



## THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

### TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG REGIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS

#### CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSIONS ABOUT IPPC REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

##### AGENDA ITEM 6.1

*(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)*

- [1] The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Regional Workshops are annual IPPC activities with objectives to analyse and prepare comments online for draft International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), to build phytosanitary capacity and raise awareness on various activities of the IPPC Community and provide a forum to exchange experiences and ideas on the regional level.<sup>1</sup>
- [2] The seven 2025 IPPC regional workshops (RWs) were held in August and September and convened anywhere between three to five days, in-person with an agenda that included the following:
  - 1. IPPC Secretariat updates.
  - 2. Discussion and formulation on draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) for first and second consultation in the Online Commenting System (OCS).
  - 3. Phytosanitary capacity building to raise awareness about phytosanitary resources available for NPPOs in the IPPC community.
  - 4. Regional topics of interest and experiences, and
  - 5. An optional day for a field visit to laboratory and plant production facilities in the host country in.
- [3] The Secretariat involved the regional organizing committees to convene the IPPC regional workshops while the Online Commenting System (OCS) was open during the consultation period from 01 July – 30 September. The 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops were delivered in Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America, Near East and North Africa, and Southwest-Pacific. There was a total of 267 participants from 119 countries attending the workshops.

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<sup>1</sup>IPPC Regional Workshops: <https://www.ippc.int/en/events/regional-ippc-workshops/>

Table 1: Attendance by number of participants and contracting parties for each of the seven regional workshops.

Regional Workshop hybrid and in-person	Number of Participants	Number of Contracting Parties
<b>Africa</b>	63	23
<b>Asia</b>	32	16
<b>Caribbean</b>	20	13
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>	29	18
<b>Latin America</b>	40	16
<b>Near East and North Africa</b>	49	19
<b>South Pacific</b>	34	14
<b>Total</b>	267	119

[4] IPPC Regional Workshop organizing committees collaborated with the Secretariat to find a balance between addressing global and regional issues and solving logistical and funding peculiarities. Reports of these IPPC regional workshops will be available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).<sup>2</sup>

[5] The Secretariat will hold a debriefing meeting upon completion of all workshops and will invite IPPC Secretariat leads and staff to give feedback on the results of the workshops.

[6] The success of the regional workshop was attributed to:

- (1) Active collaboration among regional organizing committees composed of the IPPC Secretariat, a representative from the Standards Committee (SC) and Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC), and co-organizers with representatives of RPPO(s), FAO regional and sub-regional offices, host country and any other relevant partner organizations supporting the workshop.
- (2) Organizing committee members and participants were encouraged to make their best efforts to secure funding for regional workshop activities.
- (3) The IPPC recognizes the Republic of Korea for its full financial and organizational contributions for the many years of sponsoring the Asia IPPC Regional Workshop
- (4) This year the Secretariat provided \$165,000.00 to support the IPPC Regional Workshops
- (5) The workshops comments on draft ISPMs were submitted through the Online Comment System and closed on 30 September 2025.

[7] This summary report is given on observations and recommendations that could be used to improve the organization of future IPPC regional workshops.

### **Financial support**

[8] The budget allocated in 2025 enabled the secretariat to support some costs for meeting facilities and supplies in the regional workshops. Regional organizing committees were encouraged to submit estimates for secretariat funding early, and as much as possible fund their own travel, interpretation, and report writers.

<sup>2</sup> IPPC Regional Workshops: <https://www.ippc.int/en/events/regional-ippc-workshops/>

Regions benefited by portioned expenses based on World Bank criteria<sup>3</sup> for airfare, lodging and DSA for eligible workshop attendees.

### **Regional workshops and OCS training**

- [9] In terms of general discussion, the dates of the regional workshops accommodated the open period of OCS. Refresher OCS training was held to improve the participation of new contracting parties' representatives in the consultation process.

### **The IPPC regional workshops agenda**

- [10] The global RW agenda was ambitious for a three-day meeting and was adapted by each region to ensure sufficient discussion and debate of primary topics on Standards Scheduling additional days dedicated to in-depth conversations for important draft standards and implementation issues were welcomed.
- [11] **The IPPC regional workshops excelled in terms of** delivery, insight, and knowledge sharing related to International Day of Plant Health, draft standards and recommendations, and implementation subjects of interest such as eCommerce, Africa Phytosanitary Programme, ePhyto, Plant Health Campus, and exercises for regional pest interests.

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<sup>3</sup> Criteria used for prioritizing participants to receive travel assistance to attend meetings organized by the IPPC Secretariat: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/1036/>

[12] The IPPC Secretariat wishes to thank the Republic of Korea, Republic of Congo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Oman, Argentina and Fiji as gracious hosts, and to the seven IPPC Regional Workshop organizing committees for their unwavering support, energetic collaborations, and financial contributions to present the 2025 IPPC Regional Workshops annual event.

[13] The IPPC Secretariat recognizes the important role of Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) in the successful delivery of the IPPC Regional Workshops. Continued collaboration and proactive engagement by RPPOs in the organizing committees ensures regional relevance, logistical efficiency, and stronger national participation. The Secretariat encourages RPPOs to maintain and, where possible, expand their contributions to these important regional events.

[14] The TC-RPPOs is invited to:

- 1) *note* the update in this paper and discuss the role of RPPOs in coordinating the IPPC Regional Workshop organizing committees.