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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

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| Resource Mobilization |
| Agenda item 11.4 |
| Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat |

1. As mentioned in the financial report, in 2015 donors did not contribute as much as expected and the financial goals for resource mobilization were not reached. This is despite the Secretariat making significant strides in the administrative portions of the Secretariat's financial management practices. There are now a number of factors at play as the Secretariat moves forward with an aggressive plan to establish an International Year of Plant Health in 2020 include:

- The Secretariat has improved the rigour and transparency of Secretariat budgeting and annual work plans
- FAO regular funding money is not increasing but is vital to support a stable, core Secretariat
- Secretariat working funds are basically sourced from Trust Funds, payroll comes primarily from regular program
- Any extra resources come from project funds, sourced from other programs including STDF and the EU, the Republic of Korea and others
- There is a clear need to stabilise increased investment in core operational programs
- Working funds could be stabilised if a contribution agreement applying voluntary contributions was introduced.

2. A multi-year voluntary contribution agreement as a means of stabilising the forward budget and allowing planning beyond the annual budgeting cycle would be a key step forward for the Secretariat as it aims to provide the best service possible to Contracting Parties.

3. Also, as agreed by the Seventh meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (2012), the IPPC resource mobilization strategy has the objective of ensuring "sustainable and sufficient

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funding for the IPPC in order to fulfill the International Plant Protection Convention's (IPPC) strategic objectives." There are a number of goals embedded in the strategy adopted by CPM which should be fully implemented by 2021. The first goal listed in the strategy is the creation of an adequate administrative financial framework - this has been accomplished through the creation of the Financial Committee and the improvement of budget transparency and clarity. The financial reports are comprehensive and provide more detailed, transparent information on the financial status of the IPPC Secretariat.

4. The next goal: developing communication and information strategies, has been more difficult. The CPM has approved a communications strategy, but no resources are available to employ a full time communications specialist within the Secretariat. Work is ongoing to upgrade the appearance and usefulness of the IPP. This work is vital in terms of presenting the IPPC community's image to the world, especially in terms of resource mobilization and the enhancement of IPPC activities. Broader recognition and support for the implementation of the IPPC in general should also recognize the role of NPPOs and RPPOs. As we focus efforts on establishing an *International Year of Plant Health* in 2020, the Secretariat looks to contracting parties, RPPOs, our partners and all other interested parties to raise the profile of the IPPC Secretariat and the vital work it performs. Resource mobilization efforts go hand in hand with a strong communications effort.

5. The Secretariat has also established a resource mobilization task force which has undertaken efforts to engage with possible donors. Some meetings with potential donors have taken place, and others are being planned. Initial reactions have been positive, and we are beginning to see some new contributions.

6. The Secretariat was also successful in getting a Standards and Trade Development Facility project approved for USD 1million for the ePhyto project. Developments related to this project are covered in CPM 2016/23.

7. In addition to the positive accomplishments mentioned above, it is worth repeating the plea to the IPPC community to consider again the establishment of an IPPC voluntary contribution agreement to encourage voluntary contributions by contracting parties. Such contributions would help ensure sustainable resources for the IPPC Secretariat's work.

8. The objective of this consideration is to ensure sustained funding for the work of the IPPC Secretariat in the face of potentially diminishing resources. While FAO regular programme funding has not decreased over the last few years, it has not kept pace with inflation and there are no guarantees this funding will remain ring fenced in the future. Having sustained resources in view of the increased work load can ensure that targets and goals for the future have a chance of being reached.

9. No specific amount for a voluntary contribution is being proposed, and the Secretariat believes a minimum voluntary contribution could be a catalyst for continued sustained funding into the future. In view of the mandatory assessments from parties to the OIE, and in view of the resources provided to Codex, it is not unreasonable to suggest a small sustained voluntary contribution to the IPPC Multi donor Trust fund in order to allow for better planning.

10. These resources would be specifically put to use for additional capacity development activities (such as manual development and training events), supporting the setting of ISPMs, their translations and implementation, enhancing the IT infrastructure, and other Convention-related activities, among other things. These funds would help advance the cause of plant health through specific CPM designated activities. The vital component would be to utilize some of the funds, with CPM approval, to ensure that there are adequate human resources available to support the CPM agreed activities.

11. As the Secretariat continues to present a more transparent financial report, how these funds are used will be clearly available for public review and reported, both on a quarterly basis on-line and in the context of the annual financial report, to the CPM for approval. The establishment of these IPPC

donor agreements may include specific activities at the request of the donor, but the broader intent is for these contribution agreements to run for the long term.

12. The CPM is invited to:

- *note* the work on resource mobilization which has been done by the IPPC Secretariat in 2015 and planned for in 2016,
- *support* and encourage the use of a contribution agreement with individual countries, or groups of countries or organizations and the Secretariat to ensure stable and sustained support for the work of the Convention; and,
- *encourage* a voluntary, nominal and sustained contribution each year from contracting parties or groups of contracting parties able to do so, depending on the financial circumstances of the donors.