



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANT HEALTH INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

**Rome, Italy
11 May 2020**



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
PLANT HEALTH
2020

www.fao.org/plant-health-2020
IYPH@fao.org

PROTECTING PLANTS,
PROTECTING LIFE



Contents

1. Opening Session.....	3
1.1 Opening address from FAO DDG-P.....	3
1.2 Welcome address from IYPH-ISC Chairperson	3
2. Meeting Arrangements.....	3
2.1 Adoption of the Agenda.....	3
3. Administrative Matters	3
4. Matters arising from previous meeting	4
5. IYPH Legacy	4
6. IYPH Action Plan	4
6.1 Covid-19 and its impacts on IYPH 2020	4
6.2 Review of IYPH Action Plan due to the Covid-19 crisis (including discussion on key global events such as: SPS side event, HLPF, CPM-15, FAW and fusarium wilt TR4 events, IPPC-CBD joint event at COP-15, IPHC, and IYPH closing ceremony).....	5
6.3 Updates and reflections by ISC members	5
6.4 Update on study on plant health and climate change.....	5
6.5 Proposals for new activities	6
7. IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization	6
8. IYPH Communication	6
8.1 Update on IYPH communications plan	6
8.2 Update on IYPH ambassadors	6
9. Any Other Business	7
10. Next Meeting	7
11. Close of the Meeting.....	7
Annex 1 – Agenda	8
Annex 2 – Participants List.....	9
Annex 3 – Action List.....	12





1. Opening Session

- [1] Mr Jingyuan XIA, Secretary of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), opened the meeting welcoming all participants and introducing Ms Beth BECHDOL, FAO Deputy Director-General for Programmes (DDG-P).

1.1 Opening address from FAO DDG-P

- [2] Ms BECHDOL delivered her opening address underlining her support to this global initiative from the very beginning of her appointment, as well as the work of the IPPC and FAO's work on plant health. She recalled the over two hundred events planned for 2020, stressing how the issue of plant health has struck an extremely sensitive topic for the international community and FAO in particular. The DDG-P expressed her appreciation for the efforts that the IYPH ISC and Secretariat have made, especially linking plant health to food security, the environment and safe international trade.
- [3] She noted that the recent and ongoing global sanitary crisis has overshadowed the many successful initiatives that were in the making since years but appreciated the IYPH ISC and Secretariat's efforts to adapt and support the global strive to end the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the postponement of all major face-to-face events and by sharing useful information on COVID-19-related shortcomings on plant health. Ms BECHDOL welcomed the proposal to extend the IYPH put forth by many stakeholders but elaborated that a formal extension request may divert useful resources and energy from postponing IYPH-related events to 2021, which is a more attainable goal.
- [4] She concluded by encouraging the IYPH ISC, Secretariat and all stakeholders to step up and convert as many communication products as possible into a digital form and working together flexibly and nimbly to continue making the IYPH a success.

1.2 Welcome address from IYPH-ISC Chairperson

- [5] Mr Ralf LOPIAN, Chairperson of the IYPH ISC, thanked Mr XIA and Ms BECHDOL for their encouraging words and support. He welcomed participants that joined through video for the first time, noting a high attendance and participation.

2. Meeting Arrangements

2.1 Adoption of the Agenda

- [6] The Agenda was adopted and it is attached to this report as Annex 1.

3. Administrative Matters

- [7] The IYPH Secretariat reviewed the participants list as included in Annex 2.





4. Matters arising from previous meeting

- [8] The IPPC Secretariat reviewed the Action list and informed the IYPH ISC that all actions have been completed within the assigned deadlines, at the exception of certain matters, as discussed under different agenda items.

5. IYPH Legacy

- [9] This item was deferred to another meeting due to time constraints.

6. IYPH Action Plan

6.1 Covid-19 and its impacts on IYPH 2020

- [10] The IYPH Secretariat updated the IYPH ISC on the impact of COVID-19 on IYPH Action Plan. The Chairperson introduced the discussion by noting that the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC), which was supposed to take place in Helsinki from 5 to 8 October 2020, is unlikely to take place at the same dates in view of travel restriction lasting throughout 2020. He informed the IYPH ISC members about the current proposal to postpone it to 2021, in a period between the mid-May and mid-June. Mr LOPIAN proposed that the IYPH Closing Ceremony may take place on the last day of the IPHC in Helsinki. He concluded that he would report about the exact dates at the next IYPH ISC meeting.
- [11] The IYPH ISC members agreed with the proposal to postpone the IPHC and IYPH activities into 2021 as this would allow the full Action Plan deliverance, and recommended that the IYPH Secretariat be extremely efficient, flexible and agile in rescheduling IYPH activities and initiatives, in agreement with FAO DDG-P. The IYPH ISC agreed that the IPHC and the festive closing ceremony for the IYPH 2020 be combined and take place at the last day of the Helsinki conference.
- [12] The representative of the EU Commission informed the IYPH ISC about the support of the European Union to the scheduled adoption of the Ministerial Declaration and IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 by CPM-15 and that the rescheduling of the IPHC to May/June 2021 will not affect negatively the pledged EU Commission financial contribution to support developing country participation at the conference. Other members shared information on IYPH-related events, such as the meeting of the Forest Invasive species Network for Europe and Central Asia on emerging forest pests and contingency plans, taking place from 10-12 November 2020 at a venue to be confirmed as of today.
- [13] The IYPH ISC:
- (1) *Agreed* to the extension and rescheduling of IYPH events into 2021 as necessary, particularly the CPM-15 Ministerial Segment and the IPHC, which will merge with the IYPH Closing Ceremony.
 - (2) *Asked* the IYPH Chairperson to report on the exact dates for the IPHC in 2021 by the next meeting.





6.2 Review of IYPH Action Plan due to the Covid-19 crisis (including discussion on key global events such as: SPS side event, HLPF, CPM-15, FAW and fusarium wilt TR4 events, IPPC-CBD joint event at COP-15, IPHC, and IYPH closing ceremony)

[14] This item was discussed jointly with item 6.1.

6.3 Updates and reflections by ISC members

[15] This item was discussed jointly with item 6.1.

6.4 Update on study on plant health and climate change

[16] The IYPH Secretariat delivered an update on the status of the study. The IYPH ISC Chairperson thanked Ms Annamaria D'ONGHIA for her extensive inputs in drafting the documents on the study. One member suggested to move forward by including:

- the perspective of water. not just the shifts in temperatures, in consideration of the current erratic precipitations;
- the fragility of small islands economy, since these countries face extreme poverty and famine, often with less possibilities to tackle them; and
- the potential addition of co-authors with experience on African-related topics, noting the lack thereof.

[17] Several members asked for clarifications about the nomination of authors, on the method to provide inputs and the shortlist of pests identified by the paper. One IYPH observer suggested to include a forestry-related pest and a case-study in this paper.

[18] The IYPH ISC Chairperson clarified that the proposed study will be conducted following FAO procedures, and it would fall upon the IYPH Secretariat to select the lead -authors, who would then in turn select co-authors. He also elaborated that the Terms of Reference do include the issue of water and small islands economy, since the study is on climate change-impact on pests, depending on water availability amongst other factors, concluding that it may be further emphasised. Mr LOPIAN informed the IYPH ISC that forestry-related cases are accounted for in the study – but may be further underlined – and that the selection of pests was based upon regional balance and a variety of different hosts. He mentioned that the inclusion of one particular pest, the desert locust, was the result of a compromise. One member suggested that FAO would provide the best expertise to support this process and mentioned that there would be a summary for policy makers.

[19] The IYPH ISC:

- (3) *Noted* the update.
- (4) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to initiate the process for the development of the study.





6.5 Proposals for new activities

[20] This item was deferred to another meeting due to time constraints.

7. IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization

[21] This item was deferred to another meeting due to time constraints.

8. IYPH Communication

8.1 Update on IYPH communications plan

[22] The IYPH Secretariat presented an update on the IYPH communication plan. The IYPH ISC members welcomed the update and asked to increase the digital presence both internally and externally, for instance through IYPH-related targeted communication for FAO Members and personnel and an increased spread of the IYPH visual identity in FAO premises.

[23] The IYPH Secretariat underlined that the IYPH website already contains a page of “IYPH Friends” and it would be useful to receive suggestions from IYPH ISC members. One IYPH ISC member suggested to communicate proposals in between meetings via email to facilitate discussion and approval.

[24] The IYPH ISC:

(5) *Noted* the update.

(6) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to increase the digital presence both internally and externally, for instance through IYPH-related targeted communication for FAO Members and personnel and an increased spread of the IYPH visual identity in FAO premises.

8.2 Update on IYPH ambassadors

[25] The IYPH Secretariat updated the IYPH ISC on the ongoing process for the appointment of Goodwill Ambassadors (GWA). She informed the IYPH ISC that the proposed list has been reviewed by the FAO Director-General (DG) and a feedback is expected shortly. The IYPH Secretariat clarified that the GWA will be appointed for a whole year as a compensation for the current halt to certain activities due to the COVID-19 outbreak and a number of influencers will also be nominated and approached soon.

[26] One member asked for clarifications regarding the role of influencers and the IYPH Secretariat explained that influencers are supported with content but are not associated with the IYPH; also, influencers are providing this support in-kind.

[27] Several IYPH ISC members and observers expressed their dissatisfaction with the excessive duration of the process. They expressed their hope that the proposed candidates have a sufficiently high profile outside the plant health community. The IYPH ISC strongly encouraged the IYPH Secretariat to expedite the process of nomination, regretting that the latest nominations were not shared with the IYPH ISC.

[28] The IYPH ISC:





- (7) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to provide an update to the IYPH ISC on GWA appointment by FAO and share the list submitted to the FAO DG.
- (8) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to share a list, examples and Terms of Reference of influencers as soon as possible.
- (9) *Suggested* to the IYPH Secretariat to adopt any measure to expedite GWA appointment, considering that GWAs should have a high public recognition outside the plant health community.

9. Any Other Business

[29] No item under Any Other Business was discussed.

10. Next Meeting

[30] The IYPH ISC proposed to hold the next meeting on Monday 25 May focusing on IYPH Legacy, Potential increase of Communication, Resource Mobilization and IPHC updates and to keep meeting regularly every two weeks.

11. Close of the Meeting

[31] The IYPH ISC Chairperson thanked all participants and closed the meeting.





Annex 1 – Agenda

AGENDA ITEM		DOCUMENT NO.	PRESENTER
1	Opening Session	--	Chaired by Mr Jingyuan XIA (IPPC Secretary)
1.1	Opening address from FAO DDG-P		Ms Beth BECHDOL
1.2	Welcome address from IYPH-ISC Chairperson		Mr Ralf LOPIAN
2	Meeting Arrangements		Mr Ralf LOPIAN
2.1	Adoption of the Agenda	01_IYPH-ISC_2020-03	
3.	Administrative Matters	--	Mr Mirko MONTUORI (IYPH Secretariat)
4	Matters arising from previous meeting	Link to sixth IYPH ISC meeting report	Mr MONTUORI
5	IYPH Legacy	--	ISC members
6	IYPH Action Plan		
6.1	COVID-19 and its impacts on IYPH 2020	--	Mr Arop DENG (IYPH Secretariat) / Mr LOPIAN
6.2	Review of IYPH action plan due to the Covid-19 crisis (including discussion on key global events such as: SPS side event, HLPF, CPM-15, FAW and fusarium wilt TR4 events, IPPC-CBD joint event at COP-15, IPHC, and IYPH closing ceremony)	Link to IYPH Action Plan (appendix 3 to third IYPH ISC meeting report)	Mr DENG
6.3	Updates and reflections by ISC members	--	ISC members
6.4	Update on study on plant health and climate change	02_IYPH-ISC_2020-03	Mr LOPIAN
6.5	Proposals for new activities	--	Mr LOPIAN
7	IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization	03_IYPH-ISC_2020-03	Mr MONTUORI
8	IYPH Communication		Ms Berlant QABEEL (IYPH Secretariat)
8.1	Update on IYPH communications plan	--	
8.2	Update on IYPH ambassadors	--	
9	Any Other Business	--	Mr LOPIAN
10	Next Meeting	--	Mr LOPIAN
11	Close of the Meeting	--	Mr LOPIAN



Annex 2 – Participants List

	Region	Name	Email address	Status
✓	Africa	Ms Elsa SIMOES Deputy Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD and WFP CABO VERDE	elsa.simoese@ambcapoverde.com	Africa Member
✓	Africa	Ms Phyllis MENDS Deputy Representative of Ghana to FAO GHANA	phyllismends@yahoo.co.uk	Africa Alternate
✓	Asia	Mr B. RAJENDER Minister (Agriculture) at Embassy of India to Italy INDIA	agri.rome@mea.gov.in	Asia Member
	Asia	Mr MUHAMMAD SUHAIL MUHAMMAD Agriculture Attaché Office Embassy of Malaysia MALASYA	aaa.rome@ambasciatamalaysia.it	Asia Alternate
✓	Europe	Ms Aulikki HULMI Deputy Permanent Representative of Finland to FAO FINLAND	aulikki.hulmi@formin.fi	Europe Member
✓	Europe	Mr Sam BISHOP Lead for the International Plant Health Policy Team at DEFRA UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	sam.bishop@defra.gov.uk	Europe Alternate
✓	Latin America and Caribbean	Ms Monica REBELLO ROFFIONI Ambassador of Nicaragua in Italy NICARAGUA	embanicitalia@gmail.com	Latin America and Caribbean Member
✓	Latin America and Caribbean	Ms Rebeca CUTIE CANCINO Consejera a cargo de Asuntos Multilaterales, Embassy of Cuba to Italy CUBA	ofimultilateral@ecuitalia.it	Latin America and Caribbean Alternate
✓	North America	Ms Jennifer FELLOWS Agricultural Counsellor, Embassy of Canada to Italy CANADA	Jennifer.Fellows@international.gc.ca	North America Member
✓	North America	Mr Sean COX Alternate Permanent Representative, US Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	CoxS2@state.gov	North America Alternate
	North America	Ms Maria Adelaide D'ARCANGELO Alternate Permanent Representative, US Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	MariaAdelaide.DArcangelo@fas.usda.gov	North America Alternate
✓	Southwest Pacific	Ms Ruth MALLETT Agriculture Adviser, Australian Embassy in Rome AUSTRALIA	ruth.mallett@dfat.gov.au	Southwest Pacific Member



✓	Southwest Pacific	Mr Don SYME Deputy Permanent Representative New Zealand Embassy in Rome NEW ZEALAND	Don.Syme@mfat.govt.nz	Southwest Pacific Alternate
✓	IYPH Technical Advisory Board	Mr Ralf LOPIAN Senior Advisor International Affairs IPPC Official Contact Point Food Department / Animal and Plant Health Unit Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Mariankatu 11, Helsinki Phone: (+358) 295 162329 FINLAND	ralf.lopian@mmm.fi	IYPH Technical Advisory Board Member, Chairperson
✓	IYPH Technical Advisory Board	Ms Kyu-ock YIM Senior Researcher Department of Plant Quarantine, Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs 177, Hyeoksin 8-ro, Gimcheon-si Republic of Korea Phone: (+82) 549120627 REPUBLIC OF KOREA	koyim@korea.kr	IYPH Technical Advisory Board Member, Vice-Chairperson
✓	Academia and Research	Ms Anna Maria D'ONGHIA Principal Administrator - Head of the Knowledge Unit on Precision Crop Protection CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE HAUTES ETUDES AGRONOMIQUES MEDITERRANEENNES (CIHEAM)	donghia@iamb.it	Academia and Research Representative
✓	Civil Society and Farmers Organization	Mr Pedro Ignacio GALLARDO BARRENA Chair of Copa Cogeca Working Party on phytosanitary issues COPA-COGECA	pgallardo@asajacadiz.org pitgallardo@hotmail.com	Civil Society and Farmers Organization Representative
✓	Industry and Private Sector	Mr Michael KELLER Secretary-General INTERNATIONAL SEED FEDERATION (ISF)	M.Keller@worldseed.org	Industry and Private Sector Representative
✓	International Organization	Mr Rolando ALCALA SPS Section Agriculture and Commodities Division World Trade Organization Rue de Lausanne 154 1211 Geneva 21, Switzerland Tel: +41 22/ 739 65 83 Fax +41 22/ 739 57 60 WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)	Rolando.Alcala@wto.org	International Organizations Representative
✓	Regional Group	Mr Roman VAGNER Administrator, DG SANTE, Plant Health Unit – European Commission Rue Froissart 101 Brussels, Belgium EUROPEAN UNION	Roman.VAGNER@ec.europa.eu	Regional Groups Representative
	Resource Organization	Mr Shane SELA Senior Trade Facilitation Specialist WORLD BANK	ssela@worldbank.org	Resource Organizations Representative





✓	Regional Plant Protection Organization	Mr Nico HORN Director-General European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)		RPPO Representative (on a rotational basis)
---	----------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	------------------------------------------------

Observers:

✓	FAO Regional Office for Africa	Mr Jean BAHAMA Plant Production and Protection Officer FAO RAF, Accra	Jean.Bahama@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	FAO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific	Mr Shakeel AHMED KHAN Seed Sector Consultant FAO Pakistan for FAO RAP, Bangkok	Shakeel.AhmedKhan@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	FAO Regional Office for Europe	Mr Piotr WLODARCZYK Agricultural Officer FAO REU, Budapest	Piotr.wlodarczyk@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	FAO Regional Office for Europe / FAO Forestry Department	Ms Shiroma SATHYAPALA Forestry Officer FAO REU, Budapest	Shiroma.Sathyapala@fao.org	FAO Forestry Department Representative
✓	FAO Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean	Ms Raixa LAUGER Agricultural Officer FAO Subregional Office for Mesoamerica (SLM) for FAO RLC, Santiago	Raixa.Llauger@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	FAO Regional Office for Near East and North Africa	Mr Thaer YASEEN Plant Protection Officer FAO Regional Office for Near East and North Africa	Thaer.Yaseen@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative

FAO Secretariat:

FAO DDG	Ms Beth BECHDOL	Beth.Bechdol@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Mr Jingyuan XIA	Jingyuan.Xia@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Mr Arop DENG	Arop.Deng@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Mr Mirko MONTUORI	Mirko.Montuori@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI	Riccardo.Mazzucchelli@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Ms Viivi KUVAJA	Viivi.Kuvaja@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Ms Sara GIULIANI	Sara.Giuliani@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Mr Artur SHAMILOV	Artur.Shamilov@fao.org
IPPC Secretariat	Mr Descartes KOUMBA	Descartes.Koumba@fao.org
AGP	Ms Christine FUELL	Christine.Fuell@fao.org
AGP	Mr Maged EL KAHKY	Maged.ElKahky@fao.org
AGP	Mr Shane HARNETT	Shane.Harnett@fao.org
PSP	Ms Dongxin FENG	Dongxin.Feng@fao.org
PSP	Ms Kayo TAKENOSHITA	Kayo.Takenoshita@fao.org
PSP	Mr Teodor DOSA	Tedor.Dosa@fao.org
OCCO	Ms Berlant QABEEL	Berlant.Qabeel@fao.org
OCCO	Ms Aoife RIORDAN	Aoife.Riordan@fao.org





Annex 3 – Action List

N.	Action	Lead	Deadline
1	Report on the exact dates for the IPHC in 2021 by the next meeting.	IYPH ISC Chairperson	25 May 2020
2	Initiate the process for the development of the study on the impact of climate change on plant health.	IYPH Secretariat	25 May 2020
3	Increase the digital presence both internally and externally, for instance through IYPH-related targeted communication for FAO Members and personnel and an increased spread of the IYPH visual identity in FAO premises.	IYPH Secretariat	Ongoing
4	Provide an update to the IYPH ISC on GWA appointment by FAO and share the list submitted to the FAO DG.	IYPH Secretariat	25 May 2020
5	Share a list, examples and Terms of Reference of influencers as soon as possible.	IYPH Secretariat	22 May 2020
6	Adopt any measure to expedite GWA appointment, considering that GWA should be famous individuals also outside the plant health community.	IYPH Secretariat	25 May 2020

