

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

EIGHTEENTH SESSION

FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES UPDATE

AGENDA ITEM 12.6

(Prepared by the FG-CCPI)

Introduction

- [1] The Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) was established by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in 2021 (CPM-15). It is composed of ten members representing the seven FAO regions with specialized skills and experience in climate change and phytosanitary issues, and knowledge of the IPPC and its activities. The FG-CCPI also includes a CPM Bureau representative (“Champion”). Currently, the FG-CCPI does not have a representative from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) after the previous representative resigned. The FG-CCPI will remain effective until CPM-19 (2025), and its composition is presented in Table 1.
- [2] The primary role of the FG-CCPI is to coordinate the development of the “IPPC Action Plan on Climate Change Impacts on Plant Health” and to support the implementation and delivery of its activities over the next four years (2022–2025). The key outcomes of the action plan include, but are not limited, to:
- raising awareness of the impacts of climate change on plant health;
 - enhancing the evaluation and management of risks of climate change to plant health; and
 - enhancing the recognition of phytosanitary matters in the international climate change debate

Table 1. Composition of the CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues.

FAO regions	Members	
Southwest Pacific	Cook Islands	Mr Ngatoko Ta NGATOKO- Vice-Chairperson
	New Zealand	Ms Victoria LAMB
Near East and North Africa	Tunisia	Ms Essia Limem SELLAMI
Africa	Ghana	Ms Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH
Europe	United Kingdom	Mr Dominic EYRE - Chairperson
	Germany	Mr Bastian HESS
Asia	China	<i>Vacant</i>
North America	Canada	Ms Karen CASTRO
	United States of America	Mr Glenn FOWLER
Latin America and the Caribbean	Brazil	Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ
	Other participants	
	Mr Samuel BISHOP	Bureau representative (“Champion”)
	Ms Mutya FRIO	IPPC Secretariat support (lead)
	Ms Anita TIBASAAGA	IPPC Secretariat support

Progress update

- [3] The IPPC Secretariat has been coordinating the preparation of FG-CCPI meetings. In the meetings held from September 2021 until the CPM-16 in April 2022, the FG-CCPI members discussed the results and recommendations of the *Scientific review of the impact of climate change on plant pests*, the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 development agenda item for “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health” and drafted the 2022–2025 IPPC Action Plan on Climate Change Impacts on Plant Health. The meetings so far have been virtual, but an in-person meeting is being planned for 2024 in Brazil.
- [4] In October 2021, a summary paper¹ on the FG-CCPI update was presented to the Strategic Planning Group (SPG). The SPG welcomed and supported the main outcomes of the FG-CCPI with a view to presenting the action plan to CPM-16 (2022), as one of the FG-CCPI functions.²
- [5] In January 2022, an update on FG-CCPI work and priorities was presented to the CPM Bureau.³ The CPM Bureau suggested including a CPM-16 decision point regarding the budget and resources necessary for the activities proposed by the FG-CCPI.
- [6] In October 2022, an update on the FG-CCPI activities was presented to the SPG⁴ and to the CPM Bureau.⁵

IPPC Action Plan on Climate Change Impacts on Plant Health

- [7] This action plan⁶ is based on the implementation of the *IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030* development agenda item for “Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health”. To support the implementation of the action plan, three major action plan outcomes were identified:

Outcome 1: Awareness on the impacts of climate change on plant health is improved

- [8] *Core action areas:*
- Convene and participate in meetings and side events related to the impacts of climate change on plant health
 - Raise awareness on the impacts of climate change on plant health
 - Facilitate discussions within IPPC subsidiary bodies, regional workshops as well as other IPPC technical groups
 - Assist contracting parties to meet their national reporting obligations established by the IPPC

Outcome 2: Risks of climate change to plant health are evaluated and managed

- [9] *Core action areas:*
- Support countries to collect, analyse and use climate change impact-related information in decision-making
 - Support countries in building capacity to help mitigate the impacts of climate change on plant health

¹ Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues: update on the Study on the Impact of Climate Change on Plant Pests: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90267/>

² Report of the Tenth Session of the Strategic Planning Group Meeting: https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2021/12/FINAL_SPG_Oct_Report_2021-12-07.pdf

³ CPM Bureau report - January 2022: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90803/>

⁴ SPG report: https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2022/12/SPG_Oct_Report_2022.pdf

⁵ Bureau report: https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2022/11/Report_Bureau-2022-Oct.pdf

⁶ Update from the CPM Focus Group: Climate Change and Phytosanitary issues: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90659/>

Outcome 3: Enhanced recognition of phytosanitary matters in the international climate change debate

[10] *Core action areas:*

- Strengthen collaboration with relevant international, regional and national organizations
- Facilitate, promote and support policy dialogue on phytosanitary issues at the global level

[11] The complete list of activities proposed for each outcome of the action plan can be consulted at: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90987/>.

[12] Noting the extensive list of proposed initiatives and activities over the four years of the action plan, the following five actions were selected to be prioritized by the IPPC for resourcing, coordination and implementation for the 2022–2023 period:

- (1) Raising awareness of the impacts of climate change on plant health through increasing CPM-wide understanding of how climate change may increase 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):
 - *FG-CCPI members have participated in a series of events, providing presentations on the impacts of climate change on plant health. The first International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) held in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, from 21 to 23 September 2022, as well as events organized by the IPPC and RPPOs (e.g. Regional Workshops), had specific sessions or presentations on the topic.*
 - *Focus group members have submitted a paper on the work of the group to the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) secretariat for publication in the EPPO Bulletin in a special issue on climate change. The paper has been accepted. The focus group has also contributed to another paper on the interpretation and communication of climate change uncertainties relating to PRAs written for the same edition of the bulletin.*
- (2) 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:
 - *In September 2023, Ahmed Abdellah, from the Implementation and Capacity Development (IC) Team on National Reporting Obligations (NRO) joined the focus group to talk about the possibilities of including climate change issues in the NRO. He explained that there is no legal basis for requiring reports on climate change and pests, but there could be an option for a reference to climate change in pest alerts. This will be explored further.*
- (3) 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:
 - *The IPP subpage was created in 2022. For the landing page, additional resources have to be implemented by the IPPC information technology team.*
- (4) Enhancing the evaluation and management of risks presented by 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:
 - *Focus group members have discussed potential edits to the new combined ISPM for pest risk analysis. They fed suggestions for edits to the IPPC contact points in their NPPOs which were submitted to the IPPC.⁷*

⁷ 2023 First consultation: Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards (2020-001): <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/92364/>

- (5) Developing a document to provide technical guidance to NPPOs and RPPOs in identifying, assessing, mitigating and managing the climate change impacts on plant health:

- *A document titled “Climate Change Impacts on Plant Pests” began to be prepared following the approval of the action plan at CPM-16 (2022). In August 2023, a draft was submitted to the online consultation period for NPPOs and RPPOs to review and submit comments.⁸ At the request of the IC Chairperson and the CPM Chairperson, the online consultation period was extended until 9 October 2023 and, consequently, the document could not be submitted to SPG for its input in 2023.*
- *The draft received a total of 310 comments through the Online Commenting System (46 substantive comments, 64 technical comments, 200 editorial comments). All comments were addressed by FG-CCPI members. It was then submitted to the CPM Bureau’s review in December 2023⁹. Comments provided by the Bureau were addressed by the group. The Bureau agreed to submit the document titled Climate Change Impacts on Plant Pests to the CPM-18 (2024). The document is presented as an attachment to this paper in 2024/20_01.*

[13] Financial resources have been provided by the NPPO of Canada to perform the activities 3 and 5.

[14] An update of FG-CCPI activities was presented to SPG in October 2023.¹⁰ The SPG thanked the focus group for its work and noted the FG-CCPI update.¹¹

[15] More information about the FG-CCPI, including the ToRs, membership, action plan and meeting reports can be accessed at the FG-CCPI subpage on the IPP: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/governance/cpm/cpm-focus-group-reports/climate-change-and-phytosanitary-issues/>.

[16] The CPM is invited to:

- (1) *note* this update;
- (2) *approve* the document titled *Climate Change Impacts on Plant Pests* (CPM 2024/20_01) to be published by the IPPC.

⁸ Link to submit comments to the draft report on the impacts of climate change on plant pests: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/still-open-for-consultation-report-on-the-assessment-and-management-of-climate-change-impacts-on-plant-pests/>

⁹ CPM Bureau reports: <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/bureau/>

¹⁰ Update from the FG-CCPI: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/92606/>

¹¹ Report SPG meeting October 2023: https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2023/11/Report_SPG-2023-Oct_2023-11-28.pdf