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Продовольственная и
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منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Fifteenth Session

Virtual Meeting, 16, 18 March and 1 April 2021

**Report from Strategic Planning Group - Strengthening the Strategic
Planning Group's strategic focus and value to the Bureau and CPM**

Agenda item 8.3

Prepared by the United States and the IPPC Secretariat

I. Background

1. At the October and subsequently November 2020 Strategic Planning Group (SPG) meetings, the United States proposed that the SPG's Rules of Procedure (RoPs) be updated to better focus its role as a strategic, forward-looking advisory body to CPM.
2. The SPG was unanimous in the view the SPG can and should continue to provide strategic analysis and advice to the CPM on various new and emerging issues and trends of strategic interest and relevance to the IPPC and the broader global plant health community.
3. However, it was also recognized that some of the SPG time and functions - defined in its RoPs and reflected in some meetings - strayed into operational and administrative matters which dilute its value in advising on strategic issues and directions. Hence, the SPG welcomed the opportunity to further improve SPG efficiency and clarity of role.

II. SPG Outcomes

4. It was in this context that the SPG reviewed and further revised the United States proposed changes¹ to its RoPs. Ultimately, the SPG agreed that the proposed revisions to the RoPs (see Annex 1) would help ensure SPG meetings are more strictly focused on addressing and advising on emerging

¹ 05_SPG_2020_Nov

strategic issues including new global policy developments and challenges, rather than reviewing operational and administrative matters.

5. Furthermore, the proposed revisions also incorporate a new procedure which would enable future SPG agendas to be comprised of issues and topics submitted by contracting parties. This would give contracting parties an opportunity to submit one or two high level issues, requiring a short brief that describes the issue and its relevance to CPM. The CPM Bureau will review all the submitted issues, and then select the top 6-8 issues to form the basis of the SPG agenda.

6. This approach to developing SPG agendas would ensure that contracting parties take responsibility for identifying key needs and issues they want addressed - provided they are strategic and relevant to the broader plant health community - and hence more likely support and fund.

7. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *approve* the proposed revised Rules of Procedure for the IPPC Strategic Planning Group (Annex 1).

Annex 1: Proposed Revisions to the SPG Rules of Procedure (Clean version)

Strategic Planning Group: Rules of Procedure²

Rule 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) is to provide recommendations and advice to the CPM on current and emerging issues and events which may impact implementation of the IPPC, CPM operations and CPM long term strategic goals.

Rule 2. Functions

The SPG will meet its objectives through carrying out the following functions:

- 1) provide periodic review of the IPPC strategic framework and its implementation;
 - identify and analyze new or emerging international policy issues, trends, or events which may impact the IPPC's overarching goals, objectives or operations.
 - prepare advice and recommendations to the CPM and Bureau for responding to emerging threats and opportunities in the global plant health arena
 - provide any other strategic intelligence and input for CPM which would better position CPM and its contracting parties to deliver, adjust, and take advantage of the changing operating environment.
 - address other strategic matters (not administrative or operational issues) referred to it from CPM and Bureau or requested by contracting parties

Rule 3. Membership

The SPG will consist of:

- the members of the CPM Bureau;
- the Chairpersons of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) and the Standards Committee (SC);
- representatives of the Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs);
- other interested persons representing Contracting Parties.

Rule 4. Meetings

The SPG will meet at least once a year and no less than four months prior to the CPM meeting, to allow for report preparation and the undertaking of specified activities before the CPM meeting.

The Vice-Chairperson of the CPM Bureau or in their absence another member of the CPM Bureau will chair the meetings of the SPG.

Other interested persons representing Contracting Parties with a specific interest in contributing to the strategic work of the SPG should indicate their intent to participate in a meeting of the SPG no less than 45 days prior to the beginning of the meeting. Wherever possible, members of the SPG will fund their own travel and daily subsistence to attend the meetings. Members of the CPM Bureau and the Chairpersons of the subsidiary bodies may request financial assistance from FAO for meetings, with the understanding that priority for financial assistance, if available, is given to participants from developing countries.

² Adopted by CPM-13 (2018), Appendix 4 to the report

Rule 5. Recommendations

The SPG strives for consensus on all issues in providing recommendations and advice to the CPM. Where no consensus can be reached, the CPM will be informed of the situation.

Rule 6. Documentation, records and reports

In developing the agenda, the CPM Bureau will engage contracting parties in identifying and suggesting strategic issues and topics which merit SPG attention. The Bureau will make the call for such topics with the necessary explanatory paper 90 days prior to the SPG meeting and will select up to the top 5 strategic issues for SPG discussions.

The CPM Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson (supported by the IPPC Secretariat) will prepare a provisional agenda. The Secretariat will make it publicly available on the IPP no less than 45 days prior to the relevant SPG meeting.

Other meeting documents will be made available as soon as possible after the preparation of the provisional agenda and preferably no less than 14 days prior to the meeting.

The SPG will elect a rapporteur for each meeting from among the participants. The IPPC Secretariat will keep the records of the SPG meetings and prepare a report for the CPM no later than 30 days after the conclusion of the meeting.

Rule 7. IPPC Secretariat

The IPPC Secretariat will provide administrative, technical and editorial support as it may be required by the SPG.

Rule 8. Language

The business of the SPG should be conducted in English.

Rule 9. Amendment

Amendments to these rules of procedure for the SPG will be made by the CPM as required.

Annex 2: Proposed Revisions to the SPG Rules of Procedure (Tracked Change version)

Strategic Planning Group: Rules of Procedure³

Rule 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) is to provide recommendations and advice to the CPM on current and emerging issues and events which may impact implementation of the IPPC, CPM operations and CPM long term strategic goals.

Rule 2. Functions

The SPG will meet its objectives through carrying out the following functions:

- provide periodic review of the IPPC strategic framework ~~and its implementation to enable the SPG to provide the valuable input it has in the past;~~

NEW

- identify and analyze new or emerging international policy issues, trends, or events which may impact the IPPC's overarching goals, objectives or operations.
- prepare advice and recommendations to the CPM and Bureau for responding to emerging threats and opportunities in the global plant health arena
- provide any other strategic intelligence and input for CPM which would better position CPM and its contracting parties to deliver, adjust, and take advantage of the changing operating environment.
- address other strategic matters (not administrative or operational issues) referred to it from CPM and Bureau ~~or requested by contracting parties to enable discussion on new strategic issues raised by contracting parties.~~

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Rule 3. Membership

The SPG will consist of:

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Rule 5. Recommendations

The SPG strives for consensus on all issues in providing recommendations and advice to the CPM. Where no consensus can be reached, the CPM will be informed of the situation.

Rule 6. Documentation, records and reports

NEW: In developing the agenda, the Bureau will engage [\(with assistance from the IPPC Secretariat\)](#) contracting parties in identifying and suggesting strategic issues and topics which merit SPG attention. The Bureau will make the call for such topics with the necessary explanatory paper 90 days prior to the SPG meeting and will select [up to](#) the top 5 strategic issues for SPG discussions.

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