

Call for Experts for the Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems Steering Group (POARS SG)

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat is soliciting nominations for appropriately qualified experts to become a member of:

The Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems Steering Group (POARS SG)

Nominations are due on **19 September 2022**.

The POARS SG will provide coordination, guidance, and advice on IPPC activities to develop and implement a Global Pest Outbreak Alert and Response System. The POARS SG will initially be established for two years. SG members are expected to be available to attend the POARS SG meetings face-to-face and/or virtually, as required by the work program to perform the functions outlined in terms of Reference (ToR). The timing of virtual meetings is expected to change, wherein meetings may sometimes be held outside of usual working hours given different time zones, so participants are expected to be flexible. Participants should also have a reliable internet connection and access to virtual meeting devices. The meetings will be conducted in English.

1. Instructions for making nominations

The IPPC Secretariat will receive nominations from Contracting Parties, National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs), Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs), and other organizations.

A nomination should only be made if the nominee has agreed to his/her nomination and can allocate appropriate time to the task as outlined in the Statement of Commitment.

Each nomination must be accompanied by the following documentation, available on this webpage:

1. Completed [Nominee details and summary of expertise form](#) - All sections should be completed, including contact details, education and professional training. A clear description of the nominee's expertise is required. MS Word version of the document is preferred. The file should be named as follows: COUNTRY_SURNAME_Firstname_Summary.
2. Completed and signed [Statement of Commitment](#) - this should be read carefully by each nominee and discussed between the nominee and their employer. The form should then be signed by the nominee and a senior person in authority from the organization that employs the nominee and submitted with the nomination (as a file such as PDF). The file should be named as follows: COUNTRY_SURNAME_Firstname_commitment.
3. The nominee's Curriculum Vitae (CV) – electronic copy of the nominee's CV (only as a word processing file such as MS Word) with the file named as follows: COUNTRY_SURNAME_Firstname_CV. MS Word version of the document is preferred.

The IPPC Secretariat will receive submissions through email ippc@fao.org with a copy to Sarah BRUNEL, Acting Lead of the Implementation and Facilitation Unit (Sarah.Brunel@fao.org), and Camilo BELTRAN, International Phytosanitary Specialist (Camilo.BeltranMontoya@fao.org) no later than **19 September 2022**. The name of the nominating country, RPPO or organization, and the words "Call for Experts for the POARS SG" should be placed in the email message's subject line.

2. Specific expertise required

The nominations will be reviewed based on the composition and criteria specified in the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Steering Group. The IPPC Secretariat will review the nominations and submit them to the CPM Bureau for selection, ensuring gender and geographical balance. The CPM Bureau will select experts based on the information provided in the nomination, and the IPPC Secretariat will contact selected experts.

3. Composition and criteria for the selection of experts for the POARS SG (see Terms of Reference of the POARS Steering Group):

In terms of composition, the POARS SG is skills and knowledge-based and should be composed of:

- One expert from an RPPO
- Four experts from NPPOs, including the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Focus Group on Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems
- One donor representative
- One representative from an international organization that deals with pest outbreaks and emergency response
- One representative from each of the IC and SC
- One representative from the CPM Bureau.

The members of the global POARS SG will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Actively engaged in existing global and/or regional pest alert and response frameworks
- Experience in designing and managing pest alert and response systems,
- Proven experience in promoting and articulating public-private partnerships,
- Full understanding of international phytosanitary standards and legislation.

Further information:

Please get in touch with Camilo BELTRAN (Camilo.BeltranMontoya@fao.org) for more information.