



REPORT

BUREAU OF THE COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES (TELECONFERENCE)

**ROME, ITALY
06 MAY 2021**

IPPC SECRETARIAT

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1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] Mr Lucien KONAN KOUAME, Chairperson of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. He congratulated the IPPC Secretariat on a well-organized CPM-15. He encouraged all participants to keep the active engagement under his chairmanship and thanked Mr Francisco Javier TRUJILLO ARRIAGA, former CPM Chairperson, for his excellent work and commitment, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [2] Mr Avetik NERSISYAN, IPPC Secretary Officer-in-Charge for daily matters, congratulated Mr KONAN KOUAME and Mr John GREIFER, newly appointed CPM vice-Chairperson, and joined the CPM Chairperson in thanking Mr TRUJILLO ARRIAGA for his effective work and dedication during his extended period of chairmanship. He suggested to draft a schedule of the CPM Bureau meetings as well as consider establishing more sustainable positions within the IPPC Secretariat such as a Communication Officer, recalling that said matter was already discussed in the past.

2. Meeting Arrangements

2.1. Documents list

- [3] The List of Documents was circulated and is attached to this report as [Annex 1](#).

2.2. Participants list

- [4] The List of Participants is attached to this report as [Annex 2](#).

3. Adoption of the Agenda

- [5] Mr KONAN KOUAME noted three additional items under Any Other Business, as requested by CPM Bureau members via email:
- IRSS Call for Topics.
 - Update on the selection of the new IPPC Secretary.
 - Update on the situation and activities undertaken by the IPPC Secretariat on *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical Race 4.

- [6] The agenda was adopted and is attached to this report as [Annex 3](#).

4. Review and allocation of savings in 2021 IPPC Work Plan and Budget

- [7] Mr John GREIFER presented a summary of the topic, highlighting that some savings from the 2020 IPPC work plan and budget were made as a result of reduced travels and physical meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He reported that such savings may be utilised to initiate the work on some items of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020 – 2030 Development Agenda as well as some IPPC Secretariat operational costs and other expenses emerging from decisions of the fifteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-15). The final table with saving allocations is attached to this report as [Annex 5](#).

- [8] Several CPM Bureau members noted that the original allocation to initiate preliminary studies on diagnostic laboratory networks should be reduced from 80 000 USD to 40 000 USD, to gather some evidence and define a clear scope for this development agenda item and the Bureau suggested to redraft the Terms of Reference (ToRs). The CPM Bureau agreed to the rest of the saving allocations.
- [9] The IPPC Secretariat thanked the CPM Bureau and suggested it may be appropriate to consider the creation of more permanent positions to support its work.
- [10] The IPPC Secretariat suggested to ask a quotation from the International Computing Centre of the United Nations (UNICC) for the renovation of the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).
- [11] The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau that the current saving allocations (USD 640,000) represent approximately fifty percent of the total un-earmarked funds available in the IPPC Multi-donor trust fund.
- [12] The CPM Bureau:
- (1) *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to redraft the Terms of Reference to collect relevant information on the status of diagnostic laboratories globally and reducing the allocated amount to USD 40 000.
 - (2) *Agreed* to allocate the 2020 savings according to the table in Annex 5

5. Permitting observers at Bureau to build capability

- [13] Mr Peter THOMSON (CPM Bureau member for South-West Pacific) described the main options for allowing observers and informed the CPM Bureau that the FAO Legal Office considered the matter and concluded that the CPM Bureau may invite additional participants to attend meetings as observers if it so decides. He suggested to begin a pilot period and then have a discussion on this.
- [14] The CPM Bureau expressed its support to include observers in view of building capacities, especially for replacement members. The proposal may be replicated by SC and IC.
- [15] The CPM Bureau:
- (3) *Agreed* to continue inviting observers to CPM Bureau meetings to build capacities and review this practice to evaluate its efficacy as appropriate.

6. Update on the upcoming IYPH webinars and IYPH closing event

- [16] The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau that the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) will not be taking place in Finland this year and is currently being rescheduled for the week of 12 May 2022 but no country has committed to host it so far. The IPPC Secretariat indicated that a series of IYPH webinars will take place on 1, 29, 30 June and the closing ceremony on 1 July, with the FAO Director-General attending two of the four events, namely on 1 June and 1 July. The IPPC Secretariat specified that those events will be webcast through the FAO website and that the IYPH webinars on 29 and 30 June are registered as Independent Dialogues of the UN Food System Summit (FSS).

[17] The CPM Bureau:

(4) *Noted* the update and *welcomed* the initiatives being planned for the closing of the IYPH.

7. Follow-up from the standards committee

[18] The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau that the Standards Committee (SC) recently approved the participation of Implementation and Capacity Development (IC) representatives in Experts Working Groups (EWGs) for the development of IPPC standards and some additional staff from National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) in the SC virtual meetings as “silent observers”. She recalled that the SC agreed in the April 2021 Focused Meeting¹ to update the *IPPC procedure manual for standard setting* to allow the participation of the IC representatives in the EWGs, and to present this decision to the CPM Bureau for noting. The Secretariat also presented the SC request to allow a NPPO to have more than one observer joining the SC virtual meetings, under the exceptional circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic and under the virtual modality of SC meetings to build the NPPO staff’s capacity. She mentioned that the FAO Legal Office was consulted on both topics and did not raise any objection in implementing these initiatives, provided that the latter is limited to the emergency period only as a change in the SC Rules of Procedures would require a CPM decision.

[19] Ms Marica GATT (CPM Bureau member for Europe) raised some concerns regarding the selection of experts from some regions who happen not to be able to participate fully through virtual means and invited the IPPC Secretariat to consider maintaining more direct communications with those IPPC contracting parties experiencing such difficulties.

[20] The CPM Bureau:

(5) *Noted* that the SC agreed to invite IC members to attend Expert Working Groups and thus the IPPC procedure manual for standard setting, section 6.1, be adjusted accordingly.

(6) *Noted* that the SC agreed to allow additional representatives from NPPOs to observe virtual meetings of the Standards Committee as “silent observers”, under the exceptional circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the virtual modality of SC meetings.

8. Review of requests for commenting period for draft CPM Recommendations

[21] The IPPC Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau that they received the query from the Cargo Integrity Group - which includes among its members Cargo Integrity Group - the Container Owners Association (COA), the Global Shippers Forum (GSF), the International Cargo Handling Co-ordination Association (ICHCA), the TT Club and the World Shipping Council (WSC) - whether parties in the supply chain will be given the opportunity to provide comments during the consultation period on the CPM

¹ See SC April 2021 Focused Meeting report at: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/89821/>

Recommendation on *Facilitating safe trade by reducing the incidence of contaminating pests associated with traded goods* (2019-002).

[22] The CPM Bureau considered receiving comments from the private sector as an important element to set standards that may be picked up globally, but concurred that private sector entities should consider sharing their comments through the NPPOs in their respective countries, while agreeing to discuss and evaluate the possibility to expand their participation in the standard setting process and to provide comments to the CPM Recommendations.

[23] The CPM Bureau:

(7) *Decided* to continue with the current procedures while encouraging the private sector to continue providing their comments through the NPPOs in their respective countries.

(8) *Agreed* to review this matter to better assess the possibility to expand participation to private sector entities in the standard setting process and CPM Recommendations procedures.

9. Any Other Business

- *IRSS Call for Topics*

[24] Mr Fuxiang WANG (CPM Bureau member for Asia) reported on the IRSS sub-group meeting and informed the CPM Bureau that there is an ongoing call for topics, inviting CPM Bureau members to participate accordingly.

- *Update on the selection of the new IPPC Secretary*

[25] Mr Lucien KONAN KOUAME updated the CPM Bureau on the ongoing selection process and the CPM Bureau involvement in the coming stages, which received the positive feedback from FAO. He further informed the CPM Bureau that the written test allowed to select ten out of the fourteen candidates who are going to be interviewed soon.

- *Update on the situation and activities undertaken by the IPPC Secretariat on *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4*

[26] The IPPC Secretariat shared information about the outbreak of *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4 in Peru after it was reported in Colombia and Mozambique, with potential devastating consequences for many additional countries. that the Bureau was informed that FAO Peru declared the state of Phytosanitary emergency and requested FAO to intervene and contribute through its emergency mechanisms. The IC proposed an e-decision to establish an IC team on this matter, with similar ToRs as per the Fall armyworm group.

10. Items for future meetings

- **Discussion on CPM-15 decisions that have financial implications**
- **Plan for CPM Focus Groups**
- **Review of requests for commenting period for draft CPM Recommendations**

11. Next Meeting

[27] The next meeting of the CPM Bureau is scheduled on 10 June 2021, 12:00 – 14:00 (CEST)

[28] The CPM Bureau:

- (9) *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to create a poll to schedule CPM Bureau for the remainder of 2021.

12. Closing of the Meeting

[29] The CPM Chairperson thanked all participants and adjourned the meeting.

Annex 1 –Documents List

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE (PREPARED BY)	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
01_Bureau_2021_Mayr_Tel	03	Agenda	30-04-2021
02_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	02.1	Documents List	30-04-2021
03_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	02.2	Participants List	30-04-2021
04_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	04	Review and allocation of savings in 2021 IPPC Work Plan and Budget	04-05-2021
05_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	07	Follow-ups from the Standards Committee	30-04-2021
06_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	05	Permitting observers at Bureau to build capability	05-05-2021
07_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	08	Review of requests for commenting period for draft CPM Recommendations	30-04-2021
Info Paper	04	DRAFT Review and allocation of savings in 2021 IPPC Work Plan and Budget	04-05-2021

Annex 2 –Participants List

Attending	Participant role / Region	Name, mailing address, telephone	Email address
✓	Africa <i>Chairperson</i>	Mr Lucien KOUAME KONAN Inspecteur Direction de la Protection des Végétaux, du Contrôle et de la Qualité Ministère de l'Agriculture B.P. V7 Abidjan, Ph.: (+225) 07 903754 CÔTE D'IVOIRE	l_kouame@yahoo.fr
✓	Europe	Ms Marica GATT Director General (Veterinary and Phytosanitary Division) (VPRD), Abettori Street, Alberttown, Marsa HRS 1123, Ph.: (+356) 2292522 Mob.: (+356) 99421791 MALTA	marica.gatt@gov.mt
✓	Asia	Mr Fuxiang WANG Deputy Director General, National Agriculture Technical Extension and Service centre (NATESC) Ministry of Agriculture Room 630, Building No. Mai Zi Dian Street Chao Yang District, Beijing 100125 Ph.: 86-10-59194548 Mob.: 86-10-13701330221 CHINA	wangfuxiang@agri.gov.cn
✓	Latin America and Caribbean	Mr Francisco Javier TRUJILLO ARRIAGA Director General de Sanidad Vegetal Punto de Contacto Oficial de la CIPF Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria, Sagarpa, Phone: (+52) 55 59051000 Ext. 51319 MEXICO	trujillo@senasica.gob.mx
✓	North America <i>(Vice-Chairperson)</i>	Mr John GREIFER Assistant Deputy Administrator Plant Protection and Quarantine APHIS, USDA 1400 Independence Av. SW Washington, DC 20250 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	john.k.greifer@usda.gov

Attending	Participant role / Region	Name, mailing address, telephone	Email address
✓	Southwest Pacific	<p>Mr Peter THOMSON Director Plants & Pathways Biosecurity New Zealand - Tiakitanga Pūtaiao Aotearoa Ministry for Primary Industries - Manatū Ahu Matua TSB House 147 Lambton Quay PO Box 2526 Wellington 6140 DDI: +64 4 894 0353 Mbl: +64 29 894 0353 NEW ZEALAND</p>	Peter.Thomson@mpi.govt.nz
✓	Near East	<p>Mr Ahmed Kamal EL-ATTAR Professor of molecular virology. Head of Egyptian Plant Quarantine (NPPO of Egypt); Chief of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology unit; Plant Pathology Research Institute</p>	ippc@capq.gov.eg ; ahmadkamal-arc@hotmail.com

Secretariat/Observers

	Region / Role	Name, mailing, address, telephone, nationality	Email address
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Avetik NERSISYAN	Avetik.Nersisyan@fao.org ;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Brent LARSON	Brent.Larson@fao.org ;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Arop DENG	Arop.Deng@fao.org ;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Craig FEDCHOCK	Craig.Fedchock@fao.org ;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Ms Adriana MOREIRA	Adriana.moreira@fao.org ;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Mirko MONTUORI	Mirko.Montuori@fao.org ;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Marko BENOVIC	Marko.Benovic@fao.org ;
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Ms Sarah BRUNEL	Sarah.Brunel@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI	Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org

Annex 3 – Provisional Agenda

AGENDA ITEM		DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1.	Opening of the Meeting	--	Lucien KUAME KONAN / Avetik NERSISYAN
2.	Meeting Arrangements		Arop DENG
2.1	Documents list	02_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	
2.2	Participants list	03_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	
3.	Adoption of the Agenda	01_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	Lucien KOUAME KONAN
4.	Review and allocation of savings in 2021 IPPC Work Plan and Budget	04_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	John GREIFER / Marko BENOVIC / Team Leads
5.	Permitting observers at Bureau to build capability	06_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	Peter THOMSON
6.	Update on the upcoming IYPH webinars and IYPH closing event	Link to IYPH events page	Mirko MONTUORI
7.	Follow-ups from the Standards Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IC representatives in EWGs • Request of additional observers attending SC meetings under exceptional circumstances 	05_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	Adriana MOREIRA
8.	Review of requests for commenting period for draft CPM Recommendations	07_Bureau_2021_May_Tel	Adriana MOREIRA
9.	Any Other Business	--	Lucien KOUAME KONAN
10.	Items for future meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on CPM-15 decisions that have financial implications - Plan for CPM Focus Groups - Review of requests for commenting period for draft CPM Recommendations 	--	John GREIFER / Marko BENOVIC Arop DENG / Mirko MONTUORI Adriana MOREIRA
11.	Next Meeting	--	Lucien KOUAME KONAN
12.	Closing of the Meeting	--	Lucien KOUAME KONAN

Annex 5– Action List

N.	Action	Lead	Lead within Secretariat/CPM Bureau/ Persons involved	Deadline
1	Redraft the Terms of Reference to collect relevant information on the status of diagnostic laboratories globally and reducing the allocated amount to 40 000 USD	IPPC Secretariat	Ms Adriana MOREIRA	08/06/2021
2	Invite potential CPM Bureau replacement members as observers to the next CPM Bureau meetings	CPM Bureau	All members	Ongoing
3	Encourage the private sector entities interested in participating to the Standard Setting Process and CPM Recommendations procedures to approach IPPC CPs	IPPC Secretariat	Ms Adriana MOREIRA	Ongoing
4	Assess the possibility to expand participation to private sector entities in the standard setting process	IPPC Secretariat	Ms Adriana MOREIRA	Ongoing

Annex 5 – Summary of the approved proposals and the corresponding budgets

Standard Setting Unit (SSU)	Amount
Laboratory Diagnostic Networking	40 000
Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions	20 000
Standards Committee training material	30 000
Subtotal SSU	90 000
Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU)	
Improving the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool	110 000
Subtotal IFU	110 000
Integration and Support Team (IST)	
IPP improvement	200 000
Scientific Copy-Editor	80 000
Communication Specialist	100 000
Subtotal IST	380 000
ePhyto solutions	
To fully fund 2021 contract with UNICC (development of GeNS and HUB)	60 000
Subtotal ePhyto	60 000
Total (USD)	640 000