

MINUTES OF THE CPM FOCUS GROUP ON GLOBAL PHYTOSANITARY RESEARCH COORDINATION (VIRTUAL MEETING)

25 February 2025, 11:00–13:00, Rome Time

1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat

- [1] The virtual meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Focus Group on Global Phytosanitary Research Coordination (FG-GPRC) was convened by the IPPC Secretariat (hereafter referred to as “the secretariat”).

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Adoption of the agenda

- [2] The focus group adopted the agenda (Appendix 1).

2.2 Election rapporteur for the meeting

- [3] The focus group selected Olga TIKKA (EPPO) as rapporteur for the meeting.
[4] The focus group selected Philippe REIGNAULT (France) as rapporteur for the March meeting.

3. Administrative matters

3.1 Participants / membership

- [5] The participant list is presented as Appendix 2 to this report.
[6] The focus group welcomed the new representative of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) to the group, Director-General Olga TIKKA, and introduced each other in a roundtable format.
[7] The secretariat informed the focus group that a new member representing the Latin America and the Caribbean region would be joining the focus group at the next meeting.
[8] The secretariat also noted upcoming changes within CPM Bureau (hereafter referred to as “the bureau”) membership, which would impact bureau representation within the focus group and bring new perspectives and connections.

4. Focus group work programme

4.1 Discussion paper with points for consideration

- [9] The focus group member from Australia introduced the discussion paper on issues to be considered to finalize the scoping study and subsequent advice to be provided to the CPM. The member outlined the paper’s focus on a stocktake of research networks, key elements of a global research network, the group’s objectives and scope, and issues related to global research coordination. The paper aimed to stimulate discussion, identify gaps and inform the development of a framework and action plan.
[10] The focus group discussed the paper’s purpose, emphasizing a shared understanding of goals and the inclusion of increased awareness and accessibility of research expertise. The need for explicit points on achieving better outcomes, particularly regarding high-quality science and an implementation plan, was

stressed. The group also discussed additional drafting, accelerating development, and whether identifying shared priorities should be a goal or a success.

[11] The focus group proposed live edits on the discussion paper and considered focusing on the first couple of points, including fundamental research, such as taxonomy and diagnostics. The group agreed to add diagnostics and harmonized methodology, and discussed how to address trade sensitivities and commercial interests, potential barriers to research, as well as the challenges of supporting existing research and governance. The group further discussed transitioning the document into an action plan and its presentation to the CPM.

[12] The focus group:

- (1) *agreed* for focus group members to continue providing feedback and comments to the draft discussion paper within one week, after which time it will be reviewed by the chairperson and vice-chairperson; and
- (2) *agreed* for the focus group member from Australia to provide concrete examples regarding trade sensitivities and commercial interests.

4.2 Final report to the CPM

[13] The secretariat provided an update on the final report of the focus group due at CPM-20 in 2026.

[14] One focus group member proposed autumn 2025 as the target for final report development and proposed structured focus group meetings with clear deliverables for discussion to achieve this timeline.

[15] The focus group confirmed that a table of contents had already been drafted and agreed to continue adding further elements to the draft report.

[16] The secretariat proposed that the focus group review other CPM reports submitted by focus groups for reference and noted that further templates would be provided by the secretariat.

[17] The focus group:

- (3) *agreed* to continue providing further input and feedback to the draft CPM final report.

[18] The secretariat:

- (4) *agreed* to search for CPM report templates and share with the focus group.

5. Any other business

[1] **Changes in CPM Bureau representation.** The bureau representative to the focus group (Japan) informed the focus group of his departure from the bureau after CPM-19 (2025) with expected focus group membership changes. The bureau representative also confirmed that he would be providing an update on the focus group at the CPM Bureau meeting in March 2025.

[2] **EUPHRESKO network.** The chairperson informed the focus group of contact received by the EUPHRESKO research network, and their interest in the focus group. The secretariat proposed that the research network contact the secretariat directly for further information. The focus group further discussed the possibility of inviting relevant experts to the group over the coming months.

[3] **Gathering research network data.** The focus group confirmed that key research networks would be discussed at the subsequent focus group meeting in March 2025.

6. Date and arrangement of the next meeting

[4] The focus group agreed to hold their next meeting in virtual mode on **Tuesday 25 March** from 11:00 to 13:00 CET (UTC +1).

7. Closing of the meeting

- [5] The chairperson thanked the participants for their contributions and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Agenda

**COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
FOCUS GROUP ON GLOBAL PHYTOSANITARY RESEARCH COORDINATION**

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

25 February 2025, 11:00–13:00 (Rome time)

Agenda Item		Document No.	Presenter(s)
1.	Opening of the Meeting		
1.1	Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat	--	IPPC Secretariat
2.	Meeting Arrangements		
2.1	Adoption of the Agenda	01_FG-GPRC_2025_Feb	Chairperson
3.	Administrative Matters		
3.1	Participants / membership	FG membership list	IPPC Secretariat
4.	Focus group work programme		
4.1	Discussion paper with points for consideration	02_FG-GPRC_2025_Feb	COLLINS
4.2	Final report to the CPM	03_FG-GPRC_2025_Feb	COLLINS
5.	Any other business	-	Chairperson
6.	Closing of the meeting	-	Chairperson

Appendix 2: Participants List

**COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
FOCUS GROUP ON GLOBAL PHYTOSANITARY RESEARCH COORDINATION**

25 February 2025, 11:00–13:00 (Rome time)

PARTICIPANTS LIST

A check (✓) in the last column indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting

	Participant role	Name, mailing address, email address	Attendance
1	CPM Bureau representative	Mamoru MATSUI Director (Operation Division) Kobe Plant Protection Station (PPS), Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF) Japan	✓
2	RPPO representative	Saliou NIASSY Coordinator of Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU-IAPSC)	
3	RPPO representative	Olga TIKKA Director-General of European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO)	✓
4	NPPO representative	Susie COLLINS Assistant Secretary, Plant Health Policy Plant Protection and Environmental Biosecurity Division Australia	✓
5	NPPO representative	Cheryl DOLLARD Director, Plant Intelligence, Research and Laboratory Services Canada	✓
6	NPPO representative	Philippe REIGNAULT Head of the Plant Health Laboratory & Scientific Director in charge of Plant Health – ANSES France	✓
7	NPPO representative	Maikel AVESKAMP Senior Policy Advisor Plant Health The Netherlands	✓
8	Expert	Takashi FUJIKAWA Principal Scientist, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization Japan	✓

IPPC Secretariat

Name	
Aoife CASSIN IPPC Programme Specialist	✓
Emma GIBBS Copy-Editor and Report Writer	✓