



## RPPO UPDATE, 3<sup>RD</sup> VIRTUAL MEETING

25 September 2020

### 1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] Mr Brent LARSON, the Implementation Facilitation Unit Lead of the IPPC Secretariat, opened the meeting and welcomed the RPPO representatives.

### 2. Updates from RPPOs and IPPC Secretariat

#### 2.1. Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)

- [2] Mr Yubak Dehoj G.C (APPPC representative) presented the regional activities including the IPPC Regional Workshop for Asia which was held in September. The workshop discussed regional issues and APPPC work plan in addition to the IPPC activities. He also highlighted the progress of ePhyto in the region and national activities such as pest surveillance and reporting and International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) advocacy.

#### 2.2. Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)

- [3] Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH (CAHFSA representative) presented the updates on the regional activities such as video conferences and webinars. She informed that Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) is being undertaken in Caribbean countries using virtual tools. She also informed the meeting about several capacity development projects including an online workshop on Banana Fusarium TR4. She added the IPPC Regional Workshop for the Caribbean, in addition a National Reporting Obligation (NRO) workshop was also successfully completed. Updates on IYPH activities and ePhyto adoption were also shared.

#### 2.3. Comunidad Andina (CAN)

- [4] Mr Camilo BELTRAN (CAN representative) presented key activities in the region. He informed that CAN joined the international partnership on emerging pests related to potato disease: Potato zebra chip. It was also shared a guide on Banana Fusarium TR4 was developed and became available on their website. He added CAN participated in workshops and meetings including the IPPC Regional Workshop for Latin America and a regional meeting for TR4 organized by FAO.

#### 2.4. Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE)

- [5] Mr James PAZO (COSAVE representative) provided an update on regional activities such as regional coordination of preparing comments on draft ISPM and the progress on implementing the IPPC ePhyto solution. He highlighted the regional activities on locust which is a current serious concern in the region and he informed the participants that pest control activities had been carried out with producers but the COVID-19 situation made the delivery of these activities very complex. He also informed the participants that a reference manual for the surveillance of the locust at the regional level is being prepared. COSAVE had also participated in the FAO TR4 Emergency Cooperation Technical Program. He added that a virtual seminar on ePhyto for Latin America and the Caribbean is planned to take place in October 2020.

## 2.5. European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)

- [6] Mr Nico HORN (EPPO representative) shared an update and informed the meeting that EPPO has been delivering their activities virtually but they are still exploring the best way to work, noting that informal interactions which take place at physical meetings are being missed. He requested the IPPC Secretariat to help ensure the RPPOs receive emails promoting the various IPPC Secretariat calls so that RPPOs are able to coordinate regional responses in a timely manner. A workshop on ISPM 15 implementation for NPPOs and industry has been postponed. It was also highlighted that there was a request at the IPPC Regional Workshop for Europe and Central Asia to have the draft ISPMs in Russian, as well as the IPPC Guide on Pest Free Areas, the IPPC Secretariat encouraged EPPO to raise these issues with their members and their regional Bureau representative. IYPH activities have been undertaken virtually and hopefully the International Plant Health Conference will be held next year.

## 2.6. Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC)

- [7] Mr Jean Gerard MEZUI-M'ELLA (IAPSC representative) shared updates on IAPSC activities. The impact by emerging pests in the region was highlighted. He introduced a plan on the IYPH activities and noted that IAPSC supported Zambia as the champion for the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH). The IPPC Regional Workshop for Africa and NRO workshop were successfully delivered. A new website<sup>1</sup> for the IAPSC was released with updated information.

## 2.7. North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)

- [8] Mr. Alonso SUAZO (NAPPO representative) informed participants that NAPPO activities have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially the cancelation of face-to-face meetings and conferences. NAPPO staff is currently teleworking from home. He informed that despite the setbacks from the pandemic, NAPPO continues the timely delivery of its products to stakeholders. Mr. Suazo also informed that in 2020 NAPPO initiated work on three new projects: The harmonization of protocols for the detection of ToBRFV (Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit virus) in the NAPPO region, the revision/update of a NAPPO regional standard on the importation of wooden and bamboo commodities into the region (RSPM 38) and the development of a guidance document to facilitate the implementation of ISPM 25 (*Consignments in transit*). He also highlighted that the English and Spanish versions of part 1 of a Manual on Risk-Based sampling will be posted to the NAPPO website soon. He also informed that Mexico recently joined the North American Sea Container Initiative (NASCI) making NASCI a truly North American Initiative. Mr. Suazo concluded his update by inviting participants to visit the new NAPPO website and noted the section devoted to the IYPH where articles in English, Spanish and French produced by the NAPPO IYPH Expert Group are posted each month to help raise awareness of plant health.

## 2.8. Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO)

- [9] Mr Mekki CHOUIBANI (NEPPO representative) provided an update on NEPPO activities. He noted that the IPPC Regional Workshop for Near East and North Africa was completed successfully. He highlighted four pests of concern in the region: *Xylella fastidiosa*, Fall armyworm, Red Palm weevil and HLB. He also informed that NEPPO was participating in the FAO Fall armyworm global action and shared regional activities on this pest including monthly virtual meetings with national contact points and staff from FAO offices.

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<sup>1</sup> IAPSC website: <https://auiapsc.org/>

## 2.9. Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)

- [10] Mr Fermin BLANCO (OIRSA representative) informed participant about the emergency actions on HLB in El Salvador and locust in Guatemala and El Salvador. It was highlighted that OIRSA was actively involved in virtual training on Banana Fusarium TR4 and other pests and that phytosanitary alerts were issued on locust and Khapra beetle which provided information on their diagnosis and control. OIRSA also participated in the IPPC Regional Workshop for Latin America. Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO)
- [11] The representative from the PPPO was not in attendance.

## 2.10. IPPC Secretariat

- [12] The IPPC Secretariat presented a paper<sup>2</sup> providing an update on the Secretariat's activities since the last RPPO update meeting in June 2020. He highlighted the challenges faced during the pandemic and informed the meeting that the Secretariat was exploring ways to manage some of the necessary meetings using virtual tools. It was noted that the Secretariat is currently negotiating with donors to allow resources budgeted for travel to be spend in other areas such as the development of eLearning etc. Participants were also informed that the Secretariat was investigating how to progress the work of the CPM, noting that CODEX was considering the adoption of international standards by electronic means.
- [13] He highlighted that contingency planning will be discussed by Bureau and the subsidiary bodies to address current issues and prepare for future unplanned events. Participants were informed that the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) would be held next month and the focus of the discussion would be on the concept of the eight Development Agenda items of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030. The meeting was informed that the Bureau at their meeting in July 2020 had recommended the SC forward the draft ISPM on Authorization of entities to the CPM for adoption. It was also noted that this topic would be discussed in an webinar put on by the SC on 20 October 2020 and that an IRSS study, presenting a snap shot of how authorization is used will also be presented, noting that the WTO will also hold a thematic seminar on a related topic in November. He also reported seven IPPC Regional Workshops were successfully delivered in 2020 noting there are various approaches depending on the region and it might be beneficial for RPPOs to discuss this and agree to some best practices for future.
- [14] He reminded participants that if phytosanitary technical resources were sent to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org), the IC would review them and if they considered them useful for other countries and regions, the Secretariat would post them as "Contributed Resources"<sup>3</sup>. Participants were also informed that the Secretariat was currently working to address the issue on the performance of the IPP. Regarding the IPP issue, he informed participants that there are three different buttons on the IPP to subscribe to: 1) News, 2) Calls and 3) Announcements respectively and if they subscribed to all three they would be notified any time a new item got posted. He also requested RPPOs consider translating IPPC Guides, or to liaise with FAO Regional Offices to see if the costs for translations could be worked into project budgets as normally, projects implemented by the IPPC Secretariat did not have a budget line for translations.
- [15] Participants discussed the updates. One RPPO representative questioned if the chair of the TC-RPPO should have been consulted in the preparation of this meeting. . The Secretariat responded that this meeting is chaired by the Secretariat as it is an informal update meeting of RPPOs and not the formal TC-RPPO and the group was informed that the Secretariat would consult with FAO legal as to the current status of the TC-RPPO chair as the TC-RPPO planned for April 2020 had been cancelled.

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<sup>2</sup> 02\_RPPO\_2020\_Sep

<sup>3</sup> Contributed resources: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/guides-and-training-materials/contributed-resource-list/>

- [16] The APPPC representative highlighted that the APPPC website hosted by FAO is still not activated and requested the Secretariat could investigate this issue.
- [17] One RPPO representative noted it might be useful to exchange and share experiences on the different types of virtual tools or related software that were being used to continue their work during the pandemic and this was proposed as a possible point for a future meeting.
- [18] The Secretariat invited the RPPO representatives to send their presentations to the Secretariat so that they would be posted on the IPP restricted work area to be shared with RPPOs.

### 3. Discussion

#### 3.1. Consideration of items to discuss at future meetings and approach

- [19] The Secretariat presented a paper<sup>4</sup> on the proposal of possible agenda items for the TC-RPPO to discuss and the proposal for the TC-RPPO to be held in a series of virtual meetings. It was noted that other agenda items could be considered in the future and the meetings of the TC-RPPO would not necessarily be limited to the ones proposed.
- [20] The Secretariat noted that discussion papers on any given agenda item should be posted two weeks prior meetings. It was suggested that if the discussion paper is not posted by the deadline, the agenda item should be removed to ensure participants are able to fully prepare for the discussions in advance. The Secretariat suggested that the time of the planned meetings should be rotated, considering the different time zones, noting that such a rotation would “share the pain”. RPPOs agreed with the suggested approach.
- [21] One RPPO representative supported the proposal as a way to move forward. Another RPPO representative suggested some topics should be grouped to be discussed together as they are linked. He also supported the discussion with FAO legal services on the rules of TC-RPPO.
- [22] One RPPO representative suggested to add an agenda item on how Plant Health is involved in the “One Health Approach. This was added to the agenda items to be discussed.
- [23] RPPOs agreed to the following TC-RPPO virtual sessions:
- [24] **3 December 2020 (13:00 Rome time)** to discuss
- Sharing experiences of RPPOs on interactions and useful tools (paper/presentation will be prepared by each RPPO)
  - Contingency plan to work in emergency situations (paper will be prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)
  - Update on the proposal for the International Day for Plant Health (paper will be prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)
- [25] Noting the following deadlines:
- [26] 12 November 2020 for submitting the paper to the Secretariat.
- [27] 19 November 2020 for posting documents on the IPP.
- [28] **29 January 2021 (19:00 Rome time)** to discuss:

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<sup>4</sup> 03\_RPPO\_2020\_Sep

- Pest outbreak Alert and Response System, Emerging pests, National Reporting Obligations and DART tool (paper will be prepared by Mr Nico HORN and the IPPC Secretariat)
- How Plant Health is involved in One Health Approach (paper will be prepared by Mr Camilo Beltran Montoya)
- Global phytosanitary research coordination: next steps (paper will be prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)
- Guidance for new heads of RPPOs to contribute to the IPPC mandate (paper/presentation will be prepared by Ms Stephanie BLOEM and Ms Juliet GOLDSMITH)

[29] Noting the following deadlines:

[30] 8 January 2021 for submitting the paper to the Secretariat.

[31] 15 January 2021 for posting documents on the IPP.

[32] **26 February 2021 (13:00 Rome time)** to discuss:

- Amendments to Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of TC-RPPO (paper will be prepared by Ms Stephanie BLOEM and the IPPC Secretariat with support from FAO Legal office)
- Review of ECOWAS's application to be recognized as an RPPO (once package submitted, paper will be prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)
- Coordination for 2021 Call for topics (TBD)

[33] Noting the following deadlines:

[34] 5 February 2021 for submitting the paper to the Secretariat.

[35] 12 February 2021 for posting documents on the IPP.

### **3.2. Next virtual meeting**

[36] The TC-RPPO meeting series will begin on **3 December 2020 (13:00 Rome time)** via zoom.

### **4. Close of Meeting**

[37] The Secretariat thanked participants for the cooperation and closed the meeting.

**APPENDIX 1: AGENDA**

<b>Agenda Item</b>		<b>Document No.</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Opening of the Meeting</b>		Chaired by Brent Larson and opened by Avetik Nersisyan
<b>2.</b>	<b>Updates from RPPOs and IPPC Secretariat (Maximum 10 mins each)</b>		
2.1	APPPC		Mr Yubak Dhoj GC
2.2	CAHFSA		Ms Juliet Goldsmith
2.3	CAN		Mr Camilo Beltran Montoya
2.4	COSAVE		Mr James Pazo
2.5	EPPO		Mr Nico Horn
2.6	IAPSC		Mr Jean-G�rard M�zui M'ella
2.7	NAPPO		Mr Alonso Suazo
2.8	NEPPO		Mr Mekki Chouibani
2.9	OIRSA		Mr Fermin Blanco
2.10	PPPO		Mr Visoni Timote
2.11	IPPC Secretariat	02_RPPO_2020_Sep	Mr Brent Larson
<b>3.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>		
3.1	Consideration of items to discuss at future meetings and approach (e.g. multiple virtual meetings spaced out)	03_RPPO_2020_Sep	Mr Brent LARSON
3.2	Next virtual meeting		Ms Masumi YAMAMATO
<b>4.</b>	<b>Close of the Meeting</b>		Mr Brent Larson

**APPENDIX 2: PARTICIPANTS LIST**

<b>Attending</b>	<b>Region/ Role</b>	<b>Name, mailing, address, telephone</b>	<b>Email address</b>
✓	Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC)	<b>Mr. Jean Gérard MEZUI M'ELLA</b> Director of Interafrican Phytosanitary Council of African Union African-Union Interafrican Phytosanitary Council / Conseil Phytosanitaire Interafricain de l'Union Africaine P.O.Box 4170 Nlongkak, Yaoundé, Cameroon Tel:(+237) 222 21 19 69, (+237) 694 89 93 40, +237 673275853 Fax:(+237) 222 21 19 67	MezuiJG@africa-union.org; jeangerardmezuimella@gmail.com
✓	Near East Plant Protection Organisation (NEPPO)	<b>Mr. Mekki CHOUIBANI</b> Executive Director Near East Plant Protection Organisation (NEPPO) NEPPO Batiment C de l'INRA, Angle des Avenues Ibn Al Ouazzani et Hassan II. Rabat. Morocco Tel:+212 537 704 810 Mobile: + 212 673 997 808 Fax:+212 537 7087 63	hq.neppo@gmail.com; chouibani@gmail.com
✓	Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC)	<b>Mr. Yubak Dhoj G. C.</b> Senior Agricultural Officer (Plant Protection)FAO Regional Office for Asia (RAP) 39 Phra Atit Road Bangkok 10200, Thailand Tel: +662974268 Mobile:+66858758784 Fax:+662 6974445	yubak.gc@fao.org; yubak.gc@yahoo.com
✓	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)	<b>Mr. Nico M. HORN</b> Director-General European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO/OEPP) 21 boulevard Richard Lenoir 75011 PARIS FRANCE Tel:+ 33 (0) 1 45 20 77 94	nico.horn@epo.int
✓	Comunidad Andina (CAN)	<b>Mr. Camilo BELTRAN MONTOYA</b> Responsable de Sanidad VegetalSecretaría General de la Comunidad Andina Avenida Paseo de la República 3895 San Isidro Lima Peru Tel:+ 71065 89	cbeltran@comunidadandina.org; correspondencia@comunidadandina.org
	Comite de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE)	<b>Mr. César De La Cruz</b> Director General de Sanidad Vegetal, del Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agraria (SENASA) -Presidente del Comité Directivo del COSAVE 2020-2021 Av. La Molina 1915, La Molina, Lima	cdelacruz@senasa.gob.pe asist_tecnico@cosave.org

Attending	Region/ Role	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address
		Perú Tel:(+511) 313-3300 Anexo 6101	
	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)	<b>Mr. Efraín MEDINA GUERRA</b> Executive Director OIRSA Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria ' OIRSA Edificio OIRSA Calle Ramón Beloso, final pasaje Isolde Colonia Escalón, San Salvador Apdo. Postal (01) 61, San Salvador El Salvador Tel:+503 2263 1127 Mobile:+503 7737 9999 Fax:+503 2263 1128	emedina@oirsa.org; svegetal@oirsa.org
✓	Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)	<b>Ms. Juliet GOLDSMITH</b> Plant Health Specialist Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) Letitia Vriesdelaan #10 Paramaribo, Suriname Tel:+ 597 422 546 Mobile:+ 597-725-2922	juliet.goldsmith@cahfsa.org; rppo.secretariat@cahfsa.org
	North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)	<b>Ms. Stephanie BLOEM</b> Executive Director North American Plant Protection Organization Secretariat 1730 Varsity Drive, Suite 145, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606 United States of America Tel:+ 919 617 4040 Mobile:+ 919 480 4761	stephanie.bloem@nappo.org; tita.bloem@gmail.com
	Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO)	<b>Mr. Visoni TIMOTE</b> Executive Secretary Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Pacific Community (SPC) Pacific Community, Land Resources Division, Private Mail Bag ,Suva, Fiji Tel:(+679) 337 9220 or (+679) 337 0733 Ext:35220 Mobile:(+679) 863 3542 Fax: (+679) 337 0021	visonit@spc.int; timotev@gmail.com
✓	NAPPO	<b>Mr Alonso Suazo</b>	alonso.suazo@nappo.org;
✓	COSAVE	<b>Mr James Pazo</b>	secretaria_tecnica@cosave.org;
✓	OIRSA	<b>Mr Fermin Blanco</b>	
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Avetik Nersisyan</b> <b>Standard Setting Unit Lead</b>	Avetik.Nersisyan@fao.org;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Brent Larson</b> <b>Implementation and Facilitation Unit Lead</b>	Brent.Larson@fao.org;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Arop Deng</b> <b>Integration and Support Team Lead</b>	Arop.Deng@fao.org;



<b>Attending</b>	<b>Region/ Role</b>	<b>Name, mailing, address, telephone</b>	<b>Email address</b>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Mirko Montuori</b> <b>IYPH Project Officer</b>	Mirko.Montuori@fao.org;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Ms Masumi Yamamoto</b> <b>Implementation Facilitation Officer</b>	masumi.yamamoto@fao.org;