



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANT HEALTH INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

**Rome, Italy
2 February 2021**



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
PLANT HEALTH
2020

www.fao.org/plant-health-2020
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PROTECTING PLANTS,
PROTECTING LIFE



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1. Opening of the Meeting

- [1] Mr Ralf LOPIAN, Chairperson of the IYPH International Steering Committee (IYPH ISC), welcomed all participants to the first meeting of the ISC in 2021.
- [2] The IYPH ISC Chairperson welcomed and appreciated the participation of the new representative for North America, Ms Keva MCKENNIREY (Canada).

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- [3] The Provisional Agenda was circulated, adopted and is attached to this report as Annex 1.

3. Participants List

- [4] The Participants List is attached to this report as Annex 2.

4. Background and Reports

- [5] The IYPH Secretariat reported that all actions emerging from the previous IYPH ISC meeting were carried out fully, except the development of a web page on the IYPH ISC, which was being worked on.

5. IYPH Legacy

5.1 Youth Declaration on Plant Health

- [6] The IYPH Secretariat presented an update on the current status of the IYPH youth declaration, informing the IYPH ISC about the first meeting by the drafting committee on 20 January 2021. The meeting was attended by all the institutions and individuals who responded to the call, who discussed and agreed on the timeline and work modality to deliver the Youth Declaration by 1 June 2021.
- [7] The IYPH ISC suggested to have the Youth Declaration on Plant Health taking place on the IYPH closing ceremony.
- [8] The IYPH ISC:
 - (1) *Agreed* on presenting the Youth Declaration on Plant Health during the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July 2021, and *encouraged* the IYPH Secretariat to promote diversity and geographical balance during the said event.

6. IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization

- [9] The IYPH Secretariat presented the current financial situation, highlighting the expenditure that did not take place in 2020 due to the COVID-19 impact. It asked the IYPH ISC on how to reallocate such funds, especially with regard to the proposed rescheduling of certain events and in terms of communication.
- [10] The IYPH ISC discussed the available budget and savings from 2020 and decided that the funds allocated to the IPHC would be held in reserve until the conference could be organized, possibly during the week of 9 – 13 May 2022, noting that a new host country is required.
- [11] The IYPH ISC noted the various pending communication items and agreed to increase the allocation on the Global Study on *Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health* by USD 10 000, noting that the unallocated available budget for Communication activities totals USD 80 000 to date.
- [12] The IYPH ISC encouraged the IYPH Secretariat to continue funding the ongoing and planned activities accordingly to maintain and possibly increase outreach activities, especially for the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July 2021 and linked preparatory activities.
- [13] The IYPH ISC decided that any leftovers from the IYPH should fund the preparation and organization of the first International Day of Plant Health, once established.





[14] The IYPH ISC:

- (2) *Agreed* to redirect the already-allocated IPHC funds to holding the conference at a later date, possibly during the week of 9 – 13 May 2022.
- (3) *Increased* the allocation on the Global Study on *Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health* by USD 10 000.
- (4) *Decided* that any leftovers from the IYPH should fund the preparation and organization of the first International Day of Plant Health, once established after consultation with the donor countries.
- (5) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to adapt and update the IYPH Communication Plan in accordance with the new activities and availabilities.

7. IYPH Communication¹

[15] The IYPH Secretariat updated the IYPH ISC on the latest advancements in IYPH communication activities, particularly about the involvement of IYPH Advocates on numerous online initiatives that received considerable attention and positive feedback.

[16] The IYPH ISC welcomed the update and asked for the possibility to promote the EUPHRESKO/CIHEAM videos on IYPH social media platforms.

[17] One IYPH ISC member expressed his grievance after noticing that a webpage on the IYPH ISC was still missing after several months of inquiries regarding its status. The IYPH ISC demanded the IYPH Secretariat to prepare the requested page and place it online by the next IYPH ISC meeting.

[18] The IYPH ISC:

- (6) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to promote the EUPHRESKO/CIHEAM videos on IYPH social media platforms.
- (7) *Demanded* the IYPH Secretariat to prepare a page on the IYPH website with the current membership of the IYPH ISC by the next meeting.

8. IYPH Action Plan

8.1 Planning for the International Plant Health Conference and IYPH Closing Ceremony and update on possible listing as Preparatory Meeting of the UN Food Systems Summit

[19] The IYPH ISC Chairperson introduced the discussion², noting the previous modifications to the IPHC due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and recalling that the IYPH ISC discussed and agreed to hold a hybrid conference. He informed the IYPH ISC that the current situation in Finland does not allow to hold international conferences in the country throughout the entire duration of 2021 and voiced his deep personal disappointment about this development. He presented the remaining options for organising the conference, namely postponing it further or holding it entirely virtually. The IYPH ISC Chairperson summarised the elements in favour and against the different options for discussion, highlighting that the host country may vary. He concluded on the importance of holding a relevant international event on plant health regularly and in person.

[20] The IYPH ISC shared his disappointment on the impossibility to hold the IPHC in Helsinki in 2021, and expressed appreciation to Finnish government and support to the IYPH ISC Chairperson. Some IYPH ISC members suggested to finalise a date, acknowledging that some restrictions will prevent people from travelling but suggested organising a meeting with speakers coming physically in one place in 2021,

¹ Items 7.1 Update on IYPH Advocates, 7.2 Update on IYPH Website and Social Media and 7.3 Update on IYPH Photo Contest and Art and Drawing Competition (including details on voting) were presented as a single item through a presentation that was circulated amongst IYPH ISC members.

² Paper 05_IYPH-ISC_2021-14





keeping the already selected dates and maintaining the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July, with few speakers focusing on the most crucial items.

- [21] The IYPH ISC suggested to establish a regular event focusing on plant health each year. The IYPH ISC supported the idea of holding a physical conference, noting the need to look for a new host country.
- [22] Several IYPH ISC members proposed that a series of events paving the way to the IPHC in 2022 may continue supporting the IYPH work but also queried on which body may be suitable to coordinate such activities once the IYPH comes to an end on 1 July 2021.
- [23] The IYPH ISC Chairperson welcomed the discussion and thanked the IYPH ISC members for their expressions of support and appreciation. He clarified that the IPPC Technical Advisory Body (TAB) may take the role of the IYPH ISC in supporting the organization of the IPHC and a series of virtual webinars on the road to the IPHC: one webinar on 29 June and one on 30 June 2021 focusing on Food Systems and on Climate Change, respectively. He proposed that the IYPH closing event should take place in Rome, possibly with some main speakers *in situ*.
- [24] The IYPH Secretariat highlighted that a concept note on the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July had been drafted, including three segments: a high-level segment with the participation of the FAO Director-General and other high-level figures, an award ceremony for the photo, art and video competitions, and an expert panel to reflect on the IYPH achievements and legacy.
- [25] The IYPH ISC:
 - (8) *Noted* that the International Plant Health Conference in Helsinki was cancelled by the government of Finland due to the impossibility of convening a physical meeting, and the necessity to grant such a modality for the success of the first initiative of this kind.
 - (9) *Agreed* that the first International Plant Health Conference should still be organised, possibly in the week of 12 May 2022, which would possibly coincide with the first International Day of Plant Health.
 - (10) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to actively engage in calling for a new host country of the first International Plant Health Conference.
 - (11) *Agreed* to publish the Global Study on *Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health* on 1 June 2021 and organize the first event “on the road to the first IPHC in 2022 on this topic.
 - (12) *Requested* the IYPH Secretariat to organise the second and third event “on the road to IPHC in 2022” on 29 and 30 June 2021 on the following topics: Plant Health and Food Systems, and Plant Health and Climate Change, and *asked* to provide a concept note on those at the next IYPH ISC meetings.
 - (13) *Agreed* that the IPPC TAB will take the leading organizational role in advancing work on the road to the first IPHC after the IYPH comes to an end.
 - (14) *Agreed* to reviewing the concept note for the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July 2021 by the end of the current week via email.

8.2 Progress with Global Study on Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health

- [26] The IYPH Secretariat updated the IYPH ISC on the current state of the Global Study on *Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health*, informing the IYPH ISC that the currently invited speakers are the Minister of Agriculture of Zambia, the Permanent Secretary of Finland, the lead author of the study, an IPCC speaker and a representative from Euphresco.
- [27] The IYPH ISC:
 - (15) *Endorsed* the proposed list of speakers and programme for the high-level launch of the Global Study on *Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health*.





8.3 Proposals for IYPH events/initiatives in 2021

[28] This item was deferred to the next IYPH ISC meeting.

8.4 Proposal for Art Event linked to Plant Health in 2021

[29] This item was deferred to the next IYPH ISC meeting.

9. Any Other Business

The IYPH ISC Chairperson noted no items under Any Other Business.

10. Next Meeting

The next meetings of the IYPH ISC are scheduled for:

- 2 March 2021
- 6 April 2021
- 3 May 2021
- 7 June 2021
- 2 July 2021

11. Close of the Meeting

The IYPH ISC thanked all participants for their contributions and adjourned the meeting.





Annex 1 – Agenda

| AGENDA ITEM | | DOCUMENT NO. | PRESENTER |
|-------------|--|---|---|
| 1 | Opening of the Meeting | | Mr Ralf LOPIAN (ISC Chairperson) |
| 2 | Adoption of the Agenda | 01_IYPH-ISC_2021-14 | Mr Ralf LOPIAN |
| 3 | Participants List | 02_IYPH-ISC_2021-14 | Mr Mirko MONTUORI (IYPH Secretariat) |
| 4 | Background and Reports | Link to report of thirteenth IYPH ISC meeting | Mr Arop DENG (IYPH Secretariat) |
| 5 | IYPH Legacy | | |
| 5.1 | Youth Declaration on Plant Health | 03_IYPH-ISC_2021-14 | Ms Viivi KUVAJA (IYPH Secretariat) |
| 6 | IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization | 04_IYPH-ISC_2021-14 | Mr Mirko MONTUORI |
| 7 | IYPH Communication | PPT | Mr Berlant QABEEL (IYPH Secretariat) |
| 7.1 | Update on IYPH Advocates | -- | |
| 7.2 | Update on IYPH Website and Social Media | -- | |
| 7.3 | Update on IYPH Photo Contest and Art and Drawing Competition (including details on voting) | -- | |
| 8 | IYPH Action Plan | | |
| 8.1 | Planning for the International Plant Health Conference and IYPH Closing Ceremony and update on possible listing as Preparatory Meeting of the UN Food Systems Summit | 05_IYPH-ISC_2021-14 | Mr Ralf LOPIAN |
| 8.2 | Progress with Study on Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health | 06_IYPH-ISC_2021-14 | Ms Viivi KUVAJA (IYPH Secretariat) |
| 8.3 | Proposals for IYPH events/initiatives in 2021 | -- | ISC members |
| 8.4 | Proposal for Art Event linked to Plant Health in 2021 | 07_IYPH-ISC_2021-14 | Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI (IYPH Secretariat) |
| 9 | Any Other Business | -- | Mr Ralf LOPIAN |
| 10 | Next Meetings – proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 1 • April 5 • May 3 • June 7 • July 2 | -- | Mr Ralf LOPIAN |
| 11 | Close of the Meeting | -- | Mr Ralf LOPIAN |



Annex 2 – Participants List

IYPH ISC members:

| | 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 |
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| ✓ | 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 | Mr Junior ESCOBAR F. Alternate Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to FAO, IFAD and WFP Embassy of the Republic of Nicaragua to FAO, IFAD and WFP 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 |
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|---|--|--|--|--|
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| | Southwest Pacific | Mr Don SYME Deputy Permanent Representative New Zealand Embassy in Rome NEW ZEALAND | Don.Syme@mfat.govt.nz | Southwest Pacific Alternate |
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| ✓ | IYPH Technical Advisory Board / Vice-Chairperson | 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 |
| ✓ | 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 |
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| | Resource Organization | Mr Shane SELA Senior Trade Facilitation Specialist WORLD BANK | ssela@worldbank.org | Resource Organizations Representative |
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| ✓ | International Day of Plant Health Champion | Mr Martin KABEMBA Agricultural Research Officer CC: Mr Kenneth MSISKA Mr Chris KATOKA NPPO of Zambia | martinkabemba@yahoo.com CC: msiska12@yahoo.co.uk chriskatota@gmail.com | International Day of Plant Health Champion |

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Annex 3 – Action List

| N. | Action | Lead | Deadline |
|----|--|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | Present the Youth Declaration on Plant Health during the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July 2021. | IYPH Secretariat | 1 July 2021 |
| 2 | Review the concept note of the IYPH closing ceremony, requesting the participation of the FAO Director-General and other high-level speakers, with a view to promote diversity and geographical balance. | IYPH Secretariat | 2 March 2021 |
| 3 | Adjust the IYPH budget and communication plan according to IYPH ISC decisions | IYPH Secretariat | 2 March 2021 |
| 4 | Ensure that the unspent balance from the IYPH budget is allocated towards the first International Day of Plant Health and its preparatory initiatives. | IPPC Secretariat | Ongoing |
| 5 | Promote the EUPHRESCO/CIHIEAM videos on IYPH social media platforms. | IYPH Secretariat | 2 March 2021 |
| 6 | prepare a page on the IYPH website with the current membership of the IYPH ISC | IYPH Secretariat | 2 March 2021 |
| 7 | Communicate the cancelling of the International Plant Health Conference in Helsinki | IYPH Secretariat / Finland | 12 February 2021 |
| 8 | Organize the first International Plant Health Conference, possibly in the week of 12 May 2022, which would possibly coincide with the first International Day of Plant Health. | FAO and IPPC Secretariat | May 2022 |
| 9 | Actively engage in calling for a new host country of the first International Plant Health Conference. | IYPH Secretariat | 1 July 2021 |
| 10 | Publish the Global Study on Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health. | IYPH Secretariat | 1 June 2021 |
| 11 | Continue organizing the high-level launch of the Global Study on Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health based on the agreed concept note. | IYPH Secretariat | 1 June 2021 |
| 12 | Organise the second and third event “on the road to IPHC in 2022” on 29 and 30 June 2021 on the following topics: Plant Health and Food Systems, and Plant Health and Climate Change, and provide a concept note on those at the next IYPH ISC meetings. | IYPH Secretariat | 2 March 2021 (CN) 29-30 June 2021 (launch and publication) |
| 13 | Ensure that the IPPC TAB takes the leading organizational role in advancing work on the road to the first IPHC after the IYPH comes to an end. | CPM / IPPC Secretariat | 1 April 2021 |
| 14 | Review the concept note for the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July 2021 via email | IYPH ISC | 12 March 2021 |
| 15 | Discuss proposals for IYPH events/initiatives in 2021, including art-related events | IYPH ISC | 2 March 2021 |

