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## **REPORT**

# **Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues**

**Virtual Meeting  
12 October 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. Meeting arrangements**

### **2.1 Election of the Rapporteur**

- [2] Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) participants elected Ms Karen CASTRO as Rapporteur of the meeting.

### **2.2 Adoption of the agenda**

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

## **3. Administrative matters**

### **3.1 Document list**

- [4] FG-CCPI participants took note of the documents on the document list as presented in Appendix 2.
- [5] The Chairperson presented the FG-CCPI report that had been submitted to the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) for its consideration, outlining the work of FG-CCPI to date and asking SPG to note the report and to provide feedback, which would be helpful to inform FG-CCPI strategic priorities and guide the work of the focus group. The Chairperson said that a number of counterparts had commented on the considerable progress of the group to date.
- [6] The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Bureau champion for FG-CCPI also noted with satisfaction the progress of group's work to date, and said that FG-CCPI had accomplished more than expected in the short time since it had been formed.
- [7] The Chairperson noted with appreciation the participation of the CPM Bureau champion for FG-CCPI in the present meeting. The CPM Bureau champion would be an important advocate for the work of the group in the wider IPPC structure.
- [8] Noting the considerable interest in climate change and plant health issues, the Chairperson hoped to get positive feedback from SPG on the direction FG-CCPI was taking. The Chairperson also suggested that members should be in communication with their Contracting Party (CP) counterparts to keep them informed of the progress of work in FG-CCPI.

### **3.2 Participant list**

- [9] The Secretariat introduced the participant list (Appendix 3).
- [10] The Secretariat invited the participants to notify the Secretariat if any changes were needed to the information on the participant list.
- [11] The Secretariat said that two national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) were seeking to replace their members in FG-CCPI and another member was considering to step back from their role in the group. That might necessitate another round of calls for nomination to find replacements. The Chairperson said that it was important to act quickly to fill the present gaps in regional representation and to be able to incorporate contributions from new members into the activities and action plan. One participant said that it would be beneficial to have the expertise of a meteorologist in FG-CCPI, either from a CP or from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), to balance the other technical expertise in the group.

## 4. Follow-ups from previous meetings

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

- [12] The Chairperson provided an overview of FG-CCPI work to date and a summary of discussions from the preceding meeting on proposed activities.
- [13] On the proposed activities for Outcome 1) Awareness on the impacts of climate change on plant health is improved, the CPM Bureau champion said another possible activity for FG-CCPI to consider could be to convene side sessions to forthcoming CPM meetings to raise awareness on the work of the group and to promote discussion on climate change and plant health issues in the wider IPPC Community.
- [14] FG-CCPI then continued its discussions from the preceding meeting on proposed activities, as reflected in Appendix 4.
- [15] In considering proposed activities for Outcome 2) Risks of climate change to plant health are evaluated and managed, a number of participants said that it would be important to focus on existing resources where possible. Compiling existing resources into packages with one or two additional materials to tie the resources together could be useful to many CPs. Early warning, emergency response and surveillance were priority topics with clear climate change elements. FG-CCPI should explore those topics, as they had potential resources and could be a good platform to promote the work of the group. On the inclusion of climate change and plant health concerns on agendas of internal IPPC meetings, the Chairperson said that an item had been added to the agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC), and the Chairperson would report back to FG-CCPI on how the item was received. One participant said that it would be important to incorporate the cultural and social impacts of climate change on plant health, as the cultural and social significance of plants in many communities was high, and those aspects were often overlooked in risk and impact assessments.
- [16] In considering proposed activities for Outcome 3) Enhanced recognition of phytosanitary matters in the international climate change debate, a number of participants said that some of the proposed activities from the group’s Terms of Reference (ToR) were broad; feedback from SPG might offer guidance on how to address those and what FG-CCPI scope should be. It was also important to take due account of regional organizations, as they could provide important perspectives to the group and because regional organizations fed into global organizations. One participant said it could be beneficial to FG-CCPI to cooperate with the International Pest Risk Research Group.<sup>1</sup> One participant said that their upcoming participation in a panel for a side event to the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) hosted at the IPCC–World Meteorological Organization (WMO)–United Kingdom Meteorological Office Science Pavilion, entitled “Because farmers feed us all: using climate information for a resilient food system”, would be an opportunity to talk about the work of the group and to promote climate change and plant health considerations (Saturday, 6 November 2021 at 14:30–16:00 (GMT)). There were also opportunities to raise awareness of the cultural and social impacts of climate change on plant health, which could also be tied into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on protecting indigenous cultures.
- [17] The Chairperson noted that although the most recent call for topics had passed in mid-September 2021, the group should begin discussion as soon as possible on how climate change consideration could be incorporated into new and revised standards, guidelines and specifications in the forthcoming call for topics.
- [18] The Chairperson thanked FG-CCPI participants for their contributions and said that the group was off to a strong start. The draft action plan was a living document; as the group moved forward in its work, some activities may need to be reduced or rescope on the basis of available resources, while other activities might be added in. The next steps would be to package the activities and ensure they were not duplicating work being carried out elsewhere, and to plan for resources. The CPM Bureau champion

<sup>1</sup> International Pest Risk Research Group, <https://pestrisk.org>.

said that using internal resources, expertise and energies would help FG-CCPI considerably in achieving its work plans.

[19] *It was agreed that FG-CCPI would try to finalize its work plan by November in order to present it to CPM Bureau for consideration.*

## **5. Any other business**

[20] The Secretariat said that there was a forthcoming vote to decide on the format of the Sixteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-16) (2022) as a virtual or hybrid event, and asked participants to encourage their CP counterparts to submit their votes thereon in a timely matter.

[21] The Secretariat also noted that the document for CPM Bureau consideration would be due in early December.

## **6. Date and arrangements of the next meeting**

[22] FG-CCPI participants agreed to hold the forthcoming virtual meeting on 9 November 2021 at 11:30 to 13:30 CET.

[23] The Chairperson thanked those participants in the focus group who were taking part in meetings outside of normal working hours in their time zone, and expressed gratitude that all participants were willing to work together to overcome the time zone difficulties inherent to scheduling international meetings.

## **7. Close of the meeting**

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

**Appendix 1: Agenda****2021 VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE  
FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AN PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES****12 October 2021**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Document No.</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Opening of the meeting</b>	--	IPPC Secretariat Christopher DALE (FG Chairperson)
<b>2.</b>	<b>Meeting arrangements</b>		
2.1.	Election of the Rapporteur	--	Chairperson
2.2.	Adoption of the agenda	01_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	Chairperson
<b>3.</b>	<b>Administrative matters</b>		
3.1.	Document list	02_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	Erika MANGILI
3.2.	Participant list	03_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	Erika MANGILI
<b>4.</b>	<b>Follow-ups from previous meetings</b>		
4.1.	Draft action plan for the "Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health"	04_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	FG members
<b>5.</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	--	Chairperson
<b>6.</b>	<b>Date and arrangement of the next meetings</b>		Secretariat / Chairperson
<b>7.</b>	<b>Close of the meeting</b>	--	Chairperson

**Appendix 2: Document list**

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
<b>Administrative Documents</b>			
01_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	2.2	Provisional agenda	2021-10-05
02_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	3.1	Document list	2021-10-05
03_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	3.2	Participant list	2021-10-05
04_FG_CCPI_2021_Oct	4.1	Draft action plan for the “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health”	2021-10-05

Background documents	Agenda item
<a href="#">Update on activities of the CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues</a>	---
FAW Global Action Technical Committee Technical Working Group (TWG) Quarantine and Phytosanitary in relation to trade (Briefing Paper)	---

### Appendix 3: Participant list

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

	Organization	Name, Organization, Address, Telephone	e-mail account
<b>FG-CCPI members</b>			
	NPPO of Tunisia	Mr Adel JAMAZI Director, Plant Protection Ministry of Agriculture Bizerte, Tunisia	<a href="mailto:adeljemmazi@yahoo.fr">adeljemmazi@yahoo.fr</a>
✓	NPPO of Ghana	Ms Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH Assistant Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate, Ministry of Food and Agriculture Accra, Ghana	<a href="mailto:hsnuamah@gmail.com">hsnuamah@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:hsakoto@st.ug.edu.gh">hsakoto@st.ug.edu.gh</a>
✓	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	<a href="mailto:dominic.eyre@defra.gov.uk">dominic.eyre@defra.gov.uk</a>
	NPPO of China	Mr Runzhi ZHANG Professor, Institute of Zoology Chinese Academy of Sciences Beijing, China	<a href="mailto:zhangrz@ioz.ac.cn">zhangrz@ioz.ac.cn</a>
✓	NPPO of Canada	Ms Karen CASTRO Senior Risk Assessor - Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	<a href="mailto:Karen.Castro@inspection.gc.ca">Karen.Castro@inspection.gc.ca</a>
✓	NPPO of the United States of America	Mr Glenn FOWLER Risk Analyst USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Sacramento, United States of America	<a href="mailto:glenn.fowler@usda.gov">glenn.fowler@usda.gov</a>
✓	NPPO of New Zealand	Ms Victoria LAMB Co-Lead, HE Waka Eke Noa Climate Change Programme Extension Ministry for Primary Industries Wellington, New Zealand	<a href="mailto:Victoria.Lamb@mpi.govt.nz">Victoria.Lamb@mpi.govt.nz</a>
✓	NPPO of Australia	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	<a href="mailto:Chris.Dale@agriculture.gov.au">Chris.Dale@agriculture.gov.au</a>
	NPPO of Argentina	Mr Pablo CORTESE Director of Strategic Phytosanitary Information Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASA)	<a href="mailto:pcortese@senasa.gob.ar">pcortese@senasa.gob.ar</a>

		Buenos Aires, Argentina	
	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	<a href="mailto:chikwenherepasu@gmail.com">chikwenherepasu@gmail.com</a>
	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	<a href="mailto:Josef.Settele@ufz.de">Josef.Settele@ufz.de</a>
<b>Other participants</b>			
✓	CPM Bureau champion for the FG-CCPI	Ms Marica GATT Director General (Veterinary and Phytosanitary Division) Albertown, Marsa, Malta	<a href="mailto:marica.gatt@gov.mt">marica.gatt@gov.mt</a>

**IPPC Secretariat**

		<b>Name</b>	<b>Email address</b>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRE</b>	<a href="mailto:Erika.mangiliandre@fao.org">Erika.mangiliandre@fao.org</a>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI</b>	<a href="mailto:Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org">Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org</a>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Mr Daniel MCKINNON</b>	<a href="mailto:danielmckinnon@yahoo.com">danielmckinnon@yahoo.com</a>

#### Appendix 4: Key actions, and tentative delivery dates of the 2021–2025 Action Plan for the “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health”

Key actions	Tentative delivery dates	Priority
<b>Outcome 1: Awareness on the impacts of climate change on plant health is improved</b>		
Global Level Webinar (to contracting parties) on the impacts of climate change on plant health	Dec 2021	HIGH
Regional Level Webinar series (to RPPOs and NPPOs) on the impacts of climate change on plant health (targeted to regional priorities)	Feb–May 2022	MEDIUM
Stakeholder engagements at different levels (questionnaire survey and in-person and telephone interactions can be used to gather opinions of key stakeholders on climate change impacts on plant health)	2022	HIGH/ MEDIUM
Development of posters and flyers on impact of climate change on plant health (they can be shared on various digital platforms such as WhatsApp, telegram etc., where the target group can be reached)	2022–2025	HIGH/ MEDIUM
Capacity building of Agricultural Extension Agents, farmers and other relevant stakeholders on the impacts of climate change on plant health.	2022–2025	HIGH/ MEDIUM
Awareness (radio talk shows on the impact of climate change on plant health)	2022 - 2025	HIGH/ MEDIUM
A presentation titled “Initiatives to Address the Increasing Risk to Plant Health from Plant Pests Due to Climate Change” will be given by a Climate Change Focus Group member at the 2021 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) annual meeting ( <a href="https://www.napponet.org/">2021 Annual Meeting :: napponet.org</a> )	3 November 2021	HIGH
Explore how the IPPC reporting system, which combines official reporting by contracting parties with other available and published information, may be enhanced to further share information on changes to pest distributions, host range, and adaptability of pests and host plants (from FAO Scientific Review)	2022–2025	MEDIUM
Develop a “climate change impacts on plant health” webpage (landing page) on the IPP as a repository of all FG related materials and resources	2021	MEDIUM
Promote FG and action plan at the 2022 IPPC IYPH conferences	2022	MEDIUM
Include the “climate change impacts on plant health” topic onto the agenda of all upcoming IPPC IC, SC and bureau meetings to raise awareness and investigate opportunities for collaboration	2021–2025	MEDIUM
Include the “climate change impacts on plant health” topic onto the agenda of all upcoming IPPC FAW and TR4 meetings to raise awareness and investigate opportunities for collaboration	2021–	MEDIUM
Include the “climate change impacts on plant health” topic onto the agenda of all upcoming IPPC Communications FG meetings to raise awareness and investigate opportunities for collaboration	2021–2023	MEDIUM
Include side session onto the CPM agenda		
Investigate opportunities to raise awareness of the cultural and social impacts of climate change on plant health.	2022 - 2025	MEDIUM
<b>Outcome 2: Risks of climate change to plant health are evaluated and managed</b>		
Review existing NPPO approaches to incorporating climate change considerations in PRA and surveillance (e.g. questionnaire)	2022	MEDIUM
Develop recommendations regarding climate change and plant health and, if necessary, of associated guidelines for pest risk analysis and surveillance	2022–2025	MEDIUM
Provide advice on the use of climate change models e.g. pros and cons of different models, time period to use, uncertainties, geographical and temporal scale (webinars / guides / e-learning courses)	2022–2025	LOW
Provide advice on how to assess the impact of climate change on individual pests, the suite of pests on an individual crop and pest control methods	2022–2025	LOW
Develop tools or link to tools that will help national risk assessments for climate change and pest issues	2022–2025	MEDIUM
As per the recommendation in the FAO report on climate change impacts on plant pests (IPPC Secretariat, 2021) we suggest that the IPPC create ISPMs for adding climate change into pest risk assessments (PRAs). We also suggest that these	2022–2025	LOW

ISPMs provide guidance on when it is appropriate to do this and the associated challenges. Information on these topics can be found in the NAPPO discussion document, " <a href="#">Climate Change and Pest Risk Analysis</a> ", and the associated <a href="#">technical summary</a> .		
Recommend the use of Internet-based identification tools that allow for the rapid identification of plant pests, e.g. <a href="#">USDA APHIS   Pest Identification Technology Lab</a> , to help support increased plant pest surveillance and reporting recommendations in the FAO report on climate change impacts on plant pests.	2022–2025	MEDIUM/LOW
Recommend the creation of regional climate hubs, e.g. <a href="#">USDA Climate Hubs</a> that provide science-based information to agricultural and natural resource managers to help address the effects of climate change. These climate hubs could help countries with adaptation and reduce climate change related damage.	2022–2025	MEDIUM/LOW
Recommend the use of predictive models for plant pests that incorporate the effects of climate change, e.g. Climex and the Spatial Analytic Framework for Advanced Risk Information Systems (SAFARIS), to inform strategic planning and improve pest management which supports the increased capacity building recommendation in the FAO report on climate change impacts on plant pests.	2022–2025	MEDIUM/LOW
Review linkages and opportunities support the IPPC "Safe aid" trade recommendation initiative	Jan–Feb 2021	MEDIUM
Review (and develop) emergency response guidelines for pest outbreak, surveillance and monitoring.	2021–2022	HIGH
Review (and develop) effective early warning and surveillance systems.	2021–2022	HIGH
Review existing (and produce) guidance on how climate change related risks / threats can be mitigated	2022	MEDIUM
Develop an IPPC Guide to assist NPPO's in identifying, assessing and managing "climate change impacts on plant health"	March 2022	MEDIUM
Include a "climate change impacts on plant health" criteria (similar to the "potential implementation issues" criteria) onto the template for draft "standard" specifications, draft guidance material specifications and into the assessment criteria for the upcoming IPPC call for topics.		MEDIUM
Conduct a review and evaluation of all IPPC guidance materials (guides, e-learning, website component pages) to investigate opportunities to incorporate "climate change impacts on plant health" technical resources.	2021–2025	MEDIUM
Develop an IPPC guide to assist in identifying cultural and social impacts of climate change on plant health, including island communities under threat of sea level rise. [The cultural and social significance of plants in many communities is high and is an aspect often overlooked in risk and impact assessments.]	2022 - 2025	MEDIUM
<b>Outcome 3: Enhanced recognition of phytosanitary matters in the international climate change debate</b>		
Cooperate and exchange information on climate change and plant health matters with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other international and regional organizations (e.g. International Pest Research Group, CABI)	2021–2025	HIGH
Liaise with other relevant entities that deal with climate change such as the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	2021–2025	HIGH
Mainstream phytosanitary policies into the climate change debate	2021–2025	MEDIUM
Investigate opportunities to raise awareness of "climate change impacts on plant health" at the upcoming COP26 forum (Oct-Nov 2021)	Oct 2021	HIGH
Include "climate change impacts on plant health" topic onto the agenda of all upcoming RPPO meetings and conferences (including annual workshops)	Nov 2021	MEDIUM