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REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
10 October 2023**

IPPC Secretariat

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1. Opening of the meeting

[1] The IPPC Secretariat (secretariat) opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Selection of the rapporteur

[2] The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) members selected Karen CASTRO as rapporteur of the meeting.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

[3] FG-CCPI members adopted the agenda as presented in Appendix 1 to the present report.

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Participant list

The secretariat noted that Essia Litem SELLAMI, Samuel BISHOP and Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH were not in the meeting. The secretariat also noted apologies from Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ who could not attend the meeting due to an injury. The participant list is presented in Appendix 2.

[4] The secretariat invited members to notify it if any changes were needed to their contact information, as it was reflected in the FG-CCPI membership list on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).

[5] The CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues:

- (1) *Asked* the secretariat to follow up with the CPM Bureau as to the status of the representative from the Near East and North Africa, and to launch a call for a new representative if necessary.

3.2 Document list

[6] The secretariat presented the documents as listed in Appendix 3.

4. FG-CCPI member updates

Regional updates

[7] In the Southwest Pacific, one member said that the use of the IPPC electronic phytosanitary certificate (ePhyto) Solution had been a subject of discussion in the region, particularly as regards the need for national legislation to enable it and its cost. The member noted that some IPPC contracting parties, such as the Cook Islands, Samoa and Tonga, issued ePhyto certificates mostly for private consignments rather than for international trade. The member added that some countries in the region, especially developing nations, were testing the IPPC ePhyto solution, with the aim of finally adopting it.

[8] Another member said that recent severe storms in New Zealand had damaged crops, orchards in particular, and created a risk of disease outbreaks. The storms had prompted strategic discussions about land-use planning, land-use change and how to build back better, as production sites on hills had contributed significantly to damage and flooding. A biosecurity programme was being developed in response to an outbreak of *Caulerpa* seaweed. The member said that one isolated case of *Mycoplasma bovis* had been reported after the outbreak had been declared eradicated in New Zealand. In response to Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), the country had begun work with Indigenous Māori communities to develop an eradication plan for that newly detected invasive species. The member also noted that an El Niño was forecast for the end of 2023, which would lead to dry summer conditions in New Zealand. The member also noted that there was an ongoing discussion on land-use change.

- [9] In Europe and Central Asia, one member said that they had highlighted the work of FG-CCPI and had distributed a fact sheet on climate change and plant health at the German Plant Health Conference held from 26 to 29 September 2023 in Göttingen, Germany.¹ The member also noted that the European Food Safety Authority had released a plant health horizon-scanning dashboard that showed emerging pests on a dynamic world map and included a function to search the tool by keyword or species.² The member recommended including the dashboard as a resource in FG-CCPI materials.
- [10] Another member said that the 2023 Annual Meeting of the International Pest Risk Research Group (IPRRG) had been held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 21 to 24 September 2023.³ Discussions there had included climate change and modelling topics that could be of interest to FG-CCPI members.
- [11] In North America, one member expressed hope that Canada's worst fire season ever was drawing to a close as the change of seasons brought cooler temperatures but noted that conditions in many parts of the country continued to be very dry. The member also highlighted the Adaptation Futures conference that had been held in Montreal, Canada, from 2 to 6 October 2023 and addressed a number of climate change related issues, including climate justice, Indigenous perspectives on climate change and food security and trade.⁴
- [12] Another member said that they had presented the work of FG-CCPI and its relation to the Plant Protection and Quarantine of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) at the 2023 IPPC and North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) virtual town hall meeting, held on 25 September 2023, that had been attended and viewed by 398 participants. The member suggested adding the event to the list of activities carried out by FG-CCPI members. Additionally, the member said that they would present the work of the group at the forthcoming NAPPO annual meeting, to be held in Mérida, Mexico, from 4 to 7 December 2023.⁵

5. Update on the status of representation from Asia

- [13] The secretariat informed the group that records from previous meetings of the group, including 28 June 2023, noted that the representative from the Asia region had withdrawn from the group officially, and that the process to seek a new representative from the region could move forward.
- [14] The CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues:

(2) *Asked* the secretariat to launch a call for a new representative from the Asia region.

6. Update on the status of the nomination from Lesotho

- [15] The secretariat said that the nomination it had received for an additional member to the group from Lesotho would be reviewed and vetted before being sent to the CPM Bureau for its approval.

7. Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting in June 2023

- [16] Discussion on this item was deferred to a forthcoming meeting.

¹ German Plant Protection Conference. Available at: <https://www.pflanzenschutztagung.de> [in German].

² European Food Safety Authority Plant Health: Horizon Scanning Dashboard. Available at: <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/powerbi/plant-health-horizon-scanning-dashboard>.

³ 2023 Annual Meeting of the International Pest Risk Research Group in Association with the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service, CABI and Cervantes Agritech. Available at: <https://pestrisk.org/iprrg-2023/>.

⁴ Adaptation Futures 2023. Available at: <https://adaptationfutures.com>.

⁵ Forty-sixth North American Plant Protection Organization Annual Meeting. Available at: <https://www.napppo.org/english/46th-NAPPO-Annual-Meeting>.

8. Updates and discussion on the Report on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests

- [17] The secretariat reported that the extended consultation period for the report had closed, and that the report had received more than 300 comments from 18 contracting parties via the Online Comment System (OCS). The secretariat said that a number of contracting parties had expressed their explicit support for the report, which was encouraging. The secretariat said that once members had incorporated the comments into the report, the next step would be to submit the document to the CPM Bureau for its review at its meeting in April 2024.
- [18] The chairperson suggested splitting the task of responding to the OCS comments among group members; all members agreed to the proposal. Members agreed to make their responses in advance of the forthcoming meeting of FG-CCPI, which could then be reviewed and discussed by the group as a whole to resolve any outstanding issues or concerns.
- [19] The chairperson, noting that a number of the comments received from the first round of comments centred on the style and tone of the writing, suggested that members keep in mind the target audience for the guide: national plant protection organizations (NPPOs), particularly NPPOs that may have fewer resources or that may not have considered climate change and plant health issues.
- [20] One member asked about the title of the document, noting that there seemed to be ongoing confusion as to the term to use. Members agreed on the term “technical resource” and the title *Technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests*.

9. Opportunities for FG-CCPI presentations and awareness-raising in upcoming IPPC Regional Workshops

- [21] The secretariat said that the agendas for IPPC Regional Workshops were developed by the regions themselves. The chairperson said that if FG-CCPI wanted to be included on the agenda of workshops in 2024, members should promote the work of the group in their respective regions and lobby for climate change considerations to be included. The secretariat said that it would be important to have a designated representative to present on the work of FG-CCPI at future workshops.

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

- [22] Discussion of this item was deferred to a forthcoming meeting.

12. Any other business

- [23] The chairperson said that the paper they had submitted to the *EPPO Bulletin* on the impact of climate change on plant health had received feedback. One comment noted that FG-CCPI had included “develop tools” to help national risk assessments for climate change and pest issues as a key action in its 2021–2025 Action Plan. The chairperson suggested that the development of tools was beyond the scope of the focus group, and that the action should be reworded to promote the use and awareness of tools; group members agreed to the change. Another comment asked about the target dates for FGCCPI activities; the chairperson noted that the group’s mandate ran until 2025 and that it would thus be important to plan appropriately for the next two years.

13. Date and arrangements of the next meeting

- [24] FG-CCPI members agreed to hold the forthcoming virtual meeting on 28 November 2023 from 22.00 to 00.00 CET (UTC +1).

14. Close of the meeting

- [25] As Mutya FRIO would return to her role supporting the work of FG-CCPI from its forthcoming meeting, the chairperson thanked Anita TIBASAAGA for her dedication and support in recent meetings.

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

Appendix 1: Agenda

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

10 October 2023

	Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the meeting	–	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
2.	Meeting arrangements		
2.1	Election of the rapporteur	–	Chairperson
2.2	Adoption of the agenda	01_FG_CCPI_2023_October	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		
3.1	Participant list	02_FG_CCPI_2023_October	IPPC Secretariat
3.2	Document list	03_FG_CCPI_2023_October	IPPC Secretariat
4.	FG-CCPI member updates	–	Chairperson / All
5.	Update on the status of representation from Asia	–	IPPC Secretariat
6.	Update on the status of the nomination from Lesotho	–	IPPC Secretariat
7.	Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting in June 2023	–	Samuel Bishop
8.	Updates and discussion on the Report on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests	–	IPPC Secretariat / All
9.	Opportunities for FG-CCPI presentations and awareness-raising in upcoming IPPC Regional Workshops	–	Chairperson
10.	Face-to-face meeting of the group in Brazil (2024)	–	Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ, FG-CPPI Member, NPPO Brazil
11.	Any other business	–	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
12.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	–	IPPC Secretariat / Chairperson
13.	Close of the meeting	–	Chairperson

Appendix 2: Participant list

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

	FAO Region	Name, Organization, Address, Telephone	Email address
FG-CCPI members			
	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 and Central Asia (Chairperson)	Mr Dominic EYRE Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs, York, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	dominic.eyre@defra.gov.uk
✓	Europe and Central Asia	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 American and the Caribbean	Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ Agricultural Inspector Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Brasilia, Brazil	erika.mangili@agro.gov.br
	Near East and North Africa	Ms Essia Limem SELLAMI Head of the Entomology Department Ministry of Agriculture Tunis, Tunisia	essialimem@yahoo.fr
✓	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 of America	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

✓	IC Member representative (Vice-chairperson)	Mr Ngatoko TA NGATOKO Director, Biosecurity Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the Cook Islands Rarotonga, Cook Islands	ngatoko.ngatoko@ cookislands.gov.ck ; nngatoko@gmail.com
Other participants			
	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, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	sam.bishop@defra.gov.uk

IPPC Secretariat

		Name	Email address
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Ms Anita TIBASAAGA Communication Specialist	Anita.Tibasaaga@fao.org
✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Daniel McKINNON Report writer	danielmckinnon@yahoo.com

Appendix 3: Document list**COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES****10 October 2023****DOCUMENT LIST**

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
Administrative Documents			
01_FG_CCPI_2023_October	2.2	Provisional agenda	2023-10-04
02_FG_CCPI_2023_October	3.1	Participant list	2023-10-04
03_FG_CCPI_2023_October	3.2	Document list	2023-10-04