



## COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

### NINETEENTH SESSION

#### REPORT FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

#### AGENDA ITEM 9.2

*(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat with inputs of the IC chair and vice-chair)*

### 1. Introduction

- [1] The Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC)<sup>1</sup> is a subsidiary body of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) which develops, monitors and oversees an integrated programme to support the implementation of the IPPC, the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and the CPM recommendations. The IC strengthens the phytosanitary capacity of contracting parties.
- [2] Implementation and capacity development resources are developed by subject matter experts, under the auspices of the IPPC Secretariat (hereafter referred to as “the secretariat”), and with oversight of the IC. IPPC guides and training materials are targeted to meet specific needs identified by the IPPC community and are developed in accordance with the priorities identified in the List of Topics for Implementation and Capacity Development (ICD-LOT) and procedures set by the IC. The main changes to the ICD-LOT<sup>2</sup> are presented in **agenda item 9.2.1**.
- [3] This meeting paper provides an overview of the 2024 IPPC implementation and capacity development activities and achievements.

### 2. Governance

#### 2.1. IPPC Strategic Framework (2020–2030)

- [4] The IC plays a significant role in the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030. The IC provides oversight for four (4) of the eight (8) development agenda items (DAIs):
- harmonization of electronic data exchange;
  - e-commerce, and postal and courier channels;
  - strengthening pest outbreak alert and response systems (POARS); and
  - developing guidelines on the use of third-party entities.
- [5] Detailed reports of the activities implemented in these four (4) DAIs are presented under **agenda item 12**.

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<sup>1</sup> IC webpage: <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/capacity-development-committee/>

<sup>2</sup> List of ICD Topics: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/list-topics-ippc-implementation/list>

## 2.2. IC meetings – May and November 2024

- [6] **In May 2024**, the IC met in Rome, Italy, to discuss the decisions of CPM-18 (2024) that impact the IC's work plan, approaches for following up on these decisions, as well as implementation issues in general. The IC agreed on the need to strengthen the financial and human resources allocated to implementation and capacity development activities and suggested devoting dedicated sessions at IPPC regional workshops to identify implementation issues and gather feedback from contracting parties. This suggestion should be reaffirmed to the regional organizing committees for effective implementation in 2025, with the opportunity of the IPPC Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation.
- [7] The IC also provided an opportunity for the other secretariat units; the Standard Setting Unit and the Integration Support Team to update the IC on their respective activities. The IC discussed how to improve collaboration with the Standards Committee (SC). Other important topics discussed during the meeting included the guides and materials recently published and those being developed with a focus on plant health curriculum training, the ICD projects managed by the secretariat, and the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations (PCEs) conducted in 2023.
- [8] The IC generally invites some IPPC partner organizations to attend its May meeting, as observers. The European Commission, the Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development (COLEAD) and the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) Secretariat were invited to share their experiences and activities in relation to the IC's areas of competence. The presence of observers is valued by the IC, as it offers an opportunity to discuss collaboration and synergies with IPPC's implementation and capacity development activities.
- [9] During its May 2024 meeting, the IC dissolved the following IC Teams that have completed their assigned work:
- IC Team developing the CPM participation guide<sup>3</sup> – following the guide's publication;
  - IC Team for the Submission of Implementation Topics – The team revised and simplified the forms for submission of implementation resources and the form for the submission of IPPC Observatory topics. The proposed revisions were approved by the IC in May 2024 and the modified forms were sent to the Task Force on Topics for consideration during the 2025 Call for topics; and
  - IC Team on the revision of the *Guidelines for IPPC regional workshops*<sup>4</sup> – these guidelines were finalized and implemented as of 2024.
- [10] **In November 2024**, the IC met in Rome, Italy, to review the 2024 activities of the secretariat's Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU), IC Subgroup and Teams, and approved their work plans for 2025. The IC also raised the crucial issue of the sustainable resourcing of the IPPC IFU, for which several activities, some of which are a core function of the IPPC, remain insufficiently funded and staffed.
- [11] The November meeting was an opportunity for the IC to discuss the CPM Bureau (hereafter referred to as “the bureau”) and Strategic Planning Group (SPG) meetings held in October 2024 and receive an update on the Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP), 2024 IPPC regional workshops, as well as the 2024 Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations.
- [12] The IC discussed the strategic approaches to raise national plant protection organization (NPPO) awareness and improve their access to IPPC online capacity development resources. The IC also raised

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<sup>3</sup> *Guide to participating in the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention*: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd0310en>

<sup>4</sup> *Guidelines for IPPC regional workshops*: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/87113/>

the need for more countries to adopt the IPPC ePhyto Solution and conduct PCEs to assess and enhance the effectiveness of their plant health systems.

- [13] A demo of the new IPPC Plant Health Campus was presented to the IC during its November 2024 meeting. The platform is being developed in collaboration with the FAO eLearning Academy and will be released in 2025.
- [14] Further information on the 2024 IC meeting outcomes is available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).<sup>5</sup>

### 2.3. Collaboration between the IC and SC

- [15] The IC is fully committed to strengthening collaboration with the SC to include the development of ISPMs and their implementation in a more unified approach. Strengthening collaboration between the two committees requires a different way of funding of the IFU, for which more staff should be available for non-project work, or that project funding should be made available for the IFU when a standard is being developed to facilitate the synergistic approach (as has been discussed by the SPG)
- [16] In light of this, the IC has opened a discussion to strengthen the status of the IC representative to the SC. Proposals also include the establishment of a more efficient process for the transmission and archiving of implementation issues identified by the SC, as well as the reciprocal participation of chairpersons in the meetings of the May 2025 IC and SC meetings.
- [17] Furthermore, to ensure a transparent and inclusive process of certification of PCE facilitators, SC members are now fully involved as members of the PCE Board, as part of the certification process of new PCE facilitators.

## 3. Activities of IC Subgroup and IC Teams

### 3.1. IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory

- [18] The IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory met twice virtually to oversee the implementation of 2024 activities, provide technical input as needed, and finalize and agree on the 2025 workplan for the IPPC Observatory, as detailed in the document presented in **agenda item 12**.
- [19] Reports on the IPPC Observatory activities were delivered at CPM-18 (2024) and in the IC May and November 2024 meetings. Financial constraints were identified as the primary obstacle to completing all planned activities. The subgroup therefore discussed the need for sustainable financial resources to deliver the workplan.
- [20] **The IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce** was launched in August 2024, with a survey open to all contracting parties. This study aims to assess the implementation of the CPM recommendation on internet trade by IPPC contracting parties and establish baseline data for monitoring global phytosanitary e-commerce strategies. The IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory and the IC Team on E-commerce reviewed and tested these materials.
- [21] Preliminary results from the survey were presented to and reviewed by the IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory and the IC Team on E-commerce, and are presented to the CPM in **agenda item 12**. The final report and key recommendations arising from the study are expected to be available for presentation to CPM-20 (2026).

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<sup>5</sup> IC meeting reports: <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/capacity-development-committee/>

- [22] **The IPPC Observatory Study on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)**, was initially launched in 2023 as requested by CPM-17 (2023), to better understand the phytosanitary risks associated with the use of antimicrobial and antifungal products in plant health.
- [23] The study's first phase focused on collecting data on antibiotic use in plant protection, while the second phase concentrated on fungicides. Preliminary results from both phases were presented at CPM-18 (2024), where it was decided to refine the fungicide scope to align with the One Health concept. This involved restricting the scope of the survey to fungicides used across plant, animal and human health and extending the deadline to achieve broader participation.
- [24] Both surveys – antibiotics and fungicides – were re-launched in November 2024 with streamlined questionnaires to ensure consistency with previously collected data. Results from the survey were presented to the IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory and are presented to the CPM in **agenda item 12**.
- [25] To prioritize activities, as per the recommendation from the IC Subgroup, the IC re-arranged priority levels of the IPPC Observatory List of Topics. Therefore, the IPPC Observatory workplan for 2025 includes the finalization and publication report for the IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce and the IPPC Observatory Study on AMR. Another priority activity for 2025 is the conduct of the third IPPC General survey, which was included as a priority activity in the previous workplan yet was not delivered owing to the lack of allocated funding. In November 2024, the government of the Republic of Korea provided USD 90 000 to fund this activity.
- [26] Conducting **mid-term monitoring and evaluation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 DAIs** is another priority activity that was part of the previous workplan yet was not delivered due to a lack of funding. Given its importance, it is another priority activity in the 2025 workplan yet remains unfunded. The terms of reference and estimated cost of the SF DAIs mid-term monitoring and evaluation are presented in **agenda item 12**.

### 3.2. IC Team on E-commerce

- [27] The IC Team on E-commerce guides the IPPC work programme for the IPPC Strategic Framework DAI related to the management of e-commerce, and the postal and courier pathways.
- [28] Key activities of the IC Team in 2024 included:
- reviewing the 2025 workplan for the e-commerce DAI, which was approved by the IC during its November 2024 meeting;
  - reviewing and testing the draft questionnaire for the IPPC Observatory E-commerce study before its launch in 2024; and
  - collaborating with the secretariat in coordinating the CPM-18 (2024) side session on e-commerce.
- [29] Additional information on the IPPC Strategic Framework DAI related to e-commerce is provided in **agenda item 12.3**.

### 3.3. IC Team on Fusarium TR4

- [30] The IC Team on *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* Tropical Race 4 (Fusarium TR4) guides the work of the secretariat to deliver activities towards the global coordination on Fusarium TR4 as requested by CPM-17 (2023) and reiterated at CPM-18 (2024).
- [31] The IC Team on Fusarium TR4 held four (4) virtual meetings to prepare training materials for the following capacity development activities under the project “FAO support to COMESA trade facilitation programme” (GCP /INT/387/COM) directed to COMESA countries:
- a hands-on diagnostic training course in collaboration with IAEA;

- a virtual surveillance course; and
- the first ever hands-on simulation exercise in Africa with the transfer of expertise of the FAO Office for Mesoamerica.

[32] Experts from the IC Team on Fusarium TR4 and NPPOs of Ecuador, New Zealand and Peru also provided feedback to strengthen the tabletop simulation exercise, which is a preparedness tool that countries can use for self-learning. The IC Team on TR4 met to identify a 2025 work plan, highlighting the need for additional resources. This is further discussed in **agenda item 14.4**.

### 3.4. IC Team on the Authorization of third-party entities

[33] In May 2023, the IC established an IC Team to provide guidance on this development agenda. The IC Team met once, in March 2024, to review the comments arising from the consultation on the draft specification for an IPPC Guide to Audits in the phytosanitary context. The specification was approved by the IC in 2024 and posted to the IPP.<sup>6</sup>

[34] Additional information on the IPPC Strategic Framework DAI related to guidance on the use of third-party entities is provided in **agenda item 12.4**.

### 3.5. IC Team on IPPC Guides and Training Materials

[35] The IC Team on Guides and Training Materials guides the work of the secretariat as it relates to developing IPPC implementation and capacity development materials and maintaining the List of Topics for Implementation and Capacity Development (ICD-LOT).

[36] The IC Team on Guides and Training Materials met remotely in March and September 2024 to carry out a comprehensive review of the *Procedure for the development of IPPC Guides and training materials*. The revised procedure was approved by the IC in November 2024 and has been posted to the IPP<sup>7</sup>. The revision includes changes that streamline the process, clarified roles and responsibilities, and improved readability.

[37] This IC Team also monitors the use of IPPC e-learning courses and guides and identifies opportunities to enhance the use and readability of these products and encourage their translation. They noted that over 4,000 individuals have registered for the six (6) IPPC e-learning courses available, and that there has been a significant increase in the use of IPPC guides over the last year. The IC Team also noted the progress made in translating IPPC guides and training materials to other FAO official languages, which would not be possible without the support of several partner organizations. Additional information is provided below under section 4, Guides and training materials.

### 3.6. IC Team on National Reporting Obligations

[38] Despite being a core IPPC activity, National Reporting Obligations (NROs) have historically received no dedicated resources, posing challenges for maintaining basic activities. In addition, the activation of the IC Subgroup on NROs was delayed due to resource limitations and the establishment of the POARS SG. The IC Team on NROs prioritized the activation of the IC Subgroup on NROs, pending IC approval and resource availability.

[39] In October 2024, the proposal to add a feature on IPPC country pages to verify phytosanitary certificates received support from the ePhyto Steering Group (ESG) and the IC Team on NROs. This optional feature inclusion will be a new bullet in the “Related Official Information” section of the “IPPC Country

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<sup>6</sup> Specification for the guide on *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009): <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/93804/>

<sup>7</sup> *Procedure for the development of IPPC Guides and training materials*: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/88591/>



Page,” to link to the NPPO system to verify phytosanitary certificates by PC number, QR code, or any other available mechanism. The ESG suggested creating a focal point for urgent phytosanitary certificate issues, which would require further discussion.

- [40] The Official Contact Point nomination form was updated in 2023 to request an NPPO stamp; however, some NPPOs without a stamp faced challenges in meeting this request. In such cases, the secretariat accepted the form when a justification was provided. The IC noted concerns regarding the need for a secure verification method and agreed to maintain the existing process, continuing to accept unstamped forms when justified.
- [41] The IC approved the 2025 work plan for the IC Team on NROs, in which several activities are subject to the availability of funds.

### 3.7. IC Team on Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation

- [42] The secretariat, in close collaboration with the IC Team on PCE, has made significant strides on the PCEs finalized in 2023 and 2024. The focus was on fostering the implementation of National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategies to transition from diagnosis to action, address capacity gaps, mobilize resources and strengthen plant health systems. Likewise, the collaboration within the team has allowed the certification of new PCE facilitators, expanding the global network and promoting PCE knowledge.
- [43] This collaboration has also resulted in continued dissemination and communication of activities related to the PCE, contributing to improvement on clarity and accessibility.
- [44] Upcoming activities focus on enhancing the PCE process and mechanisms, along with implementing the PCE roadmap approved by the IC, as budget allows, and providing guidance to NPPOs on the PCE upon request.

### 3.8. IC Team on Projects

- [45] In 2024, the IC Team on Projects conducted two virtual meetings. These meetings focused on discussions about the session on Implementation and Capacity Development (ICD) projects (webinar), scheduled for 2025, and the list of observer organizations to be invited to the IC May 2025 meeting.
- [46] The IC Team decided to skip hosting the ICD projects webinar in 2024 due to scheduling conflicts with CPM-18 (2024) and the International Day of Plant Health. Instead, they agreed to reframe and host the session in May 2025 as a webinar titled, *Smart Plant Health: What Does the Future Look Like?* This session will provide an opportunity for countries and project leads to showcase innovative projects or forward-facing innovations in plant health. The objective is to create a dynamic venue for donor outreach, funding opportunities and collaboration within the phytosanitary community. One highlight of the session will be a showcase of innovative projects, such as the Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria’s (OIRSA) application of metaverse in plant health.
- [47] To strengthen cooperation, facilitate information exchange and foster greater interactions, the IC Team agreed to extend invitations to the following observer organizations for the IC May 2025 meeting:
- European Commission;
  - Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF);
  - Comité de Liaison Entrepreneuriat-Agriculture-Développement (COLEAD);
  - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ);
  - International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);
  - World Bank;
  - Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI);
  - European Food Safety Authority; and

- Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

[48] This strategic engagement aims to enhance global collaboration and support for phytosanitary projects.

### 3.9. IC Team on Contributed Resources

[49] The IC Team on Contributed Resources reviewed the resources submitted following the criteria and procedures for reviewing and approving contributed phytosanitary resources for posting on the IPP<sup>8</sup>. The IC team met remotely in August and September 2024 and reviewed four contributed resources. The IC team agreed that three resources met the criteria and could be posted on the IPP.

[50] More information on contributed resources is available on the IPP.<sup>9</sup>

## 4. Guides and training materials

### 4.1. New IPPC guides and training materials

[51] The following IPPC guides and training materials were revised or developed in 2024.

[52] **Guide to participating in the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention.**<sup>10</sup> The new guide introduces the CPM and provides guidance to CPM meeting participants. It explains the central role of CPM meetings, including who may attend CPM meetings and how the meetings are structured. It also takes the readers step-by-step, through the process of preparing for a CPM meeting and suggests best practices and tips to support effective participation in the meeting and follow-up after the meeting. Secretariat funds have been allocated to translating this guide to all FAO official languages.

[53] **NROs e-learning course.**<sup>11</sup> Originally, the NROs e-learning course was embedded within a much larger course that also provided information on surveillance and pest status determination. The revised NROs portion of the course is now a stand-alone course that takes less than an hour to complete.

[54] **Surveillance and pest status determination e-learning course.**<sup>12</sup> The surveillance and pest status determination portion of the e-learning course was updated and launched in 2024. This course is focused on strengthening national surveillance systems and enhancing pest monitoring and detection activities. It also provides guidance on using the results of surveillance to determine pest status and promotes best practices for complying with IPPC obligations for pest reporting.

[55] **Fusarium TR4 training materials (2023-002).**<sup>13</sup> Work to develop the Fusarium TR4 training materials, including materials for the delivery of three (3) training courses, was completed in May 2024. The initiative to develop this comprehensive toolkit was funded by the European Union, within the framework of the FAO Support to COMESA Trade Facilitation Programme (GCP/INT/387/COM).

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<sup>8</sup> Criteria and procedures for reviewing and approving contributed phytosanitary resources for posting on the IPP: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/90112/>

<sup>9</sup> Contributed resources: <https://www.ippc.int/en/about/core-activities/capacity-development/guides-and-training-materials/contributed-resource-list/>

<sup>10</sup> *Guide to participating in the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention*: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd0310enb>

<sup>11</sup> National reporting obligations e-learning course (*revised*): <https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=1101>

<sup>12</sup> Surveillance and pest status determination e-learning course: <https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=1100>

<sup>13</sup> Fusarium TR4 training materials: <https://ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/programmes/ippc-global-coordination-on-fusarium-oxysporum-f-sp-cubense-tropical-race-4-tr4/>

## 4.2 IPPC e-learning courses: summary of user data

- [56] E-learning courses provide a practical, engaging and effective way of delivering technical knowledge to a large audience. The e-learning courses can be used for self-directed learning, or they can be integrated into national training programmes or used as a component of blended learning approaches.
- [57] Both the FAO elearning Academy and Committee Linking Entrepreneurship, Agriculture and Development (COLEAD) collect information about the learners who register for the courses hosted on their platforms. The information associated with the IPPC e-learning courses is shared with IFU on request.
- [58] As of September 2024, 4,085 persons have registered for the IPPC e-learning courses. This figure includes all registrants since each course's launch. 765 trainees obtained certificates or badges, up from 497 in January 2024. Nineteen percent of all registrants have successfully completed the courses so far.
- [59] Thirty-eight (38) percent of the registrants were female. Forty-two (42) percent of the trainees were from Africa, 30 percent from Asia, 14 percent from Europe and Central Asia, six (6) percent from North America, four (4) percent from South America, and three (3) percent from Oceania.

## 4.3. Recognition of experts for development of guides

- [60] The development of IPPC guides and training materials is a crucial activity and requires a significant time commitment from each subject matter expert, the IC lead and the secretariat. The IC invites the CPM to recognize the outstanding contributions and thank the working group members who contributed to the development of IPPC guides and training materials published in 2024. These experts are listed below in Appendix 2.

## 4.4. Translations and recognition of in-kind translators and proofreaders

- [61] Taking on the request for the translation of guides and training materials made by CPM-16 (2022) and CPM-17 (2023), the secretariat made considerable progress initiating translations of IPPC guides and e-learning courses in 2024. In 2025, two guides in French, one guide in Spanish, one guide in Russian, and the guide to *Participating in the CPM of the IPPC* in all FAO languages are expected to be published. In addition, four (4) e-learning courses in French and two (2) e-learning courses in Spanish are also expected to be available in 2025.
- [62] The table of status of IPPC guide and training material translations, including those published in 2024 and those that are in the process of being translated and expected to be available in 2025, with institutions providing in-kind translations, is provided in Appendix 1.
- [63] Translating IPPC guides and e-learning courses depends on the generous support of contracting parties, partners and donors. This support could involve providing funds to cover the costs associated with the translation or offering the in-kind services of a translator to provide the translation.<sup>14</sup>
- [64] Each translated guide and training material is proofread for accuracy prior to publication by a native-language speaker familiar with phytosanitary concepts and terminology. The secretariat would like to request that the CPM acknowledge the volunteers carrying out this important work, listed below in Appendix 2.

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<sup>14</sup> Please contact the IPPC Secretariat at [ippc@fao.org](mailto:ippc@fao.org) to discuss how your organization can help.



## 5. Update on communications

[65] In 2024, the IC reinforced its commitment to supporting communications and endorsed the development of a communications plan, in alignment with the IPPC Communications Strategy 2023–2030, to include several additional ICD materials and projects, namely:

- “FAO support to COMESA trade facilitation programme” (GCP/INT/387/COM);
- “Strengthening food control and phytosanitary capacities and governance” (GCP/GLO/949/EC); and
- relevant communication activities to support the publication of the IPPC guide on e-commerce, the DAI overall and the IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce.

[66] Each topic included in the communications plan was supported with communication campaigns, across the most relevant communications mediums and channels, with the objective of increasing reach and awareness. Thanks to funding on priority projects, specific communications materials were developed on priority topics, such as posters to support emergency response simulation exercises on Fusarium TR4, a factsheet on the IPPC China project, and a video on PCEs (to be finalized in 2025).

[67] In 2024, ICD topics were also featured at a number of events including two highly attended CPM-side sessions, one on [E-commerce](#) and another on [Fusarium TR4](#), and delivered presentations to the [CPM Orientation side-session](#). E-commerce and ePhyto were topics of key focus during the International Day of Plant Health 2024, under the theme “Plant health, safe trade, and digital technology”. The secretariat also led a side event on the critical Role of Plant Health within One Health at the Twenty-ninth Session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG-29) in 2024<sup>15</sup>.

[68] The Phytosanitary System Pages on the IPP were published in 2019 to serve as resources for the phytosanitary community and present relevant technical information on phytosanitary topics, in one place. During the IC Meeting in 2024, the IC endorsed a proposal to update the Phytosanitary System Pages content to enhance ease-of-use and readability, layout and findability. The update will also align with the key thematic areas identified for the IPPC Plant Health Learning Campus (**agenda item 14.1**). This work is part of a bigger recommendation that the IC had put forward for the secretariat to continue improving the structure of the IPP, with a focus on improving navigability and the findability of key resources.

## 6. IC recommendations to CPM-19 (2025)

[69] During the IC November 2024 meeting, the IC discussed the key recommendations which should be brought to the attention of CPM-19 (2025).

[70] The IC would like to generally call upon the CPM and the IPPC Financial Committee to ensure that core activities of the IPPC are properly funded, as decisions from CPM, the bureau and IC regarding implementation and capacity development consistently lack the provision of dedicated resources (i.e. for the IPPC Observatory, for POARS, for Fusarium TR4 Global Coordination, for PCE, for guides). The IFU has been relying on – and continues to rely on – extrabudgetary funding, hindering its ability to develop training materials related to ISPMs in a timely manner.

[71] Consequently, noting that the staffing level in the IFU is inadequate to face the current workload and to fulfill its mission, the IC is requesting the IPPC Financial Committee to consider **opening three (3)**

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<sup>15</sup> COAG side session on One Health: <https://ippc.int/en/events/webinars/coag-29-side-event-plant-health-why-is-it-crucial-for-the-success-of-one-health/>

**regular-funded positions for IFU in addition to the three existing ones**<sup>16</sup> as indicated in the 2015 enhancement evaluation<sup>17</sup> and highlighted during the SPG meeting 2024<sup>18</sup>.

- [72] The IC is also requesting the Financial Committee to **approve financial resources to deliver core IPPC activities**: for NROs (USD 50 000 per year from both regular programme budget and Multi-donor Trust Fund (MDTF)); PCE (USD 50 000 per year from both regular programme budget and MDTF); POARS, including global coordination of Fusarium TR4 (USD 50 000 per year from both regular programme budget and MDTF); IPPC Observatory overall functioning (USD 50 000 per year from both regular programme budget and MDTF); and for the development of guides and training materials. While not a replacement to stabilizing staffing within the IFU, these funds would help to achieve some progress in these respective areas of work.
- [73] Another recommendation from the IC would be to increase awareness of the available IPPC implementation and capacity development materials. The concerns of many contracting parties and other partners over the difficulty to navigate the IPP and find ICD materials should partially be addressed by the development of the **IPPC Plant Health Campus**, a digital platform that gathers all ICD materials according to various learning paths. On the same note, the IC would like to encourage the IPPC contracting parties to integrate the training material from the IPPC Plant Health Campus in their national training programme for NPPO staff and to liaise with universities within their countries.
- [74] Finally, in order to improve the submission of ICD topics, the IC supports and recommends the use of the table relating ISPMs to guides and training materials (presented in document CPM 2025/13). The layout of the table should improve the ability of contracting parties to identify implementation gaps.

## Recommendations

- [75] The CPM is invited to:
- (1) *note* the work of the IC in 2024;
  - (2) *note* the activities of the IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory and the activities of the IC Teams: E-commerce, Fusarium TR4, Authorization of third-party entities, IPPC Guides and Training Materials, NROs, PCE, Projects, and Contributed Resources;
  - (3) *recognize* that implementation and capacity development activities are underfunded;
  - (4) *request* the establishment of three (3) additional regular funded positions for IFU in order for the team to deliver its core mandate, as recommended in the 2014 enhancement evaluation;
  - (5) *request* the provision of adequate financial resources for core and priority IPPC activities that are not funded or underfunded: USD 50 000 per year for NROs, USD 50 000 per year for PCE, USD 50 000 per year for POARS Global coordination of Fusarium TR4, USD 50 000 per year for the overall functioning of the IPPC Observatory, as well as for the development of guides and training materials;
  - (6) *encourage* contracting parties to consider the donation of resources through funds to the IPPC MDTF or in-kind contributions to support the progress of the above-mentioned activities;
  - (7) *encourage* the promotion of IPPC Plant Health Campus and enhance awareness of the available IPPC implementation and capacity development materials;
  - (8) *encourage* contracting parties to submit implementation topics during the 2025 call for topics;

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16 IFU Organigramme and staff list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/91133/>

17 Report on the IPPC Secretariat enhancement (2015): [https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2020/05/ippc\\_secretariat\\_enhancement\\_evaluation\\_report\\_final\\_1.pdf](https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2020/05/ippc_secretariat_enhancement_evaluation_report_final_1.pdf)

18 2024 Strategic Planning Group, Development of international standards and guidance: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/93863/>

- (9) *encourage* the IPPC Regional Workshop Organizing Committees to devote dedicated sessions at the 2025 IPPC regional workshops to identify implementation issues and gather feedback from contracting parties;
- (10) *thank* the experts involved in the development of the IPPC guides and training materials, following their outstanding contributions; and
- (11) *acknowledge* the contribution of proofreaders for their invaluable assistance in verifying the accuracy of translations for IPPC guides and training materials:

**APPENDIX 1: Summary of guides and e-learning translations statuses, 2024–2025**

<b>Title of guide or e-learning</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>Partner</b>	<b>Publication</b>
Pest status guide: Understanding the principal requirements for pest status determination	Guide	French	COLEAD <sup>19</sup>	2024
Regulation of wood packaging materials	Guide	French	COLEAD	2024
E-commerce: A guide to managing the pest risk posed by goods ordered online and distributed through postal and courier pathways	Guide	Spanish	COSAVE <sup>20</sup>	2024
National reporting obligations (NROs)	E-learning course	French	European Union <sup>21</sup>	2024
Surveillance and pest status determination	E-learning course	French	European Union	2024
Regulation of wood packaging materials	Guide	Spanish	NAPPO <sup>22</sup>	2025
Emergency preparedness	Guide	Russian	FGBU "VNIIKR" <sup>23</sup>	2025
Emergency preparedness	Guide	French	COLEAD	2025
Resource mobilization: Promoting contracting party partnerships	Guide	French	COLEAD	2025
Participating in the CPM of the IPPC	Guide	All FAO languages	IPPC funds	2025
Phytosanitary inspection	E-learning course	Spanish	COSAVE & IICA <sup>24</sup>	2025
Pest risk analysis (PRA)	E-learning course	Spanish	OIRSA <sup>25</sup>	2025
Phytosanitary export certification systems	E-learning course	French	MDTF <sup>26</sup> (Canada)	2025
Phytosanitary Inspection	E-learning course	French	COLEAD	2025
Pest risk analysis (PRA)	E-learning course	French	COLEAD	2025

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<sup>19</sup> Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development

<sup>20</sup> Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur

<sup>21</sup> “Strengthening Food Control and Phytosanitary Capacities and Governance” (GCP/GLO/949/EC)

<sup>22</sup> North American Plant Protection Organization

<sup>23</sup> All-Russian Plant Quarantine Center (FGBU "VNIIKR")

<sup>24</sup> Inter American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture

<sup>25</sup> Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria

<sup>26</sup> Multi-donor Trust Fund

## **APPENDIX 2: Acknowledgement of experts and proofreaders for their contributions towards IPPC guides and training materials**

### **1. Guide to participating in the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention**

- Thorwald GEUZE (Kingdom of The Netherlands);
- Ezequiel FERRO (Argentina);
- Melisa Graciela NEDILSKYJ (Argentina);
- Magda GONZALEZ ARROYO (Costa Rica);
- Stephanie BLOEM (United States of America); and
- Ngatoko TA NGATOKO (Cook Islands).

### **2. Training materials for the following training exercises for Fusarium TR4: hands-on diagnostic training course, virtual surveillance course, and hands-on simulation exercise**

#### *a) Hands-on simulation exercise*

- Raixa LLAUGER (FAO Mesoamerica); and
- Jaime CARDENAS LOPEZ (FAO Mesoamerica).

#### *b) Hands-on diagnostic training course*

- Pooja MATHUR (Joint FAO-IAEA Laboratory);
- Joanna Beata JANKOWICZ-CIESLAK (Joint FAO-IAEA Laboratory);
- Isabel CALLE (Colombia);
- Mariluz Ayala VASQUEZ (IC Team on Fusarium TR4);
- Diane MOSTERT (IC Team on Fusarium TR4, Stellenbosch University); and
- Chunyu LI (IC Team on Fusarium TR4, Guangdong Academy of Agricultural Sciences).

#### *c) Virtual surveillance course*

- Altus VILJOEN (Stellenbosch University);
- Giovanna Guadalupe FONSECA VIVANCO (Ecuador);
- Julian SMITH (Rothamsted Research);
- Malisa Graciela NEDILSKYJ (IC Team on Fusarium TR4, SENASA);
- Nancy Jiménez VILLEGAS (OIRSA);
- Jamisse AMISSE (Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique);
- Ivan RWOMUSHANA (CABI);
- Antonia VAZ (Mozambique); and
- Afonso SITOLE (Mozambique).

#### *d) Table-top simulation exercise*

- Monica GALLO LARA (GIZ);
- Maria Cristina SOSA SOSA (Ecuador);
- Marco Vinicio CACARÍN PINAN (Ecuador);
- Fanny Consuelo TENORIO CHIC (Ecuador);
- Jessica ROCHE (New Zealand);

- Carlos Ruben TORRES LIMACHE (Peru); and
- Orlando Antonio DOLORES SALAS (Peru).

**3. Proofreaders who provided invaluable contributions in verifying the accuracy of translations for IPPC guides and training materials:**

- Abdeljelil BAKRI (French);
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