC followed on the feasibility of its implementation in view of constraints brought by the pandemic.

[14] As 2021 Work plan and budget is linked to IPPC Strategic framework for the first time, the FC recognized that the SPG meeting planned for this same week would be focused on the strategic framework and the eight development agenda topics and how best to implement the new plan.

[15] Several FC members stressed the need to prioritize activity given the reality of limited resources (funding, staff capacity, etc). Mr. Fedchock emphasized the need to eventually have an action plan developed, linked to the Strategic Framework, which would then define and guide the work of the Secretariat staff. These comments again point to the need for SPG to determine how best to sequence and launch the initiatives called for in the Strategic Framework, consistent with the IPPC's limited budget and resources and the need to avoid overwhelming and confusing the Secretariat with a mix of old and new activities.

[16] The FC:

- (1) *Agreed* to closely follow SPG discussion on the IPPC Strategic Framework implementation;
- (2) *Agreed* to discuss conclusions of the SPG during the next FC meeting and incorporate views and recommendations in the 2021 Work plan and budget.

5. Resource mobilization – update

[17] Secretariat focused presentation on IPPC Multi donor trust fund. As it was noted, contributions for 2020 fell by 50% and Secretariat expressed concern for various activities should this trend continue.

[18] The FC briefly touched on the resource mobilization strategy. The Secretariat noted that there has not been recent work to update the resource strategy nor any new ideas or proposals forthcoming for securing additional resources. Mr. Fedchock indicated that the FC should come back to this issue given its role in developing ideas and proposal for seeking increased funding.

[19] A suggestion was made that future efforts to secure new additional funding for the IPPC need to focus on non-governmental entities (foundations, private sector, and other non-state organizations and donors). This was noted would be something that the new IPPC Secretary should take on given the need for an executive level leader to approach these types of external organizations.

[20] The FC:

- (1) *Concluded* that alternative funding sources should be explored, as traditional ones (contracting parties) are facing great national difficulties in view of the pandemic.
- (2) *Agreed* to bring the topic of resource mobilization to the attention of new Secretary, once selected.

5. Next Meeting

- [21] It was the expectation of most FC members that the SPG meeting should lead to some recommendations for prioritizing, ranking, or sequencing the various development agenda items. Hence, the Chair suggested that the FC reconvene in November or December to discuss the outcomes of the SPG meeting from a resources point of view.

6. Closing of the Meeting

- [22] The Chair concluded the meeting by suggesting that the FC reconvene in November or December to: 1) examine the outcomes of the SPG; 2) discuss the budgetary implications of the new Strategic Framework and implementation plans associated with the development agenda; 3) develop some advice and recommendations for the Bureau (and CPM by extension) about a feasible and responsible plan for funding IPPC priorities in 2021; and 4) returning to the question of who and how the IPPC resource mobilization strategy can be updated. The Chair envisioned that a letter be prepared by the FC/Bureau to the new incoming Secretary (once that position is filled) which would highlight three or four crucial financial and budgetary goals that need to be pursued at the executive level to ensure the future success of the IPPC mission.

APPENDIX 01 - Provisional Agenda

AGENDA ITEM		DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER/Secretariat support
1	Opening of the Meeting	--	GREIFER (FC Chairperson)/NERSISYAN (IPPC O-i-C for daily matters)
2	Meeting Arrangements		BENOVIC
2.1	Documents list	-	
2.2	Participants list	02_FC_2020_Oct	
3	Adoption of the Agenda	01_FC_2020_Oct	GREIFER
4	Financial and budgetary matters of the IPPC Secretariat		
4.1	Work plan and budget for 2020 – update on implementation	Oral/PowerPoint	BENOVIC
4.2	Work plan and budget for 2021 – in focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IPPC Secretariat staffing - Considerations in relation to Strategic framework - Other challenges and broader considerations 	Oral/PowerPoint	GREIFER/FC/BENOVIC
5	Resource mobilization – update	Oral/PowerPoint	BENOVIC
6	Next Meeting	--	GREIFER
7	Closing of the Meeting	--	GREIFER

APPENDIX 02 –Participants List

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
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	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	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 <i>Chairperson</i>	Mr John GREIFER Assistant Deputy Administrator Plant Protection and Quarantine APHIS, USDA 1400 Independence Av. SW Washington, DC 20250 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	john.k.greifer@usda.gov

Attending	Participant role / Region	Name, mailing address, telephone	Email address
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✓	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
✓	Observer	Ms Kyu-ock YIM Senior Researcher Department of Plant Quarantine, Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs 177, Hyeoksin 8-ro, Gimcheon-si Republic of Korea Phone: (+82) 549120627 REPUBLIC OF KOREA	koyim@korea.kr

Secretariat/Observers

	Region / Role	Name, mailing, address, telephone, nationality	Email address
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