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International  
Plant Protection  
Convention

## **REPORT**

# **Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues**

**Virtual Meeting  
13 September 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 Glenn FOWLER 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

[4] The secretariat introduced Anita TIBASAAGA, who was standing in for Mutya FRIO, Ngatoko TA NGATOKO, who was participating in his first meeting of FG-CCPI as the representative of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC), and Ahmed ABELMOTTALEB, from the IC to discuss National Reporting Obligations (NROs) with the group.

[5] The vice-chairperson noted that two members- Essia Limem SELLAMI and Rhunzi ZHANG had missed many of the Group's meetings. The participant list is presented in Appendix 2.

[6] 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).

[7] The secretariat said that the issue of a participant from the Asia region was still pending.

[8] The secretariat said that it had received a nomination from Lesotho for an additional member to FG-CCPI. Focus group participants welcomed the new member, on the condition that the additional membership fell within the group's Terms of Reference.

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

(1) *Asked* the secretariat to clarify with the CPM Bureau the status of representation from Asia in the focus group, and to launch a call for a new representative if necessary.

(2) *Asked* the secretariat to confirm that the nomination from Lesotho of an additional representative fell within the group's Terms of Reference and, if so, to communicate the confirmation of the nomination.

### 3.2 Document list

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

## 4. FG-CCPI member updates

### *Regional updates*

[11] In North America, one member said that on 25 September 2023, they would present the work of FG-CCPI and its relation to Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) at the 2023 International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) virtual town hall meeting. The audience for this meeting is PPQ, which is the National Plant Protection Organization for the United States.

- [12] Another member said that they had been soliciting feedback from agency colleagues on the draft guide/technical resource for the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests and on the consolidated International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) on pest risk analysis (PRA) (ISPM 11).
- [13] In Europe and Central Asia, one member said that they had presented at the European Conference on Ecological Modelling,<sup>1</sup> held from 4 to 8 September 2023 in Leipzig, Germany, and had highlighted the work of FG-CCPI and had distributed a fact sheet on climate change and plant health. The member said that they would also distribute the fact sheet at the German Plant Health Conference that would be held from 26 to 29 September 2023 in Göttingen, Germany.<sup>2</sup> The member said that EUPHRESKO had published a report on developing and assessing surveillance methodologies for *Agrilus* beetles<sup>3</sup> that may be of interest to the group given the likely impact of climate change on the spread of plant pest species. Similarly, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) released its Invasive Alien Species Assessment.<sup>4</sup> Another member noted that connections between the IPBES and the IPPC would be beneficial, given the shared subject matter and expertise between the two, and suggested including that as an item in the group's action plan.
- [14] The member also noted that María MILAGROS LÓPEZ – the author of five IPPC Diagnostic Protocols – had co-authored a book titled: *La sanidad vegetal en la agricultura y la silvicultura: Retos y perspectivas para la próxima década* [Plant health in agriculture: Challenges and prospects for the next decade] that dealt extensively with climate change issues.<sup>5</sup> The member also drew attention to an extreme weather event that had occurred in Switzerland, where the municipality of Zermatt went from experiencing its hottest August day on record to snowfall in a matter of four days.
- [15] Another member said that they had submitted a paper to the *EPPO Bulletin* on the impact of climate change on plant health to highlight the work of FG-CCPI and the international collaboration happening therein. The member said that the consolidated ISPM on pest risk analysis PRA (ISPM 11) had been circulated and that comments were being compiled for submission by the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO).
- [16] In the Southwest Pacific, one member said that they had also been soliciting feedback from agency colleagues on the draft technical resource for the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests. The member reported that the outbreak of *Mycoplasma bovis* had been declared eradicated in New Zealand. In response to an outbreak of *Caulerpa* seaweed, eradication measures were being developed before it became more widespread in New Zealand. The country continued to take measures to respond to Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), a newly detected invasive species. Fall armyworm (FAW, *Spodoptera frugiperda*) was becoming established in New Zealand as it spread to new areas of the country, and work was ongoing to manage the outbreak. The member said that they were preparing materials for farmers and growers on climate change and biosecurity risks.
- [17] Another member said that the Cook Islands had hosted the IPPC Regional Workshop for the Pacific Region in collaboration with the Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO). The workshop had discussed draft ISPMs under consultation and current CPM Recommendations. The workshop addressed biosecurity concerns including the rhinoceros beetle and giant African snail (*Achatina fulica*), as well as foot-and-mouth disease and African swine fever, which were of concern for the Pacific region. The member said that climate change was causing disruptions to tropical crop cycles in the region, and that

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<sup>1</sup> European Conference on Ecological Modelling (ECEM). Available at: <https://ecem23.eu>.

<sup>2</sup> German Plant Protection Conference. Available at: <https://www.pflanzenschutztagung.de> [in German].

<sup>3</sup> Williams, D., Enston, A., Francese, J., Crook, D., Hoch, G., de Groot, M., Bonte, J. *et al.* 2023. *Developing and assessing surveillance methodologies for Agrilus beetles*. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8331198>.

<sup>4</sup> IPBES Invasive Alien Species Assessment. Available at: <https://www.ipbes.net/IASmediarelease>.

<sup>5</sup> Jiménez Díaz, R.M., Milagros López, M. & Albajes, R. 2023. *La sanidad vegetal en la agricultura y la silvicultura: retos y perspectivas para la próxima década*. Madrid, Royal Academy of Engineering of Spain. [https://raing.es/pdf/publicaciones/libros/Libro\\_sanidad\\_vegetal\\_RAING\\_FINAL.pdf](https://raing.es/pdf/publicaciones/libros/Libro_sanidad_vegetal_RAING_FINAL.pdf) [in Spanish]

it would be important to raise the issue of climate change impacts to plant health with a broad range of stakeholders, including businesses and industry.

- [18] In the Near East and North Africa, one participant said that the recently concluded IPPC Regional Workshop had included a presentation by an FAO expert on the effects of climate instability on plant pests in 2022 and 2023, as well as a discussion on the consolidated ISPM on pest risk analysis PRA (ISPM 11) and the relationship between climate change and PRA.
- [19] In Latin America and the Caribbean, one member said that a destructive extratropical cyclone had brought heavy rains to the south of Brazil – a region that had been previously experiencing drought. The member said that they were contributing to a document being drafted for submission at the Twenty-eighth Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) on resilient food systems, sustainable agriculture and climate action.
- [20] In Africa, one member said that prolonged, seasonal rains in some areas were causing significant damage to vegetable crops. As a part of an Institute for Climate-change and Research Analysis (ICRA) project on climate change, crop fields were being monitored to assess trends in plant pest prevalence, noting that there had been a large number of reports from farmers of endemic fungal and bacterial diseases in plants.

## **5. Updates on the nomination of Mr Christopher Dale**

- [21] The vice-chairperson informed the group that the former chairperson of FG-CCPI, Christopher DALE, would not be able to continue his membership in the focus group due to other commitments, but offered to help the work of the group in an informal capacity. Members thanked Christopher DALE for his contributions to the work of the group.

## **6. Way forward on the group's chairpersonship**

- [22] The vice-chairperson said that, given the departure of the former chairperson from the group, FG-CCPI members would need to select a new chairperson.
- [23] FG-CCPI members nominated Dominic EYRE as Chairperson of the Group and Ngatoko TA NGATOKO as Vice-chairperson.
- [24] The chairperson thanked the participants for their support. He looked forward to working with the vice-chairperson and all the other members of the Group. The vice-chairperson also thanked the participants for their support.

## **7. Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting in June 2023**

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

## **8. Updates on the Report on the assessment and management of climate change impacts**

- [26] The draft report/technical resource on the assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant pests had circulated to contracting parties for consultation. The secretariat noted that the due date for submission of documents to the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) was 18 September 2023. Group members said that did not leave enough time for comments to be incorporated into the document, particularly if comments proved to be substantive. The secretariat said that if the report could not be submitted to the SPG, the group could send an update of its activities and submit the report for future CPM Bureau meetings and possibly CPM-18 in 2024.
- [27] Noting the timeline and variations in style of writing the report, members agreed to consider the nature and scope of comments received from the Online Comment System (OCS) before deciding a course of action as to submission of the report/technical resource.

- [28] One member noted that the group may require more time to review the report, considering that some sections seemed to have been copied and pasted from other documents.
- [29] Another member said that some sections seemed to be very academic and did not incorporate a climate change angle.
- [30] A member informed the group that if they had to restructure the report to take care of all the issues and make it beneficial to intended users, the focus group would lose one year before it can submit the report to CPM.

## 9. FG-CCPI paper for SPG

- [31] One member suggested that a report could be submitted to the SPG to inform it of the focus group's progress to date and the current status of the report/technical resource. The report could ask for a CPM Bureau meeting, or online Bureau forum, to consider the revised report/technical resource incorporating OCS comments. The secretariat stated that the deadline to submit such a report would be 18 September 2023.
- [32] The CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues:
- (3) *Asked* the secretariat to confirm if there would be further CPM Bureau meetings held prior to CPM-18 (2024).

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

- [33] The chairperson FG-CCPI thanked members for their participation in the IPPC Regional Workshops for the Pacific and the Caribbean regions, as well as in the annual meeting of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO).
- [34] The chairperson said that the agendas for the Regional Workshops had been set well in advance of the workshops themselves, and that there had not been an opportunity to include discussion of the work of FG-CCPI and the impact of climate change on plant pests in 2023. If the group wanted to include such discussions in the Regional Workshops for 2024, planning thereon would need to be anticipated.
- [35] The CPM Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues:
- (4) *Asked* the secretariat to communicate to the group the timelines and process to include a topic on the agenda for Regional Workshops.

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

- [36] The representative of Brazil's national plant protection organization (NPPO) said that discussions were ongoing between the secretariat and the NPPO to determine the most suitable time to hold the meeting, possibly in May or June 2024.

## 12. Any other business

- [37] A representative of the IC presented on National Reporting Obligations (NROs) and how climate change impacts on plant health could be considered therein. He said that NROs were derived from the text of the International Plant Protection Convention and, at present, NROs did not require contracting parties to report on climate change-related issues, as none were stipulated in the text of the Convention.

- [38] One possibility would be to use the general procedures section of the NROs related to “any other information”, which states that contracting parties can post other information to the IPP that they deem beneficial to other contracting parties.<sup>6</sup>
- [39] Another possibility would be to use pest outbreak alert and response systems (POARS) instead, as they contained mechanisms for collecting information from contracting parties.
- [40] The representative said that FG-CCPI may wish to recommend to the CPM to include climate change considerations in pest reporting obligations, as the possibility existed there to include a section related to climate change, pest range expansion, increasing number of pest introductions, changing conditions, new observations, etc.
- [41] One member noted that the consolidated ISPM on PRA (ISPM 11) had been reorganized with the intent of including climate change considerations into the new standard. It would be important to continue encouraging contracting parties to include climate change considerations when providing feedback through the OCS. The more comments received about climate change, the more likely that climate change considerations would be incorporated into the consolidated standard.

### **13. Date and arrangements of the next meeting**

- [42] FG-CCPI members agreed to hold the forthcoming virtual meeting on 10 October 2023 from 22:00 to 24:00 CEST (UTC +2).

### **14. Close of the meeting**

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

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<sup>6</sup> *The guide to National Reporting Obligations: For IPPC Contact Points and IPP editors.* Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca6377en/CA6377EN.pdf>. Annex 9, item 1a: General IPPC National Reporting Obligations (NROs) procedures. Available at: [https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2016/05/Appendix\\_09\\_NRO\\_Procedures.pdf](https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2016/05/Appendix_09_NRO_Procedures.pdf). “The list of National Reporting Obligations as provided by the IPP Convention”. Available at: [https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2016/06/NROs\\_basic\\_list.pdf](https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2016/06/NROs_basic_list.pdf).



**Appendix 1: Agenda**

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

**13 September 2023**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Document No.</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
1.	<b>Opening of the meeting</b>	–	IPPC Secretariat / Vice-chairperson
2.	<b>Meeting arrangements</b>		
2.1	Election of the rapporteur	–	Vice-chairperson
2.2	Adoption of the agenda	01_FG_CCPI_2023_September	Vice-chairperson
3.	<b>Administrative matters</b>		
3.1	Participant list	02_FG_CCPI_2023_September	IPPC Secretariat
3.2	Document list	03_FG_CCPI_2023_September	IPPC Secretariat
4.	<b>FG-CCPI member updates</b>	–	Vice-chairperson / All
5.	<b>Update on nomination of Mr Christopher Dale</b>	–	Vice-chairperson
6.	<b>Way forward on the group's chairpersonship</b>	–	Vice-chairperson
7.	<b>Feedback from recent CPM Bureau meeting in June 2023</b>	–	Samuel Bishop
8.	<b>Updates on the Report on the assessment and management of climate change impacts</b>	–	IPPC Secretariat / Anita TIBASAAGA
9.	<b>FG-CCPI paper for SPG</b>	–	IPPC Secretariat
10.	<b>Opportunities for FG-CCPI presentations and awareness-raising in upcoming IPPC Regional Workshops</b>	–	Vice-chairperson
11.	<b>Face-to-face meeting of the group in Brazil (2024)</b>	–	Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ, FG-CPPI Member, NPPO Brazil
12.	<b>Any other business</b>	–	IPPC Secretariat / Vice-chairperson
13.	<b>Date and arrangement of the next meeting</b>	–	IPPC Secretariat / Vice-chairperson
14.	<b>Close of the meeting</b>	–	Vice-chairperson

## Appendix 2: Participant list

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

	FAO Region	Name, Organization, Address, Telephone	e-mail account
<b>FG-CCPI members</b>			
✓	Africa	<b>Ms Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH</b> Assistant Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate, Ministry of Food and Agriculture Accra, Ghana	<a href="mailto:hsnuamah@gmail.com">hsnuamah@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:hsakoto@st.uq.edu.gh">hsakoto@st.uq.edu.gh</a>
	Asia	VACANT	
✓	Europe and Central Asia (Chairperson)	<b>Mr Dominic EYRE</b> Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs, York, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	<a href="mailto:dominic.eyre@defra.gov.uk">dominic.eyre@defra.gov.uk</a>
✓	Europe and Central Asia	<b>Mr Bastian HESS</b> Research assistant Julius Kühn-Institute, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (Institute for National and International Plant Health) Braunschweig, Germany	<a href="mailto:bastian.hess@julius-kuehn.de">bastian.hess@julius-kuehn.de</a>
✓	Latin American and the Caribbean	<b>Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ</b> Agricultural Officer International Affairs, Ministry of Rural Development and Family Farming Brasilia, Brazil	<a href="mailto:erika.mangili@mda.gov.br">erika.mangili@mda.gov.br</a>
	Near East and North Africa	<b>Ms Essia Limem SELLAMI</b> Head of the Entomology Department Ministry of Agriculture Tunis, Tunisia	<a href="mailto:essialimem@yahoo.fr">essialimem@yahoo.fr</a>
✓	North America	<b>Ms Karen CASTRO</b> Senior Risk Assessor – Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	<a href="mailto:Karen.Castro@inspection.gc.ca">Karen.Castro@inspection.gc.ca</a>
✓	North America	<b>Mr Glenn FOWLER</b> Risk Analyst USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Sacramento, United States of America	<a href="mailto:glenn.fowler@usda.gov">glenn.fowler@usda.gov</a>
✓	Southwest Pacific	<b>Ms Victoria LAMB</b> Co-Lead, HE Waka Eke Noa Climate Change Programme Extension Ministry for Primary Industries Wellington, New Zealand	<a href="mailto:Victoria.Lamb@mpi.govt.nz">Victoria.Lamb@mpi.govt.nz</a>

✓	IC Member representative (Vice-chairperson)	<b>Mr Ngatoko TA NGATOKO</b> Director, Biosecurity Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the Cook Islands Rarotonga, Cook Islands	<a href="mailto:ngatoko.ngatoko@cookislands.gov.ck">ngatoko.ngatoko@ cookislands.gov.ck</a>
<b>Other participants</b>			
	CPM Bureau champion for the FG-CCPI	<b>Mr Samuel BISHOP</b> 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	<a href="mailto:sam.bishop@defra.gov.uk">sam.bishop@defra.gov.uk</a>

***IPPC Secretariat***

		<b>Name</b>	<b>Email address</b>
✓	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Ms Anita TIBASAAGA</b> Communication Specialist	<a href="mailto:Anita.Tibasaaga@fao.org">Anita.Tibasaaga@fao.org</a>
✓		<b>Ahmed ABELMOTTALEB</b>	<a href="mailto:bidoeng@yahoo.com">bidoeng@yahoo.com</a>

**Appendix 3: Document list****COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES  
FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES****20 July 2023****DOCUMENT LIST**

<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TITLE</b>	<b>DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED</b>
<b>Administrative Documents</b>			
01_FG_CCPI_2023_September	2.2	Provisional agenda	2023-09-04
02_FG_CCPI_2023_September	3.1	Participant list	2023-09-04
03_FG_CCPI_2023_September	3.2	Document list	2023-09-04