



## CPM-19 (2025) SCIENCE SESSION: THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANT HEALTH WITHIN ONE HEALTH

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### Background

In recent years, the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), its subsidiary bodies, and the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) have actively worked to ensure that the critical role of plant health is duly recognised within the One Health framework. This integrated approach acknowledges the interdependence of human, animal, plant, and ecosystem health.

The IPPC Secretariat has been instrumental in advancing this agenda, aligning its efforts with the CPM-18 (2024) decision to set a Focus Group of Plant Health in the context. The revised One Health definition, adopted in 2021 by the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP), expands the concept to include plants, biodiversity, and ecosystems, thus recognizing their critical roles in global health and sustainability. This broader perspective provides a strong foundation for integrating plant health into One Health initiatives.

The IPPC Secretariat has made significant strides in promoting plant health within the One Health paradigm. Through its participation in FAO's One Health Technical Working Group and its collaboration with the Quadripartite organizations, the Secretariat has advocated for plant health's inclusion in addressing global challenges such as antimicrobial resistance, pest outbreaks, and food security. Notable achievements include organizing a side session during the 29th Session of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Committee on Agriculture (COAG) in 2024, launching the CPM Focus Group on Plant Health in the Context of One Health, and showcasing innovative tools like the IPPC Plant Health Campus, as well as the presentation of the IPPC work and the importance of plant health for One Health at the Eighth World One Health Congress in 2024. These efforts have garnered recognition from key stakeholders, including the Group of 77 and China, underscoring the importance of continued advocacy, collaboration, and resource mobilization to integrate plant health into the global One Health agenda.

#### Audience:

The Science Session will take place on the Thursday of the CPM-19 week (17-21 March), as part of the main session. Therefore, the main audience of the session will be IPPC Contracting Party representatives from National plant protection organizations, Regional plant protection organizations, and IPPC observer organizations and partners. Additionally, the event will be open for public around the globe through a webcast link.

#### Objectives:

1. **Explore the Synergies Between Plant Health and One Health:** Gain a comprehensive understanding of the scientific evidence and interconnections that highlight the critical role of plant health within the One Health framework.
2. **Foster Strategic collaborations:** Build and strengthen networks with key organizations and stakeholders involved in One Health initiatives.
3. **Establish a Unified Vision:** Assemble recommendations for the way forward.

**Expected Outcomes:**

1. **Increased Awareness:** A deeper comprehension of the relationships and scientific evidence linking plant health with human health, animal health, environmental sustainability, and food security.
2. **Strengthened Collaboration:** Enhanced networking and partnership opportunities with leading One Health institutions and stakeholders.
3. **Leading the way forward:** a summary of all actionable recommendations from CPM-19 is drafted.

**TENTATIVE PROGRAMME (DURATION: 150 MINUTES)**

*15:00 – 17:30 (CET)*

*Plenary Hall, FAO Headquarters,  
Rome, Italy*

1. **Beth Bechdol, FAO Deputy Director-General: *Opening remarks (10 minutes)***
2. **Sunday Ekesi, Director, Research for Development (DDG-R4D), International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE): *The scientific importance of Plant Health for One Health (20 minutes)***
3. **Speakers from the Quadripartite – joint presentation (30 minutes including intervention from each organization):**
  - a. **The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), current chair of the Quadripartite**
  - b. **The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**
  - c. **The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**
  - d. **The World Health Organization (WHO)**
4. **Yurdi Yasmi, Director, Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP), FAO: *Overview of the linkages between One Health and Plant Health and FAO's contribution (8 minutes)***
5. **Marianela Araya Quesada, Programme Officer, Biodiversity and Health, Invasive Alien Species, Convention on Biological Diversity: *Perspective on the importance of Plant Health in One Health (8 minutes)***
6. **Sarah Cahill, Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission: *Perspective on the “Three Sisters” and how they contribute to One Health (8 minutes)***
7. **Presentations of One Health case studies from four IPPC Contracting Parties (25 minutes)**
8. **Panel Discussion (30 minutes)**
  - Moderator facilitates a discussion among the panel speakers.
  - Interaction with the audience, addressing questions and comments.
9. **Sarah Brunel, Implementation and Facilitation Unit Lead, IPPC Secretariat: *Closing Remarks (10 minutes)***
  - Acknowledgment of the speakers and participants.
  - Summary on the importance of plant health in one health and actionable recommendations on the way forward.