



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

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

**Rome, Italy
9 June 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 International Steering Committee of the International Year of Plant Health, welcomed all participants and noted the participation of Ms Siti Normaznie ABDUL MUTTALIB, Alternate Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the UN Agencies in Rome as new alternate of the Asian group, and Ms Maryben CHIATOH as representative of the Inter-African Phytosanitary Council.

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 delivered an update on the IYPH Youth Declaration, informing the IYPH ISC that the draft has been shared with the Youth Group after being reviewed by the editor and the IYPH Secretariat a second time. The IYPH Secretariat also informed that the final version of the IYPH Youth Declaration will be hosted on the website with the possibility for the general audience to sign it.
- [6] The IYPH ISC:

- (1) *Noted* the advancements on releasing the IYPH Youth Declaration during the IYPH closing ceremony.

5.2 Proposal for an International Day of Plant Health

- [7] The IYPH Secretariat updated the IYPH ISC on the progress regarding the establishment of an International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) on 12 May each year, specifically on the coming session of the FAO Conference, which will be discussing this item and ask the FAO Director-General to forward the request to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to include this item in the agenda of the coming session of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA), usually through its Second Committee. The IYPH Secretariat underlined the importance of expressing explicit support to this process, which has already being expressed by several countries and stakeholders.
- [8] Mr Michael KELLER (International Seed Federation - ISF), asked about potential roles that the private sector may be undertaking to contribute to the process. The IYPH Secretariat clarified that a communication and support plan for other stakeholders has not been drafted yet as it is subject to the final approval by the UNGA.
- [9] IDPH desk
- [10] The IYPH ISC:
- (2) *Asked* the IYPH Secretariat to draft an outline for the transition supporting the organization and planning of the International Day of Plant Health.





6. IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization

- [11] The IYPH Secretariat provided a revised budget to provide a more accurate estimate of the current lines, also taking into account the cancellation of the International Plant Health Conference and its rescheduling during the week of the first International Day of Plant Health in 2022. The IYPH Secretariat informed the IYPH ISC that some countries have already expressed their interest in hosting the IPHC, and they have been following up accordingly.
- [12] The IYPH Secretariat underlined that most of the planned activities have been carried out successfully, particularly the launch of the Scientific Review of the Impact of Climate Change on Plant Pests. The IYPH Secretariat listed a few additional activities left, particularly with IYPH Advocates and also the realisation of a video for the closing ceremony on 1 July as well as the travellers' campaign as one of the IYPH legacies with two products: an update of the current IYPH poster with relevant information for travellers, along the line of the EPPO campaign; realising a video that may be displayed in airports, which may entail additional work with relevant organizations and airports.
- [13] Mr Nico HORN (EPPO), expressed his availability to share and build on the available materials to make it a global campaign utilising IYPH resources.
- [14] The IYPH ISC Chairperson expressed his appreciation for the high-level event launching the Scientific Review of the Impact of Climate Change on Plant Pests.
- [15] The IYPH ISC:
- (3) *Noted* the update on the IYPH current financial situation.
 - (4) *Expressed* its hope that the travellers campaign is delivered globally during 2021 and asked the IYPH Secretariat to follow-up on its implementation, in cooperation with EPPO and relevant National Plant Protection Organizations.
 - (5) *Expressed* its appreciation for the successful launch of the Scientific Review of the Impact of Climate Change on Plant Pests.

7. IYPH Communication

7.1 Update on IYPH Advocates

- [16] The IYPH Secretariat provided an update regarding the IYPH Advocates' activities, confirming that all have been invited to the closing ceremony on 1 July, during which they will be delivering a five-minute speech on their experience during the IYPH. The IYPH Secretariat also informed the IYPH ISC that Mr Rodrigo PACHECO is working on creating a video series similar to the one already created for Mr Diarmuid GAVIN.

7.2 Update on IYPH Website and Social Media

- [17] The IYPH Secretariat informed the IYPH ISC about the progress and selection of winners for the art and drawing competition, which received hundreds of excellent entries, and that the IYPH Photo Contest has also come to a conclusion, with the selection of the winners by the jury. The IYPH Secretariat clarified that winners of all IYPH competition, including the video contest launched by CIHEAM and Euphresco, will be announced at the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July 2021.
- [18] The IYPH Secretariat shared the latest available statistics regarding outreach through social media and IYPH website activities, and noted that more detailed statistics would be made available once the IYPH comes to an end.
- [19] The IYPH ISC:
- (6) *Noted* the update and thanked the IYPH Secretariat for their continuous work.





8. IYPH Action Plan

8.1 Update on IYPH webinars (29 and 30 June 2021)

- [20] The IYPH Secretariat summarised the programme of the two IYPH webinars, providing an update on the speakers, the structure, and the expected outcomes. The IYPH ISC provided their feedback on some modifications regarding the panellists, including the replacement of Mr Ali KAFU with Mr Fathi TAHER, IPPC official contact point of Libya.
- [21] Some members proposed adding more topics of discussion to the webinars, including remote sensing, biopesticides and transboundary pests. The IYPH ISC concurred to ensure that these proposals are considered for upcoming webinars in October and December 2021, which would be additional follow-up activities in preparation of the first International Plant Health Conference.
- [22] The IYPH ISC:
- (7) *Agreed* to hold a brainstorming session at its last meeting to single out two topics for additional webinars in October and December 2021, in preparation of the International Plant Health Conference.
 - (8) *Invited* its members to provide suggestions on potential keynote speakers for the webinar scheduled on 30 June 2021 by the end of the week.

8.2 Update on the IYPH Closing Ceremony (1 July 2021), including coordination of speeches for final panel

- [23] The IYPH Secretariat provided an update to the IYPH ISC on the programme for the IYPH closing ceremony, for which registration has already been opened, further clarifying that additional details are being finalised in the coming days and in coordination with Ms Yasmina BOUZIANE, OCC Deputy-Director, and her office, particularly in regard to the exact time allocation, live presence or recorded messages.
- [24] With regard to the third segment involving a panel discussion on the IYPH achievements and legacy, the IYPH ISC members involved in the ceremony concurred to present views and issues representative of their stakeholder group (e.g. governments, private sector, academia and research organizations, youth and civil society).
- [25] The IYPH ISC:
- (9) *Noted* the update.

8.3 Outline of IYPH final report and IYPH ISC Chairperson's report

- [26] The IYPH Secretariat summarised the core elements of the IYPH final report to the IYPH ISC, specifying that the expected final product aims at a visual type of content, encouraging IYPH ISC members to provide relevant quotes. The IYPH Secretariat indicated that the first draft may be ready mid-July, to be published in September.
- [27] The IYPH ISC agreed to provide quotes but asked the IYPH Secretariat to indicate which IYPH ISC member may provide such quotes on specific areas, while also seeking clarifications on the IYPH website after the 1 July. The IYPH Secretariat informed the IYPH ISC that the IYPH website is going to be updated and maintained after the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July.
- [28] The IYPH ISC Chairperson clarified that his report will provide insights on how IYPH has influenced/ would influence plant health policy and would be more narrative, subjective and depicting the specific IYPH context and perspective. He suggested that the IYPH ISC Chairperson's report may be shared through social media, as part of the IYPH communication plan.
- [29] The IYPH ISC:
- (10) *Endorsed* the outline of the IYPH report, to be produced as a FAO publication.





- (11) *Welcomed* the proposal by the IYPH ISC Chairperson to develop his own report, which could be made available after the IYPH closing ceremony and shared via FAO and IPPC social media accounts.

9. Any Other Business

- [30] Mr Mirko MONTUORI (IYPH Secretariat) informed about his new role as Communication Officer in the FAO Plant Production and Protection Division, and confirmed that he would continue to support the work of the IYPH ISC until its last meeting on 2 July 2021.
- [31] The IYPH ISC warmly congratulated Mr MONTUORI for his instrumental role in successfully implementing the IYPH and wished him success in his new role.

10. Close of the Meeting.

- [32] The IYPH ISC Chairperson thanked all 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_2021-17	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
3	Participants List	02_IYPH-ISC_2021-17	Mr Mirko MONTUORI (IYPH Secretariat)
4	Background and Reports	Link to report of sixteenth IYPH ISC meeting	Mr Arop DENG (IYPH Secretariat)
5	IYPH Legacy		
5.1	Youth Declaration on Plant Health	--	Ms Viivi KUVAJA (IYPH Secretariat)
5.2	Proposal for an International Day of Plant Health	--	Mr Arop DENG
6	IYPH Budget and Resource Mobilization	03_IYPH-ISC_2021-17	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	Update on IYPH webinars (29 and 30 June 2021)	04_IYPH-ISC_2021-17 05_IYPH-ISC_2021-17	Mr Mirko MONTUORI
8.2	Update on the IYPH Closing Ceremony (1 July 2021), including coordination of speeches for final panel	06_IYPH-ISC-2021-17	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
8.3	Outline of IYPH final report and IYPH chairperson's report	07_IYPH-ISC-2021-17	Mr Mirko MONTUORI and Mr Ralf LOPIAN
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	MS. Siti Normaznie ABDUL MUTTALIB Agriculture Attaché Office Embassy of Malaysia MALASYA	aaa.rome@ambasciatamalaysia.it t.normaznie@mafi.gov.my	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



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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
✓	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





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✓	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 jeangerardmezuimella@yahoo.fr	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
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✓	FAO Regional Office for Near East	Mr Thaer YASEEN Agricultural Officer FAO Regional Office, Cairo	Thaer.Yaseen@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	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	Draft an outline for the transition supporting the organization and planning of the International Day of Plant Health.	IYPH Secretariat	1 July 2021
2	Provide suggestions on potential keynote speakers for the webinar scheduled on 30 June 2021.	IYPH ISC	11 June 2021
3	Follow-up on the implementation of the IYPH travellers campaign.	IYPH Secretariat in cooperation with EPPO and relevant National Plant Protection Organizations	31 December 2021
4	Hold a brainstorming session at its last meeting to single out two topics for additional webinars in October and December 2021, in preparation of the International Plant Health Conference.	IYPH ISC / IYPH Secretariat	2 July 2021
5	Provide quotes for IYPH final report (IYPH Secretariat to indicate which IYPH ISC member may provide such quotes on specific areas).	IYPH ISC / IYPH Secretariat	1 July 2021
6	Update and maintain the IYPH website after the IYPH closing ceremony on 1 July.	IYPH Secretariat	End of July 2021; September 2021 when the IYPH final report is available
7	Produce the IYPH final report based on the approved outline.	IYPH Secretariat	September 2021
8	Produce IYPH ISC Chairperson's Report.	IYPH ISC Chairperson	July 2021

