updates from the ippc Secretariat and the standards committee (SC)

(*Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat*)

This paper was prepared by the IPPC Secretariat to provide the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP) a brief update on the recent activities of the Standards Committee (SC) as well as the Diagnostic Laboratory Networkas one of the eight key development agenda items of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 as it could potentially relate to the work of the TPDP.

Updates from the SC

Since the last meeting of the TPDP on 7 April 2021, the IPPC Standards Committee (SC) met virtually in May and again in June and July 2021 for focused meetings.

At their May meeting, the SC approved four draft ISPMs for first consultation[[1]](#footnote-1) and they also approved (via eDecision) the draft DP *Candidatus* Liberibacter spp. on *Citrus* spp. (2004-010) for first consultation. In 2021 there is a total of 16 draft ISPMs for first and second consultation as well as one draft specification, and one draft CPM recommendation for the consultation period. The draft ISPMs (including the draft DP) are now available for commenting via the [Online Commenting System (OCS)](https://ocs-new.ippc.int/Public/LoginPage.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f&framevalidated=true) until **30 September 2021**.

In June, the SC, via eDecision discussed and approved the draft DP *Striga* spp. (2008-009) to be sent to the DP Notification Period[[2]](#footnote-2) that is currently ongoing until **15 August 2021**.

The purpose of the June meeting was to review the work of the technical panels, new approaches to the List of Topics for IPPC Standards (LOT), proposals for the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS), and noted the updates from the CPM Bureau and the Standard Setting Unit of the IPPC Secretariat.

Relative to the TPDP, the SC agreed to renew the membership of Mr Robert Taylor, expert for bacteriology and backup for mycology from New Zealand, to a second term on the TPDP.

At their recent July meeting, the SC met to address development agenda items of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and enhance synergies in its areas of collaboration. The SC decided to create small groups to advance ideas on each development agenda item assigned to the Standard Setting Unit (Commodity- and pathway-specific ISPMs; Developing guidance on the use of third-party entities; Diagnostic laboratory networking), and present the results at the next SC virtual focused meeting in September.

In addition, the SC reviewed the Framework for Standards and Implementation, a database of existing standards, topics, and other reference materials in the context of the IPPC core provisions, which identifies gaps to guide the development of standards and other materials to support implementation.

Finally, the SC discussed the updates from the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) and its groups and sub-groups, CPM focus groups and technical working groups, that may impact the SC’s work, in particular:

The SC meeting reports are available to download and review here: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/standards-committee/> however, please note the report for the June and July meetings are not yet available.

Update on developmental agenda item: diagnostic laboratory networking

**Focus Group.** During the Fifteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-15) it was agreed to establish a CPM Focus Group on Implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework's 2020–2030 development agenda items[[3]](#footnote-3). The CPM Focus Group on Implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework's 2020-2030 development agenda items is expected to hold its first meetings in September 2021.

The idea is to present to this focus group any ideas or suggestions that the SC small groups come up with to advance each development agenda item.

**CPM Bureau 2021.** The CPM Bureau in May 2021[[4]](#footnote-4) approved the allocation of 40K (USD) from the IPPC Secretariat 2020 budget savings to start some work on this development agenda that will feed into the CPM focus group on the strategic framework and the Secretariat work plan. The first intent is to have someone in the IPPC Secretariat that can focus and dedicate time to start this. It is intended to have a consultant expert in the subject matter to gather data on the topic, do a literature search, make a project proposal and provide suggestions, actions, or indicators to help with the implementation of this development agenda.

The Terms of Reference (ToR) of such consultant is open for commenting by the Bureau and members of the TPDP (see Appendix 1).

Recommendations to the TPDP

The TPDP is invited to

1. *Note* the updates in this paper
2. *Make* suggestions and *comment* on the development agenda item for diagnostic laboratory networking, including the ToR in Appendix 1.

**Appendix 1.**

**Laboratory Diagnostic Networking**

**Terms of Reference for International Consultant1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** | XXX | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Job Title:** | | International Consultant on phytosanitary diagnostic protocols | | | | | | | | | |
| **Division/Department:** | | | | | NSP/IPPC | | | | | | |
| **Programme/Project Number:** | | | | | |  | | | | | |
| **Location:** | | Home-based (XXX) | | | | | | | | | |
| **Expected Start Date of Assignment:** | | | | | | | 2021-09-01 | **Duration:** | | 50 days (WAE – 15 January 2022) | |
| **Reports to:** | | | ***Name*** |  | | | | ***Title:*** |  | | |
| **General Description of task(s) and objectives to be achieved** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under the general supervision of the IPPC Secretariat, the consultant will perform the following tasks:   1. Gather data on diagnostic laboratories (up to 30 days)  * Do a literature review on the topic * Gather information on diagnostic laboratories including operational expertise (including reference, national or general laboratories) * Make analysis and best practices and success of established laboratory networks * Draft a preliminary report on data collected      1. Draft a first concept for the implementation of the diagnostic laboratories networks (up to 20 days)  * Present the results to the IPPC Secretariat | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Key performance indicators** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Expected Outputs associated with the tasks identified in previous section:  (to be completed) | | | | | | | | | | | Required Completion Date:  (15 January 2022) |

1. Current consultation for draft ISPMs: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/member-consultation-draft-ispms/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. DP Notification Period: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/notification-period-dps/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. CPM-15 Report: [https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/89669](https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/89669/) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 2021-05 CPM Bureau Report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/89901/> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)