



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
29 May 2025**

IPPC Secretariat

Required citation: IPPC Secretariat. 2025. *Report of the meeting of the Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues, 29 May 2025*. Rome. Published by FAO on behalf of the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

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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 (hereafter referred to as “the secretariat”). The Chair opened the meeting with an apology for cancelling the April 2025 meeting due to a scheduling conflict. He also welcomed Russell Caplen, who introduced himself as interim support from IPPC. Mr. Caplen has been with IPPC since January 2025.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Election of the rapporteur

- [2] Karen CASTRO, Focus Group member from North America, volunteered as rapporteur for the month’s meeting report.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

- [3] The focus group adopted the agenda (Appendix 1) with the following agenda items added: financial status of the group; update on the paper to be presented to the CPM Bureau meeting in June; updates on the Chair’s presentation to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee held in June; and schedule of future meetings.

3. Administrative matters

- [4] The participant list is presented as Appendix 2 to this report.

4. Review of Outstanding Action Items

- [5] The secretariat had previously agreed to follow-up on organizing an initial meeting with FAO Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division (PSU) and the Focus Group Member from FAO Office or Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB) for exploring synergies and collaborative opportunities. The secretariat confirmed the action was pending coordination between them and FAO OCB.
- [6] The focus group decided to forego pursuing the topic on PRA legal aspects as the two relevant ISPMs are currently being revised.

5. Planning for Upcoming Webinars (October 2025)

- [7] Discussion on identifying and confirming speakers:
- The member from Latin America to explore options from the citrus greening group.
 - The member from NENA to follow up with an expert from the University of California at Davis (UC-Davis).
 - The Chair to confirm with a potential speaker from the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).
 - The focus group discussed balancing speakers based on gender and region.

[8] Discussion about potential time zone and scheduling:

- Tentative dates: 1st and 2nd October 2025.
- Proposed time: 2:00 PM Rome Time (considered suitable for most locations).

[9] The member from Latin America agreed to send suggested speaker name(s) for citrus greening by 10 June 2025. It was pointed out that not all experts who work on citrus greening also focus on climate change. Therefore, careful selection is required.

[10] Focus group members nominated the NENA member as facilitator for the webinar on 1 October 2025 and agreed that the facilitator for the webinar on 2 October 2025 would be decided in the next meeting when all focus group members will be present.

6. FG-CCPI Report for June 2025 Bureau Meeting

[11] Focus group members reviewed the draft FG-CCPI report for the June 2025 CPM Bureau meeting and provided feedback on the draft report in advance of the 30 May 2025 deadline.

7. Fact Sheet Development

[12] The member from Asia noted that fact sheet templates may vary due to country-specific requirements and emphasized the need for format harmonization while maintaining some flexibility across countries. The Secretariat agreed format harmonization was needed and emphasized that drafts should be reviewed internally before further steps.

[13] The member from North America asked for clarification on use of the Fall Armyworm (FAW) fact sheet (developed by the member from Europe) as a template for the remaining fact sheets. The Chair confirmed that the FAW fact sheet format is suitable as a standard for this focus group.

[14] Members confirmed ongoing work on their respective fact sheets.

8. Transition and Farewell

[15] Mutya Frio expressed appreciation for the team's collaboration and explained the need for focal point transition due to her workload and limited availability. She shared her pleasure in working with the team and invited members visiting Rome to connect for coffee or lunch and formally recommended that Russell Caplen assume responsibilities as the focus group's interim focal point in the IPPC Secretariat's office.

9. Next Steps and Closing of the Meeting

[16] After group discussion, the Chair confirmed the next Focus Group meeting would be held on Wednesday, 2 July 2025 from 17:00 to 19:00 CET (Rome time) and that succeeding meetings are scheduled on Tuesday, 5 August 2025 and Tuesday, 9 September 2025.

[17] The Secretariat noted that participants did not have time to discuss the financial status of the focus group as requested when the agenda was adopted at the beginning of the meeting. Therefore, a brief update on the budget will be added to the 2 July 2025 meeting agenda.

[18] The focus group noted the following outstanding action items:

- 1) *organize* an initial meeting with FAO PSU to determine potential synergies and opportunities for collaboration and support as related to action plan item 4.5 (to be actioned by the FAO OCB focus group member and secretariat interim focal point);
- 2) *reach out* to the expert from UC-Davis (to be actioned by the focus group member from the NENA region);

- 3) *reach out* to potential speakers on citrus greening (to be actioned by the focus group member from the Latin America region);
- 4) *reach out* to potential speaker from EFSA (to be actioned by the Chair);
- 5) *confirm* speaker from CGIAR/CIAT (to be actioned by the focus group member from FAO OCB);
- 6) *confirm* speaker from CABI (to be actioned by the focus group member from Africa);
- 7) *review* draft fact sheets internally (to be actioned by all focus group members); and
- 8) *standardize* template structure for all fact sheets (to be actioned by all focus group members).

[19] The Chair 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**

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

29 May 2025, 17:00 – 19:00 CET

Virtual Meeting

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_2025_April_Agenda.docx	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		IPPC Secretariat
3.1	Participants list	02_FG_CCPI_2025_April_Participants_List.docx	Chairperson
3.2	Documents list	03_FG_CCPI_2025_April_2025_Documents_List.docx	Chairperson
4.	Action item review	Action_Items_from_CPM_FG-CCPI_March_Meeting.docx	Chairperson
5.	Continuing discussion on 2025 webinar topics	05_Team_Channel – 06 Webinar ideas 2025	Chairperson
6.	Continuing discussion on factsheets	06_Team_Channel – 12_Factsheet ideas	Chairperson
7.	FG-CCPI member updates		Chairperson/All
8.	Any other business	--	Chairperson/IPPC Secretariat
9.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	--	Chairperson/IPPC Secretariat
10.	Close of the meeting	--	Chairperson

Appendix 2: Participants List

CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

29 May 2025, 17:00 – 19:00 (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 (Chair)	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	✓
9	Southwest Pacific Vice-Chair 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	Vacant	

IPPC Secretariat

Name	
Ms Sarah BRUNEL Officer in Charge of day-to-day matters, IPPC Secretariat	
Ms Mutya FRIO Communications Specialist	✓
Mr. Russell CAPLEN Agricultural Officer, Interim Focal Point	✓
Vacant Copy-Editor and Report Writer	

Appendix 3: Documents List

CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES
29 May 2025, 15:00-17:00 CET
Virtual meeting

DOCUMENTS LIST

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
https://unfao.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/IPPC-External-Collaboration-Team-CPMFGonCCandPI/_layouts/15/Doc2.aspx?action=edit&sourcedoc={034330bc-9443-421a-bca6-3abc62c71ee4}&wdOrigin=TEAMS-MAGLEV.teamsSdk_ns.rwc&wdExp=TEAMS-TREATMENT&wdhostclicktime=1741864067923&web=1_01_FG_CCPi_2025_April_Agenda.docx	2.2	Provisional agenda	2025-03-13
02_FG_CCPI_2025_April_Participants_List	3.1	Participants list	2025-03-13
03_FG_CCPI_2025_April_Documents_List	3.2	Documents list	2025-03-13
Action items from CPM FG-CCPI February meeting.docx	5	Action items	
04 Letter to IPPC Secretariat IC Lead	6	Action Plan 2025–2026	2025-03-12
05 Team Channel – 06 Webinar ideas 2025	7	Webinar Ideas 2025	2025-03-12
06 Team Channel – 12 Factsheet ideas	8	Factsheet Ideas	2025-03-12