



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

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

**Rome, Italy
2 March 2021**



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
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 (ISC) opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

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

3. Participants List

- [3] The Participants List is attached to this report as [Annex 2](#).

4. Background and Reports

- [4] The IYPH Secretariat reported that all actions emerging from the previous IYPH ISC meeting were fully carried out.

5. IYPH Legacy

5.1 Youth Declaration on Plant Health

- [5] The IYPH Secretariat reported that the drafting committee of the Youth Declaration on Plant Health would meet on Thursday 4 March 2021, focusing on the next steps, particularly on drafting an open letter, detailing the sections of the declaration as well as the steps leading to its launch on 1 July 2021, during the IYPH closing ceremony.

- [6] The IYPH ISC

- (1) *Noted* the update and expressed its interest in receiving an update during the next IYPH ISC meeting on the content of the declaration.

6. IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization

- [7] The IYPH Secretariat presented the update on the current IYPH financial situation, including the modifications as discussed during the previous meetings. This includes singling out savings from meeting costs, increasing the budget for study on *The Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health* to USD 20 000, and maintaining a budget of USD 10 000 for the IYPH final report / legacy document.

- [8] The IYPH ISC Chairperson asked for clarifications on the IYPH legacy document. The IYPH Secretariat clarified that said document consists in the final report of the International Year of Plant Health and is already included in the IPPC Secretariat publication plan for 2021. It added further that the IYPH legacy document is going to be drafted in collaboration with relevant FAO units and that may establish a methodology for similar plant-health-related publications.

- [9] The IYPH ISC also reviewed the proposal for re-allocating budget from cancellation of CPM costs (USD 35 000) and a budget surplus from financial contributions that were not included in the previous version of the budget (USD 9 715) towards the funding of additional staff costs for the first half of 2021. The proposal was approved.

- [10] The IYPH ISC acknowledged the surplus due to the cancellation of meeting costs (other than CPM) and postponement of the International Plant Health Conference, and decided to allocate savings towards organising the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) in 2022 in conjunction with the first International Day of Plant Health (IDPH), once established.

- [11] The IYPH ISC:

- (2) *Noted* the report on the current IYPH budgetary situation.





- (3) *Recommended* that the surplus of meeting costs (other than CPM) and the postponement of the International Plant Health Conference be utilized towards organising the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) in 2022 in conjunction with the first International Day of Plant Health (IDPH), once established.

7. IYPH Communication¹

- [12] The IYPH Secretariat presented the update on communication activities, including the latest events that involved the IYPH advocates, Chairperson and some IYPH ISC members, specifying that the IYPH travellers' campaign may be adjusted to address a wider audience, as it was designed for airports originally.
- [13] The IYPH ISC Chairperson suggested to elaborate a methodology to collect accurate statistics on the IYPH impact despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The IYPH ISC raised the issue of continuing to pursue gender balance in all communication products.
- [14] The IYPH ISC:
- (4) *Suggested* the IYPH Secretariat to seek methods to compare the IYPH presence in social media and other means of communication with previous international years, if any and including a corresponding section in the IYPH final report.
 - (5) *Thanked* the IYPH Secretariat for publishing the requested web page on the IYPH ISC, and *asked* to include relevant email addresses to the same page.
 - (6) *Invited* the IYPH Secretariat to continue pursuing gender balance in all its activities.

8. IYPH Action Plan

8.1 Progress with Study on Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health (and high-level launch on 1 June 2021)

- [15] The IYPH Secretariat informed the IYPH ISC about the status of the draft, which has been circulated and is now under a peer review until 10 March 2021 by several reviewers from each FAO region, while the IPPC Secretariat is working on a summary for policy-makers in collaboration with the lead author, Prof. GULLINO.
- [16] The IYPH Secretariat summarised the programme for the high-level launch event, scheduled for 1 June 2021, clarifying that the FAO Director-General has been invited to the event and the programme has been shortened to ensure its feasibility in the allocated time.
- [17] The IYPH ISC:
- (7) *Agreed* on the shortened agenda for the launch event of the study on *The Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health*.

8.2 Planning for IYPH webinars (29 and 30 June 2021)

- [18] The IYPH Secretariat outlined the draft programme of the IYPH webinars on 29 and 30 June 2021, focusing on Plant Health and Food Systems on 29 June and on Climate Change Impacts on plant health on the 30 June, with the objective to focus on the synergies between food systems and plant health, contributing to the Food System Summit in September 2021 and IPHC in May 2022.
- [19] The IYPH Secretariat brought to the attention of the IYPH ISC that FAO is organising various events in the context of the FAO Science Day on 28 and 29 June and some IYPH Secretariat members are part of the group coordinating the event, suggesting potential synergies between the two initiatives.

¹ Agenda items 7.1 Update on IYPH Advocates and 7.2 Update on IYPH Website and Social Media were discussed jointly under Agenda item 7. IYPH Communication.





- [20] The IYPH ISC agreed on the possibility to link the two events and suggested to include biodiversity when addressing the topic of climate change impacts on plant health, also asking for clarifications on the selection of speakers. The IYPH Secretariat clarified that the programme needs to be finalised before identifying potential speakers, ensuring that the proposal aims to ensuring the broadest participation of all IYPH stakeholders.
- [21] The IYPC ISC noted that the suggested programme foresees the participation of youth organizations, and asked the IYPH Secretariat to ensure said organizations possess the necessary technical background to participate to such webinars. The IYPH Secretariat agreed to revise the proposal and asked to share it with the IYPH ISC prior to the next meeting to accelerate the process.
- [22] The IYPH ISC:
- (8) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to developed detailed programmes for the two webinars, carefully weighting how speakers may contribute to the discussion.
 - (9) *Agreed* to review the tentative revised programmes before the next IYPH ISC meeting via email exchange.

8.3 Planning for the IYPH Closing Ceremony (1 July 2021)

- [23] The IYPH ISC Chairperson provided an update on the IYPH closing ceremony, which was originally thought to be in association with the IPHC but is now planned to take place in Rome, virtually and in person, if possible. He informed the IYPH ISC that the FAO Director-General was invited to open the IYPH closing ceremony, while the Presidents of Finland Ireland would not be available, but respective Ministers are likely to attend. He noted that pre-recorded messages by the Ministers may be equally acceptable.
- [24] The IYPH ISC discussed the proposed programme and concurred that the third section (panel discussion on the IYPH achievements and legacy) should be led by the IYPH ISC Chairperson.
- [25] The IYPH ISC:
- (10) *Agreed* to the draft programme and asked the IYPH Secretariat to draft the detailed proposal and make the necessary arrangements to ensure the participation of high-level speakers.
 - (11) *Agreed* that the IYPH ISC Chairperson would lead the third session and present on the IYPH achievements and legacy.

8.4 Proposals for IYPH events/initiatives in 2021

- [26] Ms Anna Maria D'ONGHIA (CIHEAM) informed the IYPH ISC about the launch of a compendium of research on plant health, aiming at promoting research in the Mediterranean region, occurring on 12 May. The IYPH ISC Chairperson invited Ms D'ONGHIA to draft a one-page document for review by the IYPH ISC.
- [27] The IYPH Secretariat reported that the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee) is taking place during the last week of March 2021 and that the IPPC Secretariat is organising a side event, extending an invitation to attend.
- [28] The IYPH ISC Chairperson shared that he is participating to an event organised by the International Floriculture Association on 24 March, which is also going to interview him prior to the event.
- [29] IYPH ISC noted that the 11 February is the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, which may become an opportunity to promote the role of women in plant health research too.

8.5 IYPH Secretariat update on the considerations including an art exhibition into the programme

- [30] The IYPH Secretariat reported that the initiative was strictly linked to holding the International Plant Health Conference in person and that creating a virtual space linking plant health and art may be better addressed





by re-discussing the entire concept. It also noted that the initial proposal exceeds the current IYPH financial possibilities.

- [31] The IYPH ISC Chairperson expressed its support for the initiative even beyond the IYPH as he considers extremely worthwhile exploring such cross pollination. He also underlined the importance of securing the necessary funds prior to undertaking any steps towards implementation, while suggesting to look into cooperation amongst different organizations.

9. Any Other Business

- [32] No additional business was discussed.

10. Close of the Meeting

- [33] The IYPH ISC Chairperson thanked all the participants and closed 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_2021-15	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
3	Participants List	02_IYPH-ISC_2021-15	Mr Mirko MONTUORI (IYPH Secretariat)
4	Background and Reports	Link to report of fourteenth IYPH ISC meeting	Mr Arop DENG (IYPH Secretariat)
5	IYPH Legacy		
5.1	Youth Declaration on Plant Health	--	Ms Viivi KUVAJA (IYPH Secretariat)
6	IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization	03_IYPH-ISC_2021-15	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	--	
8	IYPH Action Plan		
8.1	Progress with Study on Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health (and high-level launch on 1 June 2021)	04_IYPH-ISC_2021-15	Ms Viivi KUVAJA (IYPH Secretariat)
8.2	Planning for IYPH webinars (29 and 30 June 2021)	05_IYPH-ISC_2021-15	Mr Mirko MONTUORI
8.3	Planning for the IYPH Closing Ceremony (1 July 2021)	06_IYPH-ISC_2021-15	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
8.4	Proposals for IYPH events/initiatives in 2021	--	ISC members
8.5	IYPH Secretariat update on the considerations including an art exhibition into the programme	--	Mr Riccardo MAZZUCHELLI (IYPH Secretariat)
9	Any Other Business	--	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
10	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
✓	Africa	Ms Phyllis MENDES Deputy Representative of Ghana to FAO GHANA	phyllismends@yahoo.co.uk	Africa Alternate
✓	Africa	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 MALAYSIA	aaa.rome@ambasciatamalaysia.it	Asia Alternate
✓	Europe	Ms Aulikki HULMI Deputy Permanent Representative of Finland to FAO FINLAND	Aulikki.Hulmi@mmm.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	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
	Latin America and Caribbean	Mr Gustavo MOSTAJO OCOLA Agregado Agrícola ante la FAO, PMA y FIDA PERU	gmostajo@ambasciataperu.com	Latin America and Caribbean Alternate
✓	Near East	Ms Sadia Elmubarak Ahmed DAAK Agricultural Counsellor, Embassy of Sudan to Italy SUDAN	saadiadaaka@yahoo.com	Near East Member



✓	North America	Ms Keva MCKENEREY Councillor (Agriculture), Embassy of Canada to Italy Alternate Permanent Representative of Canada to the Food and Agriculture Agencies of the U.N. CANADA	Keva.McKennirey@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 / Chairperson	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
✓	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	donghia@iamb.it	Academia and Research Representative





		AGRONOMIQUES MEDITERRANEENNES (CIHEAM)		
	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	On a rotational basis EPPO CAHFSa	nico.horn@epo.int juliet.goldsmith@cahfsa.org	RPPO Representative





Observers:

✓	FAO Regional Office for Africa	Mr Jean BAHAMA Plant Production and Protection Officer FAO Regional Office, Accra	Jean.Bahama@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	FAO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific	Mr GC YUBAK Senior Agricultural Officer FAO Regional Office, Bangkok	Yubak.GC@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	FAO Regional Office for Europe	Mr Piotr WLODARCZYK Agricultural Officer Ms Shiroma SATHYAPALA Forestry Officer	Piotr.wlodarczyk@fao.org Shiroma.Sathyapala@fao.org	FAO Regional Office 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
✓	Industry and Private Sector	Ms Rose SOUZA RICHARDS INTERNATIONAL SEED FEDERATION (ISF)	R.SouzaRichards@worldseed.org	Industry and Private Sector Observer

FAO Secretariat:

✓	IPPC Secretariat	Mr Arop DENG	Arop.Deng@fao.org
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✓	OCCO	Ms Aoife RIORDAN	Aoife.Riordan@fao.org





Annex 3 – Action List

N.	Action	Lead	Deadline
1	Provide an update on the contents of the IYPH Youth Declaration	IYPH Secretariat	6 April 2021
2	Ensure that the surplus of meeting costs (other than CPM) and the postponement of the International Plant Health Conference be utilized towards organising the International Plant Health Conference (IPHC) in 2022 in conjunction with the first International Day of Plant Health (IDPH), once established.	IPPC Secretariat	Ongoing
3	Seek methods to compare the IYPH presence in social media and other means of communication with previous international years, if any and include a corresponding section in the IYPH final report.	IYPH Secretariat	1 July 2021
4	Further update the IYPH ISC web page to include relevant email addresses.	IYPH Secretariat	6 April 2021
5	Continue pursuing gender balance in all IYPH activities.	IYPH Secretariat	Ongoing
6	Continue coordinating the organization of the launch event of the study on <i>The Impact of Climate Change on Plant Health</i>	IYPH Secretariat	1 June 2021
7	Develop detailed programmes for the two IYPH webinars on 29 and 30 June, carefully weighting how speakers may contribute to the discussion.	IYPH Secretariat	1 April 2021
8	Review the tentative revised programmes before the next IYPH ISC meeting via email exchange	IYPH ISC	6 April 2021
9	Draft the detailed programme of the IYPH closing ceremony and make the necessary arrangements to ensure the participation of high-level speakers.	IYPH Secretariat	1 July 2021
10	Draft a one-page document about the launch of a compendium of research on plant health, aiming at promoting research in the Mediterranean region	Ms Anna Maria D'ONGHIA (CIHEAM)	6 April 2021

