



**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING
OF THE COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES FOCUS GROUP ON
PEST OUTBREAK ALERT AND RESPONSE SYSTEMS**

12 January 2020 (12 pm - 3 pm), Rome Time (Central European Time, GMT +1)

1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] Mr Brent LARSON, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat - Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU) Team Lead, welcomed the participants and officially opened the first virtual meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Focus Group on Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems.
- [2] He introduced himself and highlighted the activities of the IFU with respect to implementation and capacity building of the 184 Contracting Parties with the financial support from FAO and various donors.
- [3] He concluded his opening remarks by expressing his 2025 vision for the Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems of having the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) as a live and interactive platform where correct and reliable information updated by National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) can be accessed.

2. Meeting Arrangements

2.1 Introduction of participants and their expertise and vision on “which IPPC alert and response systems will be in place in 2025”?

- [4] Ms Sarah BRUNEL, the IPPC Secretariat - Implementation Facilitation Unit Deputy Lead also extended her welcome to all participants. Each participant gave a brief self-introduction focusing on professional background and their 2025 vision on the “IPPC Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems”.

2.2 Election of the Rapporteur

- [5] Ms Mariangela CIAMPITTI, Standards Committee (SC) Representative, volunteered to be Rapporteur and was assisted by Mr Chiluba MWAPE, International Phytosanitary Consultant for the IPPC Secretariat.

2.3 Adoption of the Agenda

- [6] The Agenda was adopted as presented and is as attached to the Minutes (Appendix 1).

3.0 Administrative Matters

- [7] Participants confirmed that they were comfortable with the use of the zoom platform.
- [8] The meeting was informed that all relevant documents to the activities of the Focus Group will be shared online through the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) restricted area.

3.1 Documents List

- [9] The List of Documents only included the Agenda.

3.2 Participants List

- [10] The participants list is as attached in Appendix 2.

4.0 General presentations

4.1 The IPPC Secretariat's activities and Focus Group information

- [11] Ms Sarah BRUNEL gave a presentation on the IPPC, the IPPC Secretariat's activities and main Focus Group information¹.
- [12] She highlighted the tasks of the Focus Group as guided by the Terms of References² to be in line with from the IPPC Strategic Framework.
- [13] The outputs of the Focus Group will be presented to the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) in 2022. This includes recommendations on how to build an efficient and effective programme to strengthen Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems and the development of relevant tools to be used such as surveillance tools for different pests. Budget estimates should be considered too.
- [14] An explanation was given that the CPM Bureau would like the programme to "Strengthen Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems" to build synergies with existing initiatives or activities conducted by other FAO units and organizations, as well as with the IPPC National Reporting Obligations programme.

4.2 The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures Bureau and its role

- [15] Mr Lucien KOUAME, the CPM Bureau representative to the Focus Group, gave a presentation on the CPM Bureau and its role³.
- [16] The CPM Bureau was established in 2005 as the executive body of the Commission.
- [17] It provides guidance to the IPPC Secretariat on activities, particularly those related to financial and operational management, between CPM sessions and meets at least five times per year including one virtual meeting.
- [18] The CPM Bureau is composed of seven members, one per FAO region.

4.3 The Implementation and Capacity Development Committee and its role

- [19] Ms Olga LAVRENTJEVA, Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) Representative to the Focus Group, made a presentation of the IC and its role⁴.
- [20] She indicated that the IC is composed of 12 members, plus one Regional Plant Protection Organisation (RPPO) representative and one SC representative.
- [21] She explained the purpose, the activities and the work procedures of the IC. This included provision of technical guidance to enhance the capacity of Contracting Parties to implement the IPPC and meet its strategic objectives.

4.4 The Standard Committee and its role

- [22] Ms Mariangela CIAMPITTI, Standards Committee (SC) representative to the Focus Group, shared a presentation on the SC and its role⁵.

¹ Presentation on the IPPC, the IPPC Secretariat's activities and main Focus Group information:

<https://www.ippc.int/en/work-area-publications/89353/>

² Terms of Reference CPM Focus Group Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/88797/>

³ Presentation of the CPM Bureau and its role <https://www.ippc.int/en/work-area-publications/89354/>

⁴ Introduction to the Implementation and Capacity development Committee <https://www.ippc.int/en/work-area-publications/89355/>

⁵ Introduction to the Standard Committee <https://www.ippc.int/fr/work-area-publications/89356/>

- [23] The SC is composed of 25 members and of observer(s) from the seven FAO regions. Its primary role includes overseeing the IPPC standard setting process to develop international standards. She indicated it may take 5 to 10 years to conclude the development of a standard.
- [24] Ms CIAMPITTI explained that the implementation of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)⁶ is key to Pest Outbreak and Response Systems. Specifically, she cited ISPM 2 – *Framework for pest risk analysis*; ISPM 11 – *Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests*; ISPM 8 – *Determination of pest status in an area*; ISPM 9 – *Guidelines for pest eradication programmes*; and ISPM 19 – *Guidelines on list of regulated pests*.

5.0 General discussion and the way forward

- [25] The Focus Group engaged in a general discussion on the following points
- A concern was raised on how the tasks outlined in the Terms of References were going to be fulfilled within the life span of the Focus Group, initially planned to end in July 2021. The IPPC Secretariat explained that the duration of the group could be extended depending on the outstanding workload. The extension of the Focus Group is subject to the approval of the CPM Bureau and the availability of Focus Group experts.
 - The Focus Group wanted to know the modalities of following up on the tasks outlined in the Terms of References. The Secretariat informed the group that a draft action plan which had been shared with the IC was going to be shared to have an in-depth discussion during the next meeting. The IPPC Secretariat elaborated on how the tasks and the Strategic Framework activities including the draft action plan are all aligned for ease of monitoring the implementation of this programme.
 - A question was raised on what to be achieved by the group. The IPPC Secretariat explained that the expected achievements of the Focus Group were concrete recommendations with an action plan and budget for setting the IPPC Secretariat pest outbreak alert and response systems, including the development of necessary tools. All these products would be presented to the CPM as required. The need to identify the scope of the alert and response systems was also discussed.
 - What will be the criteria for identifying priority pests as a pest is local somewhere and how are we to set those criteria? As the task of defining criteria is not easy, why do we need these criteria? It was observed that regulated pests in some areas are not always the same in other areas. The Secretariat explained that the focus will be mostly on quarantine pests⁷ as opposed to regulated non-quarantine pests taking into consideration the impact on trade. Therefore, the Group will be required to set criteria for considering pests. It was noted that it is impossible to analyse all lists of regulated pests available in the world, but that the rate of pest spread should rather be considered as a criterion.
 - The group discussed the fact that one of the tasks consists in making recommendations on the best tools for use by contracting parties.
 - The Secretariat highlighted the need to set alliances with organizations having alert and response systems in place to avoid duplication of efforts. The use of the CABI Plantwise Knowledge Bank⁸ maintained by the Plantwise Programme under CAB International was cited as an example. This is a free access plant health tool mostly used by “Plant Doctors” who run plant clinics.

⁶ Adopted ISPMs: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/ispm/> ch

⁷ Quarantine pest: A pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled.
https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2019/06/ISPM_05_2019_En_Glossary_2019-06-26_PostCPM-14-Fixed.pdf

⁸ CABI Plantwise Knowledge Bank: <https://www.plantwise.org/knowledgebank/>

6.0 Any other business

[26] No other business was discussed.

7.0 Date and arrangement of the Next Meeting

[27] The meeting will be held on every first Tuesday of each month on rotational basis of timing to rotate in between different time zones (8 am, 2 pm and 10 pm Rome time).

8.0 Evaluation of the meeting process

[28] Meeting evaluation will be done online. The IPPC Secretariat will share the link.

9.0 Close of the Meeting

[29] In closing, Ms BRUNEL thanked participants for a very productive meeting.

APPENDIX 1: AGEND

Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the Meeting	
1.1	Opening by the IFU Team lead (5 min)	LARSON
2.	Meeting Arrangements	
2.1	Introduction of participants and their expertise and vision on “which IPPC alert and response systems will be in place in 2025”? 5 minutes per participant (1 hour to 1 hour and half)	ALL PARTICIPANTS
2.3	Election of the Rapporteur (5 min)	BRUNEL
2.4	Adoption of the Agenda (5 min)	VM10_01_IC_2021_Jan BRUNEL
3.	Administrative Matters	
3.1	Documents list (1 min)	BRUNEL
3.2	Participants list (1 min)	BRUNEL
4.	General presentations	
4.1	Presentation of the IPPC, the IPPC Secretariat’s activities and main Focus Group information (10 min)	BRUNEL
4.2	Presentation of the CPM Bureau and its role (10 min)	KOUAME
4.3	Presentation of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) and its role (10 min)	LAVRENTJEVA
4.4	Presentation of the Standard Committee (SC) and its role (10 min)	CIAMPITTI
5.	General discussion	
5.1	General discussion on the way forward (20 to 50 minutes)	BRUNEL
6.	Any other business (2 min)	ALL PARTICIPANTS
7.	Date and arrangement of the Next Meeting (2 min)	BRUNEL
8.	Evaluation of the meeting process (5 min)	JIMENEZ
9.	Close of the Meeting (2 min)	BRUNEL

APPENDIX 2: PARTICIPANTS LIST

Region/Country /IPPC Body/Organization	Name, Organization, Address, Telephone	e-mail account
CPM Bureau Representative	Mr Lucien KOUAME Inspecteur Direction de la Protection des Végétaux, du Contrôle et de la Qualité Ministère de l'Agriculture Cote D'Ivoire	l.kouame@yahoo.fr
IC Representative NPPO	Ms Olga LAVRENTJEVA Adviser in Phytosanitary Affairs Ministry of Rural Affairs NPPO of Estonia	Olga.lavrenteva@agri.ee
SC Representative NPPO	Ms Mariangela CIAMPITTI Head of pest survey and plant protection Unit, NPPO of Italy	Mariangela.ciampitti@ersaf.lombardia.it
Africa Region South Africa NPPO	Mr Jan Hendrik VENTER Manager Plant Health Early Warning Systems, NPPO South Africa	janhendrikv@daff.gov.za
Asia Region China NPPO	Ms Xiaonan LI Deputy Division Chief/ Senior Agronomist, NPPO of China No. 20, Maizidian Street, Chaoyang District, Beijing China	lixiaonan@agric.gov.cn
Europe Region European Commission DG Health and Food Safety	Ms Panagiota MYLONA Policy Officer EU- European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety Belgium	Panagiota.Mylona@ec.europa.eu
Latin America and the Caribbean Region Argentina NPPO	Mr Hector Emilio MEDINA SENASA, Argentina	hmedina@agro.uba.ar
North-America Region – Canada NPPO	Ms Mireille MARCOTTE National Manager, Plant Health Surveillance Unit, Canada/ Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)	Mireille.marcotte@canada.ca
South West Pacific Region Fiji NPPO	Mr Nitesh DATT Principal Plant Protection Officer, NPPO Fiji	dattvasu@yahoo.com.au
OIRSA RPPO expert	Mr Carlos URIAS General Director of Plant Health, OIRSA	curias@oirsa.org

	Represented by Xavier Euceda	
CABI International Organization	Mr Roger DAY Programme Executive, Action on Invasives, CABI	r.day@cabi.org
CIRAD (Centre de coopération international en recherche agronomique pour le développement) Network of researchers	Ms Catherine ABADIE, Research Director, CIRAD, Guadeloupe	catherine.abadie@cirad.fr
FAO/WHO International Organization	Ms Eleonora DUPOUY Food Safety and Quality Officer, FAO	Eleonora.Dupouy@fao.org
IAEA /FAO International Organization	Mr Walter ENKERLIN Entomologist, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	W.R.Enkerlin@iaea.org
International Society for Plant Pathology Network of researchers	Ms Kitty F. CARDWELL Professor and Director, United States/Oklahoma State University, Institute of Biosecurity and Microbial Forensics	kitty.cardwell@okstate.edu