



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
28 June 2023**

IPPC Secretariat

Required citation:

IPPC Secretariat. 2023. *Report of the meeting of the Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues, 28 June 2023*. Rome. Published by FAO on behalf of the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

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1. Opening of the meeting

- [1] The IPPC Secretariat (secretariat) opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.
- [2] The chairperson thanked the secretariat and Samuel BISHOP for advocating for and advancing the consultations on the IPPC Guide for the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests, which would hopefully be finalized by the end of 2023.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Selection of the rapporteur

- [3] The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) members selected Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH 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 Essia Limem SELLAMI and Runzhi ZHANG were not available to attend the meeting. The participant list is presented in Appendix 2.
- [6] A member of the group noted that the Asia representative had previously expressed that he will discontinue his membership, thus Asia representation was pending.
- [7] The chairperson said that, after six years in the role, his term on the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) had ended, thus his representation as IC member in the FG-CCPI has also ended as per the group's Terms of Reference. The secretariat advised that he would need to seek renomination to the FG-CCPI as an expert.
- [8] The secretariat said that it would now be up to the group to decide if they wanted to hold another selection process to choose a new chairperson, or if they wanted to ask the vice-chairperson to assume the role. Members agreed to have the vice-chairperson act as interim chairperson, and to hold a selection process for a new chair at a forthcoming meeting.
- [9] The chairperson noted that the new IC representative from the Southwest Pacific, Ngatoko TA NGATOKO (Cook Islands), had agreed to be the IC representative for FG-CCPI.
- [10] 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).

3.2 Document list

- [11] The secretariat presented the documents as listed in Appendix 3.

4. FG-CCPI member updates

Regional updates

- [12] In Africa, one member said that an outbreak of an endemic moth (*Achaea catocaloides*) was destroying a number of crops in West Africa, including cocoa, coffee, cassava and maize. An emergency meeting was held among the national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to decide on a course of action, which included the development of an action plan, procurement of biopesticides and an awareness-raising campaign for border control officers on the outbreak of the pest in neighbouring countries. The pest had not yet been reported in Ghana, but

its NPPO was proactively preparing a cabinet memo for government to potentially release some funding to address the outbreak. The member said that unseasonably high temperatures in the region in recent years are thought to have contributed to the outbreak, but more modeling was needed to better understand the factors influencing the outbreak of the pest.

- [13] In North America, one member said that the worst wildfire season on record had been declared in Canada, and air quality in a number of cities had been severely impacted by smoke from the fires. Another member said that they had given a presentation on food safety and climate-smart agriculture as a part of a scientific exchange programme between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the West Africa region, with participants from Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire.
- [14] In the Southwest Pacific, one member said that extreme rainfall in New Zealand had caused damage, including landslides and destruction of farmland, crops and vineyards. The member also reported that New Zealand's *Mycoplasma bovis* programme was winding down as the outbreak seemed to be under control and would be eradicated. The fall armyworm (FAW, *Spodoptera frugiperda*) outbreak reported in New Zealand had moved from a response to a management phase as the pest was now locally widespread in both North and South Island and people learned to deal with the pest. An outbreak of myrtle rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) was causing concerns in the country, as native forests and species of cultural relevance to Māori people were susceptible to the disease, and control measures were currently under investigation. A response to an outbreak of *Caulerpa* seaweed was also being developed before it became more widespread in New Zealand.
- [15] In Europe and Central Asia, one member said that there had been a meeting of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) on plant protection information, where the panel had discussed how to better communicate on plant health issues at national and international levels. The member said that EPPO was also developing a platform to share and exchange communication material among members. The secretariat said that EPPO had reached out to the IPPC inviting it to submit materials to the platform.
- [16] The member said that the International Congress of Plant Pathology would be held from 20 to 25 August in Lyon, France,¹ and that EPPO would be organizing a session there entitled Risk Assessment for plant pathogens, a key tool for biosecurity under global changes. A number of members suggested that it would be beneficial to have IPPC materials available at the Congress.
- [17] The member said that EPPO was also seeking a contribution from FG-CCPI to a special edition of the *EPPO Bulletin* on climate change and pest risk analysis. The secretariat supported the idea of submitting an article, as it would increase the visibility of the group's work. Dominic EYRE, Glenn FOWLER and Bastian HESS agreed to share work to draft the article for submission.
- [18] The vice-chairperson said that they had contributed to another paper on climate data that would be submitted to the *EPPO Bulletin* special edition on climate change and pest risk analysis.
- [19] In Latin America and the Caribbean, one member said that they had presented at a meeting on family farming in the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) with a session on climate change impacts on family farming and risk management. They had also been asked to contribute to a paper on the impacts of climate change on agriculture for the United Nations Climate Change Conference.

5. Updates on the IC review and feedback of the CCPI guide on the Online Commenting System – arrangements for broader contracting party feedback through the OCS

- [20] The secretariat said that it had uploaded the draft IPPC Guide for the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests to the Online Commenting System (OCS) to collect feedback from the IC and from members of the Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection

¹ Twelfth International Congress of Plant Pathology. <https://www.icpp2023.org>

Organizations (TC-RPPO), and would be open for comment until 10 July 2023. Comments would then be collated into a single document that would be shared with FG-CCPI members. FG-CCPI members would then address the feedback they had received, and the draft guide would then be sent via the OCS to contracting parties for their consultation. FG-CCPI members would then address the feedback from contracting parties before the draft was presented to the CPM Bureau and the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) in October 2023. On the question of sending the draft guide to EPPO, which had expressed interest in contributing to the document, the secretariat said that the contracting-party consultation process included RPPOs as well as NPPOs.

6. Review and discussion of the FG-CCPI action plan and priority tasks

- [21] The vice-chairperson asked the group to review the actions prioritized by the IPPC for resourcing, coordination and implementation for the 2022–2023 period.

Raising awareness of the impacts of climate change on plant health through increasing CPM-wide understanding of how climate change may increase of the potential movement and spread of pests through webinars and special sessions involving the CPM, regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) and national plant protection organizations (NPPOs)

- [22] The vice-chairperson noted that the chairperson had raised the work of FG-CCPI at a number of RPPO meetings, two members had presented the work of FG-CCPI to EPPO, another had twice presented the work of the group at the annual meeting of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), and had also presented at the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) in 2022. One member noted that the annual meeting of NAPPO in 2022 had included an entire session dedicated to plant health and climate change. One member suggested publishing a reference list of FG-CCPI interventions on the IPP,² which would also be useful when presenting on FG-CCPI achievements at CPM-18 (2024). Members were asked to contribute any additional interventions they had undertaken on climate change and phytosanitary issues by means of a document that would be circulated intersessionally.

Exploring opportunities to enhance IPPC national and regional reporting systems to identify and share climate change information relating to changes in pest distributions, host range, and adaptability of pests and host plants.

- [23] A number of members noted that their RPPOs had organized workshops to raise awareness on pest reporting. One member suggested communicating information on such awareness-raising initiatives to the IC Team for National Reporting Obligations (NROs), which would also be an opportunity to discuss how to incorporate climate change considerations into NROs.

- [24] A number of members drew attention to the importance of linking pest reporting to climate change impacts, although some noted that there may be difficulties in doing so, as some countries already did not report pest status; adding further criteria might compound the problem. One suggested solution was to include a field in NROs to report on climate conditions; that would allow for year-on-year comparisons and for trends to become apparent over time.

- [25] The vice-chairperson suggested that FG-CCPI draft guidance for contracting parties on how to incorporate climate change considerations and their link to pest outbreaks into reporting to the IPPC. Possible considerations included: changing crop species; the presence of new pest linked to the presence of new crops; and documented thresholds that had been crossed in a country.

Developing a “Climate Change Impacts on Plant Health” webpage (landing page) on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) as a repository of all FG-CCPI-related materials and resources.

² International Phytosanitary Portal. <https://www.ippc.int/>

[26] The secretariat said that the IPP was being redesigned, and would include a page on plant health and climate change. One part of that page would be technical, with meeting reports, etc., and one part would be non-technical, with videos, guides and digital assets that were more user-focused. There would also be an opportunity to cross-post knowledge products with other websites if members had items they wanted to share. The plant health and climate change page of the new IPP was expected to be launched in the second half of 2023.

Enhancing the evaluation and management of risks of climate change to plant health to incorporate climate change factors into the traditional pest risk analysis (PRA) processes, and investigating opportunities to incorporate climate change considerations in existing pest surveillance systems and practices.

[27] One member said that the consolidated International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) on pest risk analysis (PRA) (ISPM 11) would soon be sent out for contracting party consultation; members were asked to ensure that their NPPO's response included comments on incorporating climate change considerations into the pest risk analysis (PRA) process.

Convene a global-level webinar (to contracting parties) on the impacts of climate change on plant health

[28] The secretariat suggested that a webinar on the IPPC guide be deferred until the guide was finalized and published; members agreed to that suggestion.

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, Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI))

[29] The vice-chairperson noted that the FG-CCPI had for a short while initially included the participation of a member from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and that it would be beneficial for FG-CCPI to again have representation from that organization. One member noted that the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI) had also expressed interest in participating in the work of FG-CCPI. The secretariat noted that those organizations would be able to provide informal feedback on the IPPC guide via comments submitted to contracting parties.

[30] The CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues:

- (1) *Asked* the secretariat to invite representatives from the IC Team for National Reporting Obligations to participate in a forthcoming session of the Focus Group;
- (2) *Asked* the secretariat to invite representatives from the Implementation and Facilitation Unit to participate in a forthcoming session of the Focus Group;
- (3) *Requested* that the secretariat add an agenda item on feedback to the consolidated ISPM on PRA to the forthcoming meeting of FG-CCPI;
- (4) *Asked* the secretariat to relaunch the call for a member from the IPCC.

7. Opportunities for FG-CCPI presentations and awareness-raising in upcoming IPPC regional workshops

[31] Discussion on this item was deferred to a forthcoming meeting.

8. Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting from FG Bureau representative

[32] Discussion on this item was deferred to a forthcoming meeting.

9. Any other business

[33] No other business was raised.

10. Date and arrangements of the next meeting

[34] FG-CCPI members agreed to hold the forthcoming virtual meeting on 20 July 2023 at 11:00 to 13:00 CET.

11. Close of the meeting

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

Appendix 1: Agenda

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

28 June 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_June	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		
3.1	Participant list	02_FG_CCPI_2023_June	IPPC Secretariat
3.2	Document list	03_FG_CCPI_2023_June	IPPC Secretariat
4.	FG-CCPI member updates	–	Chairperson / All
5.	Updates on the IC review and feedback of the CCPI guide on the Online Commenting System – arrangements for broader contracting party feedback through the OCS	04_OCS_FINAL_Guide_for_the_assessment_and_management_of_the_climate_change_impacts_on_plant_pests_2023-05-18	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
6.	Review and discussion of the FG-CCPI action plan and priority tasks	–	Chairperson
7.	Opportunities for FG-CCPI presentations and awareness-raising in upcoming IPPC regional workshops	–	Vice-chairperson
8.	Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting from FG Bureau representative	–	Samuel Bishop
9.	Any other business	–	Chairperson
10.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	–	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
11.	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
✓	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@mda.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	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr Samuel BISHOP</p> 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 Communication Specialist	Mutya.Frio@fao.org

Appendix 1: Document list**COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES****28 June 2023****DOCUMENT LIST**

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
Administrative Documents			
01_FG_CCPI_2023_June	2.2	Provisional agenda	2023-06-27
02_FG_CCPI_2023_June	3.1	Participant list	2023-06-27
03_FG_CCPI_2023_June	3.2	Document list	2023-06-27
	5	Guide for the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests	2023-06-27