



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

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

**Rome, Italy
2 July 2021**



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
PLANT HEALTH
2020

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

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), welcomed all participants to the last meeting of the IYPH ISC and thanked them for their active engagement over the past twenty months.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- [2] The IYPH ISC Chairperson noted one request to discuss the maintenance of informal channels of communication on plant health beyond the International Year and this item was included under Any Other Business.
- [3] The Provisional Agenda was shared, 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. IYPH Legacies

4.1 IYPH Webinar Series

- [5] The IYPH Secretariat recalled the discussion that took place at the seventeenth IYPH ISC meeting suggesting a brainstorming session to be held regarding the topics for the two planned events of the IYPH Webinar Series of October and December 2021.
- [6] The IYPH ISC agreed to hold one webinar on remote sensing in plant health in October, with the support of EPPO and Euphresco. The IYPH ISC Chairperson encouraged the participation of diverse speakers on this matter for a wider perspective on this important topic.
- [7] The IYPH ISC also agreed to hold the second webinar on for the importance of plant health for the UN 2030 Agenda, with the objective to advocate for the inclusion of a plant health-related indicator in the SDGs, noting the linkages with the current work of the IPPC Secretariat and FAO in relation to the United Nations Food Systems Summit, and the upcoming Data work stream of the Committee on World Food Security, among others.
- [8] The IYPH ISC asked the IPPC Secretariat to organise the two IYPH webinars with the support of the IYPH Technical Advisory Board.
- [9] The IYPH ISC:
- (1) *Agreed* to hold two events of the IYPH Webinar Series: paving the way for the International Plant Health Conference on remote sensing in plant health (October 2021) and on the importance of plant health for the UN 2030 Agenda, with the objective to advocate for the inclusion of a plant health-related indicator in the SDGs.

4.2 International Day of Plant Health

- [10] The IYPH Secretariat recalled that the Committee on Agriculture, the Council and Conference of FAO endorsed the proposal to establish the observance of an International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) on 12 May each year. The IYPH ISC discussed the most appropriate ways to keep oversight, coordination and management of this important initiative, which should take place during the week of the first International Plant Health Conference.
- [11] The IYPH ISC agreed that the IYPH Technical Advisory Board should become the new IDPH International Steering Committee, encouraging IYPH ISC members to volunteer to become members. Several IYPH ISC members suggested that the composition of the new IDPH ISC should also include IPPC and FAO regional representation alike, alongside the Rome-based Permanent Representatives to FAO.





- [12] The IYPH ISC agreed that the newly-formed IDPH ISC should consider including also representatives from the private sector, the civil society and academia.
- [13] The IYPH ISC:
 - (2) *Agreed* that the IYPH Technical Advisory Board should become the IDPH International Steering Committee, with Rome-based Permanent Representatives to FAO as well as representatives from regions, private sector, civil society and academia.
 - (3) *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to follow up with the appropriate process to develop Terms of Reference of the IDPH ISC with the involvement of the relevant FAO divisions.

4.3 International Plant Health Conference

- [14] The IYPH ISC Chairperson updated the IYPH ISC briefly on the International Plant Health Conference, specifically on the host country, which may be the Republic of Ireland.
- [15] The IYPH ISC:
 - (4) *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to liaise with the NPPO of the Republic of Ireland to confirm their potential availability to host the first International Plant Health Conference.

4.4 IYPH Report

- [16] The IYPH ISC Chairperson suggested that the IYPH Report should function as the last advocacy document of the IYPH to continue promoting plant health, also suggesting the IYPH Report may be ready by October 2021.
- [17] The IYPH Secretariat also provided a brief update regarding coordination process for the drafting, clarifying that some IYPH ISC members may be asked to provide quotes to be included in the report.
- [18] The IYPH ISC:
 - (5) *Asked* the IPPC Secretariat to lead the drafting process of the IYPH Report, to be published by October 2021.

5. IYPH Communication

- [19] The IYPH Secretariat provided an update on the IYPH closing ceremony, clarifying that some plant-health communication products are still being developed with the IYPH advocates.
- [20] The IYPH ISC Chairperson noted that the positive outreach was an effective ice-breaker in bringing plant health to the general public.

6. Any Other Business

- [21] The IYPH Secretariat informed that they came to know about the production of an IYPH commemorative stamp by Tonga, which raised the total number to twenty-nine IYPH stamps worldwide.

6.1 Informal way to continue liaising on plant health

- [22] The IYPH Secretariat suggested to create a network for information exchange, composed of the current IYPH ISC membership, on plant health. May be using existing communication tools or think about new ones.
- [23] The IYPH ISC:
 - (6) *Agreed* to establish a Friend of Plant Health group to continue exchanging information on plant health-related issues.





7. Close of the Meeting

- [24] The IYPH ISC members expressed their appreciation towards the work delivered by the IYPH Secretariat and the IYPH ISC Chairperson's coordination, noting that the International Year of Plant Health has been highly successful.
- [25] Mr Ralf LOPIAN took the opportunity of this last IYPH ISC meeting to sincerely thank all IYPH ISC members, observers and FAO and IPPC staff members for their constructive, creative and professional contributions to the IYPH and the proceedings of this steering committee. He expressed his profound honour and privilege to have been associated with this IYPH ISC! He closed the meeting expressing his hope that the members of the IYPH ISC would continue to promote the notion that protecting plants is protecting life.
- [26] .





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_2021-18	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
3.	Participants List	02_IYPH-ISC_2021-18	Mr Mirko MONTUORI (IYPH Secretariat)
4.	IYPH Legacies		
4.1.	IYPH Webinar Series	--	Mr Arop DENG
4.2.	International Day of Plant Health	03_IYPH-ISC_2021-18	Mr Mirko MONTUORI
4.3.	International Plant Health Conference	--	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
4.4.	IYPH Report	--	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
5.	IYPH Communication	--	Mr Berlant QABEEL (IYPH Secretariat)
6.	Any Other Business	--	Mr Ralf LOPIAN
7.	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 MENDS Deputy Representative of Ghana to FAO GHANA	phyllismends@yahoo.co.uk	Africa Alternate
✓	Asia	Mr Bommakanti 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 MALAYSIA	aaa.rome@ambasciatamalaysia.it ; 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
	North America	Ms Keva MCKENNEREY Councillor (Agriculture), Embassy of Canada to Italy	Keva.McKennirey@international.gc.ca	North America Member





		Alternate Permanent Representative of Canada to the Food and Agriculture Agencies of the U.N. CANADA		
	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 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
	International Organization	Ms Angelina KERSHIA Young Professional WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)	kershiaangelina.cavele@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)	nico.horn@epo.int juliet.goldsmith@cahfsa.org cbeltran@comunidadandina.org cristinagaleano@gmail.com jeangerardmezuimella@yahoo.fr stephanie.bloem@nappo.org emedina@oirsa.org visonit@spc.int cdelacruz@senasa.gob.pe cendara@comunidadandina.org	RPPO Representative

Observers:

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		CC: Mr Nabil GANGI Deputy Regional Representative Mr Viliami FAKAVA Plant Production and Protection Officer FAO Regional Office, Budapest	CC: Nabil.Gangi@fao.org Viliami.fakava@fao.org	
	FAO Regional Office for Latin America	Ms Raixa LLAUGER Agricultural Officer FAO Subregional Office for Mesoamerica, Panama City	Raixa.Llauger@fao.org	FAO Regional Office Representative
✓	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	Follow up with the appropriate process to develop Terms of Reference of the IDPH ISC with the involvement of the relevant FAO divisions.	IYPH Secretariat	27/07/2021
2	Hold one event of the IYPH Webinar Series: paving the way for the International Plant Health Conference on remote sensing in plant health in October 2021.	IPPC Secretariat	30/10/2021
3	Hold one event of the IYPH Webinar Series: paving the way for the International Plant Health Conference on the importance of plant health for the UN 2030 Agenda, with the objective to advocate for the inclusion of a plant health-related indicator in the SDGs.	IYPH Secretariat	20/12/2021
4	Liaise with Permanent Representation of the Republic of Ireland to confirm their potential availability to host the first International Plant Health Conference.	IPPC Secretariat	31/07/2021
5	Publish IYPH final report.	IPPC Secretariat	31/10/2021
6	Establish a Friend of Plant Health group to continue exchange information on plant health.	IYPH Secretariat	05/07/2021

