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REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
28 November 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. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Selection of the rapporteur

[2] 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

[3] FG-CCPI members adopted the agenda as presented in Appendix 1 to the present report, with the secretariat noting that it would discuss flyers for the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2023 development agenda items under agenda item 12 (any other business).

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Participant list

[4] The secretariat noted that Essia Limem SELLAMI and Samuel BISHOP were not in the meeting. The participant list is presented in Appendix 2.

[5] 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

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

4. FG-CCPI member updates

Regional updates

[7] In Africa, one member said that they had participated in a regional workshop on pest risk analysis (PRA) for Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Sahel region sponsored by the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI) and FAO. The workshop, held from 13 to 17 November 2023 in Accra, Ghana, had sought to develop PRA capacity in the region and to develop a regional pest list to support safe trade. The member said that, with the help of CABI, Ghana had developed a pest register and was using horizon-scanning to adapt and update its pest lists.

[8] In Europe and Central Asia, one member said that they had participated in a European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) meeting for statistical-based surveillance, held in Parma, Italy, which had highlighted the RiPEST tool that could be used to plan surveys. Plant protection services in Germany would be trained on the tool in 2024.

[9] Another member said that they had participated in the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) Panel on Quarantine Pests for Forestry, where several countries had reported increases in forest pests, such as sooty bark disease (*Cryptostroma corticale*) and pine wood nematode (*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*), associated with adverse climatic conditions such as drought, winds and forest fires.

[10] In North America, one member said that they would present the work of the group at the forthcoming North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) annual meeting, to be held in Mérida, Mexico,

from 4 to 7 December 2023.¹ The meeting would also include discussion on implementing the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 development agenda items.

[11] In the Southwest Pacific, one member said that work had begun to brief the new, incoming government in New Zealand on plant health and biosecurity issues. The new government also represented an opportunity to build closer relationships with Australia, particularly on cropping and management issues in the face of climate change and adverse climate conditions. The member said that New Zealand also had a substantive focus on climate change adaptation and resilience for farmers and growers, as well as emissions reductions. The member said that fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) had yet to be detected in agricultural areas on the west coast of the South Island, perhaps owing to the region's cooler climate, while active responses to invasive *Caulerpa* seaweed and Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) were ongoing. Work was also being carried out on marine biofouling from cruise ships.

[12] Another member said that the Cook Islands had hosted the Fifty-second Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting, which had brought together 18 heads of state and 700 participants to discuss matters of regional significance, including ocean mining, fishing rights and the impacts of climate change on small island states.² The member said that anti-microbial resistance in plants had become prominent in regional plant health discussions. The member also said that the exchange of IPPC electronic phytosanitary (ePhyto) certificates and increases in e-commerce had led to growing trade relationships in the region, but that there was a need to build ePhyto capacity and to strengthen relationships with customs agencies to address phytosanitary risks in e-commerce.

5. Update on the call for experts for a representative from Asia

[13] The secretariat informed the group that the call for an expert representative from Asia would be posted in December.

6. Update on the status of the nomination from Lesotho

[14] The secretariat said that the credentials of the nominee from Lesotho were being reviewed and would be forwarded to the CPM Bureau for its consideration if deemed appropriate.

[15] Noting the absence of the representative from the Near East and North Africa region at the past several meetings, group members asked the secretariat to reach out to the representative to confirm their participation in the focus group.

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

- (1) *asked* the secretariat to contact the representative from the Near East and North Africa region to confirm their participation in the focus group.

7. Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting in October 2023

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

8. Updates and discussion on the Technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests

[18] On the question of next steps for the Technical resource, the secretariat said that the deadline to submit documents to the CPM Bureau for consideration at its forthcoming meeting was 28 November 2023. Thereafter, the deadline to submit documents for consideration at CPM-18 (2024) was 20 December 2023. Focus group members agreed that, despite the short timeline to address the outstanding comments received from the Online Comment System (OCS), it would be beneficial to present the Technical

¹ Forty-sixth North American Plant Protection Organization Annual Meeting. Available at: <https://www.nappo.org/english/46th-NAPPO-Annual-Meeting>.

² Fifty-second Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting. Available at: <https://piflm52.com>.

resource to the CPM Bureau for its consideration and to collect any feedback it might have on the document.

- [19] Group members reviewed and addressed outstanding unresolved comments received through the OCS.
- [20] On the question of including figures in the Technical resource, several OCS comments noted that in certain passages, the text referred to figures that had been deleted during the focus group's internal editing and review process. Group members agreed to include certain figures and to remove others, as appropriate.
- [21] On the question of the terms "climate target pest" and "climate sensitive pest", which had elicited several OCS comments, several members said that it could be problematic to propose a definition, which could have unintended consequences. Some members also noted that International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*) did not define any related term that could be used instead. Members thus agreed to provide an explanation of the impact of climate change on pests at the start of the document and to otherwise use "pest" throughout the remainder. One member reminded the group that members had agreed to use the term "plant pest" for section titles and "pest" for the main body copy.
- [22] On the question of using the term "plants" instead of "crop", members agreed that "plants" was generally the most appropriate term to use in the document, but that the use of "crop" was justified and appropriate in certain contexts.
- [23] On the question of whether the Technical resource's stated goal of providing "technical and operational advice to support NPPOs and RPPOs to effectively assess and manage the phytosanitary risks of climate change on plant pests" had been achieved, several members said that the document provided input and guidance, but that successful outcomes would depend on actions taken by the national plant protection organization (NPPO).
- [24] In the aim of submitting the draft Technical resource to the CPM Bureau for its consideration at its meeting from 5 to 7 December, group members agreed to review and respond to any remaining outstanding comments by 30 November 2023.
- [25] The CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues:
- (2) *agreed* to review and respond to any remaining outstanding comments to the draft Technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests by 30 November 2023;
 - (3) *agreed* to submit the draft Technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests to the CPM Bureau for its consideration at its forthcoming meeting on 5 to 7 December 2023;

9. Publication process to produce the Technical resource

- [26] The secretariat said that the CPM Bureau meeting scheduled for 5 to 7 December 2023 included an agenda item for consideration of the Technical resource. Any feedback from the CPM Bureau on the Technical resource would be communicated to the group for its consideration. The revised document would then need to be submitted for editing in advance of the 20 December 2023 deadline to submit documents for consideration at CPM-18 (2024).
- [27] The focus group would also need to submit a paper updating the CPM on its work and activities in 2023.
- [28] The CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues:
- (4) *agreed* to review and address comments and feedback received from the CPM Bureau on the draft Technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests by 13 December 2023;

- (5) *agreed* to submit the draft Technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests to CPM-18 (2024) for its consideration;
- (6) *agreed* to submit by 20 December 2023 an update report to CPM-18 (2024) on its work.

10. Face-to-face meeting of the group in Brazil (2024)

[29] Discussion of this item was deferred to a forthcoming meeting.

12. Any other business

[30] The secretariat said that it was preparing, at the request of the CPM Bureau, informative flyers on each of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 development agenda items to be used as marketing and promotional tools for resource mobilization and donor outreach. The secretariat said that it would share the draft flyer on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health with focus group members in the near future for their feedback. The secretariat noted that there was already a technical factsheet on climate change and plant health; the flyer should not duplicate that technical information but rather be structured around a marketing and communications message.

[31] On the question of the FG-CCPI submission to the *EPPO Bulletin*, the chairperson said that it had been submitted, and that EPPO was in the process of collecting other submissions and a date of publication had not yet been announced.

13. Date and arrangements of the next meeting

[32] FG-CCPI members agreed to hold the forthcoming virtual meeting on 18 January 2024 from 22.00 to 00.00 CET (UTC +1).

14. Close of the meeting

[33] The chairperson 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 November 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_November	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		
3.1	Participant list	02_FG_CCPI_2023_November	IPPC Secretariat
3.2	Document list	03_FG_CCPI_2023_November	IPPC Secretariat
4.	FG-CCPI member updates	–	Chairperson / All
5.	Update on the call for experts for a representative from Asia	–	IPPC Secretariat
6.	Update on the status of the nomination from Lesotho	–	IPPC Secretariat
7.	Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting in October 2023	–	Samuel Bishop
8.	Updates and discussion on the Technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests	02_Report on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests_Authors comments.docx	IPPC Secretariat / All
9.	Publication process to produce the Technical Resource	–	IPPC Secretariat
10.	Face-to-face meeting of the group in Brazil (2024)	–	Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ, FG-CPPI Member, NPPO Brazil
11.	Any other business	–	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
12.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	–	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
13.	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	Email address
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	VACANT	
✓	Europe and Central Asia (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	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

✓	IC Member representative (Vice-chairperson)	Mr Ngatoko TA NGATOKO Director, Biosecurity Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the Cook Islands Rarotonga, Cook Islands	ngatoko.ngatoko@ cookislands.gov.ck ; nngatoko@gmail.com
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	Ms Mutya FRIO Communication Specialist	Mutya.frio@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Daniel McKINNON Report writer	danielmckinnon@yahoo.com

Appendix 1: Document list

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

28 November 2023

DOCUMENT LIST

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
Administrative Documents			
01_FG_CCPI_2023_November	2.2	Provisional agenda	2023-11-27
02_FG_CCPI_2023_November	3.1	Participant list	2023-11-27
03_FG_CCPI_2023_November	3.2	Document list	2023-11-27
02_Report on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests_Authors comments.docx	8.	Report on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests – Authors comments	2023-11-27