



**CPM-18 FRIENDS OF THE CHAIR CRP**

**AGENDA ITEM 12.7**

**REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE – CPM FOCUS GROUP ON GLOBAL  
PHYTOSANITARY RESEARCH COORDINATION**

**(APPENDIX 1 OF PAPER CPM 2024/21)**

## Appendix 1: 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 Euphresce~~, what gaps the IPPC could fill (or whether existing mechanisms are sufficient), and how ~~the mechanism could~~ they will contribute to and support ~~the needs of the IPPC~~ them. ~~The need for developing an implementation plan~~ and the continuation of the DAI would ~~depend on the outcome of the Scope study~~ and 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 and endorsement.

Meetings of the focus group ~~will be convened~~ ~~may be held~~ virtually ~~but may have~~ with at least 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 11 ~~fourteen~~ members with knowledge of the IPPC's mandate and activities, taking account of geographical representation and gender balance as follows:

- (1) ~~Up to seven~~ members representing national plant protection organizations ~~in each of seven~~ ~~FAO regions~~
- (2) ~~One representative~~ Up to ~~three members representing~~ of the ~~ten~~ regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs)
- (3) One representative of the CPM Bureau

Up to three experts representing existing phytosanitary research coordination structures are to be invited;

~~(4) (Optional) up to three observers representing academia, industry or civil society~~

## Functions

The focus group may propose ~~decide~~ to add tasks or amend the tasks listed below according to the information they gather during the active period, for approval of CPM Bureau.

~~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 needs of the IPPC and existing research coordination structures and mechanisms, to determine what is that are necessary for the IPPC to advance collaboration and accelerate development of science scientific evidence to support all regulatory phytosanitary activities;~~
- ~~(2) (5) as part of the scoping study, analyze consult with and explore existing international research coordination structures and mechanisms and explore map the options for enhancing regional and global research coordination;~~
- ~~(3) as part of the scoping study, explore assess 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;~~
- ~~(4) (2) as part of following the scoping study, assess whether existing international research coordination mechanisms are sufficient and identify what gaps still exist to meet the needs of the IPPC could fill;~~
- ~~(5) (6) following the scoping study, seek approval from CPM to develop options for CPM consideration on the possible mechanisms for implementing global phytosanitary research coordination~~
- ~~(6) (7) subject to CPM decision, develop a draft implementation and monitoring plan including proposed milestones~~
- ~~(7) provide any further observations or recommendations to the CPM as deemed appropriate;~~

## Expected start date and Duration

The focus group will be established by the Bureau by June 2024 and report to CPM in 2026 for decision on whether to proceed with further work. If CPM decides to proceed with the work, the focus group will remain effective until the CPM approves the implementation plan.

~~to first perform the scoping exercise and present its findings and conclusions to CPM (preferably in 2026) for decision on whether to further proceed with the drafting of draft a new policy, structure, and plan for the global phytosanitary research coordination. In case the scoping study demonstrates a need for the IPPC to be further involved and upon approval of CPM, 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) For CPM, a report of the scoping study to be conducted by the focus group to explore the needs of the IPPC and current international and regional phytosanitary research structures to identify gaps to be filled and structure coordination mechanisms and structure.
- (2) Upon approval of CPM, a proposal and structure of a coordination mechanism to be established.

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**Reports to:** CPM Bureau and CPM

## **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>).