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REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
9 November 2021**

IPPC Secretariat

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1. Opening of the meeting

- [1] The IPPC Secretariat (Secretariat) opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.
- [2] The Chairperson provided an update on the paper the Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) presented to the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) meeting in October 2021. The paper presented FG-CCPI's work plan and activities to date, and was well received by SPG. There was consensus that the group was moving in the correct strategic direction, and that the group's proposed outcomes aligned with the development agenda item and intent of the group. No feedback was put forward with regard to additional activities or increasing the scope of work beyond what FG-CCPI had proposed. The key element to consider moving forward would be resourcing; it would be important to be strategic and pragmatic on what FG-CCPI could deliver, as available funding was limited.
- [3] The Chairperson also said that a number of global and regional initiatives had been announced at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) with important opportunities to link to climate change impacts on plant health. FG-CCPI should look to coordinate and capitalize on investment in those initiatives.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Election of the Rapporteur

- [4] FG-CCPI participants elected Mr Glenn FOWLER as Rapporteur of the meeting.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

- [5] FG-CCPI members adopted the agenda as presented in Appendix 1 to the present report.

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Document list

- [6] FG-CCPI participants took note of the documents on the document list as presented in Appendix 2.
- [7] Two background documents listed for the present meeting provided examples for the group's consideration on the structure and formatting of action plans.

3.2 Participant list

- [8] The Secretariat introduced the participant list (Appendix 3). The Secretariat noted that Mr Godfrey Pasurai CHIKWENHERE, Ms Marica GATT, the Bureau representative, Mr Adel JAMAZI, and Mr Josef SETTELE, the independent expert on climate change, were not available to attend the meeting.
- [9] The Secretariat invited the participants to notify the Secretariat if any changes were needed to the information on the participant list.
- [10] The Chairperson acknowledged the commitment of FG-CCPI members who were participating in meetings outside of normal working hours in their time zone and appreciated their dedication.
- [11] Noting that a number of other members had not attended FG-CCPI meetings, the Secretariat suggested presenting a paper to the forthcoming Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Bureau meeting to ask to open a new call for experts to join the group. The Chairperson agreed, and said that it was important to have regional representation in the group, and for FG-CCPI to maintain a formal link with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- [12] *It was agreed that FG-CCPI would present a paper to the forthcoming CPM Bureau meeting in November 2021 to ask to open a new call for experts to join FG-CCPI to achieve the necessary representativeness.*

4. Follow-ups from previous meetings

4.1 Draft action plan for the “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health”

- [13] The Chairperson presented the draft action plan for the “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health” for the group’s consideration. The Chairperson said that as the group worked through the draft action plan, it would be important to be mindful of the resourcing required for activities. When FG-CCPI proposed an activity that required resources, it would need to provide a justification as to the activity’s benefit and a mechanism to support it. It would be important for FG-CCPI participants to draw on their internal expertise to develop recommendations rather than drawing on external resources.
- [14] The Chairperson said that the FG-CCPI should rationalize its activities, consolidate those that were similar, and make decisions based on prioritization. The Secretariat proposed to cluster similar key activities into core action areas.
- [15] FG-CCPI would submit the draft action plan for CPM Bureau consideration at its December 2021 meeting. The Bureau would provide an initial review of the plan, comment on what was out of scope or lacked resourcing, and provide feedback on practical ways to move forward. Endorsement of the plan by the Bureau was an indication that the plan would be endorsed by CPM-16 (2022). The paper for consideration at CPM-16 (2022) would need to be submitted by end January 2022 to ensure sufficient time for translation, distribution and review.
- [16] One participant asked if a proposed activity could move forward before the action plan was endorsed at CPM-16 (2022). The Secretariat said that the group was mandated with a certain degree of autonomy. If any proposed activity were intended to start before the action plan was endorsed, the Secretariat could assist to facilitate that.
- [17] The Secretariat said that a request for strategic planning information would be forthcoming from the Focus Group on Strategic Framework 2020–2030 Development Agenda Items (FG-SFDAI). The Secretariat would support FG-CCPI in providing the necessary information.
- [18] The Chairperson said that outcomes from COP26 would create opportunities for FG-CCPI to raise the profile of climate change impacts on plant health and to draw on donors and other organizations to provide resources to deliver activities. The Chairperson encouraged participants to leverage COP26 outcomes and seek opportunities within their national structures to promote plant health and to provide funding and resources to climate change and plant health activities.
- [19] The Chairperson said that the present review of the phytosanitary capacity evaluation (PCE) tool represented a good opportunity to ensure that the impacts of climate change on plant health were included in the new version of the tool, which would have a considerable impact on disseminating climate change and plant health considerations at country level.
- [20] On the proposal to include a climate change and plant health webinar in the International Year of Plant Health webinar series, the Secretariat said the webinar series had been very successful to date and suggested that FG-CCPI move forward with the proposal. Because of timeline issues, the Secretariat suggested to move the proposal for a FG-CCPI webinar to early 2022. The Chairperson said that a webinar was an excellent mechanism to reach a broad range of stakeholders, particularly those that did not necessarily have the resources to travel to international conferences. The Chairperson said that FG-CCPI participants would be responsible for developing the agenda, preparing the presentations and participating on panels. With work from FG-CCPI participants and technical and logistical support from the Secretariat, a webinar would be a resource-neutral activity, which also made it particularly appealing.
- [21] On the possibility of hosting a side session at CPM-16 (2022), the Secretariat said that a decision had yet to be made on the format of CPM. If CPM was held virtually, it might not have side sessions.

- [22] On the possibility of hosting a side session at the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC), the Secretariat said that planning for the IPHC was still ongoing, but the possibility of organizing virtual side sessions was being discussed.
- [23] In noting that some of the proposed activities were nationally or regionally specific, the Chairperson said that it was important to keep in mind that FG-CCPI activities and recommendations should be globally minded. Any proposal for a specific activity might draw questions about resourcing, and would need plans in place to ensure the activity could be funded.
- [24] The proposal to conduct an Implementation and Review Support System (IRSS) survey would be an important opportunity to get core data from contracting parties (CP). Following up on the survey in three years' time would provide FG-CCPI with good indicators of the progress of work that had been achieved.
- [25] On the question of creating guidance on climate change impacts on plant health, the Chairperson said that it was unlikely that FG-CCPI would get support to develop a new International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) until the next call for topics, possibly in two years' time. The process to develop a standard was also long, and the standard might not be finalized until after the mandate of the group expired. The Secretariat raised the possibility of proposing a CPM recommendation on the impacts of climate change on plant health. One participant said that a guideline might be more helpful than an ISPM, which created obligations. The Chairperson also noted that the process to develop and implement a guideline was 6–12 months and was less onerous than the process to develop an ISPM. Another possibility for guidance would be to include climate change impacts on plant health criteria on the template for draft specifications and into the assessment criteria for future calls for topics.
- [26] In considering opportunities to include climate change impacts on plant health considerations in other activities, the Chairperson said that countries might want to contribute resources to specific actions. FG-CCPI should follow those opportunities where they existed.
- [27] On the question of a webpage on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)¹ for climate change impacts on plant health, the Chair said that it could prove a valuable resource, and was relatively resource-neutral, as it leveraged existing material. Stakeholders often invested in the production of materials that they were happy to share, but lacked a mechanism to easily do so; a webpage provided this. The webpage would allow a broad range of materials to be disseminated quickly to the widest audience possible, and the resource impact to host the portal was modest.
- [28] The Secretariat said that it had asked the Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO) to invite FG-CCPI to participate in its forthcoming meeting and was awaiting a reply. The Chairperson said that, as the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) had oversight on TC-RPPO, IC would follow up on that request.
- [29] The Chairperson thanked the participants for their contributions and said that the action plan was achievable over four years and was well reasoned from a resource perspective. The group would have time to review and evaluate the materials as it moved forward with its work.
- [30] *It was agreed that FG-CCPI participants would provide their comments and proposed amendments to the draft action plan intersessionally using the MS Teams platform. The deadline for comment would be 26 November 2021.*
- [31] *It was agreed that the Secretariat would provide an update on the format of CPM-16 and the possibility of holding side sessions to FG-CCPI at its forthcoming meeting.*
- [32] *It was agreed that the Secretariat would follow up on the request to invite FG-CCPI to the forthcoming meeting of TC-RPPO.*

¹ International Phytosanitary Portal: www.ippc.int

5. Any other business

[33] One participant said that they had spoken about the impact of climate change on plant health and highlighted the work of FG-CCPI at the 2021 annual meeting of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO).² They also presented the *Scientific review of the impact of climate change on plant pests* for consideration. Another participant said that the topic had been well received by NAPPO members.

6. Date and arrangements of the next meeting

[34] FG-CCPI participants agreed to hold the forthcoming virtual meeting on 8 December 2021 at 11:30 to 13:30 CET.

[35] The Chairperson acknowledged the difficulty in scheduling international virtual meetings, and said that the group would facilitate the rotation of meeting times if that was a consideration for those participants who presently participated in FG-CCPI outside of normal working hours in their time zone.

7. Close of the meeting

[36] The Chairperson thanked the participants for their contributions and the Secretariat closed the meeting.

² 44th Annual Meeting of NAPPO: <https://www.nappo.org/english/2021-annual-meeting>

Appendix 1: Agenda

**COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES
VIRTUAL MEETING**

9 November 2021 Agenda Item		Document No.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the meeting	–	IPPC Secretariat Christopher DALE (FG Chairperson)
2.	Meeting arrangements		
2.1	Election of the Rapporteur	–	Chairperson
2.2	Adoption of the agenda	01_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		
3.1	Document list	02_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	Erika MANGILI
3.2	Participant list	03_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	Erika MANGILI
4.	Follow-ups from previous meetings		
4.1	Draft action plan for the “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health”	04_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	FG members
5.	Any other business	–	Chairperson
6.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting		Secretariat / Chairperson
7.	Close of the meeting	–	Chairperson

Appendix 2: Document list

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
Administrative Documents			
01_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	2.2	Provisional agenda	2021-11-03
02_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	3.1	Document list	2021-11-03
03_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	3.2	Participant list	2021-11-03
04_FG_CCPI_2021_Nov	4.1	Draft action plan for the “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health”	2021-11-03

Background documents	Agenda item
2021-23 Action Plan for the Implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors	–
The FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2016-2020	–

Appendix 3: Participant list

A check (✓) in column 1 indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting.

	Organization	Name, Organization, Address, Telephone	e-mail account
FG-CCPI members			
	NPPO of Tunisia	Mr Adel JAMAZI Director, Plant Protection Ministry of Agriculture Bizerte, Tunisia	adeljemmazi@yahoo.fr
✓	NPPO of Ghana	Ms Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH Assistant Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate, Ministry of Food and Agriculture Accra, Ghana	hsnuamah@gmail.com hsakoto@st.ug.edu.gh
✓	NPPO of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr Dominic EYRE Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs, York, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	dominic.eyre@defra.gov.uk
✓	NPPO of China	Mr Runzhi ZHANG Professor, Institute of Zoology Chinese Academy of Sciences Beijing, China	zhangrz@ioz.ac.cn
✓	NPPO of Canada	Ms Karen CASTRO Senior Risk Assessor - Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	Karen.Castro@inspection.gc.ca
✓	NPPO of the United States of America	Mr Glenn FOWLER Risk Analyst USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Sacramento, United States of America	glenn.fowler@usda.gov
✓	NPPO of New Zealand	Ms Victoria LAMB Co-Lead, HE Waka Eke Noa Climate Change Programme Extension Ministry for Primary Industries Wellington, New Zealand	Victoria.Lamb@mpi.govt.nz
✓	NPPO of Australia Chairperson	Mr Christopher DALE Assistant Director, Plant Health Surveillance and Diagnostics; Program Manager, International Plant Health Surveillance Program Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment Canberra, Australia	Chris.Dale@agriculture.gov.au
✓	NPPO of Argentina	Mr Pablo CORTESE Director of Strategic Phytosanitary Information Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASA) Buenos Aires, Argentina	pcortese@senasa.gob.ar

	NPPO of Zimbabwe	Mr Godfrey Pasurai CHIKWENHERE Deputy Director, Department of Research and Specialist Services Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water and Rural Resettlement Harare, Zimbabwe	chikwenherepasu@gmail.com
	Independent expert on climate change	Mr Josef SETTELE Head of the Department of Conservation Biology & Social-Ecological Systems Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research Halle, Germany	Josef.Settele@ufz.de
Other participants			
	CPM Bureau champion for the FG-CCPI	Ms Marica GATT Director General (Veterinary and Phytosanitary Division) Albertown, Marsa, Malta	marica.gatt@gov.mt

IPPC Secretariat

		Name	Email address
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRE	Erika.mangiliandre@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI	Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Daniel MCKINNON	danielmckinnon@yahoo.com