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1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Opening remarks by the IPPC Secretariat

- [1] The newly appointed IPPC Secretary, Enrico PEROTTI, introduced himself, and welcomed participants to the November 2025 meeting of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC), taking place in Bari, Italy. He expressed appreciation for the committee's commitment to the IPPC mission and highlighted that the meeting was taking place at a crucial point in the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030, as it is entering its fifth year of implementation.
- [2] The secretary noted significant achievements since the previous IC meeting in May, particularly the successful launch and rapid expansion of the IPPC Plant Health Campus, now available in English and French, with a Spanish version expected in early 2026. He encouraged members to further promote the campus within national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) and plant health communities. In addition, he highlighted the progress made on the implementation of phytosanitary capacity evaluations, of the IPPC ePhyto Solution, and of the pest outbreak alert and response system (POARS).
- [3] Looking ahead, the secretary emphasized that the IC meeting will review 2025 implementation achievements, shape the 2026 workplan, assess the future structure of IC subgroup and teams, refine guidance materials, prepare key messages for the Twentieth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-20) (2026), and strengthen cooperation with the Standards Committee.
- [4] In closing, the secretary stressed that implementation and capacity development is essential to effective IPPC standard implementation. He thanked the IC for its dedication and impact, encouraged innovative thinking to protect biodiversity and ensure safe trade, and declared the November 2025 IC meeting officially open.

1.2 Opening remarks by the IC chairperson

- [5] Dominique PELLETIER (Canada), the IC Chairperson, welcomed the IPPC secretary, and thanked him for the opening remarks expressing gratitude for the words of support to implementation and capacity development. The Chairperson welcomed participants to the November 2025 IC meeting and invited the IC members to introduce themselves for the benefit of the new Secretary.
- [6] Recalling the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) discussions, the chairperson quoted the IPPC Secretary remark about putting efforts to shift from “surviving to thriving” for the staff of the IPPC Secretariat. The chairperson voiced the longstanding concern over lack of adequate funding for core IPPC activities for implementation and capacity development and expressed hope that the secretary will take necessary steps to address them, in particular with regards to staffing the Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU) with a workforce commensurate with the task at hand and ensuring expertise retention. The secretary mentioned planned comprehensive evaluation of the IPPC system, including the IPPC Secretariat workload and structure as well as the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030. He stated that this comprehensive assessment could be a starting point to address the outstanding issues.
- [7] The chairperson thanked the secretariat for organizing the meeting in Bari, Italy, mentioned the planned field visit to Monumental Park of Olive trees in Torre Guaceto (Carovigno, Brindisi) on 13 November to observe the symptomatology on Olive trees associated with *Xylella fastidiosa*. The chairperson added that the IC could explore the possibility of organizing some of its meetings outside of the FAO headquarters so that the committee can witness solutions to plant health issues implemented on the ground.
- [8] Looking at the agenda of the meeting, the chairperson noted the number of important discussions and decisions to take place regarding the IFU and IC workplan for 2026, including the discussions on relevant Strategic Framework 2020–2030 Development Agenda Items, IPPC workshop on systems approaches or recommendations to CPM-20 (2026).

The chairperson welcomed the new IC member Nitesh DATT (Fiji), the new representative of the Southwest Pacific region, to the IC, and Anna Maria D'ONGIA, representative from the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (CIHEAM) of Bari, who joined the IC November 2025 meeting as an observer.

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Election of the rapporteur

[9] Faith NDUNGE (Kenya) was elected as the rapporteur to the meeting.

[10] 2.2 Adoption of the agenda

[11] The secretariat requested that the following topics for discussion be added under agenda item 17 (Any other business):

- rules and procedures of the IC and participation in the IC meetings; and
- IPPC systems approaches global workshop.

[12] The agenda was adopted with the above additions under agenda item 17, as noted above, and is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Documents list

[13] The list of documents is attached to this report as Appendix 2.

3.2 Participants list

[14] Ahmed M. Abdellah ABDELMOTTALEB (Qatar) joined the meeting remotely.

[15] Anna Maria D'ONGIA (CIHEAM Bari) joined the IC meeting as an observer.

[16] The list of participants is attached to this report as Appendix 3.

3.3 Local information

[17] The secretariat shared a document with local information for Bari, Italy,¹ where the IC November 2025 meeting was held.

3.4 Evaluation results of the 2025 IC May meeting

[18] The secretariat presented the results of the 2025 IC May meeting evaluation.² The survey had been submitted to IC members using Microsoft Forms and 9 IC members out of 14 had responded.

[19] The secretariat noted that the overall evaluation results showed a satisfaction rate of 100 percent (89 percent strongly agree and 11 percent agree) regarding the coordination of IC activities as well as the preparation, organization and support provided to IC members for the 2025 May meeting.

[20] The secretariat highlighted the concrete recommendations made by the IC members and follow-up actions that had been undertaken to enhance the meeting experience. These actions included provision of meeting

¹ Local information:

https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2025/10/IC_NOVEMBER_2025_BARI_local_information_2025-10-16.pdf

² 04_IC_2025_Nov.

PowerPoint presentations two weeks before the meeting and securing a Zoom link for the entire meeting duration to allow meeting participants to share their screens easily.

- [21] The secretariat thanked IC members for their feedback and recommendations and encouraged them to continue to provide these for further improvement of future meetings. The secretariat also confirmed that a dedicated time would be allocated in the agenda on Friday, 14 November for IC members to respond to the evaluation survey before the close of the meeting.
- [22] One IC member invited the secretariat to continue improving meeting papers for brevity and clarity. Another IC member expressed concern regarding evaluation responses on the clarity of decisions and action points, which showed 56 percent “strongly agree” and 44 percent “agree”. The member questioned why some members strongly agreed, while others only agreed. Referring to the portion marked “agree,” the IC member encouraged raising any concerns during the review and adoption of decision points to ensure they are clear.
- [23] The chairperson thanked the secretariat for the presentation and encouraged the IC members to propose any additional recommendations or ideas during the meeting, or through the evaluation survey.
- [24] The IC:
- (1) *noted* the results of the evaluation of the 2025 May IC meeting;
 - (2) *encouraged* all IC members to submit their responses to the IC meeting evaluation survey; and
 - (3) *noted* the actions undertaken by the secretariat to address the observations voiced during the evaluation.

4. General updates

4.1 CPM Bureau

- [25] The secretariat presented a summary of the discussions and outcomes of the June, September and October 2025 meetings of the CPM Bureau (hereafter referred to as the “bureau”).
- [26] The June and September bureau meeting reports are available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP), and the October bureau meeting report will be made available shortly.³
- [27] The main highlights included the preparation for CPM-20 (2026), progress on the implementation of the eight IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 development agenda items (SF DAIs), and updates from CPM focus groups.
- [28] Additionally, the bureau had discussed work on the POARS, the IPPC Global Workshop on *Systems Approaches*, funding for translations of IPPC guides and training materials, IC membership, and the theme and plans for celebrating the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) in 2026. Further details of these discussions were provided under individual agenda items of the IC November 2025 meeting, as captured in this report.
- [29] Regarding financial matters, the bureau agreed to extend the use of funds from the IPPC Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) until 31 December 2028. The Finance Committee were scheduled to meet in November 2025 to review the draft workplan and proposed budget, which would be included in the agenda of the bureau’s December meeting (16–18 December 2025).
- [30] The bureau agreed to organize a “Plant Health Innovation Fair” during CPM-20 (2026) to showcase smart plant health and artificial intelligence (AI) solutions at the request of the POARS SG and the Climate

³ June, September and October 2025 CPM Bureau meeting reports: <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/bureau/>

Change Focus Group, including poster presentations, external cooperation demonstrations, and the new IPPC simulation tool.⁴ Regional plant protection organizations would be invited to contribute regional programmes and initiatives, while external organizations would participate in the fair in lieu of providing verbal updates during the CPM plenary. Additionally, three side sessions had been confirmed: on the Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP), sea containers, and commodity standards. The science session would focus on safe humanitarian aid, and keynote speakers would include the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and a representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

- [31] The secretariat noted that the bureau had established a list of rapporteurs, comprised of all the bureau members, on a rotational basis. The secretariat invited the IC to adopt a similar procedure. Several IC members expressed support for this approach.
- [32] One IC member added that the opening remarks from the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity at CPM-20 should focus on invasive alien species and highlight common areas of collaboration with the IPPC Secretariat.
- [33] Another IC member referred to the Finance Committee and the 2026 budget, stressing that the committee should also address IC requests in relation to underfunded core implementation and capacity development activities, as raised during CPM-19 (2025), and asked whether the IC could provide further contributions or justifications. The secretariat stated that the request for adequate resource allocation for core implementation and capacity development activities was coming from regions and contracting parties and would be discussed at the Finance Committee meeting. The secretariat invited IC members to continue raising awareness in their regions about the recurring funding issues.
- [34] Another IC member asked whether a resource mobilization strategy was in place for IPPC Secretariat activities, emphasizing the importance of developing a funding strategy.
- [35] One IC member raised concern about the proposal put forward by some regions regarding the attendance of IPPC Secretariat staff at IPPC regional workshops. These countries had noted that it might not be necessary in certain cases. The secretariat responded that the issue primarily in relation to staff participation in addition to International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) stewards, and emphasized that secretariat involvement should be balanced to ensure that assigned staff complemented IC or Standards Committee (SC) members attending the workshops. The secretariat further noted that clear guidance on workshop organization had been provided by CPM-18 (2024).⁵
- [36] The IC:
- (4) *noted* the reports from the June, September and October 2025 CPM Bureau meetings, and the actions for implementation; and
 - (5) *invited* the secretariat to propose a list of rapporteurs for the IC meetings, and to present it to the IC during the IC November 2026 meeting.

4.2 Strategic Planning Group

- [37] The secretariat presented a summary of discussions and outcomes of the 2025 Strategic Planning Group meeting.
- [38] The 2025 SPG meeting report will be made available on the IPP.⁶

⁴ IPPC Plant Health Campus: <https://elearning.fao.org/course/ippc-campus>

⁵ *Guidelines for IPPC Regional Workshops*: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/87113/>

⁶ 2025 SPG meeting report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/strategic-planning-group/>

- [39] Several papers on "Re-thinking the ISPMs" had been presented by IPPC contracting parties, including the IC and the SC positions, focusing on ways to enhance the readability and implementation of ISPMs, and the next steps. Two main proposals had been suggested: (1) to ask the contracting parties, via an IPPC Observatory survey, to determine if the language used in ISPMs hinders efficient implementation, or if there are any other concerns that could be addressed in this process; and (2) to start using plain and simple language in the standards that are currently under development or under revision. These proposals will be considered and presented in a paper to be drafted by the bureau to CPM-20, in consultation with the IC and the SC as necessary.
- [40] One IC member added that the views of the IC could still be presented to CPM-20 in a separate IC paper to CPM, which was supported by several IC members and further discussed under agenda item 14.1 (IC recommendations to CPM and implementation issues to be recommended for CPM-20 (2026)).
- [41] A stocktaking report for each of the DAIs from the Strategic Framework 2020–2030 had been presented, highlighting the progress achieved and challenges hindering their full implementation.
- [42] Regarding the final review and evaluation of the SF DAIs, though CPM requested that the IPPC Observatory oversee this activity, the SPG suggested the involvement of the FAO evaluation office instead. Moreover, the planned comprehensive assessment of the secretariat announced by the secretary, may include this activity.
- [43] Additionally, plans for the celebration of IDPH from 2026 to 2028, as well as the preparations for CPM-20, to take place from 9 March to 13 March 2026, had been discussed.
- [44] One member asked whether the expected wider participation of regions and contracting parties at SPG 2025 had been achieved. The secretariat explained that the current process involved inviting two representatives from each region and providing funding for their travel, based on the quality of their presentation proposals. The secretariat noted that this approach had worked well and would continue.
- [45] The chairperson thanked the secretariat for the presentation.
- [46] The IC:
- (6) *noted* the report from the 2025 SPG meeting.

4.3 Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations

- [47] The RPPO representative to the IC presented a summary of discussions and outcomes of the Thirty-Seventh (2025) Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPOs).⁷
- [48] The report of the Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPOs will be made available on the IPP.⁸
- [49] The TC-RPPO meeting was held in Bangkok, Thailand, and had identified four key areas for follow-up: (1) enhancing information-sharing among RPPOs through a proposed centralized IPPC-hosted platform; (2) organizing a side session on AI at CPM-20 to explore its relevance to phytosanitary work; (3) clarifying requirements for a rotational hosting model for IDPH among RPPOs; and (4) ensuring RPPO participation in CPM, TC-RPPO, and IPPC regional workshops, with encouragement for RPPOs to include these in their annual budgets and for the secretariat to clarify available funding options.
- [50] To address the request for enhanced information-sharing, the secretariat will create a dedicated Microsoft Teams channel, scheduled to launch in January 2026. This platform will be used primarily to share

⁷ 05_IC_2025_Nov.

⁸ Thirty-Seventh TC-RPPOs report: <https://www.ippc.int/en/ippc-community/regional-plant-protection-organizationstechnical-consultation-among-rppos/>

information on pests of interest to RPPOs, key events, and other relevant topics. One member further emphasized that the platform could also be utilized for sharing expertise and information among regions.

[51] As for the proposed side session on AI at CPM-20 (2026), the bureau agreed to feature AI in the "Plant Health Innovation Fair" and in the poster session at CPM-20.

[52] One IC member asked about the process for hosting IDPH. The Secretariat explained that a formal call would be issued to invite interested parties (regional plant protection organizations and NPPOs) to confirm their interest, and a selection would be made based on their proposals. Additional events and celebrations would also take place at the FAO Headquarters level.

[53] The TC-RPPO agreed to hold its Thirty-Eighth TC-RPPO meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, jointly hosted by the Near East and North Africa Plant Protection Organization) in October 2026. Additionally, the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation had expressed interest in hosting the Thirty-Ninth TC-RPPO meeting in October 2027.

[54] The IC:

(7) *noted* the update from the TC-RPPOs.

4.4 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops

[55] The secretariat presented a paper with updates on the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops.⁹

[56] The IPPC regional workshops had taken place across seven regions worldwide, including Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America, Near East and North Africa, and Southwest Pacific, in August and September 2025, with 267 participants from 119 IPPC contracting parties attending.

[57] This year, the secretariat had provided USD 165 000 to support the regional workshops. Additionally, in collaboration with the secretariat, which provided all the support, training material and documents, the regional workshop steering committees had successfully delivered the workshops.

[58] The results of the evaluation survey triggered recommendations to improve future workshops. This included the need for early submission of budget estimates to provide timely funding, continued Online Comment System (OCS) training to boost participation, and adding one or two days for in-depth discussions on draft standards and implementation issues.

[59] The IC chairperson thanked the secretariat for the updates and thanked the IC members for their participation at the IPPC regional workshops.

[60] Several IC members reported a busy agenda which did not allow enough time for implementation discussions. Another member observed that discussions often took longer because workshop participants were not always familiar with similar discussions taking place during other IPPC meetings. Members called on the secretariat to propose a more focused global agenda with clear objectives and a balanced approach between standards and implementation topics, while stressing the need to better tailor the agenda to the audience.

[61] One IC member stated that the RPPOs should take greater ownership of topics in relation to regional implementation issues, as they were the most familiar with these issues, while the secretariat is expected to provide a global overview. Therefore, the regional workshop organizing committees are encouraged to take a more active role in adapting the agenda to regional needs as well as endeavouring to allocate necessary financial resources.

⁹ 06_IC_2025_Nov.

- [62] One IC member suggested that implementation issues raised during other regional meetings held back-to-back with IPPC regional workshops be captured and raised during the regional workshops. Another member proposed that a structured approach be discussed during the May 2026 meeting of the IC, to ensure that the discussions at the regional workshops are more efficient and deliver meaningful results.
- [63] One IC member emphasized on the importance of sharing the evaluation survey results with each region to allow for follow-up and for issues to be addressed, indicating that the most appropriate recipients would be the organizing committees themselves.
- [64] Several IC members raised concerns about inadequate funding being allocated to regional workshops and suggested presenting a CPM paper to highlight this issue and call for action. The secretariat confirmed that a dedicated paper on the 2025 workshops would be presented to CPM-20, where the issue of funding would be mentioned as well, and encouraged IC members and contracting parties to advocate for suitable funding.
- [65] The IC:
- (8) *noted* the secretariat updates on the 2025 IPPC regional workshops;
 - (9) *invited* the secretariat to propose a more balanced and focused global agenda for the IPPC regional workshops with clear objectives with regard to implementation issues, to allow sufficient time for discussions and adequate preparation of the participants;
 - (10) *invited* the secretariat to convene an e-forum to identify strategic implementation and capacity development topics and issues to be included in the 2026 IPPC regional workshops global agenda, before the development of the global agenda;
 - (11) *agreed* to further discuss this topic based on the outcomes of the 2026 IPPC regional workshops, during the November 2026 meeting of the IC; and
 - (12) *requested* that the secretariat allocate sufficient time for the completion of the evaluation survey by the IPPC regional workshop participants during the workshop, and share evaluation survey results with the IC members from each region.

4.5 Africa Phytosanitary Programme

- [66] The secretariat gave an update on the APP,¹⁰ including communication and advocacy activities.
- [67] The implementation of the APP had been continued, expanding participation from 11 to 20 countries with the launch of phase two through a *Train-the-Trainer* workshop held in South Africa in June 2025. All participating countries have submitted national implementation plans (2025–2027), and the APP Geographic Information System (GIS) Hub had been updated accordingly. Capacity development activities included refresher trainings in Kenya and Cameroon, online GIS and mobile application training sessions, and ongoing national trainings in eight countries, with completed workshops in Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Uganda. Field survey protocols for several key pests were republished by FAO, with further translations and training videos planned, while distribution of tablets and field supplies to support pest surveillance is progressing across both phases.
- [68] Governance structures were strengthened, with terms of reference for an APP International Steering Committee discussed by the bureau and a two-year action plan (2025–2026) published. Funding was bolstered through contributions from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (USD 1.2 million), the European Commission (USD 600 000), and there may be additional funding allocated from FAO's Programme of Work and Budget for 2026–27 (USD 500 000). The programme continues to integrate with other IPPC and FAO initiatives, including the IPPC Plant Health Campus, POARS, and GIS

¹⁰ 07_IC_2025_Nov.

collaboration with Digital FAO and Agro-Informatics Division (CSI), as well as new partnerships with the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI) for pest response planning.

[69] Discussing the APP, the bureau in its October meeting asked the secretariat to prepare a paper for CPM-20 (2026), with options on how to decide on the future direction of the APP, which would allow the secretariat to raise funds for continued implementation.

[70] The IC chairperson thanked the secretariat for the update.

[71] One IC member asked if there were any efforts to streamline the APP with other implementation and capacity development programmes of IPPC, such as POARS and national reporting obligations (NROs). The secretariat stated that draft terms of reference had been prepared for the APP International Steering Committee, which would also serve to position the APP strategically, and added that the bureau was waiting for the IPPC Secretary decision on how to proceed with the governance. Additionally, discussions were ongoing regarding whether the APP as an implementation and capacity development programme should be placed under the IFU, which leads implementation and capacity development, or remain within the Standard Setting Unit. One IC member stressed that the IPPC community should have a voice in deciding the APP's placement and next steps.

[72] Another IC member emphasized that the APP, as a capacity development programme, should ensure retention of capacity to achieve long-term impact. The member invited the secretariat to include a capacity retention component and embed national ownership of implementation plans and initiatives within the APP to ensure sustainability.

[73] One IC member asked whether gaps and issues identified in countries and regions could be shared with the IC. Coupled with information on ongoing initiatives, this would enable the IC to provide informed guidance and direct countries to relevant resources or develop new ones if needed. The secretariat confirmed that anonymized key issues identified in APP national operational plans could be shared with the IC.

[74] The IC:

(13) *noted* the report on APP implementation; and

(14) *requested* that the secretariat implement the APP with the following proposed improvements:

- a. identify synergies between relevant IPPC programmes such as POARS, IPPC Plant Health Campus, and NROs, particularly in view of unbalanced funding allocation,
- b. present during the IC May 2026 meeting the gaps and issues identified by APP countries to allow the IC to provide informed guidance,
- c. ensure a capacity retention programme is embedded within the APP for long-term capacity building of countries and regions, and
- d. promote sustainability through national ownership of the implementation plan developed by countries, and the training provided.

4.6 Activities of the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (CIHEAM) of Bari

[75] Anna Maria D'ONGHIA, representative from the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (CIHEAM) of Bari presented the plant health activities, namely research and capacity building, of the institution.¹¹ Crucially, she underscored the importance of the IPPC Plant Health Campus as a developmental platform for CIHEAM, and that the Campus' eLearning courses are now part of their student's curriculum.

¹¹ 08_IC_2025_Nov.

- [76] One IC member commended CIHEAM Bari for activities undertaken to manage the *Xylella fastidiosa* outbreak affecting monumental olive trees in Puglia, and highlighted how communication and awareness-raising had been important to engage with various stakeholders for coordinated actions.
- [77] Another IC member requested more clarifications on how CIHEAM Bari was managing different vectors, also given that there were some asymptomatic trees. The representative explained that the activities on vector control and agronomical practices were guided by extensive research to eliminate vectors at juvenile stages.
- [78] The IC:
- (15) *thanked* CIHEAM Bari for the informative presentation.

5. IC e-decision annual summary

5.1 2025 Summary of IC e-decisions

- [79] The secretariat presented a summary of the IC e-decisions (e-fora)¹² taken from November 2024 to October 2025, during which two IC e-decisions had been opened:
- one for the approval of development of eLearning courses, and
 - one for the implementation issues identified by the SC.
- [80] The secretariat presented the summaries and outcomes of the e-decisions in chronological order and reported that the average response rate of IC members to e-decisions for 2025 was 54 percent, noting the regress from 2024, when the rate was 59.5 percent.
- [81] One IC member invited the IC members to always reply to the e-decision even to confirm that they have "no further comments".
- [82] The IC chairperson encouraged the IC members to not hesitate to request additional information or clarification on the e-decision, if needed.
- [83] The secretariat highlighted that the IC response to e-decisions is also important to improve the mechanism and better understand the issues around the response rates.
- [84] The IC:
- (16) *agreed* to the summary of IC e-decisions (e-fora) as presented in Appendix 4;
- (17) *reminded* the secretariat to use e-decisions for specific and straightforward decisions, and e-fora for discussions that are broader and require wider consideration; and
- (18) *suggested* to extend the e-decision deadline, when requested by IC members.

6. Development Agenda Items

6.1 ePhyto solution: update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026

- [85] The secretariat gave an update on progress with actions relating to the IPPC electronic phytosanitary certificate (ePhyto) Solution.¹³ Updates included the continued expansion of ePhyto implementation, with 97 countries actively exchanging ePhytos through the Hub as of October 2025, representing a 30 percent increase in exchanges over the past year and an average of 250 000 monthly exchanges. Thirty countries are using the Generic ePhyto National System (GeNS) for live exchanges, and 48 additional countries are

¹² 09_IC_2025_Nov.

¹³ 10_IC_2025_Nov.

in the testing phase. Studies confirmed significant cost savings per shipment (USD 3.7–83.5),¹⁴ demonstrating the economic benefits of digitalization. The secretariat also reported progress in restructuring the ePhyto Team to enhance service delivery and implementation of the ePhyto Strategic Implementation Plan (2024–2030).¹⁵

- [86] The ePhyto Steering Group (ESG) met monthly to oversee governance and technical enhancements, including improved data management, message validation, and the development of new functionalities such as mixed commodity exchanges and non-compliance notifications. Financially, the ePhyto MDTF established under the CPM-18 pilot funding model received USD 600 000 from 18 countries (48 percent of the annual target). The secretariat emphasized the need for consistent financial contributions and ongoing advocacy to sustain system operations. The secretariat stressed the need for consistent contributions and ongoing advocacy and was preparing a letter to contracting parties clarifying financial arrangements and responsibilities.
- [87] Implementation expanded through regional and international initiatives, including the STOSAR II project in Southern Africa, which trained 13 countries, and the launch of the SIDA-funded ePhyto Africa Initiative, implemented with the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation and partners. The secretariat reported on an ePhyto Implementation Package, aimed to support NPPOs. In collaboration with the FAO Investment Centre, the secretariat progressing with activities in the Caribbean and Latin America in terms of advancing interoperability of the ePhyto single window with customs and veterinary systems (in collaboration with Automated System for Customs Data, World Customs Organization (WCO), United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)).
- [88] For 2026, the Secretariat proposed a workplan focusing on maintaining system stability, strengthening governance and financial transparency, onboarding new countries, and enhancing interoperability and communication. The secretariat mentioned the plan to develop an ePhyto e-learning course, which would also need to be included in the *List of implementation and capacity development topics* (ICD LOT).
- [89] One IC member asked about the governance model and revision of the ESG terms of reference, and whether issues such as low participation in ESG meetings would also be addressed. The secretariat explained that revisions aim to include two regional representatives per region and an IC representative to address growing implementation and capacity development issues in relation to ePhyto. The revised ToR would be presented to CPM-20 (2026) for decision.
- [90] Updating the IC about the communication activities, the secretariat mentioned the bimonthly update that had been published in October 2025 on the IPP, and asked whether the IC members found it useful. Some IC members supported the initiative, while others preferred less frequent but regular updates, possibly tied to IC meetings. One IC member suggested to implement the updates as a communication campaign, focused on various types of communication activities.
- [91] One IC member asked why some countries stopped exchanging ePhytos. The secretariat cited conflicting national initiatives and legislative revisions as common obstacles and noted plans to revamp the ePhyto landing page and development of the IPPC ePhyto Solution implementation package, which would also include an e-learning course. The IC agreed to discuss the development of the e-learning course under agenda item 9.1 (Update on development of guides and training materials and review of the ICD List of topics).

¹⁴ Investing in trade digitalization: the case of ePhyto. Prykhodko D., Ott A.-C. & Koroleva E. (2025). Directions in Investment, No. 13. Rome: FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd4649en>

¹⁵ 14_CPM_2024, Annex 1: IPPC ePhyto Strategic Implementation Plan 2024-2030: https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2024/02/14_CPM_2024_Harmonization_of_electronic_data_exchange_DAI_2024-01-17.pdf

[92] The IC chairperson thanked the secretariat for the update and the IC members for the discussion.

[93] The IC:

- (19) *noted* the ePhyto activities completed in 2025;
- (20) *noted* the ePhyto Solution workplan for 2026 presented in Appendix 5;
- (21) *invited* the IC members to liaise with regional ESG members to encourage their active participation in ESG meetings;
- (22) *suggested* to include an IC representative as an ESG member, in the revised terms of reference to be proposed to CPM-20 (2026) for approval;
- (23) *encouraged* the IPPC contracting parties that have not yet registered to the IPPC ePhyto Solution to do so; and
- (24) *encouraged* the IPPC contracting parties actively using the IPPC ePhyto Solution to contribute as per the funding model.

6.2 E-commerce: update on 2025 activities and workplan for 2026

[94] The lead for the IC Team on E-commerce presented an update on activities carried out in 2025.¹⁶ The IC was reminded of the main activities undertaken during phase 1 (2020–2025) of the work programme for the DAI on e-commerce, ending with the conclusion of the IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce, and a potential phase 2 of the work programme, to be commenced subject to the type of decision to be taken by CPM-20 (2026). The recommendations stemming from the IPPC Observatory study will then inform the design and resource plan for a phase 2 roadmap, reviewed and approved by the IC Team on E-commerce, and to be presented to CPM-20 (2026) for decision. The e-commerce investment prospectus flyer will also reflect the recommendations of the study.

[95] The IC noted the successful completion of many of the activities linked to the DAI “*Management of e-commerce and courier mail pathways*”, and expressed gratitude to Agriculture and Agrifood Canada, acknowledging the financial support, and to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for in-kind support provided.

[96] One IC member referred to the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) workshop on E-commerce, while another mentioned the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) inspectors’ workshop, which included a session on e-commerce and was scheduled for the week following the IC November 2025 meeting. Several IC members expressed interest in receiving reports on the outcomes of these events.

[97] The IC:

- (25) *noted* the e-commerce activities completed in phase 1 (2020–2025);
- (26) *noted* the recommendations from the draft IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce report, as presented in Appendix 6; and
- (27) *agreed* to present to CPM-20 (2026) the proposed roadmap for phase 2 of the workplan under the DAI “*Management of e-commerce and courier mail pathways*”, including the needed financial resources to carry out the activities detailed in Appendix 7.

¹⁶ 11_IC_2025_Nov.

6.3 Update on Pest Outbreak and Alert System (POARS) including a discussion on the relationship between POARS, NROs and the APP

- [98] The secretariat presented an update on the DAI on “Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems”.¹⁷ The update included: progress on operationalizing the POARS framework; outcomes of the POARS Steering Group (POARS SG) meetings; results from the global call for nominations of emerging pests; establishment of expert working groups (EWGs) under the POARS SG, coordination with regional programmes, and the planned governance transition.
- [99] Following CPM-19 approval of the steering group model as the governance structure, the mandate of which expires in February 2026. The POARS SG had prepared draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the new SG and a transition plan. The bureau had requested that the ToR to be streamlined and opened for an e-decision, and had confirmed that the SG mandate would be reviewed every three years. The EWGs are to continue working under the supervision of the new SG. The IC was invited to support the transition by appointing an IC champion and promoting the November 2025 call for experts.
- [100] The secretariat highlighted the outcomes of the global call for nominations of potential emerging pests. Twenty-seven pests were assessed, resulting in seven being classified as emerging pests of global concern and six being placed on the watch-list. Emerging pests will undergo structured gap analyses, with EWGs established for one of them. Watch-list pests will be monitored and reassessed as new information becomes available.
- [101] The secretariat noted progress in moving from assessment to action, including the publication of global pest alerts and the establishment of EWGs for emerging pests.
- [102] The secretariat also outlined proposals to enhance strategic collaboration, including a joint “Plant Health Innovation Fair” side session at CPM-20. The bureau had asked the secretariat to hold at least one webinar before CPM-20 (2026) to raise awareness about POARS.
- [103] For strengthened synergies with the APP, the secretariat listed the possible ways this could be achieved, which had been approved by the bureau, that included: integrating POARS SG members into APP governance; sharing POARS emerging pest lists with APP countries; encouraging countries to incorporate these pests into national surveys; using APP communication channels for POARS alerts; ensuring NRO reporting when POARS pests are detected; assigning POARS EWGs responsibility for surveillance tools for non-APP pests; cross-linking the POARS and APP web pages; promoting IPPC capacity development tools (phytosanitary capacity evaluation (PCE), Plant Health Campus); and sharing APP-GIS platform details to explore data-sharing opportunities.
- [104] Regarding these and other potential mechanisms to strengthen the synergy between the global POARS and the APP, some members agreed that it may be better to wait for the establishment of the new POARS SG, and some strategic directions from the secretariat, following which the IC could make recommendations.
- [105] The secretariat noted an EU-funded project allocating USD 140 000 annually for POARS until 2027, but long-term funding remains a challenge.
- [106] One IC member asked about the process for pest selection. The secretariat explained that NPPOs and RPPOs are invited to nominate pests through an open call. Another member asked if response and recovery stages would be addressed by POARS. The secretariat clarified that these fall under NPPO responsibilities, though preparedness and prevention also contribute to response and recovery.

¹⁷ 12_IC_2025_Nov.

[107] One IC member asked if guides and training materials produced by EWGs, under the POARS SG would be also reviewed by the IC. The secretariat confirmed that the materials produced would be peer-reviewed following the established procedures, and that the IC would be kept informed.

[108] The IC:

- (28) *noted* the progress achieved in operationalizing the POARS initiative;
- (29) *discussed* and *noted* mechanisms to strengthen the synergy between the global POARS framework and regional implementation programmes, such as the APP, as the bureau had approved;
- (30) *agreed* that Ringolds ARNITIS will continue representing the IC in the upcoming POARS SG;
- (31) *invited* the IC members to actively promote the upcoming call for experts (November 2025) within their regions; and
- (32) *expressed* willingness to support the "Plant Health Innovation Fair" at CPM-20 and provide input on how to ensure the session effectively showcases implementation-focused tools and capacity development solutions emerging from POARS and related initiatives.

6.4 Update from the Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

[109] The secretariat presented an update on the Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI),¹⁸ whose mandate ends in March 2026. Key 2025 deliverables include a new IPP web page, participation in regional workshops, a global webinar series in October 2025 with over 500 participants, and development of technical factsheets on climate impacts on priority pests.

[110] Several activities in the action plan remain pending, including practical guidance for farmers, broader stakeholder engagement, and collaboration with international climate bodies.

[111] A CPM-20 side session has been proposed, whereas the bureau endorsed the inclusion of a CPM innovation fair featuring the work of the focus group.

[112] The bureau agreed that the focus group had completed its core functions and recommended mainstreaming climate change into regular IPPC work, a proposal to be finalized for consideration at CPM-20. The secretariat asked the IC to provide guidance on the most impactful option and advise on how to incorporate climate change into implementation and capacity development activities.

[113] One IC member expressed concern that merging climate change into the CPM-20 (2026) innovation fair could dilute its visibility. Another suggested featuring NPPO case studies on addressing climate change in plant health activities. One IC member proposed demonstrating practical applications of climate considerations in plant health activities, such as pest risk analysis (PRA). The secretariat acknowledged the proposals, noting that concrete organizational aspects for the innovation fair were yet to be decided, and added about the plan to issue a call for posters inviting the NPPOs to participate.

[114] The IC:

- (33) *discussed* mechanisms to mainstream climate change considerations into the capacity development activities, following the bureau recommendation; and
- (34) *advised* the secretariat to consider case studies showcasing how countries are managing climate-related pest situations during the "Plant Health Innovation Fair" at CPM-20 and the poster session, in particular regarding the use of climate models to support in PRA.

¹⁸ 13_IC_2025_Nov.

6.5 Update on developing guidance on the use of third-party entities

- [115] The secretariat presented an update on the DAI “Developing guidance on the use of third-party entities”,¹⁹ which includes two IPPC guides: *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2018-040) and *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009). Australia and Canada were thanked for funding contributions that now allow work on both guides to begin once secretariat resources are available in 2026.
- [116] As it had been agreed by the IC in May 2025, a call for experts for the guide on audits is to be launched in November 2025, with a two-month nomination period, with the work to begin in early 2026.
- [117] Regarding the workplan, upon receipt of nominations in mid-January 2025, the secretariat will review nominations and recommend experts for IC approval in early 2026. A separate call for experts for the authorization guide will be launched once a first draft of the audit guide is available, proposed for mid to late 2026.
- [118] The IC chairperson thanked the secretariat for the update.
- [119] The IC:
- (35) *noted* the update on the DAI “Developing guidance on the use of third-party entities”;
 - (36) *noted* the call for experts for the guide on audits to be launched in November 2025, with a closure date in January 2026;
 - (37) *noted* the proposed workplan for 2026, as presented in Appendix 8; and
 - (38) *invited* the IC members to promote the call for experts in their respective regions for experts for the two guides.

7. IPPC Observatory

7.1 IPPC Observatory: Report on the implementation of the 2022–2024 workplan and review of the workplan for 2025

- [120] The lead for the IC Subgroup for the IPPC Observatory presented an update on IPPC Observatory activities implemented under the workplan for 2025.²⁰ The IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory provided oversight to all observatory activities and met three times virtually.
- [121] The updates included activities that were being finalized, including the IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce and the IPPC Observatory Study on Antimicrobial Resistance, the activities that had been delivered, and highlighted the ones that had been paused due to a lack of resource allocation. The status of each activity in the workplan was presented, attached as Appendix 9 to this report.
- [122] The lead then presented the workplan for 2026 as presented in Appendix 10. More updates on the main observatory activity of 2026, the third IPPC General Survey, is provided under agenda item 7.2 (The third IPPC General Survey – concept note).
- [123] The call for topics for the IPPC Observatory had been launched jointly with the general IPPC call. A topic submission from Australia on phytosanitary systems approaches had been under review by the subgroup, however, not all subgroup members had provided their assessments. One IC member suggested to wait for the outcomes of the workshop on systems approaches to take place in December 2025, which could be helpful for a better overview of the topic and the survey. A member of the subgroup was scheduled to attend the workshop, and committed to update the IC subgroup.

¹⁹ 14_IC_2025_Nov.

²⁰ 15_IC_2025_Nov.

[124] The mid-term evaluation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 had not been conducted due to lack of funding, and with CPM-19 (2025) guidance to shift to a final evaluation, ideally to be conducted in 2027. The revised ToR had been presented to the bureau in June, and to SPG 2025, and received some minor comments, which would be reflected in the final version of the ToR. The secretariat added that the final evaluation of the IPPC SF DAIs could be conducted as part of the comprehensive evaluation planned at the IPPC level, with the involvement of FAO Evaluation Office. Depending on how the comprehensive evaluation progresses, the IPPC Observatory may transfer the SF evaluation activities over and suppress them from the IPPC Observatory LOT and workplan. The relevance of presenting the ToR for approval to CPM-20 (2026) would be conditional on the progress achieved under this initiative. Some IC members welcomed the proposal and agreed that strategic framework evaluation represented a high priority for the IPPC community, particularly considering the work on the Strategic Framework for the next decade which would commence soon and would benefit from the evaluation results.

[125] The IC:

- (39) *noted* the implementation and funding status of the activities from the IPPC Observatory 2025 workplan, as presented in Appendix 9;
- (40) *agreed* to postpone the review of the new IPPC Observatory topic submission, *Survey on the current regulatory status and current use of phytosanitary systems approaches to facilitate safe trade in plant products* (2025-012) by Australia for inclusion in the IPPC Observatory LOT, to May 2026, so that the outcomes of the Global IPPC Systems Approaches Workshop could be reflected in the IC review;
- (41) *noted* the revised terms of reference for the final review and evaluation of the IPPC Strategic Framework DAIs, as presented in Appendix 11; and
- (42) *approved* the IPPC Observatory 2026 workplan as presented in Appendix 10.

7.2 The third IPPC General Survey – concept note

[126] The secretariat presented an update on the redesign and standardization of the third IPPC General Survey,²¹ as per the request of the IC in its May 2025 meeting. The IPPC Observatory, with support from an international survey specialist, had developed a concept note aimed at simplifying and standardizing the survey, narrowing the scope, reducing response burden and improving comparability so the survey can be repeated every few years.

[127] The IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory reviewed the draft concept note three times (8 July 2025, 11 July–20 September 2025 (written consultation), and 14 October 2025). Additional feedback was provided by the IC, the secretariat, and the *Codex Alimentarius* and World Organisation for Animal Health observatories. The SPG also noted the activity and expressed wide support. The concept note had also been shared with the SC.

[128] The secretariat confirmed that the survey questionnaire will be provided in a downloadable and fillable version to give NPPOs the ability to coordinate their answers within their own organizations.

[129] The IC:

- (43) *noted* the concept note for the third IPPC General Survey.²²

²¹ 35_IC_2025_Nov.

²² Draft IPPC Third General Survey concept note: <https://www.ippc.int/en/work-area-publications/95212/>

8. IC Teams

8.1 Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE): update on 2025 activities and workplan for 2026

[130] The secretariat presented a paper providing an update on the implementation of the roadmap to improve the PCE, as approved by the IC in 2023. The roadmap was designed to address the recommendations of the PCE desk study in line with the six key result areas of the PCE strategy for 2020–2030.²³ The secretariat highlighted key milestones that had been reached since May 2025, including the development of donor-ready national project proposals in eight countries under the GCP/GLO/949/EC project and successful resource mobilization in Uganda (EUR 8 million from the European Union and USD 5.5 million national funding) and Rwanda (USD 200 000 from TradeMark Africa). Ten new PCE facilitators had been certified in 2025, and while progress had been made on the revision of PCE modules, new training materials were reported to be available, including a guide on integrating gender and youth.

[131] The secretariat then presented an updated roadmap for 2026–2027, presented in Appendix 12.

[132] The secretariat noted that the most significant strategic challenge remained the lack of sustainable funding to maintain and improve the PCE. The modernization of the PCE online platform had not yet begun due to resource constraints, although requirements had been identified. The secretariat highlighted the need for a dedicated funding source to support system upgrades, long-term maintenance, and the continued expansion of the PCE facilitators pool.

[133] The secretariat then reported on the recently delivered PCEs, including in Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Mali, Pakistan, Viet Nam, , and. The secretariat then reported that requests from Burkina Faso, Eritrea, and Togo had been made.

[134] A few IC members stated that a lot of IFU activities, including activities under PCE, were important yet not funded, and reflected the request that the IC had made in its previous meetings asking CPM and the Finance Committee for allocation of base funding for these activities. This chronic funding issue was adversely affecting staff and talent retention within IFU, compromising important planned activities. Several IC members reiterated their request for adequate funding of the core implementation and capacity development activities.

[135] Another IC member commented on the proposed roadmap for 2026–2027, noting the lack of funding for many planned activities. Some IC members added that the request to allocate adequate funding to core implementation and capacity development activities had already been made to CPM-19 (2025) and proposed to make the request again asking for an action, and highlighting of funding issues on the work delivery and staff situation.

[136] One member asked about plans to revamp the PCE tool and whether funds were allocated. The secretariat confirmed that no funding was available and that revamping would not be possible without it. Another member proposed exploring whether APP funds could support PCE implementation in African countries, given its importance for strengthening phytosanitary systems. The secretariat noted that APP budget allocations would need to be reviewed to determine feasibility.

[137] The IC:

- (44) *noted* the progress made in implementing the PCE Improvement Roadmap according to PCE strategy 2020–2030 and the desk study on PCE;
- (45) *endorsed* the proposed 2026–2027 roadmap in Appendix 12, including priority actions to:

²³ 16_IC_2025_Nov.

- a. explore the possibility of allocating funds from the APP to modernize the PCE online platform,
 - b. integrate into the PCE online system the changes to initially improve the modules revised during the improvement workshop conducted in April, and
 - c. strengthen alignment between PCE outputs and national economic and phytosanitary priorities, including trade, market access, and value-chain competitiveness; and
- (46) *encouraged* further expansion and training of PCE facilitators as resources permit, ensuring that expertise remains available to requesting countries.

8.2 National reporting obligations: update on 2025 activities and workplan for 2026

[138] The secretariat presented an update on NRO activities for 2025 and the workplan for 2026.²⁴ The IC Team on NROs met twice in 2025 and prioritized activities in the 2025 work plan that do not require funding, noting that several CPM-19 (2025) follow-up actions remain on hold pending confirmation of resource allocation. The secretariat continued to provide basic support to countries, including updating IPP country profiles and responding to NRO-related inquiries. A presentation on NROs had been developed for the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops to raise awareness and highlight the need for adequate funding.

[139] The IC team had reviewed issues in relation to territories appearing separately on the IPP and initiated development of guidance on territory reporting. A draft procedure was shared with IC members and the FAO Legal Office. The IC team recommended limiting the guidance to territories under Article XV(1), consulting selected contracting parties with associated territories (France, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America), and developing a technical solution for how territories and their NROs should be displayed on the IPP.

[140] The IC Team on NROs had agreed to integrate NROs as a component of the APP, including training, pest reporting and generation of regulated pest lists. Only 40 per cent of APP countries had reported lists of regulated pests, confirming the need to strengthen capacity. The team recommended a dedicated global NROs workshop in 2026, potentially in collaboration with the World Trade Organization and with strategic support from the POARS Steering Group.

[141] The proposed 2026 NROs workplan focuses on targeted support to IPPC Contact Points and IPP Editors, enhancing the IPP platform, and revising the NROs guide if resources are secured. A dedicated CPM paper may be developed to raise awareness that NROs require adequate funding.

[142] Several more cost-effective alternatives to the proposed global workshop on NROs were made, including promoting the existing IPPC e-learning course on NROs, organizing a webinar or a CPM side session, including time for discussion during relevant IPPC meetings and regional events. It was noted that often the issue with NROs was not due to a lack of technical skills, but often due to other reasons, including a perceived low priority or urgency by a number of NPPOs. The secretariat added that PCEs under progress could also be used to remind the NPPOs implementing the tool about NROs.

[143] The proposal to collaborate and create synergies with the POARS Steering Group, WTO, and the APP was welcomed.

[144] The secretariat mentioned the activity undertaken two years ago when the secretariat had followed up with each NPPO asking for an update, which had proved to be successful, yet time-consuming.

[145] The IC:

- (47) *noted* the update on the 2025 NRO-related activities;

²⁴ 17_IC_2025_Nov.

- (48) *approved* the proposed NRO workplan for 2026, with the activity in relation to the organization of the global workshop on NROs suppressed, as presented in Appendix 13;
- (49) *requested* that the secretariat, in close consultation with the IC Team on NROs, subject to allocation of resources:
- a. coordinate the necessary consultations relevant with NPPOs and the FAO Legal Office to refine the draft guidelines on territory reporting,
 - b. develop and recommend a suitable technical solution for displaying territories and their NROs on the IPP, and
 - c. present the consolidated guidelines and the proposed technical solution to the IC for discussion once sufficiently advanced; and
- (50) *requested* to proceed to explore more cost-effective options to promote and raise awareness on NROs among IPPC contracting parties, as for example the use of the NRO e-learning courses and the organization of webinars, rather than organizing a global workshop on NROs.

8.3 Contributed resources: update on 2025 activities

[146] The IC team lead presented an update on contributed resources activities for 2025.²⁵ Following an IC request in November 2024, the IC Team on Contributed Resources met three times in 2025, developed and piloted a verification procedure for maintaining active links to contributed resources. The procedure is presented in Appendix 14 for IC approval and is recorded in the Procedure Manual for Implementation and Capacity Development after approval.

[147] Of approximately 300 contributed resources on the IPP, 84 contained problematic links. As of September 2025, the team completed verification of 28 resources and assigned appropriate phytosanitary categories to support future integration with phytosanitary systems pages. The remaining resources will be reviewed progressively, and nine new resources submitted by EPPO will be reviewed once link verification is completed.

[148] Given that link verification will become a regular task and one member has resigned, the IC Team requested that the addition of one new member. The proposed 2026 workplan is provided in Appendix 15.

[149] One IC member asked about the process to cross check if the information provided in the contributed resources is up to date. The IC team lead explained that the resource is reviewed and assessed if needed to be updated or not, following which the submitter could be contacted. Another IC member asked what kind of action could be taken if a broken link or an issue is identified in the contributed resources. The secretariat explained that the secretariat lead on contributed resources needs to be informed via email with the IFU lead in copy.

[150] The IC:

- (51) *noted* the activities of the IC Team on Contributed Resources;
- (52) *approved* the verification procedure for maintaining active links proposed in Appendix 14;
- (53) *noted* the verification results by the IC Team on Contributed Resources from July to September 2025; and
- (54) *approved* the 2026 workplan of the IC Team on Contributed Resources, as presented in Appendix 15.

²⁵ 18_IC_2025_Nov.

8.4 Fusarium TR4 2025 activities and workplan for 2026

- [151] The secretariat lead for the IC Team on Fusarium TR4 presented an update on the progress made within the framework of the global coordination of action on *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense* Tropical Race 4 (Fusarium TR4).²⁶ The IC noted that the IC Team on Fusarium TR4 had no dedicated resources in 2025 and emphasized the need to align Fusarium TR4 activities with POARS to maximize impact. The secretariat had completed the e-learning course on emergency preparedness using Fusarium TR4 as the example pest, now available in English with French and Spanish versions forthcoming.
- [152] In response to the CPM request for global coordination, the secretariat had convened a coordination meeting with relevant FAO units, though participation was limited. Given the absence of dedicated funding and active IPPC projects, it had been proposed that future Fusarium TR4 coordination be limited to cases where support is specifically requested by contracting parties and where synergies exist under POARS.
- [153] The secretariat had reviewed progress against the terms of reference for the IC Team on Fusarium TR4 and confirmed that all assigned tasks had been completed. The IC agreed to dissolve the IC Team on Fusarium TR4.
- [154] The secretariat noted that criteria for establishing and dissolving pest-specific expert groups now fall under POARS SG, with termination linked to completion of objectives or when the pest is no longer considered emerging. Several IC members supported the proposal to have a clear procedure for dissolving IC teams once they accomplish all tasks from their ToRs and asked the secretariat to include it in the upcoming revision of the ICD Procedure Manual.
- [155] The secretariat proposed that the remaining activities – based on Latin American and Caribbean Group CPM-17 (2023) proposal – should be transferred under the POARS mandate.
- [156] One IC member noted that some of the remaining TR4 activities proposed for transfer under POARS mandate, may not be relevant to POARS. Instead, depending on the nature of the activities, these could be moved to FAO teams that work on Fusarium TR4. Therefore, the proposal was to review the remaining activities from the global coordination and propose the next steps. Another member added that the activities could be reviewed by the secretariat, compiled and shared with the POARS SG to consider next steps.
- [157] Some IC members suggested to update the CPM with the activities accomplished under the global coordination on Fusarium TR4.
- [158] The chairperson thanked the secretariat for the update, and for the work undertaken.
- [159] The IC:
- (55) *agreed* to dissolve the IC Team on Fusarium TR4 as it had completed tasks from its terms of reference;
 - (56) *requested* that the secretariat review the remaining activities from the global coordination on Fusarium TR4, as presented in Appendix 16, and send the compiled list to the POARS Steering Group for review and consideration; and
 - (57) *requested* that the secretariat draft a section in the ICD Procedure Manual on the process for the dissolution of IC teams and submit it to the IC via e-decision by February 2026.

²⁶ 19_IC_2025_Nov.

8.5 Projects: update on 2025 activities and priority activities for 2026

- [160] The secretariat presented an update on the 2025 activities of the IC Team on Projects, and the priority activities for 2026.²⁷ The IC Team on Projects held one meeting in 2025, mainly to prepare the webinar on ICD projects. The webinar had taken place on 21 May 2025 and was themed “*Smart Plant Health: What does the future look like?*”, attended virtually by over 400 participants. The secretariat presented the current ICD projects, and mentioned the projects supported, including PCE-related activities in Cambodia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Namibia, Pakistan, and Viet Nam.. It was added that the secretariat continues to provide backstopping to FAO and donor-funded projects to ensure compliance with PCE procedures and IPPC standards.
- [161] The secretariat mentioned the list of observers, to be invited to the IC May 2026 meeting, which remained unchanged since the May 2025 meeting. The May 2026 meeting will host a greater number of participants, including incoming and outgoing IC members. Consequently, one member suggested not to invite observers to attend in person, but to instead invite them to participate remotely. Several IC members supported the proposal.
- [162] One IC member proposed to add the IICA to the list of observers to be invited to the IC May 2026 meeting.
- [163] Another IC member asked if the donors from the list of donors had been engaged with for resource mobilization. The secretariat explained that with some staff members in charge of resource mobilization leaving the secretariat, and the new secretary appointment, the donors from the list had not been contacted yet. Some members suggested reviewing the list and engaging with donors which are the most susceptible to generate positive responses. Engagement could also start from ensuring that the institutions from the list were subscribed to the IPPC newsletter.
- [164] The IC:
- (58) *noted* the update on 2025 activities of the IC Team on Projects;
 - (59) *noted* the projects currently being managed by the secretariat, as well as those for which the secretariat is providing backstopping;
 - (60) *requested* that the secretariat verify if the donors from the list are subscribed to IPPC updates;
 - (61) *requested* that the secretariat start engaging with the donors from the list with potential topics of interest based on the unfunded priority activities; and
 - (62) *agreed* to amend the list of observers to be invited to attend the IC May 2026 meeting remotely, as presented in Appendix 17.

8.6 Review of implementation topics

- [165] The IC lead presented an update on the work of the new IC Team for Submission of Implementation Topics.²⁸
- [166] The secretariat recalled that CPM-19 (2025) had agreed to keep the IPPC call for topics open year-round as part of a two-year trial, with an assessment to be presented to CPM-21 (2027). In May 2025, the call for standards and implementation topics, including topics for the IPPC Observatory had been launched.
- [167] The IC had agreed that topics submitted from October to March be reviewed during the IC May meeting, and those submitted from April to September during the IC November meeting. Since the launch of the call, one implementation topic has been submitted: *Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system* (submitted by Canada). IC team members had been invited to provide their preliminary

²⁷ 20_IC_2024_Nov.

²⁸ 21_IC_2025_Nov.

assessment before the IC November meeting through the online form, whether the topic should be included in the ICD LOT and assigned a priority, and to provide justification if the topic is not recommended for inclusion. In line with the no conflict-of-interest practice, IC members should not assess submissions from their own country.

[168] One IC member asked whether the IPPC guide on risk-based inspection had been considered in the proposal. Another noted that the submission was unclear on whether it proposed a new guide or an update to the existing IPPC guide on import verification,²⁹ which could later support an e-learning course. The proposal was clarified as an update to the existing guide, followed by development of an e-learning course based on the revised guide.

[169] As the specification that was developed by the submitter was not included in the meeting documents, the IC felt that a decision to include the topic in the LOT was not possible at that time. Several IC members agreed that specifications should accompany proposals to enable informed decisions. Most members agreed to review the specification at the May 2026 meeting and to further discuss whether the topic should be added to the ICD LOT under agenda item 9.1 (Update on development of guides and training materials and review of the ICD List of Topics), alongside other ICD topics.

[170] The IC:

(63) *noted* the update from the IC Team for Implementation Topics.

9. Guides and training materials

9.1 Update on development of guides and training materials and review of the ICD List of topics

[171] The IPPC Secretariat provided an update on guides and training materials published since May 2025 and those currently under development, including progress on translations and proposed updates to the ICD-LOT.³⁰

[172] Since May 2025, four new e-learning courses had been published: *Emergency preparedness for plant pest outbreaks*, *Wood packaging material in international trade*, *Achieving market access for plants and plant products*, and *How a national plant protection organization functions*. In addition, a new simulation tool *Pest emergency simulation: prevent, prepare, respond* had been launched and tested with diverse audiences during the World Food Forum.

[173] The secretariat updated the IC on the completed topics, including: *IPPC plant health officer training curricula* (2017-054), *Fusarium TR4 training courses* (2023-002), and *Plant pest emergency simulation tool* (2024-002), which could be removed from the LOT.

[174] More discussions on the IPPC Plant Health Campus are presented under agenda item 9.3 (Plant health campus; update, use of the campus and future plan).

[175] Under **priority 1**, the secretariat reported on the ongoing development of the guide *Risk-based inspection of imported consignments* (2018-022), with publication planned for 2026 alongside a corresponding e-learning course developed in collaboration with the FAO eLearning Academy. The Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments continues to address technical comments on the *Wood Packaging Material Heat Treatment Manual* and *Fumigation Treatment Manual*, with completion expected in early to mid-2026.

²⁹ IPPC Guide on Import Verification: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/CA6376EN>

³⁰ 22_IC_2025_Nov.

- [176] Under **priority 2**, the secretariat is to launch a call for experts to develop the guide *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009), followed by a second call for experts for *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2018-040). As funding is available for both guides, the priorities for these topics could be changed from priority 2 to priority 1.
- [177] No updates were reported for priority 3 and priority 4 topics.
- [178] The secretariat proposed additions to the ICD-LOT, including an updated e-learning course on the ePhyto Solution – funded through the ePhyto budget and to be published on the IPPC Plant Health Campus – and a new e-learning course on sea container cleanliness and visual inspections, based on request from the International Symposium on Sea Containers and the related CPM focus group. Both courses will be developed in collaboration with the FAO elearning Academy, with technical support from secretariat leads on ePhyto and sea containers, respectively. The IC was requested to assign a priority level to the sea containers course and note that funding is required. Additionally, a new e-learning course on risk-based inspection would be developed based on the guide *Risk-based inspection of imported consignments* (2018-22), which is currently under development.
- [179] The secretariat also mentioned the two high-demanded e-learning courses developed with the Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development (COLEAD) (*Pest risk analysis* and *Phytosanitary inspection*) require a technical update and noted that these revisions should proceed when resources allow. It was also suggested that during the review, the courses should also be aligned with FAO elearning Academy formatting to improve accessibility.
- [180] The secretariat reported on ongoing translations of e-learning courses into French and Spanish, with additional releases expected in early 2026, and requested continued promotion of in-kind translation contributions from contracting parties, particularly for Arabic, Chinese and Russian.
- [181] As previously noted by CPM and discussed at the IC May 2025 meeting, the IC was requested to continue advocating for the establishment of a stable regular-budget position within the IFU to support timely development of guides and training materials.
- [182] With these updates, the IC reviewed the ICD LOT.
- [183] One IC member asked if any nominations had been received for IPPC proofreaders for Spanish. The secretariat confirmed the receipt of several nominations.
- [184] One IC member reminded the group that proposals for the development of new e-learning courses need to be accompanied by specifications to justify the topic. The secretariat explained that according to the procedure, step one is to review the topic providing a justification for its development and the relevance of the topic, to decide whether it needs to be included in the ICD LOT and assign priority. Whereas the specification provides more detail and is developed as step two in the process.³¹
- [185] A few IC members expressed a preference to have the specification and the submission form reviewed together for an informed decision; however, the group reached an agreement to proceed as per the procedure for all new topics. For cases when the topic was already familiar, such as ePhyto or sea containers, or topics proposed by the secretariat, committees or governing bodies, no topic submission form would be needed, and specification would be sufficient. The proposals to develop any material based on existing material such as existing guides, as is the case with the risk-based inspection, would not need a topic submission form or specification, as both these documents already exist for the guide.

³¹ ICD Procedure Manual, page 21: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/b2c33cdc-b05a-4915-a0bc-b5070f0a16fc/content>

- [186] A few IC members expressed a wish to review and update the procedure for the development of IPPC guides and training materials and proposed to add an agenda item in the IC May 2026 meeting.
- [187] The secretariat stated that for the e-learning on ePhyto, the ESG, and for the e-learning course on sea containers, the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers could be requested to prepare specifications. An e-decision will be opened to seek the review and approval of the IC of the specifications for these two topics.
- [188] Following this discussion, it was agreed to add three new topics to develop into e-learning courses (ePhyto, sea containers and risk-based inspection), and in addition, the topic proposed by Canada on import regulatory system, to the ICD LOT, and to assign priority levels following the review of specifications.
- [189] One IC member mentioned the discussion at the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshop in Asia, where contracting parties asked the ISPM 23 (*Guidelines for inspection*) revision to encompass risk-based inspection as well.
- [190] The IC:
- (64) *noted* the update on the IPPC guides and training materials;
 - (65) *invited* the IC members to continue promoting the need for in-kind contributions for translation of guides and training materials to Arabic, Chinese and Russian;
 - (66) *reviewed and discussed* the ICD LOT, and *agreed* to:
 - a. remove the *IPPC plant health officer training curricula* (2017-054), as the work had been completed,
 - b. remove the *Fusarium TR4 training courses* (2023-002), as the work had been completed,
 - c. remove the *Plant pest emergency simulation tool* (2024-002), as the work had been completed,
 - d. change the priority level of the *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009) from 2 to 1 as sufficient funds are available to initiate work, and
 - e. change the priority level of the *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2018-040) from 2 to 1 as sufficient funds are available to initiate work;
 - (67) *requested* that the ePhyto Steering Group to develop a specification for the e-learning course on ePhyto;
 - (68) *requested* that the CPM Focus Group on Sea Containers to develop a specification for the e-learning course on inspection/visual examination of sea containers;
 - (69) *requested* that the secretariat open an e-decision inviting the IC members to review the specifications for proposals on e-learning courses on ePhyto and sea containers;
 - (70) *agreed* to review and discuss the specification for the topic proposal *Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system* by Canada in the IC May 2026 meeting;
 - (71) *agreed* to add the following topics to the ICD LOT, and assign priority levels following the review of specifications:
 - a. *e-learning course on IPPC ePhyto Solution*,
 - b. *e-learning course on inspection/visual examination of sea containers*,
 - c. *e-learning course on risk-based inspection*, and
 - d. *Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system*;
 - (72) *requested* that the secretariat to update the ICD LOT according to the above decision points, and to prepare a CPM paper to be presented to CPM-20 (2026); and
 - (73) *agreed* to review and update the procedure for development of IPPC guides and training materials in the ICD procedure manual, which will be further discussed during the IC May 2026 meeting.

9.2 IC Team on Guides and training materials

[191] During the IC May 2025 meeting, the IC had requested that the IC Team consider the feasibility of developing a new guide on pest free areas for fruit flies. However, due to limited financial and staff resources, the work on the new guide had not been undertaken, and as a consequence no IC Team meeting had been organized.

[192] The secretariat recommended that the work on the guide on pest free areas for fruit flies be deferred and that the team report back to the IC in 2026.

[193] The IC:

(74) *noted* the activities of the IC Team on Guides and training materials in 2025.

9.3 Plant health campus; update, use of the campus and future plan

[194] The secretariat presented an update on the IPPC Plant Health Campus,³² noting that the platform now hosts more than 40 learning resources, including 14 e-learning courses, 2 interactive tools and 25 IPPC guides, developed with the financial support of the European Union, and in collaboration with the FAO eLearning Academy. The secretariat then mentioned the progress with ongoing Spanish translations, with publication planned for early 2026, and noted that resources or in-kind contributions were still needed for Arabic, Chinese and Russian translations.

[195] The campus had strong uptake from NPPOs and universities, with over 1 600 learners that had accessed e-learning courses developed in collaboration with COLEAD, and over 15 000 learners that had accessed these courses developed in collaboration with FAO eLearning Academy since 2022. Upcoming developments included new e-learning courses linked to the risk-based inspection guide, ePhyto and sea containers. A dedicated communications plan is being developed to support ongoing promotion and long-term sustainability of the Plant Health Campus.

[196] Several IC members complimented the secretariat on the IPPC Plant Health Campus and invited the secretariat to further promote the campus within regions. The secretariat agreed and noted the campus communication plan that had been implemented, as well as the important role of campus champions that also include the IC members. One IC member asked if a poster could be developed in Spanish that could be shared with the NPPOs for promotion and presentation at various occasions in the Latin American region. The secretariat explained that there was already a communication package that included a poster, available at the moment in English.³³

[197] Some IC members proposed to include a recommendation to CPM-20 (2026) to invite contracting parties to integrate these resources into their training curricula and to call for allocation of resources for translations, discussed in more detail under agenda item 14.1 (IC recommendations to CPM and implementation issues to be recommended for CPM-20).

[198] The IC:

(75) *noted* the progress on the development and promotion of e-learning courses on the IPPC Plant Health Campus.

³² 24_IC_2025_Nov.

³³ IPPC Plant Health Campus communication package: https://trello.com/b/lmznRKjO/ippc-plant-health-campus?utm_source=eval-email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=board-invite

9.4 Translation costs for IPPC implementation materials

[199] The secretariat presented a paper on the translation needs and costs of the IPPC guides and training materials into the official languages of FAO.³⁴ The secretariat stated that the demand from contracting parties for implementation and capacity development materials continues to increase, but translation of IPPC guides and e-learning courses remains significantly underfunded. While many resources are available in French and some in Spanish, translation into Arabic, Russian and Chinese relies almost entirely on in-kind contributions. The secretariat highlighted that one and a half full-time staff are currently required to manage translation activities, diverting capacity from core IFU priorities. Full translation of all materials into FAO languages would require over USD 1.1 million. The FAO publication workflow adds an average processing cost of USD 7 175 per guide and requires approximately three months per publication. The cost is detailed in Appendix 18.

[200] Following requests made during the IC May 2025 and the Bureau June 2025 meetings and regional workshops, priority materials for translation into Arabic and Russian had been identified, and the remaining 2025 operating budget had been used to support seven translations, costing USD 20 805 (Arabic) and USD 21 721 (Russian).

[201] Noting these financial challenges, the CPM Financial Committee had requested that the IC prepare a paper for CPM-20 (2026) outlining translation needs, priority languages and possible in-kind or financial contributions from contracting parties.

[202] A few IC members proposed the use of AI tools for translations and invited the secretariat to explore if this option would be feasible. Another IC member asked whether using these tools would still require the secretariat staff supervision and time, which is scarce. One IC member added that languages like Arabic still need human translator with Arabic language skills, as there are many dialects in Arabic.

[203] One member reported feedback from a 2025 IPPC regional workshop asking if a list of translation needs could be provided on the IPP, so that the country wishing to fund a certain activity could view the translation needs and make decide whether to fund a specific translation need. Another member added that the countries could easily contribute to MDTF.

[204] The IC:

- (76) *noted* the need for translating guides and training materials into all official languages of FAO, in a timely manner and without undue resource pressures on the IFU;
- (77) *thanked* contracting parties and partner institutions for providing in-kind translations; and
- (78) *suggested* that the secretariat explore the feasibility of using AI tools for the translations of guides and training materials into all official languages of FAO via a pilot.

10. IPPC Call for Topics

10.1 Update on the Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation

[205] The secretariat presented a paper with updates on the year-round IPPC Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation,³⁵ introduced by the decision of CPM-19 (2025) for a two-year trial. As of October 2025, six topic submissions had been received across standards, implementation and IPPC Observatory studies. These had been forwarded to relevant groups, including the SC and the IC for review during their November 2025 meetings, after which recommendations are to be submitted to CPM-20 (2026) for inclusion in the

³⁴ 23_IC_2025_Nov.

³⁵ 25_IC_2025_Nov.

lists of topics. The secretariat will continue receiving and processing submissions, and a full assessment of the year-round process will be presented to CPM-21 (2027).

[206] One IC member proposed that the topic submission form would need to be accompanied with specifications for all new topic submissions.

[207] Another IC member asked if ~~the~~ ~~dis~~ ~~bandment~~ of the Task Force on Topics (TFT) and proceeding with the trial saved resources and time for the secretariat. The secretariat reported that it did not have the TFT assessment and that topic submissions could be received any time throughout the year was challenging for the IC team to review and assess the submissions in view of the IC and SC meetings in May and November. Previously, when the call had been closed by September, it provided ample time for the TFT to review the topics and propose the recommendations to the SC and the IC.

[208] The IC:

- (79) *noted* the update on the ongoing Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation, including the six submissions for standards, implementation and capacity development, and IPPC Observatory topics, received to date, as presented in Appendix 19; and
- (80) *encouraged* contracting parties and RPPOs to actively participate in the ongoing call for topics by submitting globally relevant proposals for standards, implementation resources and IPPC Observatory studies.

11. IC-SC collaboration

11.1 IC collaboration with the SC

[209] The assistant IC representative to the SC presented a paper with an update on IC–SC collaboration.³⁶ The IC representative continues attending SC meetings as an observer, and recalled the recommendation from the IC May meeting, that invited the revision of the SC terms of reference from “IC member may attend as an observer” to “IC representative attends as an observer”.

[210] To improve coordination, a dedicated repository would be established within the restricted area of the IPP to systematically collect and track implementation issues identified during and after ISPM development. Regular updates would be provided to the SC and the IC during their May meetings. An overview of the proposed process for collecting these implementation issues was also presented:

Standard Setting Unit and IFU would designate staff from each unit to update the repository.

The ISPM steward would communicate with the designated Standard Setting Unit on implementation issues raised during standard development (e.g. EWG, country comments).

The secretariat would store implementation issues in the repository, including those from the steward and other sources such as TC-RPPO, SPG and CPM.

The SC (May) would review updates on proposed implementation issues. If an issue is urgent and directly in relation to ISPMs, the SC could agree to submit it directly to the IC with specifications.

The IC (May) would review the same updates, incorporating SC input.

- The IC decisions would be reported back to the SC in November under the SC–IC collaboration agenda.

[211] Some IC members expressed support for the proposed process.

³⁶ 26_IC_2025_Nov.

[212] A proposal to include links to relevant guides and training materials on the IPP page for each adopted ISPM was supported by most IC members. These resources would be accessible via the green plus sign associated with each standard.

[213] The IC:

- (81) *noted* the updates on the SC–IC collaboration;
- (82) *agreed* to the proposed process for identifying, forwarding and discussing potential implementation issues, and to forward it to the SC November 2025 meeting for discussion; and
- (83) *agreed* to the suggestion of hosting relevant implementation material under each corresponding ISPM (green plus button), on the “adopted standards” page of the IPP, to improve their accessibility and their use.

11.2 Implementation issues identified by the SC: way to move forward

[214] The secretariat proposed a new process for the collection, maintenance and archiving of implementation issues identified by various IPPC bodies.³⁷ The presentation, as provided in Appendix 20, touched upon a repository for storing and archiving implementation issues on the IPP work area, organized by year and source (contracting parties/RPPOs, SC, IC). One IC member suggested that the topics in the repository should be organized by ISPM primarily.

[215] The secretariat noted that the same presentation was to be delivered to the SC November 2025 meeting.

[216] Additionally, it was suggested that the IC November meeting be scheduled immediately after the SC meeting to streamline communication and accelerate follow-up on implementation issues. Following this suggestion, several IC members asked whether SC meeting dates could be coordinated in advance, so that late November meeting dates could be avoided for the IC. The secretariat explained that aligning the dates is not always possible due to factors such as the FAO schedule, meeting room availability, and dates for SPG, bureau and CPM meetings. Consequently, some IC members proposed organizing IC meetings consecutively with SC meetings where feasible and avoiding late November meetings if coordination is possible.

[217] The IC:

- (84) *noted* the presentation on the proposal of a repository of implementation issues on the IPP work area.

11.3 Implementations issues identified by IPPC Regional Workshops 2025

[218] The secretariat presented implementation issues that had been identified during the 2025 IPPC regional workshops.³⁸ Among these, the following were mentioned: contracting parties had identified key challenges hampering implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs, including the need for more practical, field-based training; support on commenting on draft standards during consultation; guidance for NPPO career development, border station set-up, and senior policymaker engagement; stronger recognition and resourcing of NPPOs; targeted support for small island countries; risks from integrating NPPOs into broader institutions; lack of translations of IPPC materials (especially into Spanish); weak communication of CPM committees meeting outcomes; and limited stakeholder engagement by IPPC Official Contact Points. Feedback from the workshops also had highlighted the need for clear cost estimates for implementation activities so that contracting parties know where they could contribute.

³⁷ 27_IC_2025_Nov.

³⁸ 28_IC_2025_Nov.

- [219] Regarding the request for practical, field-based trainings, some IC members noted the lack of resources for core implementation and capacity development activities and mentioned that on-the-ground training is not within the IPPC mandate.
- [220] Reflecting on the earlier discussions on the procedure for development of guides and training materials, one member recalled that any implementation proposal would require a topic submission form and specification. It was clarified that, at this stage, suggestions would only be stored in the repository, and if they become relevant, a submission form and specification would be requested.
- [221] Another member suggested using IPPC events and different institutional levels (secretariat, RPPO, NPPO or partners) to address issues. Some IC members stressed the need to identify proposals relevant to most contracting parties. One member proposed assigning the review of implementation issues from regional workshops to the IC Team on Implementation Topics, which would then propose actions to the IC.
- [222] The IC:
- (85) *requested* that the IC Team on Implementation Topics review and analyse the implementation issues raised during the 2025 IPPC regional workshops, and advise on the level at which they should be addressed (global, regional, national) and on the proposed next steps for each of the issues.

11.4 Recommendations for IPP to store guidance materials removed from revised ISPMs

- [223] The secretariat proposed a location on the IPP where content removed from ISPMs could be stored for future reference. Previously, older versions of ISPMs or removed content had been stored on the IPP, but it had been advised to keep only the current version to avoid confusion. Extracted information could be archived in a restricted area accessible to SC and IC members only.
- [224] The assistant IC representative to the SC recalled an IC decision from May 2025 to create direct links on the IPP between adopted ISPMs and relevant implementation materials under the “Adopted Standards” page. The same had been requested by SPG 2025. The SC had agreed to retain removed appendices and annexes as greyed attachments in ISPMs until guidance material was developed. For ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*), the proposal was to make this information available under the green plus sign, titled “Interim Guidance Material”, with an introductory paragraph from the SC EWG revising ISPM 26.
- [225] The SC will address the revision of ISPM 26 in its November 2025 meeting under agenda item 4.1 (Draft revision of ISPM 26 (*Establishment and maintenance of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*) (2021-010)).
- [226] Additionally, it was noted that the SC would be asked to prepare a topic submission form and specification for the development of the interim guidance material for ISPM 26.
- [227] The IC:
- (86) *invited* the SC to consider storing the ISPM 26 appendix and annexes on the IPP, on the adopted standards page of the IPP, under the green plus sign for ISPM 26, as “interim guidance material”, adding an introductory paragraph to provide context; and
- (87) *invited* the SC to consider sending a specification for the development of guidance material to replace the removed appendix and annexes from ISPM 26.

12. Procedure Manual for Implementation and Capacity Development

12.1 Updated Procedure Manual for ICD – review of proposed amendments

[228] The secretariat presented a paper with elaborations on the proposed revisions to the seventh edition of the *IPPC Procedure manual for implementation and capacity development* (PM),³⁹ to be published in early 2026 with updated procedures approved before and during the IC May and November 2025 meetings. The secretariat listed the contents of the PM in Appendix 21, where section titles that need to be updated were marked in red, along with the changes.

[229] The secretariat highlighted several key changes, including updates to section 2.5 “Financial considerations” to clarify the eligibility status of IC members, and the IC representative to the SC for travel assistance reflecting bureau guidance from March 2025. New text for this amendment is presented in Appendix 22.

[230] The IC Team on Contributed Resources had developed a procedure for verifying and maintaining links to contributed resources on the IPP, for inclusion in section 5.3 of the PM, pending IC approval. The secretariat also noted that Annexes 2–4 need to be revised to reflect the new forms approved by CPM-19 (2025), replacing outdated versions and removing the former explanatory note. Additional updates include new sections on the IC Team on Topics and the IC Team on Third Party Entities, an updated list of IC teams in Section 5, and the addition of a link to the IPPC Plant Health Campus in Annex 9.

[231] An additional modification would be to remove the IC Team on Fusarium TR4, in view of the decision on dissolving the team, discussed under agenda item 8.4 (Fusarium TR4 2025 activities and workplan for 2026).

[232] The IC:

- (88) *agreed* on the revised contents of the *Procedure manual for implementation and capacity development* as shown in Appendix 21;
- (89) *agreed* on the proposed statements to clarify the eligibility status of IC members, the eligibility status to travel assistance and the eligibility status of the IC representative to the SC as presented in Appendix 22;
- (90) *agreed* to include the verification procedure of the contributed resource links on the IPP as presented in Appendix 23 of the agenda item 8.3 (Contributed resources: update on 2025 activities);
- (91) *agreed* to remove section 4.4 “IC Team on TR4” from section 4 “Specific Implementation and Capacity Development Committee subgroups”; and
- (92) *requested* that the secretariat update the *Procedure manual for implementation and capacity development* according to the IC discussions during the November 2025 meeting.

12.2 Scope and duration of the support and involvement of the former IC members

[233] The secretariat presented a paper on the scope and duration of contributions made by former IC members to IC subgroups and teams.⁴⁰ The IC recalled its 2023 decision allowing former IC members willing to continue contributing beyond the duration of their term to remain part of IC subgroups and teams, recognizing their valuable technical expertise. However, this decision did not specify the duration of their potential contribution.

[234] The secretariat outlined four options for regulating duration of service: (1) discontinuing participation of former members; (2) permitting participation for one year after term expiration; (3) permitting participation

³⁹ 29_IC_2025_Nov

⁴⁰ 30_IC_2025_Nov.

for one full IC term (three years), non-renewable; or (4) allowing unlimited participation at the discretion of the former member.

[235] Most of the IC members expressed preference for option three, which would allow for knowledge transfer from former members to new ones. There was a proposal by a few members to formalize and establish a procedure, yet a few members noted that the formalizing of this type of contribution may not be necessary. The IC discussed that a former member wishing to continue would need to provide a written authorization or statement of commitment (e-mail) from their supervisor, if applicable.

The IC:

- (93) *agreed* on option 3, permitting participation for one full IC term (three years), non-renewable, for the duration of the membership of former IC members in IC teams; and
- (94) *agreed* that this measure is to come into force as of May 2026.

13. IC and IFU leads

13.1 Update of the IC/IFU list of leads for Subgroups and Teams

[236] The secretariat presented an update on the status of IFU and IC leads, along with the membership of, CPM focus groups, ICD topics, IC subgroups and IC teams for the IC members.⁴¹

[237] The IC discussed and agreed on the IC assignments and the list of leads for subgroups, teams, ICD topics and projects.

[238] The IC:

- (95) *updated* the table of IC subgroups, teams and secretariat leads and other members as presented in Appendix 24.

13.2 Handover and onboarding of new IC members during the 2026 May meeting

[239] The IC vice-chairperson highlighted the importance of onboarding the new IC members in view of the updated IC membership, highlighting the importance of this work for the efficient work of the committee, and invited the IC to discuss how best to organize onboarding of the incoming members. One IC member proposed to have a short document with essential onboarding information. Another suggestion was to have a virtual onboarding session for the new members, before the initial meeting. Additionally, during the initial meeting for the new members, the existing members could mentor the incoming members sharing knowledge, experience and tips.

The IC:

- (96) *requested* that the secretariat share all relevant information and documents and organize a virtual onboarding session, ideally two weeks before the IC May 2026 meeting;
- (97) *requested* that the secretariat prepare a short document, two pages, with all essential information and links to relevant documents to share with incoming members;
- (98) *invited* the outgoing IC members to share their experiences with the new members during the virtual onboarding session; and
- (99) *invited* the existing and outgoing IC members to share their experiences and mentor the incoming members during the IC May 2026 meeting.

⁴¹ 31_IC_2025_Nov.

14. IC recommendations for CPM-20 (2026)

14.1 IC recommendations to CPM and implementation issues to be recommended for CPM-20 (2026)

[240] The chairperson presented IC recommendations to CPM-20 (2026),⁴² which included the following:

[241] A **primary recommendation to the Financial Committee and CPM to ensure sustainable funding of implementation activities**. The core activities that remain underfunded include NROs, PCE, POARS/Fusarium TR4 global coordination, the IPPC Observatory, and the development of guides and training materials (USD 50 000 per activity per year, from both regular programme and MDTF resources).

[242] A **recommendation to open three regular funded positions for the IFU in addition to its three existing ones**, as indicated in the enhancement evaluation from 2014 and discussed in detail under agenda item 15.1 (IFU workplan for 2026), noting that the IFU is extremely understaffed.

[243] A **recommendation to promote the IPPC Plant Health Campus**, encouraging contracting parties and partners to integrate the campus training materials into NPPO training programmes. The IC further recommended mobilizing resources for translation of campus resources into all official languages of FAO, especially Arabic, Russian and Chinese.

[244] A **recommendation to encourage allocation of sufficient time for discussions on implementation issues and topics of regional interest in the agenda for IPPC regional workshops**, to allow countries exchange knowledge and coordinate at regional levels, and share pressing implementation issues.

[245] Another IC member highlighted the importance of presenting the IC perspective on the issue of rethinking ISPMs, which was agreed. During SPG 2025, some countries had expressed preference for removing guidance information from ISPMs. Concerns were raised that this could disadvantage non-English speakers, as IPPC guides and training materials are not automatically translated into all official languages of FAO, unlike ISPMs. Therefore, for non-English speakers, this would potentially remove essential information.

[246] One member highlighted the need to clarify where the APP fits within the secretariat structure, noting that the APP is an implementation programme and should be embedded in implementation and capacity development activities, and added that CPM-20 (2026) would be the right venue to discuss this. Some members agreed and expressed interest in contributing to APP activities, in addition to receiving regular updates during IC meetings.

[247] The IC:

(100) *agreed* to include the following recommendations to the IC chairperson's recommendations to CPM-20 (2026):

- a. the establishment of three additional regular funded positions in the IFU so that the team is able to deliver its core mandate, as recommended in the 2014 enhancement evaluation, following the CPM-19 (2025) decision,
- b. the provision of adequate financial resources for core and priority IPPC activities that are underfunded: USD 50 000 per year for NROs; USD 50 000 per year for PCE; USD 50 000 per year for POARS; USD 50 000 per year for the IPPC Observatory; USD 50 000 per year for the development of guides and training materials, and others, following the CPM-19 (2025) decision,

⁴² 32_IC_2025_Nov.

- c. to request contracting parties and partners to allocate funds to the IPPC MDTF and in-kind contributions to support the implementation and capacity development activities,
- d. to promote IPPC Plant Health Campus to IPPC community, including to NPPOs, RPPOs, academia and relevant stakeholders, and invite them to secure resources for the translation of campus resources into all official languages of FAO, and
- e. to request the secretariat, and the IPPC regional workshop organizing committees to allocate sufficient time for agenda items dedicated to implementation issues and regional topics of interest during IPPC regional workshops; and

(101) *agreed* to present the IC perspective on rethinking ISPMs to CPM-20 (2026) as a separate paper.

15. IFU workplan

15.1 IFU workplan for 2026

[248] The secretariat presented the activities and achievements of the 2025 IFU workplan, and the 2026 IFU workplan.⁴³

[249] The IC discussed the revised workplan and made minor revisions, presented in Appendix 25.

[250] One IC member asked if the e-learning course on ePhyto would be available in English only, or also in other official languages of FAO, such as Spanish. The secretariat explained that the e-learning course will be published in English, however a separate budget would be needed for translations.

[251] The IC:

(102) *noted* the delivery of the 2025 IFU workplan, despite shortages of staff and financial resources; and

(103) *noted* and *agreed* on the 2026 IFU workplan as presented in Appendix 25.

15.2 IFU 2025 Communications Update

[252] The secretariat presented an update on activities in relation to the development and implementation of the 2026 IFU Communications Plan that have been developed in line with the IPPC Communications Strategy 2023–2030.⁴⁴ From January–October 2025, 17 IFU-related news and feature articles had been published on the IPP, with over 7 000 total views. Content had been actively promoted through the IPPC newsletter, FAO Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP) channels, and social media, where short videos and visual posts had generated the highest engagement. The IPPC LinkedIn profile had migrated to a public page, increasing visibility of implementation work.

[253] The IFU had supported communication and outreach for major events, including the launch of the IPPC Plant Health Campus at CPM-19 (2025), webinars on climate change and phytosanitary systems, ePhyto visibility at the WTO Public Forum, and a simulation game showcased at the World Food Forum. IFU implementation activities had also been promoted during all 2025 IPPC regional workshops. A Trello communications resource hub had been developed for the campus, and new short videos featuring IC members and stakeholders had been released.

[254] Lessons learned highlighted the strong impact of short video content, strategic social media use, public LinkedIn access, and targeted outreach during global events.

[255] Recommendations for 2026 included: expanding video-based content; strengthening partnerships (e.g. NSP, FAO eLearning Academy, COLEAD, Standards and Trade Development Facility); improving

⁴³ 33_IC_2024_Nov.

⁴⁴ 34_IC_2025_Nov.

accessibility of materials; prioritizing high-impact news articles; and continued participation in major outreach events. Dedicated communication plans are being finalized for the IPPC ePhyto Solution, the Plant Health Campus, POARS and updated phytosanitary system pages on the IPP. The IC complimented the secretariat on the quality of communication products covering implementation topics.

[256] The IC:

(104) *noted* the activities in relation to IFU communications, as described in this update.

16. Field activity

16.1 Monumental Olive Park in Serranova (Brindisi) to observe the symptoms of *Xylella Fastidiosa*

[257] Following their field visit to the Monumental Olive Park in Serranova (Brindisi) to observe *Xylella Fastidiosa* symptoms, the IC members shared their feedback. Several emphasized the importance of preparedness and early response to pest outbreaks such as *Xylella*, which have severe environmental, social and economic impacts. Some members commended the work done under POARS, therefore contributing to strengthening prevention and preparedness for such outbreaks, and raising awareness on the importance of these functions within the IPPC community.

[258] Some other members highlighted the need for effective communication and awareness raising, and the importance of addressing communication gaps among the stakeholders, while ensuring that the experts speak with one voice. It was recommended that a communication strategy should be aligned and updated to meet the needs of the key public and private sector stakeholders, using accessible communication channels. This would yield more coordinated response to potential outbreaks.

[259] Several IC members commended the IPPC Plant Health Campus and resources that provide technical capacity to NPPOs and other stakeholders to tackle pest outbreaks.

17. Agenda items deferred to future IC meetings

[260] No agenda item was deferred.

18. Any other business

[261] **The IC Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure⁴⁵ – Participation in the IC meetings.** The IC discussed its terms of reference, specifically Rule 4 (Procedure calling a replacement member). Paragraph 1 of Rule 4 currently states that an IC member shall be replaced if they fail to attend two consecutive IC meetings: "A member of the IC will be replaced by a confirmed replacement member if the IC member resigns, no longer meets the qualifications for membership set forth in these Rules, or fails to attend two consecutive meetings of the IC" [underlining added for emphasis].

[262] One IC member expressed concern that the current wording may inadvertently allow situations where an employer does not allocate sufficient travel funds, enabling a member to attend only one meeting per year. This could limit the member's engagement and contribution to the work of the IC, while technically allowing them to retain their position.

[263] To address this concern, it was proposed that the rule be revised to limit absences to two meetings throughout the member's term, rather than only two consecutive meetings.

⁴⁵ IC Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85672/>

[264] The secretariat clarified that the revision to the terms of reference would require CPM approval. The IC reached a consensus to revisit the topic at the IC May 2026 meeting, and to allow the IC members to explain the purpose of the proposed revision within their regions.

[265] The IC:

- (105) *agreed* to discuss the proposal to revise the IC *Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure*, Rule 4, to delete the word “consecutive” and add “during their term”, so that it would read “...two meetings of the IC during their term”;
- (106) *invited* the IC members to present the proposed revision to the IC *terms of reference and Rules of Procedure* within their respective regions; and
- (107) *agreed* to revisit this topic during the IC May 2026 meeting.

[266] **IPPC Systems Approaches Global Workshop.** The secretariat presented an overview of the programme for the workshop to take place from 1 to 5 December 2025, in Santiago, Chile. The IC thanked the secretariat for the overview.

[267] The IC:

- (108) *noted* the overview of the agenda of the *IPPC Systems Approaches Global Workshop*.

18. Date and venue of the next meeting

[268] The next IC meeting will be held from 18 to 22 May 2026 at the FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.

19. Evaluation of the meeting

[269] The secretariat asked IC members to fill in the evaluation survey for the meeting.

20. Review and adoption of the decisions

[270] The IC reviewed and adopted the decisions from this meeting.

[271] The IC:

- (109) *reviewed* and *adopted* the decisions from this meeting; and
- (110) *requested* that the secretariat open an e-decision to approve the report from this meeting, following approval of the text by the rapporteur and the IC Chairperson.

21. Close of the meeting

[272] The IC chairperson and the IPPC Secretariat thanked everyone and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Agenda

	Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter	Time (Min)
1.	Opening of the Meeting			
1.1	Opening by the IPPC Secretariat		PEROTTI	10
1.2	Opening Remarks by the IC Chair		PELLETIER	10
2.	Meeting Arrangements			
2.1	Election of the Rapporteur		PELLETIER	5
2.2	Adoption of the Agenda	01_IC_2025_Nov	PELLETIER	15
3.	Administrative Matters			
3.1	Documents list	02_IC_2025_Nov	KOUMBA	5
3.2	Participants list	03_IC_2025_Nov Link to IC Membership	KOUMBA	5
3.3	Local information	Link to local information	ROYO	5
3.4	Evaluation results of the 2025 IC May meeting	04_IC_2025_Nov	KOUMBA	15
4.	General Updates			
4.1	CPM Bureau	Oral report	BRUNEL	30
4.2	Strategic Planning Group (SPG)	Oral report	BRUNEL	30
4.3	Technical Consultations among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO)	05_IC_2025_Nov	NEDILSKYJ/ CAPLEN	30
4.4	2025 IPPC Regional Workshops	06_IC_2025_Nov	RUKAVISHNIKOV/ NERSISYAN / KRAH	30
4.5	Africa Phytosanitary Program (APP)	07_IC_2025_Nov	NERSISYAN / KOUMBA/DENG	30
4.6	Activities of the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (CIHEAM) of Bari	08_IC_2025_Nov	D'ONGHIA	20
5.	IC e-decision annual summary			
5.1	2025 Summary of IC e-decisions	09_IC_2025_Nov	KOUMBA	15
6	Development Agendas			
6.1	ePhyto solution: update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	10_IC_2025_Nov	NUZZO	30
6.2	E-commerce: update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	11_IC_2025_Nov	GEUZE/ MADAMINOVA	30
6.3	Update on Pest Outbreak and Alert System (POARS): 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	12_IC_2025_Nov	ARNITIS/ BELTRAN	30
6.4	Update on the FG on Climate Change and Phytosanitary issues (FG – CCPI)	13_IC_2025_Nov	BELTRAN	30
6.5	Update on Developing guidance on the use of third-party entities: 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	14_IC_2025_Nov	PELLETIER / PARMAR	30
7.	IPPC Observatory			
7.1	IPPC Observatory: Report on the implementation of the 2025 workplan and workplan for 2026	15_IC_2025_Nov	PELLETIER/ MADAMINOVA	30
	IPPC third general survey- Concept Note	35_IC_2025_Nov		

	Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter	Time (Min)
8.	IC Teams			
8.1	Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE): update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	16_IC_2025_Nov	ARNITIS/ BELTRAN/ OMAR	30
8.2	National Reporting Obligations: update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	17_IC_2025_Nov	ABDELMOTTALEB/ KOUMBA	30
8.3	Contributed resources: update on 2025 activities	18_IC_2025_Nov	ADELMOTTALEB/ IIZUKA	30
8.4	Fusarium TR4 2025 activities and work plan for 2026 (Including the scope of the IPPC involvement in the remaining TR4 activities)	19_IC_2025_Nov	WANG/ PARMAR	30
8.5	Projects: update on 2025 activities and priority activities for 2026	20_IC_2025_Nov	KONAN/ MADAMINOVA	30
8.6	Review of implementation topics	21_IC_2025_Nov	PELLETIER / KOUMBA	20
8.7	General considerations and criteria for the IC to dissolve an IC team.	Oral report	PARMAR	20
9.	Guides and training materials			
9.1	Update on development of Guides and training materials and review of the ICD List of topics	22_IC_2025_Nov	PARMAR/ YIM	30
9.2	IC Team on Guides and training materials	Oral report	GUTIERREZ/ PARMAR	30
9.3	Plant health campus; update, use of the campus and future plan	24_IC_2025_Nov	PARMAR /YIM	30
9.4	Translation costs for IPPC implementation materials	23_IC_2025_Nov	MADAMINOVA/ PARMAR/ BRUNEL	30
10.	IPPC Call for Topics			
10.1	Update on the Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation	25_IC_2025_Nov	KOUMBA/ KRAH	30
11.	IC -SC collaboration			
11.1	IC collaboration with the Standards Committee	26_IC_2025_Nov	YIM/ ATTIPOE	30
11.2	Implementation issues identified by the SC: way to move forward	27_IC_2025_Nov	ATTIPOE/ YIM	30
11.3	Implementations issues identified by IPPC Regional Workshops 2025	28_IC_2025_Nov	KOUMBA	60
11.4	Recommendations for IPP to store guidance materials removed from revised ISPMs	Oral report	SENTINELLI / MOREIRA	20
12.	Procedure Manual for Implementation and Capacity Development			
12.1	Updated Procedure Manual for ICD- Review of proposed amendments	Procedure manual for ICD 29_IC_2025_Nov	IIZUKA	30
12.2	Scope and duration of the support and involvement of the former IC members	30_IC_2025_Nov	KOUMBA	30
13.	IC /IFU leads			
13.1	Update of the IC /IFU list of leads for Subgroups and Teams	31_IC_2025_Nov	KOUMBA	30

	Agenda Item	Document No.	Presenter	Time (Min)
13.2	Handover and onboarding of new IC members during the 2026 May meeting	Oral report	GEUZE	30
14.	IC recommendations for CPM-20 (2026)			
14.1	IC recommendations to CPM and implementation issues to be recommended for CPM-20 (2026)	32_IC_2025_Nov	PELLETIER/ KOUNBA	20
15.	IFU work plan			
15.1	Implementation and Facilitation Unit - work plan for 2026	33_IC_2025_Nov	BRUNEL	30
15.2	IFU 2026 Communications Update	34_IC_2025_Nov	TIBASAAGA/ MADAMINOVA	15
16.	Field activity			
16.1	Monumental Olive Park in Serranova (Brindisi) to observe the symptoms of <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>		CIHEAM	160
17.	Agenda items deferred to future IC meetings		PELLETIER	10
18.	Any Other Business		PELLETIER	30
19.	Date and Venue of the Next Meeting	18 – 22 May 2026, FAO HQ, Rome, Italy	KOUNBA	5
20.	Evaluation of the meeting process	Link to the survey	KOUNBA	10
21.	Review and Adoption of the Report		BRUNEL	160
22.	Close of the Meeting		PELLETIER/ BRUNEL	10

Appendix 2: List of documents

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
01_IC_2025_Nov	2.2	Meeting agenda	2025-10-16 2025-10-24 2025-10-27
02_IC_2025_Nov	3.1	Documents list	2025-10-27
03_IC_2025_Nov	3.2	Participants list	2025-10-24
04_IC_2025_Nov	3.4	Evaluation results of the 2025 IC May meeting	2025-10-24
05_IC_2025_Nov	4.3	Technical Consultations among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO)	2025-10-27
06_IC_2025_Nov	4.4	2025 IPPC Regional Workshops	2025-10-24
07_IC_2025_Nov	4.5	Africa Phytosanitary Program (APP)	2025-10-27
08_IC_2025_Nov	4.6	Activities of the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (CIHEAM) of Bari	2025-10-16
09_IC_2025_Nov	5.1	2025 Summary of IC e-decisions	2025-10-24
10_IC_2025_Nov	6.1	ePhyto solution: update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	2025-10-24
11_IC_2025_Nov	6.2	E-commerce: update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	2025-10-28
12_IC_2025_Nov	6.3	Update on Pest Outbreak and Alert System (POARS): 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	2025-10-27
13_IC_2025_Nov	6.4	Update on the FG on Climate Change and Phytosanitary issues (FG – CCPI)	2025-10-27
14_IC_2025_Nov	6.5	Update on Developing guidance on the use of third-party entities: 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	2025-10-27
15_IC_2025_Nov	7.1	IPPC Observatory: Report on the implementation of the 2025 workplan and workplan for 2026	2025-10-27
16_IC_2025_Nov	8.1	Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE): update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	2025-10-28
17_IC_2025_Nov	8.2	National Reporting Obligations: update on 2025 activities and work plan for 2026	2025-10-28
18_IC_2025_Nov	8.3	Contributed resources: update on 2025 activities	2025-10-27
19_IC_2025_Nov	8.4	Fusarium TR4 2025 activities and work plan for 2026 (Including the scope of the IPPC involvement in the remaining TR4 activities)	2025-10-28
20_IC_2025_Nov	8.5	Projects: update on 2025 activities and priority activities for 2026	2025-10-27
21_IC_2025_Nov	8.6	Review of implementation topics	2025-10-27
22_IC_2025_Nov	9.1	Update on development of Guides and training materials and review of the ICD List of topics	2025-10-28
24_IC_2025_Nov	9.3	Plant health campus; update, use of the campus and future plan	2025-10-28
23_IC_2025_Nov	9.4	Translation costs for IPPC implementation materials	2025-11-03

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
25_IC_2025_Nov	10.1	Preparation for the 2025 Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation	2025-10-24
26_IC_2025_Nov	11.1	IC collaboration with the Standards Committee	2025-10-27
27_IC_2025_Nov	11.2	Implementation issues identified by the SC: way to move forward	2025-10-27
28_IC_2025_Nov	11.3	Implementations issues identified by IPPC Regional Workshops 2025	2025-10-24
29_IC_2025_Nov	12.1	Updated Procedure Manual for ICD- Review of proposed amendments	2025-10-27
30_IC_2025_Nov	12.2	Scope and duration of the support and involvement of the former IC members	2025-10-24
31_IC_2025_Nov	13.1	Update of the IC /IFU list of leads for Subgroups and Teams	2025-10-24
32_IC_2025_Nov	14.1	IC recommendations to CPM and implementation issues to be recommended for CPM-20 (2026)	2025-10-28
33_IC_2025_Nov	15.1	Implementation and Facilitation Unit - work plan for 2026	2025-10-27
34_IC_2025_Nov	15.2	IFU 2025 Communications Update	2025-10-28

Appendix 3: List of participants

Region/Role	Name, mailing, address, telephone	Email address
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Appendix 4: Table of the IC e-decisions opened from November 2024 to October 2025

Below are the summarized outcomes of the 2025 IC e-decisions in chronological order:

1. 2025_eIC_May 01: Opportunity to develop two additional e-learning courses under the Plant health officer curricula (2017-054)

The forum was open from 15 to 29 January 2025.

Ten (10) IC members provided comments during the e-decision period.

All IC members expressed support for the proposal to develop the two additional e-learning courses.

Several members emphasized the importance of:

- 1) Making the wood packaging course accessible and engaging for stakeholders beyond NPPOs, such as exporters and the transport industry.
- 2) Including private sector perspectives in the market access course.
- 3) Ensuring the courses are open and widely accessible to raise awareness.

The IC:

- *agreed* that the IPPC Secretariat should enter into an agreement with the FAO eLearning Academy to develop an e-learning course based on the IPPC Wood Packaging Material Guide, using available project funds; and
- *agreed* that the IPPC Secretariat should enter into an agreement with the FAO eLearning Academy to develop an e-learning course based on the IPPC Market Access Guide, using available project funds.

2. 2025_eIC_Nov 01: Implementations issues identified by the Standards Committee

The e-forum was open from 12 June to 4 July 2025.

Five (5) IC members provided comments during the e-decision period.

IC members contributed with detailed comments and suggestions:

a) Draft annex on *Mangifera indica* fruit (ISPM 46)

Concern: The pest list may be misused to justify unjustified phytosanitary measures, especially by countries lacking capacity for proper Pest Risk Analysis (PRA).

Suggestions:

- 1) Clarify that inclusion of pests should be based on PRA.
- 2) Consider revising ISPM 46 to emphasize the requirement for PRA.
- 3) Explore organizing a future international workshop (e.g. in 2027) to address fundamental concerns about commodity standards.

b) Draft annex on systems approaches for wood (ISPM 39)

Concerns and Suggestions:

Wood-chip piles: Need for clearer guidance due to uneven heat distribution.

Suggested consulting bodies like IFQRG or EPPO to develop a guide.

Record-keeping and traceability: Challenges due to long production cycles. Proposed forming a team to develop pragmatic guidance on traceability.

Moisture content parameters: Lack of international guidance for kiln-drying and irradiation.

Suggestions:

Clarifying specific needs from contracting parties that inclusion of pests should be based on PRA.
Consulting IFQRG or TPPT.
Developing short, focused implementation materials (e.g., pamphlets).

c) General Recommendations

- 1) Wait for more experience with systems approaches in wood before developing materials.
- 2) Consider bilateral agreements for traceability requirements.
- 3) Encourage NPPOs or RPPOs to raise specific needs during calls for topics.

The IC:

- 1) *acknowledged* the implementation concerns raised;
- 2) *agreed* to consider developing targeted implementation materials (e.g. guides, short documents);
- 3) *recommended* further consultation with relevant expert bodies and stakeholders; and
- 4) *proposed* future workshops to address systemic issues in commodity standards and systems approaches.

Appendix 5: IPPC ePhyto Solution workplan for 2026 (key milestones of the ePhyto SIP 2024–2030)

Core elements & related strategic objectives (numbered from 1 to 9 in the SIP)	Key milestones 2026
Governance 1. Stable governance mechanism 4. Monitoring and reporting on the performance of the Solution 5. Monitoring and reporting on financial management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report presented to CPM Updates presented to Bureau, SPG and IC as necessary ESG monthly meetings, and proposal for restructuring IAG annual meeting
Finance 3. Implementation of an ePhyto Sustainable funding mechanism 5. Monitoring and reporting on financial management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the funds collected from users of the Solution, FAO and donors Detailed financial report presented to the financial committee Proposal for the updated fees, improved by the increased adoption
Operations 2. Stable operation and enhancement of the hub and GeNS to permit implementation by contracting parties 7. Investigation on possible inclusion of other databases into the ePhyto hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the quality and security of the services, meeting availability and performances targets as per the agreement with the technical provider Support users in the optimal use of the ePhyto Solution, collecting and analysing feedback and providing where applicable instructions or advises for the resolution Additionally, and pending the availability of funds and CPM approvals, develop enhancements such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mixed Commodities support in the ePhyto Harmonization of Additional declarations Embedded reporting system in the GeNS
Country implementation 6. Support to countries to implement the ePhyto hub and the GeNS 8. Cooperation with international and regional partners for country implementation and to advance interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 new countries boarded and exchanging live with their national system or GeNS Regional webinars on ePhyto organized ePhyto implementation package Development of the updated eLearning courses on the GeNS and the adoption of ePhyto translated in relevant languages Continued support to countries
International cooperation 8. Cooperation with international and regional partners for country implementation and to advance interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating in other regional or international partners workshops/ meetings as necessary (e.g. WTO) Collaborate on completing interoperability design and implementation with WCO and UNCTAD around single windows and customs systems Collaborate with IICA (and related organizations such as WOA) for the eVet certification, to explore reuse patterns and create additional costs savings and enlarged sustainability models
Communication 9. Communication and advocacy strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 2 IPPC/IAG informational webinars held At least 10 contents published, including regular updates, case stories, booklets

Appendix 6: Recommendations from the draft IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce

RECOMMENDATIONS

The IPPC Observatory is a crucial system that monitors the implementation of the IPPC, its international standards for phytosanitary measures, and recommendations of the CPM. It plays a vital role in helping NPPOs identify challenges and best practices in implementing these measures, ultimately contributing to the creation of strategies and capacity and implementation resources to support NPPOs.

The objective of this *IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce* is to understand the extent to which the CPM recommendation on internet trade has been implemented by IPPC Contracting Parties and to provide baseline data to understand whether the desired outcomes specified in the DAI have been reached.

GLOBAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Three general recommendations are derived from the analysis of data and invite the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) to support NPPOs at the global level. While these recommendations stem from the *IPPC Observatory E-commerce Study*, their relevance extends beyond e-commerce and small parcels moving through postal and courier pathways. Therefore, they hold broader implications for strengthening national phytosanitary systems at the global level and improving border management. Addressing these recommendations is expected to enhance the regulation of online trade and contribute to the development of a more robust and efficient phytosanitary import system at national, regional, and global levels.

1. Global recommendation 1: Increase awareness of key IPPC e-commerce resources

The IPPC has developed a guide, recommendations, and an infographic video, along with a centralised hub that provides access to multiple resources designed to assist contracting parties and other stakeholders in tackling the phytosanitary challenges posed by e-commerce trade. However, findings from this study reveal gaps in awareness regarding some key support documents such as *CPM R-05* and the *E-Commerce Guide*. These gaps highlight the need for IPPC Secretariat to continue with outreach efforts and encouraging greater engagement with these essential tools.

To improve awareness and encourage greater engagement with IPPC study documents relevant to e-commerce trade, the following actions could be considered:

- **Expanding accessibility through multilingual translations:** The E-commerce Guide is currently available in English and Spanish. Translating it into additional FAO languages (Arabic, Russian, and Chinese) would improve accessibility for contracting parties with different linguistic profiles. Ideally, future IPPC e-commerce resources should be published simultaneously in all FAO official languages to promote inclusivity and equal access from the outset as is done with the managing e-commerce pest risk video on the dedicate IPPC e-commerce website.
- **Further integration into IPPC regional workshop agendas and other relevant IPPC events:** Continuing to raise awareness about available IPPC e-commerce resources will promote use of these key resources among NPPO staff.

2. Global recommendation 2: Encourage enhanced interagency collaboration on border risk management

As e-commerce continues to grow, strengthening collaboration between customs, postal services, and other border agencies is crucial for effectively managing phytosanitary risks. Survey findings reveal gaps in mechanisms that facilitate direct communication and coordination between these agencies, highlighting the need for enhanced interagency cooperation. To address these challenges, the IPPC could consider implementing initiatives aimed at encouraging greater cooperation between customs, postal services, and other border agencies. For example, the IPPC could develop targeted documents or online training modules focused on fostering interagency collaboration, while also sharing success stories from contracting parties to demonstrate how challenges were overcome and showcase effective strategies for building stronger cooperation.

3. Global recommendation 3: Enhance technical support on strengthening border risk management

With the rapid growth of e-commerce, effective phytosanitary border risk management is more critical than ever. Study findings reveal significant gaps in risk profiling and inspection of high-risk small parcels, with all regions scoring below 61% on the at-border risk management indicator. Given the complexity of at-border risk management and the multiple entities involved, NPPOs are encouraged to assess existing mechanisms in their geographic areas, and if necessary, pinpoint priority areas for improvement and create action plans to address key gaps. IPPC resources could play a pivotal role in supporting the efforts of NPPOs by enhancing and disseminating technical guidance on risk profiling methods detailed in the *E-commerce Guide*. For example, the IPPC could undertake an activity to review all its capacity-building and implementation support resources specific to inspections (e.g., e-learning courses, the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation process) to assess the extent to which they address aspects specific to dealing with high-risk small parcels, update these resources accordingly if needed, and reshare.

REGION-SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The regional disaggregation of indicators also offered valuable insights into areas that may require heightened regional focus to strengthen phytosanitary risk management in response to the challenges posed by e-commerce (Table 1). While not conclusive and exhaustive, these study insights highlight opportunities for targeted interventions either by national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) and regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) to enhance compliance, enforcement, and monitoring mechanisms at the regional level.

Table 1. Potential areas of regional focus on e-commerce capacity-building

Region	Potential area of focus
Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory and non-regulatory frameworks • At border risk management • Public awareness campaigns • Accessibility of lists or lists or databases of prohibited and regulated articles
Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and implementation of advance information sharing systems
Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At border risk management • Public awareness campaigns • Accessibility of lists or lists or databases of prohibited and regulated articles

Latin America and Caribbean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At border risk management • Public awareness campaigns • Capacity building for key e-commerce stakeholders
Near East and North Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At border risk management • Public awareness campaigns • Comprehensiveness of e-commerce governance frameworks
North America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training workshops or sessions to build capacity
South West Pacific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility of lists or lists or databases of prohibited and regulated articles

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IPPC CONTRACTING PARTIES

Survey respondents also emphasised several national-level recommendations to support NPPOs in addressing ongoing challenges in managing phytosanitary risks in e-commerce trade. These recommendations of support relate to: (i) updating of phytosanitary legislation, (ii) capacity building and training of NPPO staff, (iii) enhanced awareness campaign, (iv) improving data sharing, and (v) technical and financial support.

1. Updating phytosanitary legislation

Survey respondents called on the IPPC to assist countries in updating outdated phytosanitary legislation to align with modern e-commerce realities. A number of countries also pointed out the lack of harmonised international standards for managing pest risks associated with e-commerce, underscoring the importance of global cooperation in developing and implementing standardised regulations.

2. Capacity building and training of NPPO staff

Survey respondents expressed a strong need for training programs aimed at NPPO staff, inspectors, and stakeholders at both national and regional levels. Many NPPOs reported limitations in technical capacity related to non-intrusive inspection mechanisms. These gaps in training and resources were seen as barriers to the effective implementation of phytosanitary measures.

3. Enhanced awareness campaign

There was a clear call for enhanced awareness campaigns targeting e-commerce companies, customs officials, and the public. Several respondents suggested the development of harmonized awareness materials for NPPOs to use and improving communication channels between NPPOs and stakeholders to ensure better compliance with phytosanitary regulations.

4. Improving data sharing

The theme of data access and information sharing emerged as a critical area for improvement. Many NPPOs reported lacking direct access to customs and courier data related to plant-related parcels, which is essential for effective risk assessment. Respondents proposed the creation of a shared international database for

phytosanitary interceptions and improving data-sharing mechanisms to streamline the process and enhance compliance monitoring.

5. Technical and financial assistance

Several countries also requested support from the IPPC, particularly in the form of technical and financial assistance. The most common requests included help with implementing electronic certification systems (ePhyto), reforming phytosanitary legislation, and acquiring inspection tools and systems.

Appendix 7: IPPC Secretariat e-commerce strategic roadmap phase 2 (2026–2030)

Development Agenda Item: Management of E-commerce and Postal and Courier Pathways

Strategic Context: Building on Phase 1 (2021-2025) achievements, Phase 2 will translate the 2025 IPPC Observatory on E-commerce study recommendations into actions (2026-2030).

Funding and resources: The roadmap outlines activities requiring funding for implementation, which are **bolded and underlined**, while those not bolded and underlined are expected to be deliverable using existing IPPC resources and capacities.

The overarching implementation plan for the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 Development Agenda Items mentions that if phase 2 were to go ahead with a similar size of work programme, CPM could anticipate costs of approximately USD120,000 per annum.⁴⁶

YEAR	FOCUS AREA	MAIN ACTIVITY	KEY DELIVERABLES	RESPONSIBLE	COMMENTS
2026	Finalizing Phase 2 design and establishing coordination mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present the final IPPC Observatory E-commerce study report to CPM-20 CPM-20 approval for Phase 2 programme & budget Publish updated investment prospectus flyer <u>Initiate Arabic, Russian, and Chinese translations of E-commerce Guide</u> Improve IPP E-commerce page accessibility Conduct gap analysis of existing IPPC materials on e-commerce and relevant ISPMs Integrate e-commerce content into Regional Workshops and TC-RPPOs Maintain the IC Team on E-commerce as governance mechanism <u>Conduct stakeholder mapping</u> <u>Develop communication campaign on CPM R-05 & E-commerce Guide***</u> Enhance collaboration with UPU, WCO, ISF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 2 roadmap approved Investment prospectus flyer published <u>Multilingual guides in progress (publication to be finalised in 2027)</u> Improved accessibility Gap analysis completed and analysis presented and approved IC Team on E-commerce mandated <u>Stakeholder mapping produced and approved</u> <u>Communication strategy developed and approved</u> Collaboration with UPU, WCO, ISF continued and strengthened 	IPPC Secretariat/ IC/ IC Team on E-commerce	

⁴⁶ IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 Development Agenda Items Overarching Implementation Plan, page 18. <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/91889/>

YEAR	FOCUS AREA	MAIN ACTIVITY	KEY DELIVERABLES	RESPONSIBLE	COMMENTS
2027	Capacity Building & Technical Resource Development: Strengthening NPPO capabilities and border risk management systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Study on good examples of legislative frameworks</u> • <u>Develop technical guidance for data sharing and communication between NPPOs, customs, courier services</u> • <u>Create awareness materials for NPPOs targeting e-commerce platforms, buyers, and sellers</u> <p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Continue implementing targeted communication campaign</u> • Maintain engagement with UPU Postal security group/ Illicit Goods Mitigation Expert Team and WCO e-commerce working group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Study on good examples of legislative frameworks finalized</u> • <u>Guidance developed and shared with NPPOs</u> • <u>Awareness raising materials disseminated and relevant stakeholders engaged</u> <p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Communication campaign implemented</u> • Continuous engagement with UPU Postal security group/ Illicit Goods Mitigation Expert Team and WCO e-commerce working group 	IPPC Secretariat/ IC/ IC Team on E-commerce	
2028	Capacity Building & Technical Resource Development: regional and national levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Develop an e-learning course on the basis of the gap analysis IPPC e-commerce materials (also including modules on interagency collaboration, updating legislation etc)</u> • <u>Produce case study compilation showcasing successful interagency collaboration, border risk management, up to date legislation, and Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)</u> • <u>Prepare for the launch of the 2nd phase of the IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce – finetune methodology and questionnaire from the 1st study (2024)</u> <p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Continue implementing targeted communication campaign</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>New e-learning course developed to address any potential gaps from the analysis</u> • <u>Case study compilation is developed and published</u> • <u>Methodology of the IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce (2024) and the survey questionnaire reviewed, finetuned.</u> <p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Communication campaign implemented</u> • Continuous engagement with UPU Postal security group/ Illicit Goods Mitigation Expert Team and WCO e-commerce working group 	IPPC Secretariat/ IC/ IC Team on E-commerce Coordinated with RPPOs	

YEAR	FOCUS AREA	MAIN ACTIVITY	KEY DELIVERABLES	RESPONSIBLE	COMMENTS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain engagement with UPU Postal security group/ Illicit Goods Mitigation Expert Team and WCO e-commerce working group 			
2029	Continued awareness raising and preparations for the second phase of the IPPC Study on E-commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue disseminating and awareness raising for the IPPC e-commerce related materials <u>Launch the 2nd IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce</u> <u>Analyze results, compare the data of 2024 vs 2029 studies, measure impact as per the IPPC SF DAI implementation plan and the roadmap for phase 2</u> <p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Continue implementing targeted communication campaign</u> Maintain engagement with UPU Postal security group/ Illicit Goods Mitigation Expert Team and WCO e-commerce working group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The second IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce launched, responses gathered, and results analyzed</u> <p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Communication campaign implemented</u> Continuous engagement with UPU Postal security group/ Illicit Goods Mitigation Expert Team and WCO e-commerce working group 	IPPC Secretariat/ IC/ IC Team on E-commerce Coordinated with RPPOs	
2030	Impact evaluation and future planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Finalize the IPPC Observatory Study report, disseminate the results and recommendations.</u> <u>Prepare evaluation report to be presented to CPM-25</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The second IPPC Observatory Study on E-commerce Study report produced and published.</u> 	IPPC Secretariat/ IC/ IC Team on E-commerce Coordinated with RPPOs	

Appendix 8: 2026 workplan for development of new IPPC guides***Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions (2018-040) and
Audit in the phytosanitary context (2021-009)***

- Launch call for experts for working group to draft *Audit in the phytosanitary context* - November 2025
 - Call closing - 16 January 2026
 - IC to make e-decision on experts by early February 2026
 - First virtual meeting of WG - March 2026
 - Initial draft - June 2026
 - Face-to-face meeting (Tentative) - July 2026
 - Launch call for experts for working group to draft *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* - June/July 2026 (once an initial draft on audit guide is available)
 - Call closing - August 2026
 - IC to make e-decision on experts - end of September 2026
 - First virtual meeting - October 2026
 - First draft - March 2027
 - Tentative face-to-face meeting - April 2027
-

Appendix 9: IPPC Observatory 2025 workplan

*** Subject to availability of financial resources

Green – completed

Red – paused

Activities and sub-activities	Outputs	Lead/Responsible	Comments
Work package I: Oversee the IPPC Observatory studies and surveys			
1. Conduct studies on priority topics contributing to the review of implementation of the IPPC, ISPMs and CPM Recommendations			Completed
1.1. One priority 1 topics per year to provide cross-cutting support to IPPC core activities are conducted***	One study published, and communication activities undertaken as appropriate	IPPC Secretariat, consultants, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
2. Study on E-Commerce (2021-01, Priority 1)			Completed
			NOTE: minor work remaining with the publication of the study report.
2.1. Review the results of the IPPC Observatory Study survey on E-Commerce	Results reviewed	IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory, IC Team on E-Commerce	Completed
2.2. Analyse the results of the IPPC Observatory Study survey on E-Commerce	Results analysed	IPPC Secretariat, survey specialist, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Completed
2.3. Finalise the report/study, prepare for publication, and publish through FAO PWS	Study published	IPPC Secretariat, survey specialist	<i>In progress, with a tentative publication in 2026 for CPM</i>
2.4. Present the updates on the IPPC Observatory Study on E-Commerce at CPM-19	CPM paper developed	IPPC Secretariat, survey specialist, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Completed
3. Survey on Antimicrobial resistance			Ongoing
3.1. Conduct the third phase on fungicides of the AMR survey	Survey launched	PPC Secretariat, consultants	Completed
3.2. Finalize a report of the two phases of the AMR survey, prepare for publication, and publish through FAO PWS	AMR survey published	PPC Secretariat, consultants, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	<i>IPPC Secretariat is in coordination with NSP team on AMR for drafting and publication. Tentatively the publication is scheduled to 2026 Q2/3</i>
3.3. Present the outcomes of the AMR survey at the CPM-19	CPM paper developed	PPC Secretariat, consultants, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Completed

Activities and sub-activities	Outputs	Lead/Responsible	Comments
4. Formulate a new project on IPPC Observatory operationalization			<i>Discussions with the donor are ongoing</i>
4.1. Coordinate with the EU to mobilise resources for a new project	Project submitted	IPPC Secretariat	
4.2. Include the priority 1 topics in the EU project proposal	Project document finalized	IPPC Secretariat	
Work package II: Contribute to the monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL)			
1. Conduct the third IPPC General Survey (2018-54, Priority 1)***			<i>Ongoing – resources secured (USD 90 000 by the Republic of Korea)</i>
1.1. Hire a survey specialist to work on the third general survey based on the outcomes of the comparative analysis report of the first and second general surveys	Third IPPC General Survey CN prepared	IPPC Secretariat / Survey specialist	<i>Completed</i>
1.2. Review the proposed questionnaire of the survey by the IPPC Secretariat	Questionnaire reviewed	IPPC Secretariat / Survey specialist	
1.3. Review the reworked questionnaire of the survey by the IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Questionnaire reviewed	IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
1.4. Conduct the third general survey	Report of the survey	Survey specialist /Phytosanitary expert	
1.5. Review the results of the survey by the Subgroup	Results reviewed	IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
1.6. Analyse the results of the survey and consult with IC, SC and Bureau	Results of studies reviewed	IC, SC and Bureau	
1.7. Finalize the report of the Third General Survey, prepare for publication, and publish through FAO PWS to be published	The results and recommendations of the Third general survey posted	IPPC Secretariat	
Work package III: Conduct mid-term evaluation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030			
1. Conduct the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Framework 2020-2030 (2018-52, Priority 1)***			<i>No resources were secured for this activity. The CPM-19 (2025) proposed to conduct this assessment as a final evaluation, tentatively in 2027. Estimated cost: USD 53 250</i>
1.1. Hire a survey/monitoring & evaluation specialist(s)	The specialist is hired	IPPC Secretariat	
1.2. Develop a methodology for the mid-term evaluation and a baseline data to assess impact and progress of the SF 2020-2030	Methodology and baseline data are developed	IPPC Secretariat and the DAI leads /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory/	

Activities and sub-activities	Outputs	Lead/Responsible	Comments
1.3. Develop a matrix table to monitor the impacts of the 8 DAI of and record/report benefits of the SF 2020-2030	Matrix table is developed	IPPC Secretariat and the DAI leads /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
1.4. Prepare, finalise and publish a report	Report is prepared and published	IPPC Secretariat/Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
Work package IV: Coordination of the Subgroup on IPPC Observatory meetings, reporting and updating the workplan			
1. Prepare and coordinate the meetings of the Subgroup on IPPC Observatory			Completed
1.1. Organize the first virtual meeting of the Subgroup	Report of the meeting first virtual meeting prepared	IPPC Secretariat /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Completed
1.2. Organize the second virtual meeting of the Subgroup	Report of the meeting second virtual meeting prepared	IPPC Secretariat /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Completed
1.3. Organize the third virtual meeting of the Subgroup	Report of the meeting third virtual meeting prepared	IPPC Secretariat /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	To be completed in December 2025
Work package V: Update IPPC Observatory List of Topics			
1. Launch Call for new IPPC Observatory Topics and update the IPPC Observatory list of topics			Completed <i>NOTE: prior to launching the call for topics, the IPPC Observatory list of topics was reviewed and updated. The update had been implemented in the on the IPP.</i>
1.1. Launch the Call for new IPPC Observatory Topics together with the 2025 IPPC Call for Topics: standards and implementation	Call launched	IPPC Secretariat	Completed
1.2. Compile the submitted IPPC Observatory topics	Submissions and list of IPPC Observatory topics updated	IPPC Secretariat	Ongoing
1.3. Review the updated List of IPPC Observatory topics	List of IPPC Observatory topics reviewed	Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Ongoing
1.4. Submit the updated List of IPPC Observatory topics to the IC for approval	List of IPPC Observatory topics approved	IPPC Secretariat	Ongoing
1.5. Inform the SC, RPPOs, Bureau and RPPOs	List of IPPC Observatory topics shared	Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Ongoing
1.6. Update the list of IPPC Observatory topics on the IPP	List of IPPC Observatory topics posted	IPPC Secretariat	Ongoing
Work package VI: Improvement of IPPC Observatory sustainability			
1. Undertake resource mobilisation activities for IPPC Observatory sustainability	Resources secured for the IPPC Observatory activities	IPPC Secretariat, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Completed

Activities and sub-activities	Outputs	Lead/Responsible	Comments
2. Develop IPPC Observatory 2026 workplan	IPPC Observatory workplan for 2026 developed	IPPC Secretariat, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	<i>Completed</i>
Work package 0 (crosscutting): Communication			
1. Undertake communication activities to promote IPPC Observatory work and outputs across all activities			<i>Completed</i>
1.1. Plan and undertake communication activities	IPPC Observatory activities and outputs are efficiently promoted	IPPC Secretariat	<i>Completed</i>

Appendix 10: IPPC Observatory 2026 workplan

*** Subject to availability of financial resources. A new work package could be added subject to availability of financial resources and the request of the IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory.

Activities and sub-activities	Outputs	Lead/Responsible	Comments
Work package I: IPPC - monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL)			
1. Conduct the Third IPPC General Survey (2018-54, Priority 1)			<i>Ongoing – resources secured (USD 90 000 by the Republic of Korea)</i>
1.1. Hire a survey specialist to work on the development of the third general survey questionnaire	Third IPPC General Survey questionnaire prepared	IPPC Secretariat / Survey specialist	
1.2. Review the draft questionnaire of the survey by the IPPC Secretariat, the IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory, and the IC	Questionnaire reviewed	IPPC Secretariat / Survey specialist/ IC Subgroup on the IPPC OBS, the IC	
1.3. Pre-test the survey questionnaire of the survey by the IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Questionnaire pre-tested	IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory and the IC	
1.4. Launch and promote the Third IPPC General Survey	The Third IPPC General Survey is launched, communication plan is developed and implemented to promote the survey	IPPC Secretariat	
1.5. Clean, verify, and analyse the responses to the Third IPPC General Survey	Data managed, verified, if necessary	IPPC Secretariat/ Survey specialist	
1.6. Review the results of the Third IPPC General Survey by the IC Subgroup	Results reviewed	IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
1.7. Present the updates on the Third IPPC General Survey to the relevant subsidiary bodies and to the CPM-21 (2027)	Meeting paper developed, presentation made	IPPC Secretariat	
1.8. Finalize the report of the Third General Survey, prepare for publication, and publish through FAO PWS to be published	The results and recommendations of the Third general survey posted	IPPC Secretariat	
Work package II: Final review and evaluation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030			
2. Validate terms of reference for the final evaluation of the Strategic Framework 2020-2030 (2018-52, Priority 1)			Estimated cost: USD 60 000 – 70 000 (not available)
2.1. Present the revised terms of reference for the final evaluation of the Strategic Framework 2020-2030 to the relevant CPM subgroups and the CPM-20 (2026)	Terms of reference validated	IPPC Secretariat	

Activities and sub-activities	Outputs	Lead/Responsible	Comments
2.2. Mobilise resources to conduct the final evaluation of the Strategic Framework 2020-2030	Needed funds are secured - USD 60 000 – 70 000	IPPC Secretariat	
Work package III: Improvement of IPPC Observatory sustainability			
3. Mobilise resources for IPPC Observatory sustainability			
3.1. Undertake resource mobilisation activities for IPPC Observatory sustainability	Resources secured for the IPPC Observatory activities	IPPC Secretariat, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
3.2. Formulate a new project on IPPC Observatory operationalization	Project developed and submitted to the donor	IPPC Secretariat	
3.3. Develop IPPC Observatory 2027 workplan	IPPC Observatory workplan for 2027 developed	IPPC Secretariat, Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
Work package IV: Update IPPC Observatory List of Topics			
4. Call for new IPPC Observatory Topics and update the IPPC Observatory list of topics			
4.1. Compile the submitted IPPC Observatory topics	Submissions and list of IPPC Observatory topics updated	IPPC Secretariat	
4.2. Review the updated List of IPPC Observatory topics	List of IPPC Observatory topics reviewed	Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
4.3. Submit the updated List of IPPC Observatory topics to the IC for approval	List of IPPC Observatory topics approved	IPPC Secretariat	
4.4. Inform the SC, RPPOs, Bureau and RPPOs	List of IPPC Observatory topics shared	Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
4.5. Update the list of IPPC Observatory topics on the IPP	List of IPPC Observatory topics posted	IPPC Secretariat	
Work package V: Coordination of the Subgroup on IPPC Observatory meetings, reporting and updating the workplan			
5. Prepare and coordinate the meetings of the Subgroup on IPPC Observatory			
5.1. Organize the first virtual meeting of the Subgroup	Report of the meeting first virtual meeting prepared	IPPC Secretariat /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
5.2. Organize the second virtual meeting of the Subgroup	Report of the meeting second virtual meeting prepared	IPPC Secretariat /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
5.3. Organize the third virtual meeting of the Subgroup	Report of the meeting third virtual meeting prepared	IPPC Secretariat /Subgroup on IPPC Observatory	
Work package 0 (crosscutting): Communication			
6. Undertake communication activities to promote IPPC Observatory work and outputs across all activities			
6.1. Plan and undertake communication activities	IPPC Observatory activities and outputs are efficiently promoted	IPPC Secretariat	

Appendix 11: Terms of reference for the final review and evaluation of the IPPC Strategic Framework development agenda items

1. Purpose and Objectives

The evaluation aims to:

- 1) Assess the relevance, progress, and effectiveness of the DAIs against the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 objectives.
- 2) Identify factors influencing progress or limited implementation.
- 3) Provide actionable recommendations for strengthening implementation, adaptability, and sustainability.
- 4) Support evidence-based decision-making and strategic alignment of the DAIs.

2. Evaluation Principles

- 1) **Modularity:** Evaluation components will vary by implementation progress for each DAI.
- 2) **Scalability:** Evaluation depth and scope will align with each DAI's complexity and progress.
- 3) **Adaptability:** Evaluation criteria and tools will be tailored based on available data and context.
- 4) **Participation:** Stakeholders will be engaged throughout to ensure relevance and ownership.
- 5) **Equity, inclusivity and ethics:** The evaluation will promote inclusive participation and uphold ethical standards, ensuring fair representation across genders, regions, institutions, and stakeholder groups, while safeguarding confidentiality and informed consent.

3. Evaluation Framework The evaluation will apply a tiered framework aligned with the stage of each DAI:

Tier	DAI stage of implementation	Focus areas
1	Concept phase – pre-implementation	Relevance, theory of change/ overall implementation plan, stakeholder engagement
2	Early implementation	Theory of change/ overall implementation plan, progress, process efficiency, institutional support
3	Advanced implementation	Theory of change/ overall implementation plan, outcomes, sustainability, potential impact

4. Each DAI will be evaluated using core criteria applicable to all tiers, and optional criteria based on the level of progress in terms of implementation:

- 1) **Core criteria:** relevance, alignment with IPPC and the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030, stakeholder engagement
- 2) **Optional criteria:** efficiency, sustainability, long-term impact

Note: the core criteria will be applied to all DAIs, whereas the optional criteria will be selected based on the DAI's stage of implementation and in consultation with key stakeholders to ensure contextual relevance.

5. Evaluation Phases and Activities

i. Planning Phase

- 1) Define DAI-specific evaluation scope and objectives.
- 2) Classify each DAI by the level of progress in terms of implementation.
- 3) Adapt evaluation questions and criteria accordingly.

- 4) Identify key stakeholders and assemble evaluation team.
- 5) Design appropriate data collection strategies.

ii. Data Collection Phase

- 1) Conduct desk review of DAI-related documents, reports, and plans.
- 2) Gather quantitative data on progress indicators where available.
- 3) Conduct interviews with governing body leads, IPPC secretariat staff, partners, and NPPOs, RPPOs, and stakeholders.
- 4) Organize focus groups for selected DAIs, as needed.

Note: the evaluation will apply mixed-method approaches, including both qualitative and quantitative techniques, as appropriate to each DAI.

iii. Data Analysis Phase

- 1) Analyse quantitative data to assess implementation efficiency and outputs.
- 2) Synthesize qualitative insights from interviews and focus groups.
- 3) Evaluate adaptability, relevance, and sustainability.
- 4) Draw cross-cutting findings and comparative insights.

iv. Reporting Phase

- 1) Develop tailored evaluation outputs:
 - a. Brief summaries for Tier 1 DAIs
 - b. Standard reports for Tier 2 and 3 DAIs
- 2) Include executive summaries and infographics for accessibility.
- 3) Share preliminary findings with stakeholders for validation.
- 4) Compile and finalise report incorporating feedback.

v. Dissemination and Follow-up

- 1) Present findings to stakeholders in appropriate forums. Findings will aid and inform priority setting, resource allocation and the design of future DAIs.
- 2) Write the evaluation report.
- 3) Develop a follow-up action plan with lessons learned and best practices to feed the development of the next IPPC strategic framework beyond 2030.

Appendix 12: Updated roadmap 2026–2027 to improve the PCE based on the desk study recommendations

The roadmap is grounded in 22 recommendations generated by the independent desk study conducted in 2023. This appendix lists the original recommendations, followed by a detailed table that shows how each one has been addressed: what has been completed, what is ongoing, and what remains pending.

Desk-study recommendations (2023) :

- 1 Explain the benefits of PCE for capacity development.
- 2 Clarifying the intended audience/users of the PCE, determining the best use of PCE for developing vs developed countries.
- 3 Communicate the value added by the PCE.
- 4 Consider sharing tangible results via tracked indicators.
- 5 Consider approaches for increasing buy-in from existing and potential donors, governments, and trading partners. For example, through publication of a database of PCE results; by involving donors in the early stages of PCE; and developing detailed findings reports that connect to the values of local governments.
- 6 Share additional information about the modules, processes, approaches, and questions to enhance accessibility and benefits.
- 7 Explain the role and value of facilitators.
- 8 Clarify that facilitators are there to help navigate the process, not as examiners
- 9 Clarify where facilitators come from and how they can be matched with countries culturally and linguistically
- 10 Provide more transparency around the costs of the PCE, including where the funding comes from, how it will be used, and the tangible outcomes related to the expenses
- 11 Update the online system and platform.
- 12 Modernize and update tools and templates
- 13 Convene facilitators to review all modules and questionnaires in order to update, clarify, and streamline the modules.
- 14 Consider alternative formats of PCE (financial commitment, extensiveness of modules, length of process, inclusion of facilitators) to increase access and uptake.
- 15 Consider including a comprehensive training session for key NPPO staff and stakeholders prior to starting the PCE process. Develop criteria and requirements for selecting national PCE coordinators
- 16 Devise a mechanism for providing additional support to NPPOs after the development of final outputs. Particularly consider supporting NPPOs with linking to and finding sources of funding.
- 17 Review training for facilitators.
- 18 Consider opportunities for improvement in training on strategic planning tools and soft skills (conflict mediation, facilitation skills, consensus-building approaches).
- 19 Consider increasing opportunities for facilitators and coordinators to meet and share best practices.
- 20 Establish a community of practice for facilitators to exchange ideas and best practices.
- 21 Consider the role of facilitators and the format of the PCE for countries with mature phytosanitary systems.
- 22 Establish feedback mechanisms.

Table: Tracking of PCE Improvement Roadmap Implementation and Next Steps

Colour legend (for ease of interpretation):

- Green: activity completed and continuing, with funding or Secretariat staff time secured for 2026–2027.
 - Grey: activity completed and closed, with no continuation planned.
-

- Red: activity requires new funding to start or continue in 2026–2027.

Key result area	Activity	Status	Implementation status	Continuation status	Funding source/requirement	Timeline
<p>KRA1: Awareness and understanding</p> <p>Countries, donors, and development organizations are aware of the PCE and understand the benefits arising from its application.</p> <p>Recommendations 1-9</p>	Update the PCE webpage with relevant info & scope of each module (crosscutting to recommendations 1-9).	Completed	PCE webpage updated before CPM-18 and CPM-19. Previously funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	Recurrent (requires annual refresh)	Staff time (IPPC RB or MDTF)	Annual Q1
	Conduct an SPS gap analysis of National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategies (recommendations 4, 5).	Completed	Study published (Oct 2025). Previously funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	No	N/A	N/A
	Publication of an analytical study based on PCE results in Africa (PCE thinking study)	Completed	Regional analysis + impact modeling study disseminated	No	N/A	N/A
	Develop PCE communication plan (recommendations 3, 7, 8, 9).	Completed	Communication strategy updated; promotional video produced (May 2025)	Recurrent (requires annual refresh)	Staff time (IPPC RB or MDTF)	Annual Q1
	Development of donor-ready proposals.	Completed	Proposals prepared for COMESA countries. Previously funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	Continue with new PCEs initiated	Funding required	Annual Q3
	Showcase a hypothetical example output from a PCE publicly available (requested by the Bureau).	Pending	To be started	Continue	Funding required	2027 Q1
	<p>KRA2: Sustainable funding</p> <p>Long-term sustainable funding is in place to support the maintenance and administration of the PCE, and resources are mobilized to</p>	Share the PCE cost structure information with IPPC governing bodies (Recommendation 10).	Completed	Costs shared with IC and Bureau, SPG, and CPM-19.	Continue with information on costs to be posted on the IPP	Staff time (IPPC RB or MDTF)
Develop a resource mobilization plan.		Ongoing.	IC requested funding for PCE. CPM-19 encouraged the Secretary to assess the possibility of allocating 50K		Staff time (IPPC RB or MDTF)	Q3 2026

Key result area	Activity	Status	Implementation status	Continuation status	Funding source/requirement	Timeline
support the application of the PCE; Recommendation 10	Maintain PCE process, maximize access, and support strategy implementations (cross-cutting to all recommendations).	Ongoing.	Secretariat continued support for countries and facilitators	Delivered as part of regular Secretariat responsibilities; support is provided on demand from countries and PCE facilitators	Staff time (IPPC RB or MDTF)	Continuous, demand-driven
	Implement the PCE resource mobilization plan.	Pending	To be started	Will begin once operational budget and staff capacity are secured	Staff time (IPPC RB or MDTF)	Q2 2026 – Q4 2027
KRA3: Software and platform The PCE software and platform are reliable, effective and easy to use Recommendation 11	Develop full technical specifications for the upgraded PCE online system	New	Secretariat will document requirements (collaboration, dashboards, analytics) based on April 2025 workshop feedback	To be initiated once funding is secured	Funding required	TBD
	Integrate revised PCE modules into the online platform	New	Interim technical update to upload revised questionnaires and workflow	To be initiated once funding is secured	Funding required	TBD
	Open competition for service provider	Pending	Selection of the most suitable option to develop the upgraded platform to be further analyzed	To be launched once technical specifications and funding are confirmed	Funding required	2027
	Migrate/improve the PCE online system (subject to completion of previous step).	Pending (dependent activity)	Depending on the above	Implementation will begin after contracting a suitable developer	Funding required	2027
KRA4: Revision and updates The PCE Tool is revised and updated regularly, and new modules and strategic planning tools are added as needed (e.g. environmental module, implementation follow up tool);	Develop a questionnaire for PCE facilitators and national coordinators to gather ideas to improve the modules (recommendations 12-16).	No conducted (demoted)	The workshops on April 20 collected the ideas directly. Funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	No	N/A	N/A
	Conduct a workshop with facilitators & coordinators to provide guidance on PCE tool improvement.	Completed	Workshop delivered in April 2025. First revision of modules conducted with input from facilitators and national coordinators. Still some modules to review. Funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	No	N/A	N/A

Key result area	Activity	Status	Implementation status	Continuation status	Funding source/requirement	Timeline
Recommendations 12 -16	Conduct a study on gender integration into the PCE (recommendation from ROM review).	Completed	Guidelines published. Funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	No	N/A	N/A
	Prepare pre-PCE training plan for national coordinators and NPPO staff (recommendation 15).	Ongoing	Initial components delivered (new PCE e-learning course available on the Plant Health Campus; RBM and LFA modules piloted for recent PCEs	To expand and institutionalize the training package (additional RBM/LFA delivery and national coordinator onboarding),	Funding required (Particularly RBA/LFA)	2026–2027 (as requested by countries)
	Develop new PCE Module on Pest Outbreak Response (replacing Module 9)	New	Drafting of module content initiated by Secretariat	Validation and Integration into online platform	Staff time (IPPC RB or MDTF)	Q3 2026–Q4 2027
	Design post-PCE follow-up mechanism (regular virtual check-ins, reporting template, dashboard)	New	To be piloted after consultations	Requires technical consultation	Funding required	TBD
	Adapt PCE methodology to value-chain orientation (sector stakeholder mapping, market access alignment)	New	Internal design stage	Requires technical consultation	Funding required	2027
KRA5: Expertise	Provide Results-Based Management (RBM) and Logical Framework Approach (LFA) courses to new PCE facilitators & NPPO coordinators.	Completed.	RBM/LFA courses delivered to facilitators and national coordinators involved in PCEs during 2024–2025	No. Already covered by pre-PCE training plan	N/A	N/A
Recommendations 17 - 21	Certification of New PCE Facilitators (Recommendation 20).	Completed	Completed (10) new certified facilitators). Funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	Future certifications depend on securing new resources	Funding required	2027
	Develop an online learning platform with learning paths and new eLearning courses (recommendations 18, 21).	Completed	IPPC Plant Health Campus launched. (March 2025)	Now part of the IFU's core corporate learning infrastructure. Further updates are IFU-wide, not PCE-specific	N/A	N/A
	Develop a PCE facilitator training curricula	Not started	Although some technical resources exist on the Plant Health Campus, there is no structured facilitator curriculum covering essential areas such as facilitation skills,	For future improvement of the PCE facilitators training	Funding required	TBD

Key result area	Activity	Status	Implementation status	Continuation status	Funding source/requirement	Timeline
			consensus-building, conflict mediation, problem-solving, stakeholder engagement, strategic planning tools, and management of national PCE processes.			
KRA6: Monitoring and evaluation The Monitoring and Evaluation framework is used to measure outcomes from the application of PCEs. Recommendation 22	COLEAD to organize a 4-week virtual course on R-SAT with national meetings to advance implementation (recommendations 22).	Completed	Delivered in August 2024. Funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	Not a permanent M&E mechanism, results to feed into future M&E system	N/A	N/A
	Organize a project definition one-week course with all facilitators: Understand donor requirements, provide templates, draft proposals.	Completed	Delivered from 7-11 October 2024. Funded by GCP/GLO/949/EC	One-off event, contributed evidence to inform future M&E design	N/A	N/A
	Project Proposal Development Support	Completed	Weekly technical guidance, one-on-one feedback sessions, and coaching on proposal design. As a result, at least eight countries developed donor-ready project proposals)	Moved to KRA1. This activity relates to financing and donor readiness rather than M&E	N/A	N/A
	Organize a restitution workshop with PCE facilitators, national coordinators & donors to present results (recommendations 22, 23).	Completed	Delivered in April 2025 jointly with the food safety component of the GLO/949 project	One-off event, contributed evidence to inform future M&E design	N/A	N/A
	Design a structured M&E framework for PCE implementation (indicators, reporting cycle, baseline approach, digital tracker)	New	Will build on R-SAT pilot and restitution workshop lessons	Needs dedicated expertise and platform support	Funding required	TBD

Appendix 13: 2026 work plan for national reporting obligations activities

MAIN ACTIVITIES	KEY ACTIONS	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	KPI AND TIMELINE
2026 annual NROs report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extract the 2025-2026 data of NROs, draft report reviewed by the IC Team on NROs 	Annual report approved by IC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft report completed by Q3; IC approval by Q4
Support the IPPC Official Contact Points and IPP editors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a presentation for IPPC Regional Workshop 2026 Provide support to OCPs on NROs request Update the OCPs contact information on the IPP and resolve IT issues 	<p>Improved reporting compliance of CPs</p> <p>Information of CPs updated on the IPP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of Contact Points updated; 10% increase in reports vs 2025
Reporting of territories (pending available resources)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize the consultation meetings with USA, France, UK, Spain and New Zealand Improve the guidelines procedure for reporting Improve the IPP features to differentiate contracting parties and territories 	Options for territories to report on NROs finalized	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 meetings organized with the selected CPs by Q3 The procedure finalized by Q4 The IPP features adjusted by Q3
Promote the e-learning course on NROs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote NROs eLearning course through all possible channels, in particular POARS Send reminders to contracting parties Highlight e-learning course on NROs in newsletters 	Increased e-learning course on NROs course enrollment and completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% increase courses completion by Q4 2 promotional campaigns with at least one in relation to APP implementation by Q4

Appendix 14: Agreed verification procedure for maintaining active links

1. Periodic link verification

- 1) Frequency: Links are to be checked if they are working or not automatically and manually each year by the IPPC Secretariat. After checking, the IPPC Secretariat provides the IC team with a list of non-functioning links. If this proves difficult to implement annual checks, the IC team will reconsider the frequency.
- 2) Confirmation of latest information: Resources are evenly distributed among IC team members depending on their expertise and languages to confirm if the information is the latest. Priority will be given to verifying resources that have been on the IPP for a longer period if a link is broken.

2. Updating and resolving issues

If the IC team members find any issues with a link or a resource, the members notify the issues with the secretariat, and the link will be hidden from public view. The secretariat will contact the resource submitter to provide updated information or links.

If the submitter fails to respond within six months, or if deemed appropriate, the link may be removed from the list of contributed resources.

Appendix 15: Proposed 2026 workplan of the IC Team on Contributed Resources

Activities	Expected outcomes	Target completion date
1. Link verification		
1.1 Review of the non-functional links	84 non-functional will be reviewed and a next action for each link will be identified.	March 2026
1.2 Contact resource providers	The IPPC Secretariat will contact resource providers to seek updated information if considered necessary.	August 2026
1.3 Update non-functional links	The page will be updated by either replacing links with correct ones or removing them from the public view.	December 2026
2. Linkage with the Phytosanitary Systems page		
2.1 Identify appropriate phytosanitary component categories	Appropriate phytosanitary component categories for all the contributed resources will be identified.	October 2026
2.2 Link to the Phytosanitary Systems page	The contributed resources will be linked to relevant Phytosanitary Systems page.	December 2026
3. Contributed resource review		
3.1 Review newly submitted nine resources	Resources deemed appropriate as a contributed resource will be published on the IPP.	May 2026

Appendix 16: Updated table of remaining global coordination on Fusarium TR4 activities

The following table shows activities that were planned by the secretariat for 2025 to ensure efficient global coordination on Fusarium TR4 activities. However, to progress these activities, additional resources are required. It is proposed that due to lack of dedicated resources for Fusarium TR4 and the clear synergy with POARS, these activities should be transferred under POARS mandate.

Overall activity	Priority level and activities	Status/ proposed action
(1) Manage (on behalf of FAO, international organizations related to agriculture and marketing, as well as other sources of financing) a programme for the prevention, containment and management of banana wilt through the implementation and facilitation unit led by Sarah BRUNEL and in full compliance with the IPPC DAI implementation on Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems (POARS).	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with FAO's Anticipatory Action Unit and Global Information and Early Warning System Service to develop a joint early warning and anticipatory action framework for Fusarium TR4 outbreak. - Map all partners and activities related to Fusarium TR4: Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), World Banana Forum (WBF), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), Bioversitas, etc. - Recommendations from POARS Steering Group on the best governance to coordinate activities on Fusarium TR4. - Set regular coordination meetings with identified partners. - Develop a resource mobilization plan. - Create a network of Fusarium TR4 experts to be actualized on the International Phytosanitary Portal (in simulation exercises, in diagnostic, in surveillance, etc.). - Develop risk maps according to production zones. - Promote liaison with the private sector in relation to international banana trade and for better awareness raising and mobilization of resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending resources
(2) Carry out a communication and awareness-raising campaign for authorities of the banana- and plantain-producing countries.	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set a bulletin board on the IPPC Fusarium TR4 webpage for knowledge sharing and updates on activities in regions. - Develop a communications plan to support the Fusarium TR4 workplan beyond 2024 with the possibility of including further news items, case studies, promotions of the bulletin board, additions to the International Phytosanitary Portal page and an awareness-raising video on simulation exercises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending resources - Pending resources
(3) Implement at the emergency-level action simulacrum for the prevention, containment and management of the pest under the	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up with countries that participated in the simulation exercise on the development of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow up completed but inadequate response rate

Overall activity	Priority level and activities	Status/ proposed action
governance of the secretariat and RPPOs from different parts of the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - their contingency plans for Fusarium TR4 through AU-IAPSC. Complete review of tabletop simulation exercise document. - Tabletop simulation exercise for Fusarium TR4 to be developed and delivered during next IPPC regional workshops in other interested regions. - Simulation exercises to be replicated in other regions upon request and following resource mobilization. - Create a data map on completed, ongoing and planned Fusarium TR4-related projects and capacity development activities globally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing – the secretariat to address feedback received - NA Upon request - Pending requests and resources- work with regional FAO offices
(4) Promote an international centre for the improvement of bananas and plantains in homology to that of corn and wheat (CIMMYT) ⁴⁷ or that of potatoes (CIP) ⁴⁸ , in compliance with the IPPC development agenda on research coordination.	<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consideration of the Fusarium TR4 topic by the CPM Focus Group on Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination. <i>No further action planned from the secretariat.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending establishment of the CPM Focus Group on Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination.
(5) Strengthen capacities in: - Detection and integral diagnosis – as a target pest, Fusarium TR4, in addition to other soil pathogens and those of viral and bacterial etiology, which are (or will be) the intermediate epidemics before the collapse due to Fusarium TR4.	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify national, regional and international research organizations and encourage the research of rapid diagnosis protocols on Fusarium TR4. - Follow-up through AU-IAPSC with countries that participated in the diagnostic training course on their development of training programmes to transfer knowledge to other NPPO staff. - Deliver the training course in other regions upon request and following resource mobilization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending resources - Follow up completed but inadequate response rate - Pending requests and resources – to be overseen under POARS in collaboration with regional/national FAO offices.
(6) Strengthen capacities in: - Surveillance or monitoring for an early warning system, with an early warning reaction capacity for Fusarium TR4. This includes satellite detection, the use of drones and specific canine units, among others, which allow the rapid location of the presence of the pest.	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather all innovative research and technologies for the surveillance of Fusarium TR4. - Identify national, regional and international research organizations and encourage research on the surveillance for early detection of Fusarium TR4 for Africa. 	<p>Innovative research and technologies shared with member countries during CPM-19 side session. However, any further work requires additional resource</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending resources
(7) Strengthen capacities in: - Containment of existing outbreaks for Fusarium TR4 in the affected countries, which implies	<p><u>Priority 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of a standard emergency project to eradicate or contain Fusarium TR4 to NPPOs, in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pending resources

⁴⁷ International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)

⁴⁸ International Potato Center (CIP)

Overall activity	Priority level and activities	Status/ proposed action
<p>eradication strategies and biosecurity cordons between affected areas and those that are free of Fusarium TR4.</p> <p>- Biosafety measures and actions for Fusarium TR4, at the level of entry or cross-border points, of wide areas, farms and affected areas.</p>	<p>coordination with the POARS Steering Group.</p> <p>- Develop an online Plant Pest Emergency Simulation tool using Fusarium TR4 as an example pest (along with other types of pests, e.g. more mobile pests) as a capacity development tool in preparedness.</p>	<p>- Completed, however, tool changed to fictional pest to be a tool for general capacity development in pest management.</p>
<p>(8) Strengthen capacities in: Management or health of the soil that implies the conservation and increase of beneficial organisms or biological controllers.</p>	<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <p>- Secretariat to liaise with the FAO Soil Unit to define activities.</p>	<p>- Pending resources</p>
<p>(9) Strengthen capacities in: Development of tolerant or resistant varieties to Fusarium TR4, involving plantains and not solely bananas.</p>	<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <p>- Liaise with and provide support to the International Atomic Energy Agency as the leader on the topic.</p>	<p>- NA- Joint FAO-IAEA Centre already has this work underway. POARS to provide support where, and if necessary.</p>
<p>(10) Strengthen capacities in: Training and dissemination, for all levels or publics involved with an emphasis on virtual and face-to-face courses, field schools and simulation exercises for the prevention or containment of Fusarium TR4.</p>	<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <p>- Implementation at the national level of communications strategy in collaboration with NPPOs, RPPOs and FAO offices.</p>	<p>- Pending resources</p> <p>-</p>
<p>(11) Strengthen capacities in: Development of a phytosanitary extension plan for Fusarium TR4, for the transfer of knowledge and adoption by producers as soon as possible. Support for research and specific product proposals to support the integrated management of Fusarium TR4. Promote survival or sustainability strategies for affected producers, such as crop substitution or agricultural insurance for small producers. Studies and projects for the implementation of alternative production systems to banana cultivation in regions affected by the plague.</p>	<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <p>- Define long-term management plans with NSP and WBF and FAO offices.</p>	<p>- Pending resources</p>
<p>(12) Strengthen capacities in: Support the mobilization of the Fusarium TR4 phytosanitary commando led by OIRSA as a specialized technical group to deal with outbreaks, or in actions to contain and prevent Fusarium wilt.</p>	<p><u>Priority 2:</u></p> <p>- Bring the topic to get further advice to the TC-RPPO, regional workshops and the POARS Steering Group.</p>	<p>- Ongoing (topic was brought to TC-RPPO and regional workshops; further work is needed with POARS Steering Group).</p>

Appendix 17: List of observers to be invited to the IC May 2026 meeting

- 1) European Commission (EC);
- 2) Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF);
- 3) Comité de Liaison Entrepreneuriat-Agriculture-Développement (COLEAD);
- 4) Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ);
- 5) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);
- 6) Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA);
- 7) World Bank (WB), having funded a PCE in Nepal;
- 8) Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI);
- 9) The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA);
- 10) Trademark Africa.

Appendix 18: Budget estimation for translation of IPPC guide though in-kind translation

Translation (FAO languages)	In-kind translation	Unit cost (USD)	In-kind translation (USD)
Translation from English	0	7 000	0
Verification of translation	0	0	0
Graphic design	7	350	2 450
Proof-reading (after layout)	3	350	1 050
IFU Lead Officer for publications	8	350	2 800
IPPC Secretariat Language expert (IPPC regular budget)	2	350	700
IFU Communications Lead (IPPC regular budget)	0.5	350	175
Extrabudgetary funds (USD)			3 500
IPPC Regular budget (USD)			3 675
Total cost of each translation (USD)			7 175

Appendix 19: Topic submissions for standards, implementation and capacity development, and IPPC Observatory

Topic Number	Title	Submitted by	Current Status / For Review by
2025-010	<i>Revision of ISPM 3 – Guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms</i> (Standard)	EPPPO	For SC review by the November 2025 SC meeting
2025-011	<i>Inclusion of additional terms in ISPM 5 (Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms) related to wood packaging material</i> (Standard)	Canada	Forwarded to the Technical Panel for the Glossary (TPG), in line with SC agreement
2025-012	<i>Survey on the current regulatory status and current use of phytosanitary systems approaches to facilitate safe trade in plant products</i> (IPPC Observatory topic)	Australia	For IC Subgroup on the Observatory review by the November 2025 IC meeting
2025-013	<i>Tomato mottle mosaic virus</i> (Diagnostic Protocol)	Japan	Forwarded to the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP)
2025-014	<i>Tomato leaf curl New Delhi virus</i> (Diagnostic Protocol)	Japan	Forwarded to the Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols (TPDP)
2025-015	<i>Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system</i> (Implementation Resource)	Canada	For IC review by November 2025 IC meeting

Appendix 20: SC and IC collaboration: Proposal for a repository of implementation issues on the IPP work area



SC and IC collaboration

27_IC_2025_Nov

SC-IC collaboration

IPPC / Work Area / SC & IC

SC & IC

Edit as Admin +Add new sub page

All the publications of this page are visible to:
 IPPC Secretariat
 Standards committee
 IC Members

1. From CPs and RPPOs (collecting potential implementation issues raised during consultation period)

2. From SC to IC (potential implementation issues identified by SC and forwarded to IC)

3. From IC (extract from IC meeting report)

Sections would be visible to SC and IC members

SC November 2025

SC-IC collaboration

Improvement of connection between adopted ISPMs and Implementation materials in IPP (1/2)

In the [IPPC guides and training materials page](#), each row includes a green “+” button linking to a subpage with:

- A summary of the guide/e-learning course
- Related phytosanitary system
- related ISPM
- related IPPC e-learning course
- Other relevant references

SC November 2025

SC-IC collaboration

Improvement of connection between adopted ISPMs and Implementation materials in IPP (2/2)

In the [adopted ISPMs page](#), each ISPM row includes a green “+” button linking to a subpage with:

- A summary of the ISPM
- Unofficial translations
- Relevant implementation material
- Removed texts from adopted ISPMs (e.g. annex and appendices of adopted ISPM 26)

may be listed below the summary

SC November 2025

SC-IC collaboration

IC meeting after the SC (Proposal from the secretariat)

To further enhance collaboration between the two committees, it is proposed that the IC November meeting be held following the SC November meeting

Benefits:

- Saves up to six months in the procedure
- Implementation issues identified by the SC could be communicated to the IC the following week, ensuring timely follow-up and coordination

SC November 2025



SC-IC collaboration

Thank you

IPPC Secretariat

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations (FAO)

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Appendix 21: Contents of the Procedure Manual for Implementation and Capacity Development

Changes to the 2026 version of the Procedure Manual for Implementation and Capacity Development are reflected in red in the table of contents below.

Section	Title	Text	Notes
	Abbreviations	Maintained by the Secretariat	
	Introduction	Maintained by the Secretariat	The year will be updated.
1	Implementation and Facilitation Unit of the IPPC Secretariat		
	Introduction	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.1	Managing communications and web-based information		
1.1.1	Publications	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.1.2	Implementation and capacity development web information	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.2	Managing the application of the phytosanitary capacity evaluation tool	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.2.1	Phytosanitary capacity evaluation strategy for 2020–2030	Approved by IC	
1.2.2	Confidentially agreement for representatives from international organizations and donors participating in the IPPC phytosanitary capacity evaluation process as observers	Approved by IC	
1.2.3	Procedure for a phytosanitary capacity evaluation facilitator certification	Approved by IC	
1.2.4	Terms and Conditions for using The Online PCE system	Approved by IC and endorsed by CPM-18	
1.3	Managing the development of guides and training materials	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.3.1	Strategy for the development of IPPC guides and training materials	Approved by IC	
1.3.2	Process for the development of IPPC guides and training materials	Approved by IC	
1.4	Managing projects	Maintained by the Secretariat	

1.4.1	Strategy and process on how the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee reviews and analyses implementation and capacity development projects	Approved by IC	
1.5	Role of regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) in implementation and capacity development	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.6	Implementation and Facilitation Unit input on the IPPC regional workshops	Noted by CPM/Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.7	External cooperation	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.7.1	Liaison activities with research and educational institutions	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.7.2	Liaison activities with relevant organizations	Maintained by the Secretariat	
1.7.3	Liaison activities with plant health officer	Maintained by the Secretariat	
2	Implementation and Capacity Development Committee		
	Introduction	Maintained by the Secretariat	
2.1	Terms of Reference of the IPPC subsidiary body Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) – a subsidiary body of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures	CPM adopted	
2.2	Rules of Procedure of the IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) – a subsidiary body of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures	CPM adopted	
2.3	Effective participation of IC members in meetings	Approved by IC	
2.4	Functions of the IC Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and rapporteur (in session and inter-sessionally)	Approved by IC	
2.4.1	Chairperson	Approved by IC	
2.4.2	Vice-Chairperson	Approved by IC	
2.4.3	Rapporteur	Approved by IC	
2.5	Financial considerations	Approved by Bureau	Following changes to be included based on the decisions from the CPM Bureau

			<p>meeting in March 2025 and the IC meeting in May 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - eligibility status of IC members; - flexibility arrangement to update the eligibility status; and - travel assistance for the IC representative to the SC.
2.5.1	Rules for directed financial assistance for implementation and capacity development activities (sponsorship)	Adopted by ICPM	
2.6	Duties and associated tasks of IC members	Approved by IC	
2.6.1	Basic duties directly related to the evaluation of IC activities	Approved by IC	
2.6.2	Duties and associated tasks of regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) and Standards Committee (SC) representatives on the IC	Approved by IC	
2.6.3	Time requirements	Approved by IC	
2.6.4	Regional communication	Approved by IC	
2.6.5	Examination of outlines of implementation resources	Approved by IC	
2.6.6	The examination of procedural and administrative documents	Approved by IC	
2.6.7	Other duties of other IC members	Approved by IC	
2.7	Guidelines on the role of IC lead and assistant lead	Approved by IC	
2.7.1	Selection of the IC lead and assistant IC lead(s)	Approved by IC	
2.7.2	Roles, responsibilities, duties and tasks of the IC lead(s)	Approved by IC	
2.7.3	Role of the assistant IC lead(s)	Approved by IC	
2.8	e-decisions: IC procedures for discussing and making decisions by electronic means	Approved by IC	
2.9	Deadlines for meetings (invites, funding, papers and reports) for IC related meetings	Agreed by Bureau	

2.10	Call for topics: standards and implementation	Maintained by the Secretariat	
2.10.1	Terms of Reference for the Task Force on Topics	CPM adopted	
2.10.2	Rules of procedure for the Task Force on Topics	CPM adopted	
2.10.3	Criteria for Justification and Prioritization of Proposed Topics	CPM adopted	
2.10.4	List of implementation and capacity development topics	Maintained by the Secretariat	
3	Implementation and Capacity Development Committee sub-groups, teams and working groups		
	Introduction	Maintained by the Secretariat	
3.1	IC sub-groups Rules of Procedure	Approved by IC	
3.2	Guidelines for the organization of IC sub-groups, IC teams and working groups	Maintained by the Secretariat	
3.3	Duties of IC members the IC Sub-group when they are not an IC lead	Approved by IC	
3.4	Duties of IC Sub-group leads	Approved by IC	
3.5	Deadlines for posting expert drafting group meeting papers and report	Approved by Bureau	
4	Specific Implementation and Capacity Development Committee subgroups		
	Introduction	Maintained by the Secretariat	
4.1	Dispute settlement procedures	CPM adopted	
4.2	IPPC Observatory	Maintained by the Secretariat	
4.2.1	Terms of Reference of the IC subgroup on IPPC Observatory	Approved by IC	
4.2.2	Procedure for the submission of IPPC Observatory topics	Approved by IC	
4.3	National Reporting Obligations (NRO)	Maintained by the Secretariat	

4.3.1	Terms of Reference on IC subgroup on National Reporting Obligations	Approved by IC	
4.3.2	Oversight mechanism for National Reporting Obligation activities	Approved by IC	
4.3.3	Other National Reporting Obligation approved procedures	Maintained by the Secretariat	
4.4	IC Team on Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense Tropical Race 4 (TR4)	Maintained by the Secretariat	
4.4.1	Terms of Reference for IC Team on Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense Tropical Race 4 (TR4)	Approved by IC	
5	Specific Implementation and Capacity Development Committee teams		
	Introduction	Maintained by the Secretariat	The list of IC teams will be updated.
5.1	IC Team on phytosanitary capacity evaluation (PCE)	Maintained by the Secretariat	
5.2	IC Team on Guides and Training Materials	Maintained by the Secretariat	
5.3	IC Team on Contributed Resources	Maintained by the Secretariat	The link verification procedure will be included.
5.3.1	Criteria and procedures for reviewing and approving contributed phytosanitary resources for posting on the IPP	Approved by IC	
5.4	IC Team on Projects	Maintained by the Secretariat	
5.5	IC Team on e-Commerce	Maintained by the Secretariat	
5.6	IC Team on Third Party Entities	Maintained by the Secretariat	A new section will be added.
5.7	IC Team on Implementation Topics	Maintained by the Secretariat	A new section will be added.
6	Additional useful procedures - introduction		
	Introduction	Maintained by the Secretariat	
6.1	Framework for Standards and Implementation	Maintained by the Secretariat	

6.2	FAO/IPPC fall armyworm technical working group	Maintained by the Secretariat	
6.2.1	FAO/IPPC fall armyworm technical working group Terms of Reference	Maintained by the Secretariat	
Annexes	ANNEXES		
Annex 1	Roles and Responsibilities of the parties involved in organization and delivery of IPPC regional workshops		
Annex 2	Submission form for topics for Standards and Implementation	Adopted by CPM-19	The annex will be replaced with the version approved by CPM 19.
Annex 3	Draft Specification form for IPPC Guides and Training Materials (CFT submission form #2)	Adopted by CPM-19	The annex will be replaced with the version approved by CPM 19.
Annex 4	IPPC Observatory form for submitting topics for surveys or studies	Adopted by CPM-19	The annex will be replaced with the version approved by CPM 19.
Annex 5	Specification template: IPPC Guides and Training materials	Approved by IC (eIC10_e-Decision 2021) & November 2024	
Annex 6	Template: Case study for IPPC implementation resources	Approved by IC (eIC10_e-Decision 2021) & November 2024	
Annex 7	Replace with Bronze / Silver / Gold implementation plans	Approved by IC in November 2023 & November 2024	
Annex 8	Statement of commitment	Maintained by the Secretariat	
Annex 9	Useful links	Maintained by the Secretariat	Link to the IPPC Plant Health Campus.

Appendix 22: Proposed modification to the section 2.5 “Financial consideration” of the to the sixth edition of the Procedure manual for implementation and capacity development

2.5 Financial considerations⁴⁹

Whenever possible, IC members and those participating in implementation and capacity development activities should voluntarily fund their travel and subsistence to attend meetings. Members may request financial assistance from FAO for meetings other than those associated with the Commission meeting, with the understanding that the priority for financial assistance is given to representatives from developing countries.

The financial resources made available to the secretariat for the work programme, including savings realized by members and others voluntarily accepting costs for participation in the IC or activities associated with implementation and capacity development activities, be directed as far as possible to expanding the work programme for additional implementation and capacity development activities and assisting the participation of representatives from CPs from developing countries.

Sponsors and donors be encouraged to make contributions to the work programme.

The eligibility of IPPC meeting participants for travel assistance is assessed annually according to the IPPC criteria based on the World Bank data, which could pose challenges to secure travel resources for the participation of IC members who were eligible the year before.

To support and facilitate IC members participation, the provision of travel assistance is determined as per the year of signature of statement of commitment of an IC member for the full duration of the term. In case where a country was not eligible for travel assistance and becomes so during a member’s term of service, the status of eligibility is updated and maintained until the end of the term.

The IC representative to the SC, despite their observer status, is eligible for travel assistance throughout the current term on the IC if his/her country is eligible for travel assistance according to the World Bank criteria.⁵⁰

⁴⁹ Noted by ICPM-2 (1999), modifications agreed by the IC for ICD activities at IC 2018-05.

⁵⁰ Approved by the CPM Bureau in March 2025 and noted by the IC in May 2025.

Appendix 23: Verification procedure of the contributed resource links on the IPP

2. Periodic link verification

- 3) Frequency: Links are to be checked if they are working or not automatically and manually each year by the IPPC Secretariat. After checking, the IPPC Secretariat provides the IC team with a list of non-functioning links. If this proves difficult to implement annual checks, the IC team will reconsider the frequency.
- 4) Confirmation of latest information: Resources are evenly distributed among IC team members depending on their expertise and languages to confirm if the information is the latest. Priority will be given to verifying resources that have been on the IPP for a longer period if a link is broken.

3. Updating and resolving issues

If the IC team members find any issues with a link or a resource, the members notify the issues with the secretariat, and the link will be hidden from public view. The secretariat will contact the resource submitter to provide updated information or links.

If the submitter fails to respond within six months, or if deemed appropriate, the link may be removed from the list of contributed resources.

Appendix 24: List of members for IC Subgroups, IC Teams and Secretariat leads and other members

(IC leads/members are indicated in **bold**. Replacement and other members are not in bold.)

	Title	IC lead	IC Members/others (by alphabetical order)	Secretariat lead
Committee and Representative	IC Chairperson	Dominique PELLETIER		Descartes KOUMBA
	IC Vice Chairperson	Thorwald GEUZE		
	IC Representative to the SC	Ahmed ADELMOTTALEB	Kyu-Ock YIM	
	SC Representative to IC	Prudence ATTIPOE		
	IC Representative to TC- RPPOs	Melisa NEDILSKYJ		Mariam ALMASRI Russell CAPLEN
CPM Focus Groups	FG on Climate Change and Phytosanitary issues	Ravi KHETARPAL		Camilo BELTRAN
	FG on Sea Containers	Thorwald GEUZE		Colleen STIRLING
	FG on Safe Provision of Aid	Lucien KOUAMÉ KONAN		Adriana MOREIRA
	FG on Laboratory diagnostic	Kyu-Ock YIM		Adriana MOREIRA
	FG on One Health	Ravi KHETARPAL		Sarah BRUNEL/ Rokhila MADAMINOVA
	PCE Board	Ahmed ABDELMOTTALEB Dominique PELLETIER Francisco GUTIERREZ Melisa NEDILSKYJ Ringolds ARNITIS	- Mariangela CIAMPITTI (SC) - Matias GONZALEZ (SC) - Prudence ATTIPOE (SC) - TBD (Bureau) - TBD (Bureau) - Sam BISHOP (Bureau)	Descartes KOUMBA
Steering Group	POARS	Ringolds ARNITIS		Camilo BELTRAN

	Title	IC lead	IC Members/others (by alphabetical order)	Secretariat lead
IC Subgroup	IPPC Observatory	Dominique PELLETIER	- Ezequiel FERRO - Faith NDUNGE - Francisco GUTIERREZ - RPPO - SC - Sam BISHOP (Bureau)	Rokhila MADAMINOVA
IC Team	Guides and training materials	Francisco GUTIERREZ	- Ahmed ADELMOTTALEB - Faith NDUNGE - Lucien KOUAME KONAN - Elizabeth McCRUDDEN - Melisa NEDILSKYJ - Ravi KHETARPAL	Preet PARMAR
IC Team	National Reporting Obligations (NROs)	Ahmed ADELMOTTALEB	- Ezequiel FERRO - Lucien KOUAME KONAN - Magda GONZALEZ ARROYO - Xiaoliang WANG	Descartes KOUMBA
IC Team	Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE)	Ringolds ARNITIS	- Francisco GUTIERREZ - Lucien KOUAME KONAN - Magda GONZALEZ ARROYO - Mekki CHOUIBANI - Melisa NEDILSKYJ - Ravi KHETARPAL	Camilo BELTRAN

	Title	IC lead	IC Members/others (by alphabetical order)	Secretariat lead
IC Team	Projects	Lucien KOUAME KONAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dominique PELLETIER - Elizabeth McCRUDDEN - Kyu-Ock YIM - Xiaoliang WANG - Ravi KHETARPAL 	Rokhila MADAMINOVA
IC Team	E-commerce	Thorwald GEUZE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ahmed ADELMOTTALEB - Ezequiel FERRO - Melisa NEDILSKYJ - Prudence ATTIPOE 	Rokhila MADAMINOVA
Task Force on Topics (In hold)	Task Force on Topics	Dominique PELLETIER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be nominated (SC) - To be nominated (CPM Bureau) - Faith NDUNGE - Sophie PETERSON (SC Chair) - Thorwald GEUZE 	Emmanuel KRAH Descartes KOUMBA
IC Team	Contributed Resources	Ahmed ADELMOTTALEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Faith NDUNGE - Lucien KOUAMÉ KONAN - Nitesh DATT - Xiaoliang WANG - Magda GONZALEZ ARROYO 	Maki IIZUKA
IC Team	Third-party entities	Dominique PELLETIER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lucien KOUAME KONAN - Ringolds ARNITIS - Ruth AREVALO MACIAS 	Preet PARMAR

	Title	IC lead	IC Members/others (by alphabetical order)	Secretariat lead
IC Team	Review of implementation Topics	Dominique PELLETIER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melisa NEDILSKYJ - Ahmed ADELMOTTALEB - Ezequiel FERRO - Ringolds ARNITIS - Lucien KOUAMÉ KONAN 	Descartes KOUMBA

Appendix 25: 2026 workplan for the IPPC Implementation and Facilitation Unit

Strategies: the 2026 IFU work plan is fully consistent with the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030.

The Implementation and Capacity Development (ICD) objectives will be achieved by:

- 1) Focusing on global impact in order of priority: international, regional and national.
- 2) Continuing building strong, quality-oriented team that supports and implements innovative ideas.
- 3) Strengthening cooperation with relevant stakeholders to maximize resources to deliver ICD activities.
- 4) Plan work according to allocated resources and mobilize resources as needed.

Main activities and outputs:⁵¹

- 1) **Governance:** CPM-20 (2026), Bureau, SPG, POARS SG, ePhyto SG, One Health FG (including AMR) are supported, implementation of five development agendas (ePhyto, e-commerce, POARS, climate change and authorization of third-party entities).
- 2) **CPM events:** organization of the innovation fair and support to the NPPOs orientation session during CPM-20 (2026).
- 3) **IPPC Secretariat initiatives** are supported: FAO-One Health (including AMR), Management Team Meetings.
- 4) **IC is supported** including face to face/virtual meetings, IC Sub-group: IPPC Observatory, IC Teams: NROs, Contributed Resources, E-commerce, Guides and training materials, PCE, Projects.
- 5) **Guides and training materials and the List of ICD** topics is managed, and IC recommendations are submitted to CPM.
- 6) **IFU communications** work plan is developed and implemented through IST and the FAO PWS (including publications, webinars, news, calls and announcements), two ICD webinars organized (on POARS and latest IPPC ICD materials (launch of the campus). The phytosanitary component pages are revised.
- 7) **ICD web-based information** is updated once a year. Contribute to the maintenance of the IPP through IST. Contributed resources are managed.
- 8) **IPPC Observatory:** AMR and eCommerce studies are published. The third general survey is prepared and launched.
- 9) **Guides and training materials:** Risk-based inspection guide and two WPM treatment manuals are published. E-learning courses on ePhyto, sea containers, and risk-based inspection are developed and published. The IPPC Plant Health Campus is promoted and further developed. Guide on audit drafted and procedures for the guide on authorization of third-party entities initiated (call for resources, call for experts). Ten guides or training materials are translated into an official FAO language.
- 10) **Projects managed (or phytosanitary input provided):** Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP) supported; EU project on three DAI managed. Support overall management for the 6 PCE legal reviews in PRASAC-CEMAC countries (STDF). EPhyto DG TRADE project in Central Africa and EU managed. CIRAD Public Private Partnership workshop organized for POARS. Backstopping for FAO projects.
- 11) **PCE online system:** The PCE online system improvement proceeds.

⁵¹ Subject to the following staff resources. Regular Programme: P4, P2, G4. In-kind: P4 Canada, P5 France, P2 Japan, eLearning support COLEAD. Projects: P3 (multiple sources), 2 Consultant (\$ EC and various sources), 1 Consultant (\$ PRASAC), PCE facilitators (\$ EC), 1 Consultant (\$ MDTF).

- 12) **ePhyto:** ePhyto governance is improved, ePhyto funding model agreed at CPM-18 is implemented, ePhyto Africa Initiative is implemented, participation in regional or international partners workshops/meetings.
- 13) **STDF Working Group:** STDF WG attended, PPGs and PGs reviewed and supported.
- 14) **ICD Procedure Manual** is reviewed and updated annually; the 2025 version is published in March 2026.
- 15) **Dispute avoidance assistance** is provided to Contracting Parties as requested, and the CPM Bureau is supported accordingly.
- 16) **IPPC Regional workshops:** participate in preparatory meetings to develop the agenda and presentations and three RW are co-organized and co-delivered by IFU.
- 17) **External Cooperation** is maintained or developed with various organizations: EC, CABI, COLEAD, EFSA, IICA, GATF, GEA, STDF, UPU, WCO, and World Bank.