



Terms of Reference

Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) Team on *Fusarium oxysprum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4 (TR4)¹

1. Background

- [1] One of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 Development Agenda items is to « Strengthen Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems ». A CPM Focus Group is currently considering how to address this issue over the long term but their findings will only be presented to CPM-16 (2022).
- [2] Concrete and successful experience has recently been gained on the provision of a IPPC global response to *Spodoptera frugiperda*. The IPPC Technical Working Group established for this pest by FAO, is providing fruitful and timely outcomes to facilitate the prevention of this pest to areas where it is still absent or of limited distribution. This group drafted Prevention, Preparedness and Response Guidelines, and is preparing related virtual training courses.
- [3] To address this urgent issue, the IC has decided to create an IC Team on *Fusarium oxysprum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4 (TR4).

2. Composition of the IC team and criteria for selection of experts

- [4] The IC Team is skills and knowledge based and should be composed of:
- one expert from at least the following FAO regions where this pest has an impact and qualifies as a quarantine pest: Africa, Near-East and North Africa and Latin America,
 - at least one expert from an RPPO,
 - at least two experts representing entities involved in monitoring and responding to outbreaks for this pest such as international organization, the academia and the private sector,
 - at least one representative from the IC, in addition to the IC Lead,
 - noting experts may represent more than one role
- [5] Experts will be selected based on their technical and practical expertise in the subject matter and should have combined expertise and knowledge in:
- surveillance and diagnostic on *Fusarium oxysprum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4,
 - developing and implementing contingency plans and emergency actions, possibly specifically on *Fusarium oxysprum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4,
 - simulation exercises in general and possibly specifically on *Fusarium oxysprum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4.
- [6] Experts will also be selected based on geographical representation from both developing and developed countries to help ensure that the material developed is globally applicable and reflects best practices from all over the world. The IPPC Secretariat and the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee support equity, diversity, and inclusiveness and encourage all interested experts to submit their candidature.

3. Tasks

- [7] The IC Team on *Fusarium oxysprum f. sp. cubense* Tropical Race 4 (TR4) should undertake the following tasks:
- Develop a brief project plan (including resourcing and timings) of proposed IC Team objectives, deliverables, proposed stakeholders' engagement networks and groups, meetings and webinars, training and professional development opportunities and resource mobilization

¹ TOR for IC Team on Banana Fusarium Wilt (TR4) approved by IC (2021_eIC_08_Forum).

efforts, in line with the CPM Focus Group on Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems recommendations.

- Compile and assess scoping studies, technical situational reports, guidelines and training materials on *Fusarium oxysprum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical Race 4.
- Develop relevant global prevention, preparedness and response materials for implementation and capacity development, as well as related communication materials.
- Represent the IC Team at relevant *Fusarium oxysprum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical Race 4 meetings and events with key plant protection stakeholders.
- Establish and maintain linkages and collaboration with other relevant areas within FAO, IPPC Community, RPPOs, International Trade Organizations and other agencies as required, in particular with affected FAO regional offices which have operational, on-the-ground, logistical perspectives, and resources to contribute to this effort.

4. Organization of the IC Team meetings

- [8] The IPPC Secretariat will organize monthly meetings of the IC Team using available virtual tools. The meeting will be held in **English**, considerations for interpretation may be considered, depending on the composition of the IC team and provided resources can be secured.