

Agenda Item 16.2 Update on Africa Phytosanitary Programme

Submitted by United Kingdom

March 2025

Refer to [CPM 2025/38](#).

CPM 2025/38 invites CPM to:

- (1) *Note* the report
- (2) *Discuss* the report and *make* recommendations on the APP plans moving forward.

The United Kingdom welcomes the progress update on the Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP) as presented in paper CPM 2025/38. We welcome that the programme is being implemented in phases, and that 11 countries were involved in the pilot phase that began in September 2023. We are encouraged that the African Union Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU-IAPSC) and the Near East and Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO), together with eight countries will take part in phase two.

The United Kingdom also welcomes this opportunity to make recommendations on future APP plans.

Capacity development

- (1) Resources such as training materials and survey protocols, developed for the APP, should be made freely and easily available on the IPP.

APP Governance

- (2) We note that the coordination and governance of APP activities is split across three groups; an Operational Coordination Group (OCG), a Technical Working Group (TWG) and a Communications Working Group (CWG). Recognising the importance of APP activities, we recommend that a full-time coordinator of the APP be appointed.

Budget and Planning

- (3) There are plans to share the two-year work plan and budget with donors, FAO and IPPC management team. However, to aid transparency we recommend that the two-year work plan and budget be made publicly available. This could also help in finding potential additional donors for the APP.

Staffing

- (4) Seven IPPC Secretariat staff have been involved in supporting the APP. Whilst supporting implementation of the APP, staff do not have time to work on other important and urgent tasks. The United Kingdom recommends CPM have an exchange of views to discuss whether implementation of the APP should be separated from the work of the IPPC Secretariat whilst still remaining within the FAO Plant Production and Protection Division.
- (5) If such discussion concludes that the APP remains within the IPPC's mandate, then FAO should consider appointing new dedicated and appropriately qualified staff members within the secretariat so as not to constrain progress with other IPPC Secretariat work.