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

**Virtual Meeting  
03 December 2025**

**IPPC Secretariat**

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## Contents

1. Opening of the meeting.....	4
2. Meeting arrangements.....	4
3. Administrative matters.....	4
4. Updates from the CPM Bureau and SPG meetings relevant to the FG-CCPI, and report to CPM-20 .....	4
5. Discussion on developing FG-CCPI recommendations for integrating climate change into PRA.....	4
6. Plant Health Innovation Fair at CPM-20 .....	5
8. Update on the factsheets .....	5
8. FG-CCPI member updates.....	5
9. Next Date and arrangement of the next meeting .....	6
Appendix 1: Agenda .....	7
Appendix 2: Participants List.....	8

## 1. Opening of the meeting

### 1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat

[1] The Chair of the CPM FG-CCPI opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

## 2. Meeting arrangements

### 2.1 Election of the rapporteur

[2] Karen CASTRO volunteered to serve as the meeting's rapporteur.

### 2.2 Adoption of the agenda

[3] The FG-CCPI adopted the agenda as shown in Appendix 1.

## 3. Administrative matters

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

## 4. Updates from the CPM Bureau and SPG meetings relevant to the FG-CCPI, and report to CPM-20

[5] The Secretariat briefed the Focus Group on discussions held at recent CPM Bureau and Strategic Planning Group (SPG) meetings. Members were informed that the CPM Bureau acknowledged the substantive contributions of the FG-CCPI and agreed that climate change considerations should progressively transition to a mainstreamed, business-as-usual approach across relevant IPPC activities.

[6] FG members sought clarification on how their outputs would be reflected in CPM-20 documentation and future implementation activities. The Secretariat outlined expectations for reporting FG-CCPI progress and key outputs to CPM-20, including a concise summary of achievements, key technical messages, and proposed pathways for integrating climate change considerations into ongoing IPPC work.

[7] Members emphasized the importance of preserving institutional memory, particularly ensuring that key technical outputs (e.g. guidance, recommendations, lessons learned) are not lost once the FG mandate concludes.

[8] The FG CCPI agreed:

- that the Secretariat would report FG-CCPI progress and key outputs to CPM-20.
- to support the consolidation of the FG's recommendations for Pest Risk Analysis (PRA)-related activities, to enable their integration into relevant IPPC bodies and ongoing work after the FG mandate concludes.

## 5. Discussion on developing FG-CCPI recommendations for integrating climate change into PRA

[9] The Focus Group discussed the scope, purpose, and format of recommendations on integrating climate change considerations into PRA. Members agreed that the expected output should be concise, practical, and action-oriented, aimed at supporting relevant IPPC bodies and technical processes. The group agreed that the recommendations should focus on operational considerations rather than the development of a comprehensive guidance document.

[10] The FG-CCPI agreed that members would contribute ideas and inputs intersessionally to support drafting of this output.

## 6. Plant Health Innovation Fair at CPM-20

[11] The Secretariat provided an update on preparations for the Plant Health Innovation Fair at CPM-20, including its conceptual structure and proposed thematic stations. Members discussed opportunities to reflect climate change-related tools, methodologies, and case studies within the Innovation Fair, including predictive modelling, surveillance planning, and applied decision-support tools. The FG recommended that contributions should prioritize practical, operational innovations that demonstrate the application of climate change considerations in plant health decision-making.

[12] The FG CCPI agreed:

- to support the dissemination of the call for submissions for the Plant Health Innovation Fair within their respective networks.
- to share relevant examples, tools, and contacts that could contribute climate change-related content to the Innovation Fair.

## 7. Update on the factsheets

[13] The IPPC Secretariat shared reflections based on previous experience with factsheets produced under different IPPC initiatives. The Secretariat noted that, while technically sound, factsheets have tended to have limited reach and practical impact when published as stand-alone products. The Secretariat highlighted challenges related to visibility, audience targeting, and sustained use by NPPOs and other stakeholders, and emphasized the importance of prioritizing communication approaches that increase uptake and operational value.

[14] The Secretariat invited the Focus Group to reflect on how the technical content already developed could be better leveraged, including through alternative or complementary formats.

[15] FG-CCPI members acknowledged the Secretariat's observations and emphasized the technical value of the factsheets already under development. Members expressed a shared view that the work invested should not be lost and that the factsheets remain a useful reference, particularly for awareness-raising and capacity development, provided that dissemination and presentation are carefully considered.

[16] On the other hand, the Secretariat clarified that locusts are generally addressed through other FAO initiatives and noted that locusts fall outside the core technical focus of most IPPC communication products. In light of this, the Secretariat indicated that the locust factsheet is not aligned with current IPPC Secretariat technical priorities and that proceeding with its publication would therefore not be required. FG-CCPI members took note of this clarification.

[17] The FG-CCPI agreed that:

- Work on the factsheets should continue as planned, recognizing the effort already invested by members.
- Opportunities should be explored to enhance impact and visibility, including by linking factsheets to other IPPC communication products, events, or thematic initiatives.

[18] The Secretariat informed the Focus Group that it would undertake an internal assessment and would consider their alignment with IPPC Secretariat priorities, intended target audiences, and the most appropriate format and communication channels to maximize impact and usability.

## 8. FG-CCPI member updates

[19] The representative from Africa reported recent involvement in a national committee responsible for preparing Ghana's Fifth National Report on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. A roadmap and work plan have been developed, with a draft expected in the third week of January and submission foreseen by February.

[20] The representative from Latin America and the Caribbean provided updates related to COP-linked discussions and initiatives, including developments concerning forest- and climate-related financing mechanisms. It was noted that further publications or outputs may emerge from these processes. The representative also indicated that relevant documents and agreements would be shared with the Focus Group, where appropriate.

[21] The representative from FAO's Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment reported that recent work had focused on COP follow-up activities, including FAO engagement in climate-related processes. The representative also noted ongoing work on just transition in agrifood systems, highlighting its relevance to climate change considerations affecting agriculture and plant health.

[22] No additional substantive updates were reported by other Focus Group members under this agenda item.

## **9. Any other business**

No additional items were raised.

## **10. Next Date and arrangement of the next meeting**

The Focus Group agreed to hold the next virtual meeting on 20 January 2026 at 16:00 CET (Rome time).

## **11. Close of the meeting**

## Appendix 1: Agenda

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

<b>Agenda Item</b>		<b>Document no.</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
1.	<b>Opening of the meeting</b>	--	Chairperson
2.	<b>Meeting arrangements</b>		
2.1.	Election of the rapporteur		Chairperson
2.2	Adoption of the agenda		Chairperson
3	<b>Administrative matters</b>		
3.1	Participants list		Chairperson
4.	<b>Updates from the CPM Bureau and SPG meetings relevant to the FG-CCPI, and report to CPM-20</b>		Chairperson/Secretariat
5.	<b>Discussion on developing FG-CCPI recommendations for integrating climate change into PRA</b>		Chairperson/all
6.	<b>Plant health innovation fair at CPM-20</b>		Chairperson/Secretariat
7.	<b>Update on the factsheets</b>		Chairperson
8.	<b>FG-CCPI member updates</b>		Chairperson/All
9.	<b>Any other business</b>		Chairperson/IPPc Secretariat
10.	<b>Date and arrangement of the next meeting</b>		Chairperson/IPPc Secretariat
11.	<b>Close of the meeting</b>		Chairperson

## Appendix 2: Participants List

A check (P) in the last column indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting

	FAO Region	Name, Organization, Country	
1	Africa	<b>Ms Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH</b> Assistant Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate, Ministry of Food and Agriculture Accra, Ghana	P
2	Asia	<b>Mr Bhakta Raj PALIKHE</b> Plant Protection Adviser Nepal Plant Disease and Agro Associates (NPDA) Kathmandu, Nepal	
3	Europe (Chairperson)	<b>Mr Dominic EYRE</b> Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) York, UK	P
4	Europe	<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	P
5	Latin America and the Caribbean	<b>Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ</b> Agricultural Inspector Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Brasilia, Brazil	P
6	Near East and North Africa	<b>Mr Ali Obaid AL-ADAWI</b> Director of Agriculture Research in North Al Batinah Governorate Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, Plant Protection Department Muscat, Oman	
7	North America	<b>Ms Karen CASTRO</b> Senior Risk Assessor – Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	P
9	Southwest Pacific Vice-Chairperson and IC representative for FG-CCPI	<b>Mr Ngatoko NGATOKO</b> Director, Biosecurity Service Ministry of Agriculture Rarotonga, Cook Islands	
10	FAO Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB)	<b>Ms Xiaoxiao WANG</b> Natural Resources Officer FAO Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment Rome, Italy	P

11	CPM Bureau champion for the FG-CCPI	<b>Sam Bishop</b>	
12	IPPC Secretariat	<b>Camilo Beltran Montoya</b> Agricultural Officer IPPC Secretariat hosted by FAO Rome, Italy	P