



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

6 July 2021 at 10:00 PM-1:00 PM (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) Lead, welcomed the participants to the seventh virtual meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Focus Group on Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems.
- [2] Ms Mireille MARCOTTE was elected Chair of the meeting. Ms Mariangela CIAMPITTI volunteered to be the rapporteur.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1. Adoption of the agenda

- [3] The agenda was adopted by all participants and is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2.2. Adoption of the FG VM minutes for the VM 04 and VM 06

- [4] The group members were invited to adopt the minutes of VM 04 and VM 06, however this had to be delayed as some persons had not received the documents or could not access them on MS Teams. The Secretariat representative was able to email the minutes to the members who needed them. The members were asked to provide their comments on the minutes and send them by the next day.

3. Work activities

3.1. Road map of the CPM Focus Group and review of tasks description

- [5] For Task 1 “Review of the draft study”, the Chair noted this task had been completed and noted that the final document is on MS Teams and members can provide final comments until the 1st of September.
- [6] The Chair indicated that Task 2 “Final review of the components of the various systems” is also complete and that the document is on MS Teams. The suggestion was made that color coding could be used to show what is complete.

3.2. Tasks 3 and 8: Update on NROs and the way forward

- [7] These tasks were merged and the document was commented on. The Chair noted that contact was made with FAO legal services (LEGA) for task 3. The suggestion from the Focus Group was that the IC NROs subgroup to be established should consider the suggestions made and explore the issue further. The new version of the document for tasks 3 and 8 is available on MS Teams for comments until the 1st September.

3.3. Task 5: Discussion on the way forward on criteria for a pest to be considered emerging

- [8] The Chair noted that the current should be the last time this task would be discussed. The task Lead informed that the current document combines the background taken from the original document drafted by the IPPC Secretariat with the document developed by the group.

- [9] The group agreed that a definition of emerging pest is important as it will create a clarity and a common understanding. Several tools for characterizing pests were found and all have commonalities. For implementing the system, the Focus Group recommended that a dedicated POARS page be created within the IPP. The Focus Group also recommended that an expert working group be established to look at the different tools to see which is best to be used and develop and use the system. The document had already been commented upon, but members are welcome to comment until the 1st of September on MS Teams.

3.4.Task 6: Discussion to identify efficient methods for early identification of outbreaks and communication of alerts to NPPOs

- [10] The task Lead indicated that much of what has been discussed in other tasks captures the contents of this task. The content consists in a description of activities and the resources needed to undertake these activities. It was noted that early detectors very often are not from the NPPO, and getting them to report is important.
- [11] The presenter indicated that the section on communication and alert needs further work, and the section on proposed activities also needs further input. It was noted that there is a lot of overlap between task 6 and task 7.
- [12] The meeting discussed the possibility of having the network of information of surveillance and collection system. The IPPC Secretariat may also develop a mechanism for coordination of various alert systems, possibly in a single user interface linking to each of the systems.
- [13] The Chair indicated a meeting should be organized shortly to further the discussion on this topic, and invite the task 5 lead to the meeting.

3.5.Task 7: Discussion on useful tools

- [14] The Lead indicated that the task involves collating existing tools and finding a mechanism for adding existing tools. The meeting was informed that some tools were generic and some were species specific. Tools were categorized by types of components as defined in task 2 and some did not fall into any of the categories. A table listing the tools was presented and all members were invited to suggest any addition to the table, in particular to the generic list of tools. The meeting was informed that the excel list displayed was not the most up to date one and needed to be posted on MS Teams. The meeting discussed what the POARS webpage would look like. It was noted that the Phytosanitary Systems page already have some content that can be used.
- [15] The members were asked to comment on the document which will be kept open until the 15th of August.

3.6.Task 9: Brainstorming session on processes to engage expertise

- [16] The group proposed two groups of expertise be identified, those at the national level and those at the international level. Participants then shared their recommendations regarding the roles and responsibilities of each group, using the components of the system proposed in task 2 and used in task 7. The Focus Group suggested that the IPPC Secretariat should maintain a list of international experts tasked to guide NPPOs to get prepared for outbreaks of emerging pests. In addition, task 9 could develop a matrix containing a list of emerging pests and response preparedness tools for each of these pests. The international experts would also recommend the mechanism to engage the resources for each pest. The team also discussed what should be the mechanisms to be engaged in response to an emergency. They also suggested that an international fund could be established to support NPPOs in response to an emergency, and an area on the POARS webpage could be dedicated to provide guidance how these funds can be made available.
- [17] It was noted that some of what is presented under this task parallels with the content of task 7, hence there is a need to make sure that the contents of the different tasks are harmonized and that overlaps are minimized. It was suggested that this could be done under task 11. The members invited the other focus

group members to go through the document in MS teams and to provide their comments by the 15th of August.

3.7.Task 10: Brainstorming session on ways to present the tools

[18] The Chair reminded the participants of what the task is, the Lead for this task indicated that the priority is to define how to bring the different components of existing systems together, or get them to talk to each other. This is highly dependent on the contents of tasks 5, 6 and 7. Two systems are being considered: an alert system and a response system. The task Lead committed to look at whether the current CABI tool on Horizon Scanning¹ could be developed into an international system. The Focus Group further discussed what the system could look like, the members were recalled that roles and the framework were defined under task 4.

[19] The task Lead was asked to prepare a draft document on how the systems could be set, this will be posted on MS teams for discussions and a small group could meet in August to discuss this further.

3.8.Task 11 and 12 on action plan and budget

[20] The Chair suggested that tasks 11 and 12 should be merged so a costed action plan would be prepared to be presented to CPM-16 (2022). This being the last document from the group, the Chair recommended that all task leads participate in developing it. Ms. MYLONA volunteered to lead this group.

4. Any Other Business

[21] No other business was discussed.

5. Confirmation of date and arrangement of the Next Meeting

[22] No meeting will be organized in August, but two meetings should be organized in September to finalize all tasks. Next meetings should be organized on the 7th of September from 9 to 12 AM Rome time, and on the 21st of September from 2 to 5 PM Rome time.

6. Close of meeting

[23] In closing, the IPPC Secretariat and the Chairperson thanked the participants for a very productive meeting.

¹ <https://www.cabi.org/HorizonScanningTool>

Appendix 1:**SEVENTH VIRTUAL MEETING OF COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
FOCUS GROUP ON PEST OUTBREAK ALERT AND RESPONSE SYSTEMS***6 July 2021 at 10:00 PM-1:00 PM (Central European Time, GMT +1)*Meeting URL: <https://fao.zoom.us/j/96088310989>

Meeting ID: 960 8831 0989

Passcode: 08039932

VM07AGENDA*(Updated 2021-06-30)*

Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter
1. Opening of the Meeting		
1.1 Opening by the IPPC Secretariat and Chair of the meeting (5 min)		IPPC Secretariat/CHAIR
2. Meeting Arrangements		
2.1 Adoption of the Agenda (2 min)	VM07_01_FGPOARS_2021_Agenda	CHAIR
2.2 Adoption of the FG VM04 and VM06 minutes (3 min)	Minutes VM04 and VM06	CHAIR
3. Work activities		
3.1 Road map of the CPM Focus Group and review of tasks descriptions (5 min)	VM07_02_FGPOARS_2021_Road_map	CHAIR
3.2 Task 3 and 8: update on NROs and the way forward (25 min)	VM07_03_FGPOARS_2021_NROs	MARCOTTE, ARNITIS, CARDWELL,
3.3 Task 5: Discussion on the way forward on criteria for a pest to be considered emerging (20 min)	VM07_04_FGPOARS_2021_RPPOs_Criteria	MYLONA, ENKERLIN, CIAMPITI, MEDINA, LI, DAY
3.4 Task 6: Discussion to identify efficient methods for early identification of outbreaks and communication of alerts to NPPOs (20 min)	VM07_05_FGPOARS_2021_Methods_alerts	CARDWELL, ABADIE, DAY, MEDINA, MYLONA
BREAK 10 MIN		
3.5 Task 7: Discussion on useful tools (30 min)	VM07_06_FGPOARS_2021_Tools, VM07_06_FGPOARS_2021_Tools_Annex	DAY, VENTER, DATT
3.6 Task 9: Brainstorming session on processes to engage expertise (30 min)		ABADIE, MYLONA, ENKERLIN
3.7 Task 10: Brainstorming session on ways to present tools (12 min)		DATT, MYLONA, VENTER, DAY
3.8 Task 11: Brainstorming session on Work plan (12 min)		CIAMPITI, KOUAME, ALL LEADS
5. Any other business (5 min)		ALL PARTICIPANTS
6. Confirmation of date and arrangement of the Next Meeting (2 min)		CHAIR
7. Close of the Meeting (3 min)		CHAIR

Appendix 2**Participants List**

Region/Country /IPPC Body/Organization	Name, Organization, Address, Telephone	e-mail account
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