



Invitation to the 15th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures

16 March, 18 March and 1 April 2021

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has the honour to refer to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and to extend an invitation to attend the 15th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-15). The Session will be held virtually on 16 and 18 March, and on 1 April 2021.

The Session is being convened under the provisions of Article XI of the International Plant Protection Convention (1997) and is open to all Contracting Parties to the Convention. According to the decisions made by a qualified majority of the IPPC contracting parties, CPM-15 will be held virtually.

The Session will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

The Provisional Agenda is enclosed and other working documents will be made available on the IPPC website: <https://www.ippc.int/en/>

The Director-General would appreciate being informed, as early as possible, of the names, official titles, addresses and *email accounts* of representatives designated to participate in the Session. Online registration for countries is available through the password-protected FAO Members Gateway: <http://www.fao.org/members-gateway/en/>. Instructions for online registration can be downloaded from the Gateway. Online registration requires the insertion of an email account in the form for accreditation. The link to access the virtual meeting will be made available upon receipt of the above information and the same email address will have to be inserted in the Zoom registration form to grant representatives access to the virtual meeting platform.

Credentials of the representative(s), as well as the names of alternate representatives and advisers should also be submitted to the IPPC Secretariat at the following email address: IPPC@fao.org

Please note that credentials of Members and Associate Members of the Organization shall be valid if they:

- i. bear the signature of, or are signed on behalf of, one of the following authorities: Head of State, Head of Government, Minister for Foreign Affairs or Minister for the Department concerned;
- ii. are letters signed by an Ambassador, Chief of Mission or Chargé d'affaires, which contain a phrase confirming that they are acting upon instruction from their governments;
- iii. are "Ordres de Mission" if specific mention is made to the 15th Session of the CPM, and if they are signed by the Minister concerned;
- iv. are Notes Verbales; and
- v. are scanned copies of the original credentials.

An example of credentials is attached for your information.