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REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
06 November 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. The chairperson warmly welcomed all participants, including the new representative for the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region, Mr Ali Obaid AL-ADAWI (Oman).

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Election of the rapporteur

- [2] The focus group selected Xiaoxiao WANG (FAO Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB)) as rapporteur of the meeting.
- [3] The IPPC secretariat clarified that the rapporteur's role is only to review the content of the report, while editorial suggestions are handled directly by the secretariat.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

- [4] The focus group adopted the agenda (Appendix 1), noting that agenda item 4 (FG-CCPI member updates) will be moved to the end of the agenda moving forward, to ensure time efficiency within the meetings. Member updates were not delivered during this specific meeting and so “Updates from CPM Bureau and SPG meetings (October 2024)” replaced agenda item 4.
- [5] The focus group also proposed alternating between 2-hour and 1.5-hour meetings every month.

3. Administrative matters

- [6] The participant list is presented as Appendix 2 to this report.
- [7] The secretariat noted that following the FAO Administrative Circular 2022/06 on data protection, the secretariat has removed the email addresses of members in the participants list.

4. Updates from CPM Bureau and SPG meetings (October 2024)

- [8] The secretariat provided updates on the CPM Bureau and SPG meetings held in Rome, October 2024.

CPM Bureau update

- [9] The CPM Bureau convened for three days, 23-25 October 2024, and included an agenda item (5.3) and update paper on the CPM Focus Group for Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues. The CPM Bureau commended the work of the focus group and discussed the importance of the focus group in highlighting key themes for the future, including the impacts of climate change upon plant health, pest control and the development of pest risk analysis (PRA). It recognized the focus group's first in-person meeting in Brazil in October 2024 and agreed to review the focus group's action plan for 2025-2026 at the bureau meeting in March 2025. Regarding the selection of the focus group representative for the NENA region, the CPM Bureau confirmed the selection of Mr Ali Obaid AL-ADAWI (Oman).

SPG meeting update

- [10] The SPG convened for four days, 28-31 October 2024, and included an agenda item (7.6) and update paper on the CPM Focus Group for Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues, and the DAI “Assessment and Management of Climate-Change Impacts on Plant Health”. The SPG noted all updates requested from the focus group and thanked the focus group for their contributions. The SPG chairperson also thanked the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) bulletin for publishing and promoting the work of the focus group.

5. Survey results of the Webinar Series

- [11] Following the suggestion of a focus group member, a survey was created to evaluate the IPPC Webinar Series, “Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues”, which took place 24-26 September 2024. The feedback survey was active between 18-29 October 2024. The secretariat informed the focus group of the creation of summary results from the feedback survey, including qualitative answers and a list of respondent countries.
- [12] The chairperson praised the focus group in receiving 124 responses to the feedback survey, and its usefulness in shaping future webinars and activities of the focus group. The chairperson then presented the results of the feedback survey, which included:
- The key topics participants wished to see in future webinars, and published as technical resources:
 - Pest-risk analyses;
 - Pest management;
 - Surveillance;
 - Biocontrol; and
 - Pest reporting.
- [13] The chairperson noted that the responses received were predominantly from scientists and inspectors, deriving from government or research institutions.
- [14] Focus group members discussed the results of the survey, including the limited interest for forestry, Indigenous knowledge, and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as topics for future webinars and technical resources.
- [15] One focus group member also highlighted how 36 percent of participants noted that they feel a high degree of impact in how climate change is impacting their work on plant health and plant protection.
- [16] Following the review of the feedback survey, focus group members also discussed the need to highlight pest management, pest-risk analysis and biocontrol in the group’s strategic work going forward. The chairperson suggested that focus group members utilize their networks (and NPPOs) for potential collaboration with these key issues discussed. To this suggestion, one focus group member proposed a potential connection to the International Organisation for Biological Control (IOBC).
- [17] Following a request from a focus group member, the secretariat proposed to utilize the key results and figures from the feedback survey on the new webpage, which demonstrates the impacts of climate change on plant health (agenda item 7).

6. Action points on the new FG-CCPI Action Plan

- [18] The chairperson presented the new Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues Action Plan 2024-2026, which focuses on three core outcomes:
1. Improving awareness on the impacts of climate change on plant health;
 2. Evaluating and managing risks of climate change to plant health; and
 3. Enhancing recognition of phytosanitary matters in the international climate change debate.
- [19] **Participation in the next International Plant Health Conference.** The secretariat provided an update on the issues surrounding the next International Plant Health Conference (to be held in 2026), including the call for expression for side events, host requirements and logistical details. The chairperson raised the issue of funding for focus group participation in the conference, to which the secretariat confirmed that funding should likely come from NPPO sources.
- [20] The secretariat had encouraged focus group members to submit a concept note for the conference, but also suggested that they explore alternative ways to be involved in the conference, e.g. through plenary

or side sessions. However, as the conference is planned for the year 2026, which coincides with the focus group's end of mandate, the chairperson proposed to return to this discussion at a later date.

- [21] The chairperson highlighted a potential conference of interest to the focus group: the Fifth International Congress on Biological Invasions (ICBI 2025),¹ which explores themes such as:
- Addressing the Impact of Climate Change on Invasive Species Threats;
 - Technological Advancements in Invasive Species Management; and
 - Emerging Biosecurity Threats/Issues.
- [22] **Participation in regional-level webinars or workshops.** The focus group discussed participation in regional webinars and workshops on the impacts of climate change on plant health. As to this point, the chairperson requested the IPPC Secretariat customize the PowerPoint template in promoting the technical resource to support national and regional plant protection organizations.
- [23] **Promotion of FG-CCPI at key events.** The focus group discussed the promotion of the focus group and its action plan at the 2026 IPPC Plant Health Conference and other relevant events, forums and workshops. One focus group member mentioned the 2025 World Food Forum, as well as FAO's eightieth anniversary, and highlighted the numerous activities, events, and celebratory weeks which will take place. These events were stressed as possible opportunities to share the activities of the focus group, in collaboration with other bodies and FAO units.
- [24] The focus group also discussed involvements with either the Youth Forum or the Science and Innovation Forum under the World Food Forum. To this response, the secretariat proposed a cross-collaborative effort between the focus group and broader FAO units, to develop a proposal for the World Food Forum 2025. Noting the chairperson's suggestion to focus on broader themes of climate change, the secretariat proposed the proposal theme of climate change and One Health.
- [25] The secretariat suggested that materials could be produced and promoted at key events, such as the World Food Forum and FAO's eightieth anniversary celebrations, including the recent technical resource, the brochure on climate change on plant health, and any new material produced by 2025. The focus group also discussed the possibility of printing and/or promoting the technical resource to conferences where focus group members are not able to attend or participate.
- [26] The chairperson proposed the focus group return to action plan item 1.3 at the FG-CCPI December meeting.
- [27] **UN Climate Change Conference Forums.** The chairperson highlighted the need to investigate opportunities to raise awareness on the impacts of climate change on plant health at the next UN climate change conference forums (COP 30) in Brazil.
- [28] The chairperson asked focus group members to nominate themselves for the development of a topic proposal for the Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP) selection of topics by May 2025. The focus group member for the Near East region, Mr Ali Obaid AL-ADAWI, nominated himself for this task.
- [29] **Wider awareness raising of climate change impacts on plant health.** The focus group discussed wider opportunities to raise awareness of the impacts of climate change on plant health, including cultural and social impacts. One focus group member proposed the promotion of the focus group's work at the Food, Agriculture and Water Day (19 November 2024), during the Conference of the Parties (COP) 29.
- [30] On the theme of awareness raising, the secretariat shared a draft communications plan, including the development of new content and pages, newsletters and social media based on the proposed action plan

¹ ICBI 2025. From Threats to Solutions: Advancing Biosecurity. <https://www.icbi2025.com/>

2025-2026. The secretariat offered their assistance in identifying opportunities and activities, from which the focus group could position certain products and messaging.

7. New webpage on climate change and plant health

- [31] The secretariat presented the new webpage on climate change and plant health and discussed the resources that had been uploaded to the webpage.² The focus group sought clarification on the location of this new page, and its linkages to the IPPC homepage. The secretariat confirmed these arrangements and how the page would be linked to key themes across FAO pages.
- [32] Focus group members discussed the inclusion of slides from the IPPC Webinar Series to the website, to which the secretariat confirmed these would be uploaded.
- [33] The secretariat requested that focus group members provide any further inputs to the new webpage by 13 November. This included additional resources, tools, datasets, brochures, applications and other relevant publications or abstract for the page.

8. Any other business

- [34] The secretariat informed the focus group that the deadline for CPM-19 (2025) papers is 5 December 2024. The focus group confirmed the support of Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ (Latin America and the Caribbean) and Ms Karen CASTRO (North America) in supporting the development of a paper to CPM-19 (2025) presenting a summary of achievements within the focus group across the past three years.
- [35] The secretariat also requested the development of a short introductory paper to be delivered to the CPM bureau meeting in December 2024, annexing the focus group's 2022-2024 action plan. The chairperson nominated himself for this task.

9. Date and arrangement of the next meeting

- [36] The focus group agreed to hold their next meeting in virtual mode on **05 December 2024**, from 17:00 to 19:00 CET (UTC +1).
- [37] The focus group also proposed to hold the subsequent virtual meeting in the new year, on **14 January 2025**, from 17:00 - 18:30 CET (UTC +1).

10. Close of the meeting

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

²<https://www.ippc.int/en/strategic-objectives/plant-health-environmental-protection/the-impacts-of-climate-change-on-plant-health/>

Appendix 1: Agenda

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

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

06 November 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 (Rome time)

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_November_Agenda	Chairperson
3	Administrative matters		IPPC Secretariat
3.1	Participants list	02_FG_CCPI_2024_November_Participants_List	
3.2	Documents list	03_FG_CCPI_2024_November_DocumentsList	
4.	Updates from CPM Bureau and SPG meetings (October 2024)		IPPC Secretariat
5.	FG-CCPI member updates	--	Chairperson/All
6.	Survey results	04_Summary results Feedback Survey.pdf 05_Qualitative answers in Excel.xlsx 06_Countries of respondents.docx	IPPC Secretariat/All
7.	Action points on the new FG-CCPI Action Plan	07_FG CCPI Action plan 2025-2026 detailed 29 OCTOBER.docx	Chairperson
8.	New webpage on climate change and plant health	The impacts of climate change on plant health - International Plant Protection Convention	IPPC Secretariat/All
9.	Any other business	--	Chairperson/IPPC Secretariat
10.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	--	Chairperson/IPPC Secretariat
11.	Close of the meeting	--	Chairperson

Appendix 2: Participants List**CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES***(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)***06 November 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 (Rome time)****PARTICIPANTS LIST**

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

	FAO Region	Name, Organization, Country	
1	Africa	Ms Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH Assistant Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate, Ministry of Food and Agriculture Accra, Ghana	✓
2	Asia	Mr Bhakta Raj PALIKHE Plant Protection Adviser Nepal Plant Disease and Agro Associates (NPDA) Kathmandu, Nepal	✓
3	Europe (Chairperson)	Mr Dominic EYRE Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) York, UK	✓
4	Europe	Mr Bastian HESS Research assistant Julius Kühn-Institute, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (Institute for National and International Plant Health) Braunschweig, Germany	✓
5	Latin America and the Caribbean	Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ Agricultural Inspector Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Brasilia, Brazil	
6	Near East and North Africa	Mr Ali Obaid AL-ADAWI Director of Agriculture Research in North Al Batinah Governorate Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, Plant Protection Department Muscat, Oman	✓
7	North America	Ms Karen CASTRO Senior Risk Assessor – Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	✓

8	North America	Mr Glenn FOWLER Risk Analyst USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Sacramento, USA	✓
9	Southwest Pacific Vice-Chairperson and IC representative for FG-CCPI	Mr Ngatoko NGATOKO Director, Biosecurity Service Ministry of Agriculture Rarotonga, Cook Islands	
10	FAO Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB)	Ms Xiaoxiao WANG Natural Resources Officer FAO Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment Rome, Italy	✓
11	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, UK	

IPPC Secretariat

Name	
Mr Arop DENG Integration and Support Team Lead	
Ms Mutya FRIO Communications Specialist	✓
Ms Emma GIBBS Copy-Editor and Report Writer	✓

Appendix 3: Documents List**CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES****06 November 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 (Rome time)****Virtual meeting****DOCUMENTS LIST**

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
01_FG_CCPI_2024_November_Agenda	2.2	Provisional agenda	2024-10-29
02_FG_CCPI_2024_November_Participants_List	3.1	Participants list	2024-10-29
03_FG_CCPI_2024_November_Documents_List	3.2	Documents list	2024-10-29
04_Summary results_Feedback Survey.pdf	6	Survey results	2024-10-29
05_Qualitative answers in Excel.xlsx	6	Qualitative answers	2024-10-29