



الاتفاقية الدولية
لوقاية النباتات

国际植物
保护公约

International Plant
Protection Convention

Convention internationale
pour la protection des végétaux

Международная конвенция по
карантину и защите растений

Convención Internacional
de Protección Fitosanitaria

Rome, 30 April 2021

Planned Interventions and Statements from the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) for SBSTTA-24 and SBI-03, May-June 2021

SBSTTA-24

SBSTTA-24 - Agenda Item 3: Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Document: CBD/SBSTTA/24/3, CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/ADD1, CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/ADD2/REV1

IPPC Secretariat's input for FAO's verbal intervention

The International Plant Protection Convention is one of the biodiversity-related conventions. The Secretariat, hosted by FAO, and the IPPC Community are fully committed to supporting the targets of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The IPPC Secretariat stresses the importance to ensure that as parties move towards adopting the framework and its individual targets, they do not lose sight of the work that is already being proposed, planned and implemented under the IPPC with regard to the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. National Plant Protection Organizations, which are often in Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry, share the same goals of protecting our environment where threatened, and of sustaining the environment for the future generations in complete alignment with the CBD's vision for 2050 of "Living in Harmony with Nature". The IPPC community is committed to working with you to make that vision a reality.

Written Statement

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is one of the biodiversity-related conventions, and the IPPC Secretariat is part of the Biodiversity Liaison Group. The IPPC community is fully committed to supporting the targets of the **Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)**. The current draft of the GBF has several targets that the IPPC community contributes to, most significantly a new target on **Invasive Alien Species (IAS)**.

In reviewing the GBF, the IPPC Contracting Parties (henceforth "the IPPC Community") consider that most of the targets have a direct relationship with, and potential impact from, the work of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), especially related to **International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)** and Recommendations adopted by the CPM.

For example, the redefined mission of the IPPC Community: "protecting global plant resources from pests while facilitating safe trade", as embodied in the recently adopted the **IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030**, clearly states the role of the IPPC in the protection of plants, which are the cornerstone of biodiversity. The IPPC Strategic Framework also includes several development agenda items, such as

dealing with pest outbreaks, e-commerce and assessing and managing the impact of climate change on plant health, which contribute to the GBF.

This mission, along with the goal of helping to ensure that “all countries have the capacity to implement harmonized measures to reduce pest spread and minimize the impact of pests on food security, trade, economic growth, and the environment”, will directly impact the protection of wilderness areas, threatened and endangered species, and facilitate the recovery of damaged areas and restoration of species.

Most significantly, this has an important relevance to the GBF Target 5: “By 2030, manage, and where possible control, pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, achieving [50%] reduction in the rate of new introductions, and control or eradicate invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts, including in at least [50%] of priority sites.”

The IPPC Community recognizes the threat of invasive species that affect plants (in IPPC vocabulary “pests”, meaning both insect pests and diseases) and has focused the development of the ISPMs on preventing their spread, their establishment in areas where they have not previously been, and their eradication if they do occur. These standards cover a variety of different areas such as the assessment of risks, establishment of pest free areas, management and eradication of pests, and surveillance for pests.

In addition, new standards are always being developed to address arising issues. The IPPC Community, together with the IPPC Secretariat, is increasingly emphasizing the implementation of those standards through capacity development efforts, particularly with regional and national plant protection organizations (NPPOs). Also, the International Year of Plant Health, promoted by the IPPC Community and endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, has helped, even against the overwhelming backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, to increase awareness of the importance of healthy plants, and especially of the importance of protecting them from the the spread of harmful invasive species, i.e. pests.

In order to keep up with the momentum gained with the IYPH, the IPPC Community is in the process of establishing an **International Day of Plant Health**, which allows for an annual focus on the importance of healthy plants for global food security and attainment of the SDGs. We hope that members of the Convention on Biological Diversity will join in supporting and recognizing this day when it is declared.

We believe that in developing relevant **indicators**, CBD parties should take into account the shared mandate of the IPPC and CBD in relation to IAS: while being key concern in the CBD, IAS which are pests of plants, are also a key concern to the IPPC Community. Yet there is no mention of the IPPC, nor ISPMs or other instruments, in this draft.

Concerning IAS that are regulated as quarantine pests, the entire **phytosanitary infrastructure** could help manage IAS (as pests). We encourage CBD and IPPC focal points to cooperate towards the prevention and if needed, towards the management of IAS as a joint goal. Specifically, we believe that the target on IAS should include the concept of “**safe trade**” and consider both intentional and unintentional introduction of invasive species. In addition, potentially invasive species should be considered for all ecosystems (e.g. forestry pests and aquatic plants).

In setting new indicators, consideration should be given to using the information from **the IPPC National Reporting Obligations** as a baseline for indicators, and later as a measure of success. There is no global method to record the impact of IAS. NPPOs may support the development of a national list of the most important IAS and carry out pest risk analysis, provide pest report statistics, etc. for these IAS. However, it is very difficult to set such a list at the global level as the risk varies between areas.

The approach on how to **measure** indicators should take account of the following components:

- a) communications;
- b) resource mobilization; and
- c) capacity development.

Efforts need to be made to help support more investment for **surveillance**, consistent with the IPPC message of prevention being a better option than eradication or management.

The IPPC Secretariat stresses the importance to ensure that as parties move towards adopting the framework and its individual targets, they do not lose sight of the work that is already being proposed, planned and implemented under the IPPC and in other like-minded global, regional and national organizations whose mandates are in line with the targets of the GBF. National Plant Protection Organizations, which are often in Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry, share the same goals of protecting our environment where threatened, and of sustaining the environment for the future generations in complete alignment with the CBD's vision for 2050 of "Living in Harmony with Nature". The IPPC community is committed to working with you to make that vision a reality.

SBSTTA-24 - Agenda Item 4: Synthetic biology

Document: CBD/SBSTTA/24/4/REV1

Written Statement

Synthetic biology has a potential impact on plant health.

We encourage IPPC contracting parties to follow this issue closely, and if necessary, to take suitable actions and keep the CPM informed as necessary.

SBSTTA-24 - Agenda Item 5: Risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms

Document: CBD/SBSTTA/24/5

Written Statement

The focus on Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) at SBSTTA-24 is on fisheries. ISPM 11: *Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests* provides guidance on assessing environmental risks from LMOs.

We encourage IPPC contracting parties to follow this issue closely, and if necessary, to take suitable actions and keep the CPM informed as necessary.

SBSTTA-24 - Agenda Item 10: Invasive Alien Species

Document: CBD/SBSTTA/24/10, CBD/SBSTTA/24/10/CORR1

Verbal Intervention if possible (IPPC Secretariat)

- CBD-IPPC Secretariats have a **joint work plan** which includes work on IAS and we are in the process of updating it.
- Welcome advice in the document (CBD/SBSTTA/24/10) and emphasize the need to work with **National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO)**, especially for the **use of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM)** for assessing the risks of potential IAS (pests) and providing science based options for the management of IAS that affect plants and their environs (ISPM 11: ***Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests***, which includes assessing environmental risks). Engaging with your NPPO concerning IAS that are regulated as quarantine pests, the entire phytosanitary infrastructure could help manage IAS (as pests).
- Welcome enhanced collaboration among broad sectors to address issues related to IAS.
- With regard to e-Commerce, we would like to inform members that the IPPC Secretariat has created an **informal network of e-Commerce experts**, focusing on phytosanitary issues who are developing an **IPPC e-Commerce Guide for plants, plant products and other regulated articles**.
- Our Commission on Phytosanitary Measure (CPM-15, 2021) recently in March 2021 adopted our **IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2030)**, one of the main objectives is to *Protect the environment from the impacts of plant pests*. We believe that in developing relevant indicators, CBD parties should take into account the shared mandate of the IPPC and CBD in relation to IAS: while being key concern in the CBD, IAS which are pests of plants, are also a key concern to the IPPC Community, yet there is no mention of the IPPC, nor ISPMs in this draft which maybe something to consider further.

Written statement

The IPPC Secretariat has had a long collaboration with the CBD Secretariat on Invasive alien Species (IAS) matters and we participate actively in the Inter-agency liaison group on IAS, which is also included in the **joint work plan** (currently being updated) between the two Secretariats.

The IPPC community welcomes the advice contained in document: CBD/SBSTTA/24/10 including the use of International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) for assessing the risks of potential IAS (pests) and providing science based options for the management of IAS that affect plants and their environs (**ISPM 11: Pest risk analysis for quarantine pests**, which includes assessing environmental risks).

Pending funding, the IPPC Secretariat stands ready to contribute to the development of **explanatory guide for the application of ISPMs to help prevent the introduction and spread of IAS** that affect plant health.

Regarding plant health risks associated with **e-Commerce**, the IPPC Secretariat has created an informal network of e-Commerce experts, focusing on phytosanitary issues. The network is intended to enhance collaboration among the participants, to facilitate the exchange of information about e-Commerce initiatives and issues, and to identify opportunities for establishing a joint inter-agency toolkit to address the plant health risks associated with cross-border e-Commerce. The network includes National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) experts from developing and developed countries as well as representatives of several key international organizations including the World Customs Organization (WCO), Universal Postal Union (UPU), Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF),

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Codex and OIE. In addition, the IPPC Community has started the development of an IPPC e-Commerce Guide for plants, plant products and other regulated articles (2017-039) which we hope to have published in early 2022.

The current draft of the **Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework** has a **new target on IAS**. We believe that in developing relevant indicators CBD parties should take into account the shared mandate of the IPPC and CBD in relation to IAS: while being key concern in the CBD, IAS which are pests of plants, are also a key concern to the IPPC Community. Yet there is no mention of the IPPC, nor ISPMs and other instruments in this draft.

We encourage CBD and IPPC focal points and NPPOs to cooperate towards the prevention and if needed, the management of IAS as a joint goal. The entire phytosanitary infrastructure can help manage IAS that are regulated as pests. We also welcome enhanced collaboration among broad sectors to address the issue of invasive alien species that includes pests and pathogenic agents affecting plant health.

We believe that the target on IAS should include the concept of “safe trade” and consider both intentional and unintentional introduction of invasive species. In addition, potentially invasive species should be considered for all ecosystems (e.g. forestry pests and aquatic plants).

In setting new indicators, consideration should be given to using the information from the IPPC National Reporting Obligations as a baseline for indicators, and later as a measure of success. There is no global method to record the impact of IAS. NPPOs may support the development of a national list of the most important IAS and carry out pest risk analysis, provide pest report statistics, etc. for these IAS. However, it is very difficult to set such a list at the global level as the risk varies between areas.

The approach on how to measure indicators should take account of the following components:

- a) communications;
- b) resource mobilization; and
- c) capacity development.

Efforts need to be made to help support more investment for surveillance, consistent with the IPPC message of prevention being a better option than eradication or management.

The Commission on Phytosanitary Measure (CPM-15, 2021) recently in March 2021 adopted the **IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2030)**. One of the main objectives of the strategic framework is to “protect the environment from the impacts of plant pests.” It also includes several development agenda items related to the work of the CBD and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, for example items dealing with pest outbreaks, e-commerce and assessing and managing the impact of climate change on plant health.

SBI-03

SBI-03 - Agenda Item 7-C: Communications

Document: CBD/SBI/3/9

Written Statement

The IPPC Secretariat has been participating in weekly meetings of the Biodiversity Communication Flotilla, composed of Public Information Officers of biodiversity-related conventions, relevant international organizations and initiatives. The flotilla aims at exchanging information, plans and best practices to communicate respective messages, while coming up with joint initiatives and advancing agreed messaging on the global biodiversity agenda. Recent collaborations include: support for each other's social media campaigns (including the International Year of Plant Health, the International Day for Biological Diversity and the fifteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures), development of joint products like the "People For Our Planet"¹ aggregator tool, joint campaigns like the one leading up to COP-15, and joint usage of a media monitoring tool.

The IPPC Secretariat recognizes the importance and effectiveness of such coordination mechanism, and its value for the IPPC community, and calls for additional funding to be secured for biodiversity communication efforts at the global scale, including for the successful implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

SBI-03 - Agenda Item 8: Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives

Document: CBD/SBI/3/10

IPPC Secretariat's input for FAO's verbal intervention

The International Plant Protection Convention, whose Secretariat is hosted by FAO, is a member of the Biodiversity Liaison Group and serves as steering committee member for the UNEP project on synergies among biodiversity-related conventions. We wish to reiterate the importance of this project in the context of broader collaborative, streamlined efforts towards the protection of the environment and biodiversity. In particular, more consideration could be given to the Data Reporting Tool introduced in the project, to expanding the participation scope in the InforMEA portal, and to joint capacity development efforts. In addition, we would like to encourage CBD contact points to liaise and cooperate with their national IPPC contact points, who often sit in the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry, in order to achieve the shared mandate.

Written Statement

As a member of the Biodiversity Liaison Group, the IPPC Secretariat participates in regular BLG meetings aimed at enhancing cooperation on matters of mutual interest, and serves as steering committee member for the UNEP project on synergies among biodiversity-related conventions. The project has five components: 1. Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework; 2. Reporting, Monitoring and Indicators (Data Reporting Tool); 3. Cooperation among Public Information Officers (resulting in work of the Biodiversity Communication Flotilla); 4. Information Management and Awareness Raising; 5. Capacity Building.

The IPPC Secretariat recognizes the importance of this project in the context of broader collaborative efforts towards the protection of the environment and biodiversity. While the focus of the IPPC Secretariat's involvement has been placed on communication-related actions, it is believed that the IPPC community could further benefit from a wider IPPC Secretariat's involvement in the project

¹ Ref. <https://www.cbd.int/article/people-for-our-planet-aggregator>

implementation and in its development as it evolves into its subsequent phases. In particular, attention could be given to the Data Reporting Tool² and its possible utilization in the IPPC context, as well as broader participation in the InforMEA³ portal, and consideration of joint capacity development efforts.

In addition, we would like to encourage CBD contact points to liaise with their national IPPC contact points who often sit in Ministries of Agriculture, to cooperate in achieving their shared mandate.

² Ref. <https://dart.informea.org/>

³ Ref. <https://www.informea.org/>