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Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
29 July 2025**

IPPC Secretariat

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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] Bastian HESS volunteered to act as rapporteur for the meeting.

2.2 Reports from previous meetings

[3] An FG member clarified the name of the rapporteur who volunteered during the last meeting. Participants did not raise any comments on the content of the reports from the previous meeting.

2.3 Adoption of the agenda

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

3. Administrative matters

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

4. Actions item review

[6] Participants reviewed the list of completed and pending tasks. They confirmed speakers for the October webinar series, noted progress on factsheets, and recalled the previous discussion on funding for FG-CCPI activities.

[7] The FG-CCPI agreed to request that the IPPC Secretariat contact the CPM Chair and inquire with the Finance Committee about available funding for climate change activities, considering the donations provided by some countries for this Development Agenda Item (DAI).

5. Continuing discussion on 2025 webinar topics (October 2025)

[8] Participants reviewed the draft concept note and agenda for the October 2025 webinar series. They confirmed the dates, languages, and session structure, and discussed speaker arrangements, deadlines for materials, and communication needs. The FG-CCPI agreed that:

- The webinars will take place on 1–2 October 2025, in English, French and Spanish.
- The IPPC Secretariat will circulate invitations to confirmed speakers and request presentation titles, bios, photos, and slides by 12 September 2025.
- Speakers must explicitly link their presentations to climate change and phytosanitary issues.
- The use of academic titles will follow FAO/IPPC style guidance to ensure consistency.
- Each session will include a single Q&A at the end, rather than after individual presentations.
- A participant questionnaire will be prepared in advance to collect feedback after the sessions.
- The IPPC Secretariat will coordinate with the communications team to create a webpage for the webinar series.

6. Continuing discussion on factsheets

[9] Participants reviewed progress on factsheet development. Updates were shared on draft versions for coffee rust, fall armyworm, and Xylella. Members emphasized the importance of consistent formatting, copyright compliance, and timely peer review. The group also discussed graphic design and editing support, with Xylella identified as the pilot for testing a sample layout.

[10] The FG-CCPI agreed:

- Each factsheet must follow a standardized format to ensure consistency across topics.
- The Chair will add copyright information to images in his draft fact sheet.
- The Representative from Latin America and the Caribbean will complete the draft of the coffee rust fact sheet by the end of the financial year.
- The representative from Europe will finalize and circulate the fall armyworm factsheet for per-review.
- The Xylella factsheet will be used as a pilot for layout, copy editing, and graphic design.
- The IPPC Secretariat will coordinate with a graphic designer to prepare a sample template for review.
- Members will review and comment on the sample template once available.
- Factsheet titles and subtitles will be reviewed for consistency and appeal before publication.

7. FG-CCPI member updates

[11] Participants shared brief updates on their ongoing activities and contributions relevant to the focus group, as follows:

- The FG representative from Europe reported increasing concern regarding interceptions and findings of Japanese beetle, including recent detections linked to passenger travel. The member noted that national authorities have issued public awareness materials (posters) encouraging reporting of suspect finds, and highlighted potential confusion with similar-looking beetles. The member also shared practical experience using 3D printing to produce surveillance components (e.g. trap parts to hold lures and protect attractants from rain), noting the potential to rapidly scale trap production during outbreaks by sharing printer files across institutes, universities, and other facilities.
- The representative from Latin America and the Caribbean reported that the member had been invited to provide an update on the FG-CCPI at the IPPC regional workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean (late August) and asked whether an existing presentation could be used for this purpose. The member indicated an intention to attend in person, subject to NPPO authorization.
- The representative from North America reported ongoing work to incorporate climate change considerations into internal risk assessment templates, using FG technical resources as inputs. The member also raised interest in having an updated communication product (poster or one-pager) that could be used at an upcoming regional plant protection organization meeting in Ottawa, and invited the group to consider whether there was appetite to refresh the existing materials.
- The Chair noted recent unusually dry conditions in parts of England during spring (March–May), and shared current technical work using CLIMEX to explore climate factors relevant to potential distribution risks for beech leaf disease, with a view to seeking peer input at a later stage.

- The representative from Asia recalled the earlier discussion on the climatic crisis affecting parts of Nepal, including impacts on rainfall patterns and agricultural production. The member also noted potential upcoming work on a training manual for agro-input dealers, subject to contract review.

The FG-CCPI agreed that:

- The representative from Latin America and the Caribbean will present an update on FG-CCPI activities at the IPPC regional workshop for the region in August, using existing FG presentation materials as appropriate.
- The representative from Europe will update and share the FG-CCPI presentation for the IPPC regional workshop in Turkey in September.
- The representative from North America will explore options for an updated poster or alternative communication product (e.g. one-pager) for use at regional events, and will coordinate informally with the Secretariat and interested members.
- The IPPC Secretariat will check what communication templates/materials are available and share relevant files where possible; however, members noted that producing a new IPPC-branded poster would require following the FAO publication process and timelines.

8. Any other business

[12] Participants discussed the need to prepare a draft paper on the future of the FG-CCPI for the October Bureau meeting. They agreed the paper should summarize the group's achievements to date, including progress on webinars, fact sheets, and integration of climate change into phytosanitary work. Members stressed that the document should also present clear options for the group's future role, ranging from continuation with the current scope and remaining action items, or an adjusted scope to possible integration into other IPPC structures.

[13] The group noted the importance of reflecting members' views in the draft. To this end, the IPPC Secretariat will prepare a shared document for members to provide input, which will be consolidated into the Bureau paper.

[14] The FG-CCPI agreed that:

- The draft paper for the Bureau will summarize current achievements and outline options and recommendations on the future of the group.
- The IPPC Secretariat will prepare the draft and circulate it before the October Bureau meeting.
- The IPPC Secretariat will create a shared document for members to contribute their input.
- Members will provide input in the shared document ahead of the drafting process.

9. Next Date and arrangement of the next meeting

[15] The next meeting will be held on 16 September 2025.

10. Action Item Summary:

Topic	Responsible	Action

Webinar series	Secretariat	Prepare a draft invitation email
	Team	Review the invitation email draft before it is sent.
	Secretariat	Send invitation emails to speakers requesting titles, bios, photos, and presentations by 12 September
	Secretariat	Check the FAO/IPPC protocol on using academic prefixes in speaker names
	Xiao Zhao	Confirm details of Warren Aaron presentation
	Secretariat	Coordinate logistics and communications, set up the webinar webpage and outreach materials
	Team	Prepare a questionnaire for attendees before the webinar
	Secretariat	Create a webpage for the webinar series
Fact sheet Xylella	Dominic	Finalize the fact sheet at your earliest convenience
	Dominic	Add copyright information to images in the fact sheet
	Secretariat	Open a PWS record for FAO publication
	Secretariat	Initiate copy editing and graphic design for the Xylella fact sheet
	Secretariat	Contact a graphic designer for a sample layout
Fact sheet Fall Armyworm	Bastian	Contact Chris Dale as a potential per-reviewer
	Bastian	Get the fact sheet reviewed
	Bastian	Finalize the fact sheet at earliest convenience
	Secretariat	Open a PWS record for FAO publication
	Secretariat	Initiate copy editing and graphic design for the Xylella fact sheet
Fact sheet Coffee Rust	Erika	Complete the coffee rust fact sheet by the end of the financial year
	Team	Share relevant papers on coffee rust to assist Erika
Fact sheets - general	Team	Review and comment on the sample fact sheet layout
	Team	Review and adjust titles/subtitles for consistency and appeal
RW workshops and presentations	Erika	Present the update at the IPPC regional workshop for Latin America in August
	Bastian	Update and share the presentation for the IPPC regional workshop in Turkey
Strategy	Secretariat	Prepare a draft paper on the future of the focus group for the Bureau meeting in October
	Secretariat	Create a shared document for member input
	Team	Provide recommendations on the future of the focus group
	Team	Contribute to the shared document before the October Bureau meeting
Communication	Secretariat	Check and share any communication materials with Karen
Meeting scheduling	Secretariat	Ask Russell or Mutya to cancel the FG meeting invites for 5 August and 9 September
	Secretariat	Initiate new FG meeting invites for 16 September and 21 October

[16] 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

Agenda Item	Document no.	Presenter
1. Opening of the meeting	--	Chairperson
2. Meeting arrangements		
2.1. Election of the rapporteur	--	Chairperson
2.2 Report from previous meetings		Chairperson
2.2 Adoption of the agenda		Chairperson
3 Administrative matters		
3.1 Participants list		Chairperson
4. Action item review		Chairperson
5. Continuing discussion on 2025 webinar topics		Chairperson
6. Continuing discussion on factsheets		Chairperson
7. FG-CCPI member updates		Chairperson/All
8. Any other business	--	Chairperson/IPP Secretariat
9. Date and arrangement of the next meeting	--	Chairperson/IPP Secretariat
10. Close of the meeting	--	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	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	P
3	Europe (Chairperson)	Mr Dominic EYRE Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) York, UK	P
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	P
5	Latin America and the Caribbean	Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ Agricultural Inspector Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Brasilia, Brazil	P
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	P
7	North America	Ms Karen CASTRO Senior Risk Assessor – Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	P
9	Southwest Pacific Vice-Chairperson 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	Sam Bishop	
12	IPPC Secretariat	Camilo Beltran Montoya Agricultural Officer IPPC Secretariat hosted by FAO Rome, Italy	P