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REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
16 May 2023**

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 secretariat said that the high-level event organized at FAO headquarters for the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) on 12 May 2023 had been well received. Many countries shared information on national campaigns to commemorate the IDPH.¹

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Selection of the rapporteur

- [3] The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) members selected Glenn FOWLER as rapporteur of the meeting.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

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

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Participant list

- [5] The secretariat noted that Samuel BISHOP, Victoria LAMB and Essia Limem SELLAMI were not available to attend the meeting. The participant list is presented in Appendix 2.
- [6] The secretariat invited members to notify it if any changes were needed to their contact information, as it was reflected in the FG-CCPI membership list on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).

4. FG-CCPI member updates

Regional updates

- [7] In the Southwest Pacific, the chairperson said that recent regional capacity-building workshops held in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste had identified priorities that were aligned with climate change issues, including the impact of climate change on transboundary pests and on integrated pest management (IPM) programmes. The chairperson said that there were opportunities to draw on those surveillance and biocontrol management initiatives as case studies for the group's planned activities. In Australia, the IDPH had been commemorated with a significant focus from research and development stakeholders on climate change issues, notably for tropical biosecurity pests whose ranges were expanding as they successfully overwintered in new areas.
- [8] In Asia and the Pacific, the chairperson said that a four-year biosecurity and biocontrol project for fall armyworm in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was being expanded to incorporate climate change issues, including climate resilience and forecasting and monitoring. Including climate change issues had unlocked opportunities to strengthen the programme, as significant funding was available from donors on climate change-related initiatives.
- [9] In Europe and Central Asia, one member shared information on activities to commemorate the IDPH in Germany. The member said that they had participated in the First European Food Safety Authority Plant Pest Surveillance Network meeting where a new statistical tool, RiPEST, was introduced to plan surveillance and monitoring activities for *Xylella fastidiosa*.² The member said that they had been accepted to present at the Ninth European Conference on Ecological Modelling, to be held from 4 to

¹ The recording of the event is available at: <https://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/6139/icode/>.

² First European Food Safety Authority Plant Pest Surveillance Network meeting. Available at: <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/1st-efsa-plant-pest-surveillance-network-meeting>.

8 September in Leipzig, Germany,³ where they would present a model that incorporated climate change issues.

- [10] Another member said that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had organized a number of activities for the IDPH. The member also said that they were participating in regular meetings on a paper that was being prepared by the United Kingdom Meteorological Office, the United Kingdom Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the government of Australia on how to deal with uncertainty in climate data, what scenarios to use, how to choose a particular model and what time frame to use when creating assessments.
- [11] In North America, one member said that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) had asked its agencies to create climate change adaptation plans that identified vulnerabilities and developed actions to address them⁴. Progress on actions was reported yearly, and the most recent update included references to the work of FG-CCPI.⁵ The chairperson said that the adaptation plan could be adopted as a framework by countries that may lack the capacity to develop such a plan on their own.
- [12] In Latin America and the Caribbean, one member said that they had participated in a meeting for the United Nations Climate Conference Loss and Damage Fund that discussed what kinds of losses and damages would be covered by the Fund, potentially including losses and damage from plant pests.⁶ In the second half of the year, work would begin on designing the Fund. The member said that Brazil would host a summit of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) in Belém, Brazil, in August 2023 to discuss climate change, Indigenous Peoples and sustainable development.⁷ Brazil was also aiming to host the Thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP30) in 2025.
- [13] In Africa, one member said that Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo were in discussion to conduct a joint delimiting survey for Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*) to determine if the pest was present in those countries, how widespread it might be and what plants it was using as hosts. Ghana was conducting its survey at present, and would publish the results of its findings.
- [14] The chairperson said that the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) was in discussion to update the guidelines and instructions for National Reporting Obligations (NROs). NROs provided support to early-warning and preborder systems. Planned FG-CCPI webinars on the impact of climate change on plant health should draw on NROs and other IPPC tools, and highlight their importance in the context of climate change-related pests and communication among contracting parties.

5. Outcomes from the Action Plan

5.1 Activities prioritized for 2022–2023

IPPC guide

- [15] The chairperson thanked all focus group members and the secretariat for their contributions to the IPPC Guide for the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests.

³ European Conference on Ecological Modelling. Available at: <https://ecem23.eu>.

⁴ United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. 2022. *Climate Change Adaptation Plan May 2022 to October 2025*. https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/10_MRP_APHIS_ClimateAdaptationPlan_2022.pdf.

⁵ https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/10_MRP_APHIS_ClimateAdaptationPlan_2022.pdf.

⁶ COP27 Loss and Damage Fund. Available at: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/what-you-need-know-about-cop27-loss-and-damage-fund>.

⁷ Available at: <https://www.firstpost.com/world/brazil-offers-to-host-regional-summit-for-amazon-rainforest-alliance-in-august-12420002.html>.

- [16] The chairperson had reviewed the draft guide, checking it for consistency and content, and had sent the edited version to members and to IPPC experts for their review. The chairperson said that some sections may be too technical, but the review process would be an opportunity to gather feedback and ensure that the contents of the guide were relevant to all contracting parties. He noted that the aim was to have the guide completed by the end of 2023, and the FG-CCPI could begin working on other priorities for the year, including planning for the FG-CCPI webinars on the impact of climate change on plant health.
- [17] The chairperson said that he had rearranged some of the contents and, notably, had scaled back some of the information on managing the impacts of climate change on plant health in the interest of brevity. He suggested that management could be a topic for a second complimentary resource. A number of members expressed their support for the changes that had been made to the guide.
- [18] The chairperson noted that diagrams had been removed from the guide while it had been edited and that, pending feedback, it might be beneficial to include some diagrams in the final version of the guide. The chairperson said that the flow charts on assessment and management would particularly merit inclusion in the guide.
- [19] The chairperson drew attention to feedback by the IC on other guides for the strong desire to have guides translated into other FAO languages, further underscoring the need for brevity, as a longer guide would be more expensive to translate. A member suggested that the secretariat could potentially ask for funding to translate the guide in the next CPM Bureau meeting in June. The chairperson said that once it was prepared, it would be easier to advocate for the guide and seek funding from external donors for translation.
- [20] The chairperson said that the guide now had four pages of case studies, which was in line with the amount allocated to case studies in other guides.
- [21] On the question of including hyperlinks in the text of the guide, the secretariat said that, in line with other guides, a reference list with links would be the most appropriate approach. Links in the body of the guide should be reserved for the most pertinent information only. One member also noted that links could be added to the IPP and thus kept up to date even beyond publication of the guide.
- [22] On the question of the timeframe for consultation and feedback, the chairperson said that the IC could provide its feedback within approximately two weeks. Consultation with contracting parties would take place in June, July and August using the Online Comment System (OCS), after which comments could be integrated into the guide when it is finalized by the end of 2023.
- [23] One member asked when the draft would be sent to regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) as the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) was particularly keen to contribute. The chairperson said that it would be important to first collect feedback from the IC, which may propose significant structural changes, before sending the guide for external consultation. RPPOs would have the opportunity to review it as part of the country consultation process.
- [24] On the question of references for case studies, the secretariat said that the most appropriate approach would be to list the relevant references at the end of each case study.
- [25] *Other prioritized activities for 2022–2023*
- [26] Noting the FG-CCPI Action Plan, the chairperson said that it would be necessary to begin planning for other activities to run in parallel with finalizing the guide. The most notable of those activities was the webinar series on the impacts of climate change on plant health. The chairperson said that the guide should inform the structure of the webinar series, with one session on the principles of climate change impacts, one session on assessment and one session on management.
- [27] On the format of the webinar sessions, the chairperson said that each session would be approximately two hours long, with two or three key content presentations of 20–30 minutes to be given by the group's subject-matter experts for the topic. The presentation would be the opportunity to go into more detail on

a topic than was found in the guide. Each presentation would be followed by a brief question and answer session of 5–10 minutes. A panel discussion of 30–40 minutes would then close the session. The chairperson said that webinar presentations should be made available on the IPP along with a list of additional resources that the presenters may find beneficial for participants.

- [28] Regarding timing for the webinar series, the secretariat said that mid-September would be the most suitable time, given events already planned and traditional holiday periods. That would allow sufficient time for the secretariat to prepare for the webinar and promote at the IPPC Regional Workshops. The series could be held over multiple days or weeks, depending on feedback from the secretariat as to the most appropriate timing. FG-CCPI members agreed to a September timing for the webinar series.
- [29] The chairperson said that it would be beneficial to include climate change and phytosanitary issues in the agendas of the forthcoming IPPC Regional Workshops, and that members may wish to take the opportunity to highlight the work of FG-CCPI and draw attention to the Action Plan, the guide and the webinar series.
- [30] The chairperson suggested that members consult the webinars that had been organized for fall armyworm⁸ and Fusarium Tropical Race 4 (TR4)⁹ to get an idea of the structure, agenda and presentation format to inform their planning for the forthcoming FG-CCPI webinar series.
- [31] The secretariat said that if the group planned to use external speakers for the webinar series – as they sometimes acted as a draw for participants – they should be booked early.
- [32] As regards the Action Plan item on implementation and standard setting processes and activities, the chairperson noted that the revision to the pest risk assessment (PRA) standards had been approved for second consultation following its first approval by the Standards Committee (SC). Members were encouraged to ensure that feedback on the revision from their country representatives included consideration of the impacts of climate change on plant health.

6. Any other business

- [33] No other business was raised.

7. Date and arrangements of the next meeting

- [34] FG-CCPI members agreed to hold the following virtual meeting on 28 June 2023 at 11:00 to 13:00 CET.

8. Close of the meeting

- [35] The chairperson then thanked the participants for their contributions and closed the meeting.

⁸ Webinar Series: Fall Armyworm, a global threat to prevent. Available at: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/workshops-events/webinars/fall-armyworm-faw-training-part-1-22-october-part-2-19-november-and-part-3-10-december/>.

⁹ Workshop Series: Fusarium TR4 Diagnostic, Surveillance, Inspection and Simulation Exercises. Available at: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/workshops-events/webinars/workshop-series-fusarium-tr4-diagnostic-surveillance-inspection-and-simulation-exercise/>.

Appendix 1: Agenda

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

16 May 2023

	Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the meeting	–	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
2.	Meeting arrangements		
2.1	Election of the rapporteur	–	Chairperson
2.2	Adoption of the agenda	01_FG_CCPI_2023_May	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		
3.1	Participant list	02_FG_CCPI_2023_May	IPPC Secretariat
4.	FG-CCPI member updates	–	Chairperson / All
5.	Outcomes from the Action Plan		
5.1	Activities prioritized for 2022–2023 - IPPC guide - Other prioritized activities for 2022–2023	–	Chairperson / All
6.	Any other business		Chairperson
7.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting		IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
8.	Close of the meeting	–	Chairperson

Appendix 2: Participant list

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

	FAO Region	Name, Organization, Address, Telephone	e-mail account
FG-CCPI members			
✓	Africa	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
	Asia	Mr Runzhi ZHANG Professor, Institute of Zoology Chinese Academy of Sciences Beijing, China	zhangrz@ioz.ac.cn
✓	Europe and Central Asia (Vice-chairperson)	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
✓	Europe and Central Asia	Mr Bastian HESS Research assistant Julius Kühn-Institute, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (Institute for National and International Plant Health) Braunschweig, Germany	bastian.hess@julius-kuehn.de
✓	Latin American and the Caribbean	Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ Agricultural Officer International Affairs, Ministry of Rural Development and Family Farming Brasilia, Brazil	erika.mangili@agro.gov.br
	Near East and North Africa	Ms Essia Limem SELLAMI Head of the Entomology Department Ministry of Agriculture Tunis, Tunisia	essialimem@yahoo.fr
✓	North America	Ms Karen CASTRO Senior Risk Assessor – Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	Karen.Castro@inspection.gc.ca
✓	North America	Mr Glenn FOWLER Risk Analyst USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Sacramento, United States of America	glenn.fowler@usda.gov
✓	Southwest Pacific (Chairperson)	Mr Christopher DALE Biosecurity Specialist Agricultural Development and Food Security Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Climate Integration and Programming Branch Climate Change and Sustainability Division Canberra, Australia	Chris.Dale@agriculture.gov.au

	Southwest Pacific	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
Other participants			
	CPM Bureau champion for the FG-CCPI	Mr Samuel BISHOP Plant Health Policy team Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs National Agri-Food Innovation Campus Sand Hutton York, North Yorkshire, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	sam.bishop@defra.gov.uk

IPPC Secretariat

		Name	Email address
✓	IPPC Secretariat (Lead)	Ms Mutya FRIO Communications Specialist	mutya.frio@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat (Report writer)	Mr Daniel McKINNON	danielmckinnon@yahoo.com