

17. IPPC network activities

17.1 Report on technical cooperation among regional plant protection organizations

- [1] The chairperson of the thirty-third Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPOs) presented the report of the meeting, which had been held in virtual mode in three sessions, in October and November 2021 and February 2022.¹ Among the issues considered at the meeting had been the request and dossier submitted by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to become the eleventh RPPO. The TC-RPPO had reviewed the submission following the agreed procedure and with guidance from the FAO Legal Office, but had not been able to reach a consensus on whether ECOWAS fulfilled the required criteria. Nevertheless, the majority of the RPPOs had stated on record that ECOWAS met the minimum criteria and hence the TC-RPPOs had recommended to CPM-16 that ECOWAS be recognized as an RPPO.
- [2] Earlier in the session, in anticipation of this agenda item, the CPM chairperson had suggested that interested CPs participate in a Friends of the Chair meeting to discuss the ECOWAS submission. This took place outside of the session but, despite lengthy discussions, was not able to reach a consensus. The CPM therefore agreed to return to the matter later in the session.
- [3] Later in the session, the CPM chairperson informed the CPM that, following a series of consultations between ECOWAS and many of its stakeholders and partners in the intervening period, ECOWAS had decided to postpone further discussion on their submission until CPM-17 (2023) to give time for further internal dialogue and development of a collective plan. On behalf of the IPPC community, the IPPC Secretary thanked the parties concerned and looked forward to continuing the secretariat's active engagement with colleagues in Africa on this matter.
- [4] The CPM noted a suggestion from ECOWAS that a tentative time frame be set for the start and end of this period of consultation. The CPM recognized, however, that although it was important to set a time frame, the times could not be determined at this CPM-16 session as it would depend on the parties involved.
- [5] The CPM:
- (1) *noted* the report from the thirty-third meeting of the TC-RPPOs; and
 - (2) *agreed* to postpone, until CPM-17 (2023), its discussion on the TC-RPPO's recommendation for ECOWAS to be the eleventh RPPO under the IPPC.

18. Membership and potential replacements for the CPM Bureau, the Standards Committee and the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee

18.1 Membership and potential replacements for the CPM Bureau

- [6] The secretariat invited the CPM to note a change in the membership of the CPM Bureau.²
- [7] The CPM:
- (1) *noted* the replacement of Marica GATT (Malta) with Samuel BISHOP (United Kingdom) as the CPM Bureau representative for Europe (Table 1 of CPM 2022/CRP/06); and
 - (2) *confirmed* the nomination of Mariangela CIAMPITTI as the second potential replacement member for Europe on the CPM Bureau (Table 2 of CPM 2022/CRP/06).

¹ CPM 2022/38.

² CPM 2022/CRP/06.

18.2 Membership and potential replacements for the Standards Committee

[8] The secretariat invited the CPM to confirm the membership and potential replacements for the SC, and provided the CPM with a list of the nominations.³

[9] The CPM recognized that there were some inaccuracies in the papers for this agenda item regarding the terms of members and replacements from Europe and noted that the secretariat would correct these.

[10] The CPM:

- (1) *noted* the current membership of the SC and the potential replacements for the SC (Appendix XX); and
- (2) *confirmed* new members and potential replacements for the SC, and the order in which potential replacements will be called upon for each region (Appendix XX).

18.3 Membership and potential replacements for the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee

[11] The secretariat invited the CPM to confirm the membership and potential replacements for the IC.⁴

[12] The CPM:

- (1) *confirmed* the membership of the IC, the alternate and replacement members for the IC, and the order in which the potential alternate and replacement members will be called upon for each region (Appendix to CPM 2022/08).

19. Any other business

[13] The secretariat confirmed that they had been developing a range of materials to promote the first IDPH on 12 May 2022, and that these had been communicated to the IPPC community as soon as the materials had been available. The secretariat invited members of the IPPC community to register for the inaugural session of the IDPH, “International Day of Plant Health: Protecting plants, protecting life”, which would be held online at 13.30–15.30 CEST.

20. Date and venue of the next session

[14] The Seventeenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-17) is tentatively scheduled to convene on 27 to 31 March 2023. It is hoped that the session will be convened in person, but that will depend on the evolution of the pandemic.

21. Adoption of the report

[15] The report was adopted.

22. Closing of the session

[16] The session was closed.

³ CPM 2022/25, CPM/CRP/06.

⁴ CPM 2022/08.