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REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
15 February 2024**

IPPC Secretariat

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1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat

- [1] The virtual meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) was convened by the IPPC Secretariat. Participants were given a warm welcome.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Election of the rapporteur

- [2] The focus group selected Victoria LAMB (New Zealand) as rapporteur of the meeting.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

- [3] The focus group adopted the agenda (Appendix 1) and agreed to review the list of prioritized focus group actions if time allowed. The chairperson suggested to add an agenda item on “Planning seminars on climate change”, to which the members agreed.

3. Administrative matters

- [4] The focus group noted the absence of Samuel BISHOP (CPM Bureau “champion” for the focus group), and Erika MANGILI (Latin America and the Caribbean). The participant list is presented as Appendix 2 to this report.

4. Updates from members of the focus group

- [5] Members of the focus group gave regional updates of relevance to the focus group.
- [6] **Southwest Pacific.** No significant changes were reported but there are ongoing efforts to delimit the spread of fall armyworm with unusual findings of the pest on the West Coast of the South Island of New Zealand. Recent discovery of and invasive seaweed has prompted innovative approaches such as covering areas affected with wool blankets.
- [7] **Europe.** Simulation exercises were conducted to respond to quarantine pest incursions in Germany, through which a national plant protection organization can anticipate problems and any missing information or workflow issues, as well as steps to take. The chairperson noted that the focus group did not include the simulation exercises in the technical guide.
- [8] The chairperson informed participants that the farmers’ subsidy system in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had shifted from providing subsidies based on production (e.g. agricultural yield) to subsidies for farming that benefit the environment (e.g. tree planting) and help mitigate climate change.
- [9] Regarding the focus group’s paper submitted to the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), the chairperson reported that corrections had been made and the copyright form had been signed. He also noted that the request to reinstate the name of the focus group’s North America member in the paper was being addressed by EPPO. EPPO did not specify a date of publication.
- [10] The secretariat suggested promoting the group’s paper once it had been published. Proposed strategies included promotion on the IPPC website, the IPPC newsletter and the IPPC social media platforms to widen its reach.
- [11] **North America.** One focus group member gave updates on extreme weather events in Canada, including heavy snowfall on the East Coast and severe cold temperatures in the West of the country. She had attended presentations on regional and national invasive pest species and a climate change conference. As an aside, she informed the group that the revised International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures

(ISPM) on pest risk analysis had received 1,300 comments, thereby requiring a thorough review, and it may take longer to complete.

- [12] **Southwest Pacific.** The focus group member from the Southwest Pacific region reported that a crop survey was in process to enhance trade between Pacific PACER Plus members. The member noted that Cook Islands needed to renew its pest status update, which was last revised 10–15 years ago, to be able to trade with New Zealand and Australia, the main markets in the region. Cook Island's chief commodities are fruits and vegetables which can be traded on the condition that they are not host to fruit flies or if they undergo a heat treatment process using the system approach and the ISPMs set by the IPPC. Its priority was to seek financial assistance from the Australian Department of Agriculture and Forestry. It is also liaising with the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries regarding upcoming calendar events.
- [13] **Africa.** The focus group member from the region informed participants about events planned around Plant Health Week, to be held on 13 May or 14 May, with “Protecting Plants, Protecting Life” as theme. A series of lectures on the exposure of vegetables and other commodities to invasive species is aimed at farmers and stakeholders. The focus group member announced plans to hold a rally and give out flyers on pest management and related issues.
- [14] **North America.** One focus group member pointed out that the Climate Change Adaptation Plan of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) identifies vulnerabilities and proposes as well as tracking actions to address them. The focus group member mentioned that he was responsible for nine of the identified vulnerabilities. One of them is being addressed by the work of this IPPC focus group such as writing the paper on climate change submitted for publication to EPPOs, and presentations on climate change. The member further noted that the APHIS climate change plan is available publicly.
- [15] The chairperson added that the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan of the United Kingdom contained a section on natural environment risks, which was quite general in coverage. The plan goes through five yearly cycles assessed by an independent committee.
- [16] **Europe.** The focus group member discussed Germany's national climate change adaptation plan, which encompasses risks to agriculture and forestry, emphasizing the need for comprehensive strategies.

Updates from the secretariat

- [17] The secretariat mentioned that the possibility of organizing a series of seminars in the northern autumn, scheduled for September to October, was being discussed. Despite initial plans to condense the content into a single seminar, it was decided that three seminars would be more appropriate, as outlined in the accompanying document. The focus group member from Latin America suggested inviting a speaker from Brazil to discuss climate change, which would further enrich the seminar series.
- [18] The secretariat informed the group about an upcoming meeting in Brazil during the week starting on 7 October, which had been previously discussed in the January meeting. During this meeting, various activities relevant to the focus group's agenda are expected to take place, contributing to the group's ongoing initiatives and collaborations.
- [19] Further discussion was needed for planning seminars and regional workshops.

5. Update on call for NENA and FAO OCB representative

- [20] The secretariat provided an update on membership nominations from Asia and the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region, which remain vacant. In separate calls for experts, one nomination was received from Nepal and three from NENA. The secretariat will review the NENA nominations, rank and select the candidates based on expertise and suitability. Expert opinions from the group were sought, especially regarding climate change, as the secretariat lacked this specific expertise.
- [21] The secretariat also received a nomination from the FAO Office of Climate Change and Biodiversity (OCB), following the request made by the Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

(FG-CCPI) in its December 2023 meeting to invite a FAO OCB representative to become a member of the group.

- [22] The selected NENA nomination, along with the Nepal and FAO OCB nominations will be put forward to the CPM Bureau in April 2024 for approval. The new members will then officially become members of the FG-CCPI.

6. Updates and discussion on the Technical Guidance

- [23] The participants evaluated the relevance of the content to the intended audience, which may include policymakers, researchers, practitioners or other stakeholders in the field of plant health.
- [24] The FG-CCPI members assessed whether the language used was clear, concise and accessible to the intended audience. They suggested revisions to improve the flow of information, eliminate jargon or simplify complex concepts.
- [25] The group examined whether the document provided sufficient depth of information on critical aspects of plant health, including risk assessment, surveillance, monitoring and management strategies.
- [26] The secretariat noted that once the latest draft had been completed, the secretariat would proceed in annexing it to the FG-CCPI's paper submitted to CPM-18 for review.

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

- [27] Discussion on the face-to-face meeting of the group in Brazil was deferred to the next meeting.

8. Planning seminars on climate change

- [28] The group discussed plans to hold seminars on climate change and phytosanitary measures.
- [29] Reference was made to a document titled *Climate change and phytosanitary measures global seminars*, and participants confirmed having accessed it.
- [30] Participants shared ideas for seminar topics, including understanding climate change, risk assessment, risk management, and more.
- [31] Suggestions were put forward for potential speakers for each seminar, such as experts from the UK Met Office, IPCC, academic institutions and research organizations.
- [32] Roles for chairing sessions and contacting speakers were assigned to various participants based on their expertise and connections.
- [33] Consideration was given to the structure of the seminars, including talk durations, Q&A sessions and case studies.
- [34] The FG-CCPI members discussed the suitability of speakers from the private sector, bearing in mind potential conflicts of interest.
- [35] The group discussed potential topics and speakers for the seminars, with a focus on expertise, accessibility, and relevance to the intended audience. The chairperson proposed the matrix below and called on members to volunteer for a given seminar/topic as either chairperson or contact person.

		Assigned chairperson	Assigned person for contact	Potential speaker

Seminar 1	Understanding climate change	Glenn	Dominic	UK Met Office (Climate change expert)
Seminar 2	Climate data and models	Hannah	Chris	Darren Criticos (Ecological niche modelling expert)
Seminar 3	Climate change and impacts on agriculture	Victoria	Karen	Raquel Guiney (Agriculture and climate change expert)
Seminar 4	Climate impacts on pests	Ngatoko	Bastian	Sandra Skenzich (Pest impact expert)
Seminar 5	Cost-benefit analysis	Erika (Assignment pending confirmation)	Erika (Assignment pending confirmation)	Pending
Seminar 6	Pest reporting, surveillance and monitoring	Karen	Victoria	Sybren Vos (Pest surveillance expert)

9. IPPC Regional Workshops – FG member presentation or participation

[37] The secretariat informed participants that it is preparing the agenda for the IPPC Regional Workshops which will be held in July–August 2024 for the organizing committee of each region to consider. This is an opportunity for the group to present its work, potentially including the Technical Resource, which will have been published at that time. The tentative dates and locations for the regional workshops in NENA, the Pacific, Africa, and Europe and Central Asia were shared with the group. A regional workshop with the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) is not being planned as it hosts and organizes its annual gathering separately from the secretariat. The date and location of the regional workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean has not been set yet.

[38] The group considered participating in regional workshops to promote their work on climate change and plant health.

10. IPPC Development Agenda Item (DAI) flyer on climate change

[39] The secretariat reminded the group that it had developed the IPPC DAI flyers, including the DAI flyer on climate change that the secretariat had asked the group to review, as resource mobilization tools. The secretariat announced that all the DAI flyers will be attached to the main CPM-18 paper on DAI updates. The group agreed to send their feedback by 23 February??.

11. Any other business

[40] No additional matters were raised.

12. Date and arrangement of the next meeting

[41] The focus group agreed to hold their next meeting in virtual mode on 14 April 2024 from 22.00 to 12.00 (UTC +1).

13. Close of the meeting

[42] The chairperson thanked the participants for their contributions and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Agenda**CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES
VIRTUAL MEETING****15 February 2024**

	Agenda item	Document no.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the meeting	--	Chairperson
2.	Meeting arrangements		
2.1.	Election of the rapporteur	--	Chairperson
2.2.	Adoption of the agenda	01_FG_CCPI_2024_February_Agenda	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		
3.1	Participants list	02_FG_CCPI_2024_February_Participants_List	IPPC Secretariat
3.2	Documents list	03_FG_CCPI_2024_February_Documents_List	IPPC Secretariat
4.	FG-CCPI member updates	--	Chairperson/ All
5.	Update on call for NENA and FAO OCB representative	--	IPPC Secretariat
6.	Updates and discussion on the Technical Guidance	2024_02_14_DRAFT DOCUMENT tracked changes.docx (sharepoint.com)	IPPC Secretariat/ All
7.	Face-to-face meeting of the group in Brazil (2024)	--	Erika Mangili André, FG CPPI Member/NPPO Brazil
8.	IPPC Regional Workshops – FG member presentation or participation	--	IPPC Secretariat
9.	IPPC DAI flyer on climate change	Team Channel - DTP1 Flyer DAI 6 climate change_2_07_2024.pdf - All Documents (sharepoint.com)	IPPC Secretariat
10.	Any other business	--	Chairperson/ IPPC Secretariat
11.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	--	IPPC Secretariat/ Chairperson
12.	Close of the meeting	--	Chairperson

Appendix 2. Participants list**CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES
VIRTUAL MEETING****15 February 2024**

A check (✓) in column 1 indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting

	FAO region	Name, organization, country	email account
✓	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 (Chairperson)	Mr Dominic EYRE Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs York, United Kingdom	dominic.eyre@defra.gov.uk
✓	Europe	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 America 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	VACANT	
✓	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	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
✓	Southwest Pacific (Vice-Chairperson and IC representative for FG-CCPI)	Mr Ngatoko NGATOKO <i>Director</i> , Biosecurity Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Rarotonga, Cook Islands	ngatoko.ngatoko@cookislands.gov.ck nngatoko@gmail.com
	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, United Kingdom	sam.bishop@defra.gov.uk

IPPC Secretariat

	Name	Email address
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✓	Ms Mutya Frio Communications Specialist	Mutya.frio@fao.org
✓	Ms Mariam Almasri Report Writer	mariam.almasri@fao.org

Appendix 3. Documents list

CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES
15 February 2024, 10.00 PM Rome time
Virtual meeting

DOCUMENTS LIST*(Last update: 2024-02-12)*

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED/DISTRIBUTED
Administrative documents			
01_FG_CCPI_2024_January_Agenda	2.2	Provisional agenda	2024-01-14
02_FG_CCPI_2024_January_Participants_List	3.1	Participants list	2024-01-14
03_FG_CCPI_2024_January_Documents_List	3.2	Documents list	2024-01-14
2024_02_14_DRAFT_DOCUMENT_tracked_changes.docx (sharepoint.com)	6	Draft document	2024-01-14
Team Channel - DTP1 Flyer DAI 6 climate change_2_07_2024.pdf - All Documents (sharepoint.com)	9	DAI flyer on climate change	2024-01-14