



Comments from New Zealand on Agenda Item 12.7 Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination

April 2024

Refer to [CPM 2024/21](#) paper prepared by the IPPC secretariat.

CPM 2024/21 invites CPM to:

- (1) Discuss the draft terms of reference of the CPM Focus Group on Global **PHYTOSANITARY** Research Coordination as outlined in appendix 1 below.*
- (2) Approve the terms of reference of the CPM Focus Group on Global **PHYTOSANITARY** Research Coordination.*

New Zealand supports the establishment of the CPM Focus Group on Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination as proposed in paper [CPM 2024/21](#). We agree that establishing the focus group ahead of the recommended start of this development agenda item at the earliest in 2025 is a sensible approach to understanding the coordination mechanisms that already exist, analysing the gaps the IPPC could fill to advance the implementation of this development agenda item outlined in the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030.

A revised terms of reference is attached for CPM consideration (deletions are shown with strikethrough and additions are capitalised, both in red). The rationales for the proposed revisions are summarised below:

- i. Purpose
 - a. Revising the purpose statement to better align the purpose and functions of the group.
 - b. Deleting a specific existing mechanism to keep the options open and enable wider regional consideration.
- ii. Process
 - a. Revising the sentence regarding in-person meeting. In the current financial environment many contracting parties are facing, proposing at least one in-person meeting will severely restrict nomination/participation of many contracting parties. We suggest the work could be done virtually, in-person meeting could be convened only as necessary.

- b. Deleting the sentence regarding a member nominating a substitute. This is a group of experts with the requisite skill set and being endorsed by the Bureau. If a member isn't able to attend the meeting, it shouldn't be up to the member to nominate a substitute.
- iii. Membership
 - a. We suggest deleting requiring representatives from Standard Committee (SC) and Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC). We question the necessity of having one member each from the IC and SC, considering the function of the group is not focused on standard setting or implementation, further acknowledging the already heavy workload of the members of the SC and IC.
- iv. Functions
 - a. The overall statement is revised as it is not up to the focus group to add or amend the tasks, we suggest that the focus group to make recommendation for CPM Bureau approval if adding or amending a task becomes necessary.
 - b. Function (6) is simplified to reflect the intention.
- v. Expected outputs
 - a. Outcome (1) is revised to keep its focus on the assessment of the existing mechanisms and gap analysis, which will lead to the outcome (2).

Attached are the revised terms of reference.

Appendix 1: **REVISED** Terms of Reference – CPM Focus Group on Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination

Purpose

International research collaboration across nations, institutions and disciplines leads to higher quality science, efficiencies of resource use, better outcomes, and wider adoption of results. However, these benefits of collaboration only occur when there is mutual vision in alignment of research goals and collaboration.

The need to develop a balanced portfolio of research work, ranging from strategic to applied research, is essential in creating synergistic collaboration.

~~Thus, the purpose of this Focus Group is to develop an implementation plan for this IPPC Strategic Framework 2020 – 2030 development agenda item (Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination). The implementation plan is expected to contain clear start dates, milestones, a feasible timeline, a monitoring and evaluation framework, and adequate estimation of required budget and staff, which may be used for resource mobilization purposes.~~ The CPM decided to form a Focus Group on Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination ahead of the recommended start of this development agenda item at the earliest in 2025. During the Scope and Plan phase, a study is to be conducted to build an understanding of the coordination mechanisms that already exist, ~~such as Euphresco~~, what gaps the IPPC could fill (or whether existing mechanisms are sufficient), and how they will contribute to and support them. The continuation of the DAI would be subject to a CPM decision based on this work.

Process

The IPPC Secretariat will release a call for experts on the IPPC website to allow contracting parties and regional plant protection organizations to nominate their representatives to be part of the focus group. Each region, the RPPOs, the CPM Bureau, SC and IC will submit one nomination and all nominations will be presented to the CPM Bureau for their ~~review~~ **SELECTION** and endorsement.

Meetings of the focus group ~~may be held~~ **WILL CONVENED** virtually ~~with at least~~ **BUT MAY HAVE** one in-person meeting **IF NECESSARY**. Attendance of meetings by focus group members is mandatory, ~~but if a member is not able to participate, they may with approval of the Focus Group Chairperson, nominate a substitute with the requisite skill set to engage and participate actively.~~ The meetings will be held in English.

Membership

The CPM Bureau will decide the membership of the focus group. The membership should have collective experience and expertise in a broader, global perspective of global phytosanitary research, as well as multilateral research cooperative and coordination arrangements and policies, as well as knowledge of the IPPC and its activities.

The focus group will be composed of up to ~~fourteen~~ **TWELVE** members with knowledge of the IPPC's mandate and activities, taking account of geographical representation and gender balance as follows:

- (1) Seven members representing national plant protection organizations in each of seven FAO regions
 - (2) One representative of the ten regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs)
 - (3) One representative of the CPM Bureau
 - ~~(4) One representative of the Standards Committee (SC)~~
 - ~~(5) One representative of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC)~~
 - (6) (Optional) up to three observers representing academia, industry or civil society
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Functions

The focus group may ~~decide~~ RECOMMEND FOR CPM BUREAU APPROVAL to add tasks or amend the tasks listed below according to the information they gather during the active period.

The focus group may also provide any further observations or recommendations to the CPM as deemed appropriate.

The key tasks of the focus group will be:

- (1) undertake a scoping study to build an understanding of the research coordination mechanisms that are necessary for the IPPC to accelerate development of science to support all regulatory phytosanitary activities;
- (2) as part of the scoping study, assess whether existing international research coordination mechanisms are sufficient and identify what gaps the IPPC could fill;
- (3) explore the benefits of developing an IPPC policy and structure for international phytosanitary research coordination, especially with regard to determining the role of RPPOs in such coordination;
- (4) consult with, explore, and analyze existing international research organizations' policies and perspectives to draft an IPPC international research coordination policy;
- (5) analyze existing international research coordination structures and mechanisms and explore options for enhancing regional and global research coordination;
- (6) provide advice for CPM consideration on the possible mechanisms for ~~implementing the IPPC Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination-SF 2020-2030 development agenda item~~, on both the research coordination policy the CPM may adopt and the identified coordination mechanisms and/or structures;
- (7) as part of this advice, develop a draft implementation and monitoring plan for IPPC Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination including proposed milestones to be reached within a seven- year period;
- (8) Perform other related functions as required.

Expected start date and Duration

The focus group will be established by the Bureau by June 2024 to draft a new policy, structure, and plan for the global phytosanitary research coordination. The focus group will remain effective until the CPM approves the implementation plan and mechanism of the Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination that could be considered by CPM-20 (in 2026).

Expected Outputs

- (1) A report of scoping study to be conducted by the focus group to explore the current international and regional phytosanitary research structures and policies to identify gaps to be filled ~~in policy and structure coordination mechanisms and structure~~.
- (2) A proposal on policy and structure of a coordination mechanism to be established.

Reports to: CPM Bureau

Funding

The organization that employs an IPPC meeting participant is responsible for funding the travel and daily subsistence allowance for that person to attend. If the employer is unable to allocate sufficient funds, participants are first encouraged to seek assistance from sources other than the IPPC Secretariat. Where such demonstrated efforts to secure assistance have been unsuccessful, requests for assistance (i.e., travel

and subsistence costs) from the IPPC Secretariat may be made. However, any support is subject to available funds. The IPPC Secretariat will consider funding assistance for participants following IPPC criteria for funding. Full details on these criteria can be found on the IPP (<https://www.ippc.int/publications/criteria-used-prioritizing-participants-receive-travel-assistance-attend-meetings>).
