



联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Organisation des Nations  
Unies pour l'alimentation  
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная организация  
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الأغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Tenth Session

Rome, 16-20 March 2015

### Summary of the Strategic Planning Group report

#### Agenda item 7.2

Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat<sup>1</sup>

### SPG discussion on the IPPC in 20 years

#### I. Background

1. At the 2013 SPG, members were invited by the Secretariat to start a conversation on the future of the IPPC. Members of the SPG agreed to begin considering a long-term perspective, including the changes occurring in technology, trade pathways, and new phytosanitary threats that might affect the relevance of the IPPC. To facilitate conversation on this topic, participants agreed to collect their thoughts on the future of the IPPC and submit a two-page document to the Secretariat, for presentation and discussion at the meeting of the SPG in 2014.

2. Based on considerations identified in the SPG papers participants brainstormed on future challenges and opportunities, and collected more than 60 points for reflection<sup>2</sup>. The SPG grouped these points in key themes and discussed them in detail in small teams with the purpose of understanding what IPPC wishes to achieve and how it will achieve these goals. They also decided to include a standing SPG agenda item on “future-casting” for all future SPG meetings. The report of the SPG 2014 is posted on the IPP<sup>3</sup>

3. As a result of the discussion at the SPG, participants volunteered to develop discussion papers expressing the vision for the IPPC in 20 years on a variety of themes, with the intent to provide a perspective on the potential roles of the IPPC in the next 10 years and beyond, both in terms of consideration of the relevance of the IPPC in the future and major challenges and trends for its work.

<sup>1</sup> Attachment 1 (discussion papers in original languages) prepared by 2014 Strategic Planning Group meeting participants

<sup>2</sup> CRP\_01\_SPG\_2014: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/governance/strategic-planning-group>

<sup>3</sup> Report SPG 2014: <https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/governance/strategic-planning-group>

4. The SPG agreed to have volunteers elaborate a one-page narrative on the following seven themes to present to CPM-10:

- 1) Technology, innovation and data
- 2) Resource mobilization
- 3) Advocacy and awareness through strong communication
- 4) Implementation, participation and collaboration
- 5) The IPPC is a center of excellence and innovation
- 6) The IPPC contribution to food security, environmental protection and economic prosperity
- 7) Simplify regulatory environment for the complexities of future global trade

5. These papers will serve as the basis for a future discussion on this topic at the Strategic Planning Group.

6. In their discussion, the SPG highlighted that these themes present strategic directions that the IPPC should consider in developing new strategic directions. As the current IPPC Strategic Framework will reach its planned endpoint in 2019, it is vital that work on a new strategic framework commence now. In developing a new strategic vision, the SPG felt that the aspects communicated in the themes should be taken into account. A new strategic framework could include some or all of these themes, as well as other aspects, as appropriate. It was felt that the SPG should play a key role in developing a new Strategic Framework by building further on these themes and conducting environmental scanning, analysing trends and, to the extent feasible, anticipating the future, and this would be a key component of SPG work in the next four years."

7. The CPM is invited to:

- *Note* the narratives developed for the themes identified by the 2014 SPG, understanding that these narratives will serve as the basis for future SPG discussion on strategic directions that the IPPC should consider.
- *Provide* comments on the narratives to the Bureau member from their respective region for further discussion at SPG 2015.
- *Consider and discuss* the proposed seven themes for the development of the new IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2029)
- *Agree* that the IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2029) should be developed with the following themes in mind:
  - 1) Technology, innovation and data
  - 2) Resource mobilization
  - 3) Advocacy and awareness through strong communication
  - 4) Implementation, participation and collaboration
  - 5) The IPPC is a center of excellence and innovation
  - 6) The IPPC contribution to food security, environmental protection and economic prosperity
  - 7) Simplify regulatory environment for the complexities of future global trade

Narratives developed by SPG participants on the key themes identified at the 2014 SPG meeting during the discussion on ‘*The IPPC in 20 years*’.

*Attachment table of contents:*

- Theme 1. Technology, innovation and data (Prepared by Mr Jan Bart ROSSEL (Australia) and Mr Diego QUIROGA (Argentina))
- Theme 2. Resource mobilization (Prepared by Mr Ralf LOPIAN (Finland) and Mr Lucien KOUAME KONAN (Côte d’Ivoire))
- Theme 3. Advocacy and awareness through strong communication (Prepared by Mr Greg WOLFF (Canada) and Mr John HEDLEY (New Zealand))
- Theme 4. Implementation, participation and collaboration (Prepared by Mr Corné VAN ALPHEN (The Netherlands) and Mr Similo George MAVIMBELA (Swaziland))
- Theme 5. The Secretariat of the IPPC is a centre of excellence and innovation (Prepared by Mr Peter THOMSON (New Zealand) and Mr Damas MAMBA MAMBA (Democratic Republic of Congo))
- Theme 6. The IPPC contribution to food security, environmental protection and economic prosperity (Prepared by Mr Josiah M. SYANDA (Kenya), Ms Mable MUDENDA (Zambia) and Ms Ines Maria ARES ALONZO (Uruguay))
- Theme 7. Simplify regulatory environment for the complexities of future global trade (Prepared by Mr John GREIFER (USA) and Ms Jane CHARD (United Kingdom))

### **Theme 1. Technology, innovation and data**

**Prepared by Mr Jan Bart ROSSEL (Australia) and Mr Diego QUIROGA (Argentina)**

#### **International cooperation**

Although contracting parties (CPs) cooperate in the control of pests of plants and plant products to prevent their international spread, and especially their introduction into endangered areas (Article VIII 1b), all CPs recognize that this cooperation must be improved to deal more effectively with present day movement of pests. To support this, the CPM needs to draw on the technological advances of recent years and develop mechanisms and tools to support international cooperation. This should enable CPs to provide accurate information on pest distribution.

#### **Technology, innovation and data**

The IPPC (including CPs and the Secretariat) takes advantage and instigates the development of new technologies and innovations for the purpose of identifying, assessing and responding to emerging risks, and exchanging information, data management and communication.

To enhance international cooperation through the use of technology, the CPM should develop ways of detecting and reporting new records and changed distribution of pests. The Secretariat of the IPPC would play a central role in consolidating and providing quality assurance of this information.

The Secretariat of the IPPC could assist CPs by:

- Developing a tool to facilitate reporting such as a Global Pest Status Report- providing “live” global GIS pest maps. Such a system would use global plant pest information gathered from a variety of sources by a specialised WebCrawler. Additional information could be gathered from a mobile device application or through the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP), allowing any CP to input pest information.
- Strengthening global agreement on pest reports by:

- Checking the identification report against the IPPC global pest DNA/genome barcode database;
  - Posting information on the IPP (and mobile device apps) as a pest report (State of plant protection -Article XI 2a). Alternatively this information could be provided on a dedicated webpage, updated on a regular basis;
  - Notification tools, to alert on changing risk to areas based on updated pest distributions.
- Listing phytosanitary measures used by NPPOs for pests

This information could feed into the development of new standards, tools and guidance material including pest diagnostic methods and treatments, ePhyto, bar coding, which could be achieved by:

- Performing continual reviews of existing information systems, with full participation of Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs);
- Providing recommendations;
- Establishing a quick response system.

The goal is to enhance credibility, efficacy and efficiency in a changing global environment. The Secretariat of the IPPC should enquire with organizations that use similar systems to understand advantages and disadvantages. The vision is that the IPPC could draw on experiences from other existing systems to become the main global plant health player.

#### **Enhanced approaches to changing pest pathways and risks**

To support CPs with the global reporting of pests, CPs will need to be confident that the IPPC can provide increased and consistent assistance following such pest reports if they are to support a more efficient reporting of pests. The IPPC would need to develop its mandate to include a stronger focus on not only implementation, but also on direct technical support.

Technical support to CPs could be delivered through the coordination of integrated pest management response and National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) assistance teams (Pest control Article IV 2a, Emergency action Article VII 6). This would include assistance, not only related to pests affecting international trade, but also cover the threat to plant resources posed by domestic pests (pests of national concern) that can seriously affect both food security and sustainability of the production system.

#### **Information exchange, electronic phytosanitary certification and related systems**

A global framework for electronic phytosanitary certification would strongly support facilitating safe trade in plants and plant products. A global cooperative, harmonized and coordinated effort is needed to support implementation by all CPs. It should be a web-based system designed with the capability to produce and send electronic export certificates and to receive electronic import certificates.

Phytosanitary import requirements could be stored centrally, to improve on the current situation within which each exporting country maintains individual databases that may contain possibly incorrect or outdated interpretations of import requirements. A centralized import requirements database could be based on information uploaded by each importing country and, further, could automatically pre-populate the electronic phytosanitary certificates where requirements are met:

- Based on automatic verification of import requirements, the system should not allow a certificate to be generated unless the consignment meets the import requirements of the importing country;
- Each phytosanitary certificate automatically ‘verifies’ whether the requirements of any applicable ISPM have been met and indicates this on the certificate;
- An integral system for semi-automated notifications of non-compliance and follow-up.

## **Theme 2. Resource mobilization**

**Prepared by Mr Ralf LOPIAN (Finland) and Mr Lucien KOUAME KONAN (Côte d'Ivoire)**

A thematic priority for the IPPC's strategic vision is ensuring that sustainable and sufficient funding for the IPPC is available in order to fulfil the IPPC strategic objectives. Without any obligatory financial contributory mechanism, resource mobilization must be considered an ongoing high priority activity in the work programme of the IPPC, the CPM and the Secretariat of the IPPC. Ongoing strategic objectives and related activities for resource mobilization would mainly focus on four areas:

- Developing and implementing communication and information strategies
- Efficient organization and management of IPPC governance
- Increased resource solicitation from potential donors
- Establishment of a financial mechanism for contributions

### **Developing and implementing communication and information strategies**

The development and implementation of communication and information strategies is a pre-requisite for resource mobilization. Presenting a clear, consistent message about the IPPC and its activities will serve to build interest in and create awareness of the work of the IPPC. It will in turn clearly underline the IPPC's comparative strengths/advantages and will provide recognition of the role the IPPC plays in standard setting and capacity development activities. Good communication will serve to inform widely that the IPPC is:

- A recognized centre of excellence for plant health, also in terms of food security and nutrition;
- A global centre for information in relation to plant health;
- A forum of dialogue to exchange information and resolve trade issues;
- A venue to tackle a number of complex issues such as climate change, biodiversity, pest resistance and genetically modified organisms.

A good communication will sensitize industry and policy makers on the IPPC and ISPMs, and their benefits in relation to agricultural production, biodiversity and trade.

### **Efficient organization and management of IPPC governance**

Mobilizing resources may not necessarily mean focussing on the mobilization of additional resources. It can also mean using existing resources efficiently and creating synergies in the governance and cooperation with other FAO units or organizations. This would mean that efficient management and operation of IPPC bodies (including the Secretariat, the CPM, the SPG, subsidiary bodies, etc.) would be undertaken, responsibilities would be clearly defined and the collaboration across these bodies would be improved. It would also entail a closer participation of RPPOs in IPPC processes. The analysis of impacts of newly proposed IPPC activities would be an important tool to ensure an efficient organization and management of the IPPC governance.

### **Increased resource solicitation from potential donors**

To increase resources by actively soliciting potential donors, such as governments, private development funds, trade organizations, producer organizations, philanthropically oriented charities and other international organizations, is a task for the CPM and the Secretariat of the IPPC. As highlighted above, this would require a strong communication from the IPPC. The Secretariat of the IPPC and the CPM should learn from other standard setting organizations' systems to increase public governance and resource mobilization. In addition, policy makers' support to the IPPC should be ensured through the development of more commodity/pathway specific standards. Comparing the resources used for food safety, animal health and plant health on national and international levels shows distinct imbalances. A main goal of the IPPC should be to ensure that issues related to plant health have the same relevance when formulating national budgets and international agendas as for instance animal and human health.

Planning for an International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) should be done especially with resource mobilization in mind. An IYPH should particularly advocate sufficient resources for plant health on the national and international levels. Advantage should be taken of an IYPH to raise awareness and mobilize resources.

**Establishment of financial mechanisms for contributions**

The solicitation and use of extra-budgetary resources is extremely time consuming and does not contribute to a stable and sustainable financing of the IPPC. Therefore, any effort to increase resources for the IPPC must also be accompanied by efforts to establish sustainable financial instruments for the IPPC, such as supplementary agreements on voluntary contributions or the operation of a global ePhyto certification hub. The IYPH could be utilized to rally political support for the establishment of a financial instrument for the IPPC.

### **Theme 3. Advocacy and awareness through strong communication**

**Prepared by Mr Greg WOLFF (Canada) and Mr John HEDLEY (New Zealand)**

In order to maximise its effectiveness, the IPPC must promote its purpose, plans, activities and results on an ongoing basis. Only by engaging in such communication approaches and advocacy can the IPPC create sustained public and political support to develop increased, sustainable funding. All of the IPPC's programmes will benefit from a strong advocacy and awareness programme.

In pursuing effective communication approaches and in providing advocacy materials, it is essential to demonstrate clearly the linkages between the IPPC and economic performance from improved trade, global food security, and environmental protection.

#### **Context**

**A directed approach:** For communication approach and advocacy materials on the role and importance of the IPPC to be effective, the IPPC must ensure that all products are targeted towards recipients with links to issues that are of key relevance to different groups. For example, advocacy materials on the economic importance of plant health would be of most interest to FAO members because of the link with global food security, and similarly, the control of quarantine pests/invasive species would be of significant interest to environmental groups.

**Consistent messages:** Effective communication strategies require positive, strong, targeted and consistent messages. The IPPC must focus on its successes, e.g., in standard setting, through the positive impacts of standards (e.g., ISPM 15), and on the benefits that future standards can convey. The IPPC should also ensure that common messaging is provided to IPPC representatives participating in other fora, e.g. the WTO SPS Committee.

**Dedicated experts:** In order to ensure that communication material based on the key themes can be developed on an ongoing basis, and to maximise their relevance, it will be vital for the Secretariat of the IPPC to recruit dedicated staff, with experts in communication and experts in the specific subject areas. For example, the provision of communication material focused on the economic importance of the IPPC will require an economist who can assess that value of plant resources and the impacts of the IPPC's work. Being part of the FAO, the IPPC should consider sharing communication expertise with other bodies under the FAO which have common strategic objectives (e.g. Codex Alimentarius), thus ensuring a consistent access to these experts (see also the paragraph on partnerships).

**The political target:** Advocacy material aimed at politicians among CPs will be vital. Politicians are subject to other communications that may be highly emotive and of much more rapid impact (e.g. human pandemics, food safety issues, animal diseases), and it is difficult to convey the importance of plant health in such an arena. The progress of plant health issues often spans multiple political cycles, and often the severe damage caused by plant pests may not be fully apparent for some time therefore it is essential to communicate in terms of economic impacts and food security.

**Partnerships:** While the IPPC's resources continue to be inadequate to allocate dedicated staff, the IPPC must ensure that it engages in communication partnerships. For example, being part of the FAO, the IPPC should be referred to whenever broad messaging on global food security is made by the FAO. By pursuing such an approach, communications expertise among other bodies can be used and audience interest maintained.

### **The basics**

Users of the IPP must have access to a wide range of communication tools and material on a user-friendly and dynamic website that can contribute to raise awareness on the work of the IPPC. Examples of very useful resources include the material that was developed for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Convention, the video presentations on Pest Risks Assessments, and the manuals developed by the Secretariat of the IPPC on market access and forestry issues. However, to stimulate users, the content made available on the IPP should be dynamic and constantly updated and increased. To raise awareness on the IPPC and ensure it is recognized by all as the world leading authority in plant health, the IPPC must make sure that first time users become repeat visitors.

### **Proposal**

As part of its long term vision, the IPPC must plan to recruit dedicated professional staff in the following areas:

- Communications strategies and public affairs
- A web guru with a proven track record in developing web sites that work
- An economist with experience in analyzing and reporting on environmental economics

The IPPC's Communications Strategy should be reviewed annually and updated where appropriate. Communication work plans must be developed and implemented, and means to determine the effectiveness of different communications approaches developed and acted upon. Key detailed considerations are provided in the next section.

Embarking on this proposal within the next two years will be vital if the proposal for an IYPH in 2020 is to be realized.

### **Key considerations for the development of a strong advocacy and awareness programme**

#### **Target Audiences**

- Politicians and senior decision makers among CPs
- Farmers/producers/consumers
- Trade – Industry (compliance promotion), broader than those trading in plants and plant products
- Academia
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- NPPOs
- Other ISSBs and International Organizations
- General Public
- Aboriginal groups

#### **Partnerships/relationships we want to develop/maintain:**

- FAO (e.g., Forestry Division – Guide to implementation on phytosanitary standards in forestry)
- WTO SPS
- World Customs Organization
- RPPOs (could be used to channel messages – TC RPPO)
- UN General Assembly i.e. support for International Year of Plant Health
- Codex (also under FAO) – partnership to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes (e.g. sharing communication resources)
- OIE – relationship
- NGOs
- Biodiversity-related Conventions
- STDF, IMO, IACO, GEF

- Other international organizations with which the IPPC liaises or cooperates in a formal or informal way
- CABI

### **Strategic considerations**

- Tools must be accessible for developed and developing countries, considering the communication needs and available capacities.

### **Communications objectives**

- Promoting the IPPC
- Positioning the IPPC as the world's authority in plant health
- Communicating how plant health and the work of the IPPC are vital to the environment, economy and food security
- Raising awareness of the work of the IPPC among all stakeholders, not only the work of the IPPC, but also the economic benefits derived from the participation and utilization of ISPMs
- Improving public awareness and understanding on plant health and the work of the IPPC
- Supporting/encouraging NPPOs in their efforts to collect the best comments during member consultation leading to the best possible standards

### **Key messages**

- Plant health is vital to the environment, economy and food security, and directly contributes to improve the livelihood of populations
- Funding the work of the IPPC is an essential and appropriate use of national budgets as it safeguards economic well-being, global food security and environmental health among all countries
- For the public: how does this affect you? How can you affect change?
- For the public: be aware of plant health risks that you should avoid causing
- The protection of plant resources from plant pests is a shared responsibility involving many players, including government policy and decision makers, the industry and the public
- Multilateral vs bilateral solutions (i.e., the importance of ISSBs and Standard Setting)

### **Communications resources**

- Web content (IPPC.int)
- Email newsletters
- Multimedia, including videos and pictures
- Editorials/blogs by the Secretary of the IPPC on general topics
- eLearning modules on various aspects of the IPPC work programme (e.g. similar to the IPPC training which was delivered in 2006 – could be divided in modules), possible linkages to academia through the “Massive Open Online Course” concept
- Manual on understanding the IPPC
- Twitter, Facebook, Skype and YouTube (a constant supply of new and interesting web content is needed)
- Printed/printable material (print-on-demand – demonstrates fiscal and environmental responsibility)
- “Live” webinars with international participants (by region? In each official FAO language? Supported by RPPOs?)
- “Ask Me Anything” live chats with Secretary or other key IPPC members on a specific topic of interest, e.g. biodiversity, invasive species,
- Interactive tool – how the standard-setting process works
- Plant health “ambassadors”
- Kits for Members of the Parliament/Media kits
- Resources for teachers/science fairs

#### **Theme 4. Implementation, participation and collaboration**

**Prepared by Mr Corné VAN ALPHEN (The Netherlands) and Mr Similo George MAVIMBELA (Swaziland)**

The ambition of the IPPC in twenty years is that through IPPC activities all CPs will implement the Convention and the ISPMs, fully participate in IPPC related meetings and collaborate together in doing this.

To achieve this, the SPG recognizes the need to:

- Develop a sustainable implementation programme which will go through at least five cycles, and engaging RPPOs as active partners
- Conduct at least 10 Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCEs) annually. Results from these PCEs should inform not only CPs, but also the SPG on strategic directions to improve implementation, participation and collaboration within the next 20 years.
- Use information generated by the Implementation, Review and Support System (IRSS) in order to identify strategic intervention areas that will see the implementation gaps addressed.
- Facilitate the establishment of a network of IPPC recognized centres of expertise (e.g. diagnostics, eradication programmes, and treatments) which CPs will use and support.
- Ensure all CPs have a clear understanding of their obligations to mentor, interact and develop collaborations and agreements with other organizations, RPPOs, non-CPs and industry.
- Encourage full participation of CPs during the standard setting process so that implementation challenges can be identified early enough and be addressed.

#### **Challenges and opportunities**

- How to ensure sustainable funding for the IPPC in general, supporting the development and management of an implementation programme. In the current trend where regular programme fund allocations are decreasing, the IPPC should seek sustainable funding opportunities (e.g. through ePhyto). There is need to explore potential at the national level from industry to support NPPO activities towards implementation of the IPPC.
- How to increase the capacities of CPs to implement the IPPC and ISPMs, and how to establish priorities. Basic activities that underpin the work of NPPOs, such as reporting obligations, surveillance and diagnostics, are currently not being fully implemented by most CPs. If indeed these are critical areas for implementation, they should be considered as priorities.
- In developing an implementation programme, one key challenge is how to ensure that developing countries move at the same pace as developed countries? There is need to explore opportunities availed through the provisions of Articles VIII and XX of the IPPC.
- What new technologies are developed that could be used to support the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs? The cost and accessibility of these technologies to CPs should be considered.
- How to ensure that all contracting parties actively participate in the IPPC processes and collaborate to achieve these objectives? A point related to this is how to increase direct cooperation between CPs and regions, not only related to trade but with the wider plant health scope.
- RPPOs play a key role in the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs and in enhancing the cooperation between CPs. To improve that, it is necessary to improve the role and participation of RPPOs in the IPPC processes.

### **Way forward**

Considering the gaps in the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs, participation and collaboration, it is important for the SPG to develop a strategy that will aim at improving these critical areas of the Convention in the next 20 years.

Based on CPM decisions, surveillance has been identified as the first priority area for which an implementation programme should be developed. The Secretariat of the IPPC will present a first proposal for this programme to CPM-10 (2015) for further discussion. This proposal will likely require further discussion and the programme will need to be refined after discussion and consultation with relevant stakeholders. It is important to learn lessons from the development of this programme before building towards a broad IPPC implementation programme. In this process of “learning by doing” important questions include:

- What is the expected output of the programme: what do we want to achieve with it and when will it be ready?
- What are the resource implications or what could be accomplished if no additional resources are provided?
- What are the concrete needs and expectations of CPs? A successful programme needs to address this and to deliver on concrete results.
- How will progress and outcomes be monitored?

In the meantime, the SPG should consider other priority areas whose implementation needs to be improved, so that a similar programme can be developed.

### **Theme 5. The IPPC is a centre of excellence and innovation**

**Prepared by Mr Peter THOMSON (New Zealand) and Mr Damas MAMBA MAMBA (Democratic Republic of Congo)**

The Secretariat of the IPPC is a centre of excellence and innovation, including expanding the role of the Secretariat (services and functions)

---

The IPPC exists to secure common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. Good progress is being made but there is still much to be done. Establishing an aspiration for the Secretariat of the IPPC to be widely recognised as a centre of excellence and innovation will help focus efforts of the CPM and Secretariat of the IPPC on becoming a high performing and innovative organisation.

Some great examples already exist including the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool and the Online Comment System. These initiatives have delivered direct benefits to the global phytosanitary system and individual contracting parties (CPs). They have also created efficiencies and enhanced the reputation of the IPPC. Future initiatives will serve to lift performance, increase effective use of resources and potentially find new solutions to the challenges we will face over the next 20 years. Consideration of the recommendations included in the Secretariat Enhancement Evaluation (2015-02) will be important.

Centres of Excellence (CoE)<sup>1</sup> generally consist of a team of people that promote collaboration and use best practices in focused efforts to deliver highly valued results. For the IPPC, the core team in this effort is the Secretariat of the IPPC as it works with the CPM and subsidiary bodies to achieve the purposes of the IPPC.

Key characteristics of a CoE are identified below with questions to prompt future discussion on how this could be developed within the IPPC over the next 20 years.

**Support** – Within their area of focus, CoEs provide valued support to their clients. This may be through services or providing subject matter experts.

- Have we clearly identified the core services and functions that should be provided or supported by the Secretariat of the IPPC?
- Are CPM and Bureau's expectations of the Secretariat clear and agreed?
- Are CPM and Bureau's expectations of the Secretariat aligned and realistic for the level of resources being provided?
- How could these services and functions be delivered more efficiently and effectively?
- What additional services and functions could be provided to CPs to increase their ability to implement the IPPC and ISPMs?
- Could these services be enhanced by establishing a greater level of expertise or a wider range of subject matter experts within the Secretariat of the IPPC? What is the cost of each option?
- Should the CPM establish a system to formally recognize institutions (e.g. diagnostic laboratories) to provide services to CPs?
- How should the role of RPPOs change to better support the implementation of the IPPC?

---

<sup>1</sup> What is a Centre of Excellence? <https://agileelements.wordpress.com/2008/10/29/what-is-a-center-of-excellence/>

**Guidance** – Policies and procedures, methodologies, tools and knowledge repositories are in place to provide valued and trusted guidance.

- Would there be value in the Secretariat of the IPPC engaging a team of plant pathologists, entomologists, etc to provide independent guidance to CPs with technical questions?
- What new tools need to be developed to support efficient operations of the IPPC and support CPs' efforts to implement the IPPC and ISPMs?
- How can information be held and shared to deliver greater value?

**Shared Learning** - Training and certifications, skill assessments, and modern delivery systems are used to encourage shared learning and capacity building.

- What induction and training needs could be addressed to enhance the capability of the Secretariat of the IPPC?
- Should a global network of recognized expertise be established with the purpose of providing greater support to CPs facing implementation challenges?
- Do we truly understand the training and skill enhancement needs of CPs? Do we have a clear and well understood strategy for delivery of priority needs?
- What are the core competencies and information assets held by the Secretariat of the IPPC that could be profiled to enhance reputation and enable other organizations to leverage off?

**Measurements:** CoEs should be able to demonstrate they are delivering the valued results that justified their creation through the use of output metrics.

- What key performance indicators can be established to demonstrate the global impact of the IPPC?
- What key performance indicators can be established to demonstrate the efficient and effective operation of the Secretariat of the IPPC?

**Governance:** Allocating limited resources (money, people, etc.), ensuring appropriate investment in the most valuable projects and creating economies of scale for services offered. In addition, coordination across other corporate interests is needed to enable the CoEs to deliver value.

- What level of resourcing is needed to establish and maintain CoEs?
- How to establish a sustainable resource model?
- How to better connect and leverage off FAO and other organizations?

Possible futures for the IPPC in 20 years should continue to be considered. The performance of the IPPC is a critical element of this. We need to establish a centre of excellence and innovation that addresses not just the needs of today but the opportunities and challenges of the future.

**Theme 6. The IPPC contribution to food security, environmental protection and economic prosperity**

**Prepared by Mr Josiah M. SYANDA (Kenya), Ms Mable MUDENDA (Zambia) and Ms Ines Maria ARES ALONZO (Uruguay)**

It is widely recognized that global food security and the protection of the environment is essential for the future of humanity. In the next 40 years, the global demand for food, feed and fiber is projected to grow by 70%. Meeting this demand, compounded with climate change, is likely to create new challenges such as loss of crop diversity, resistance of pest and disease to chemicals, increased vulnerability of plants to diseases and food safety concerns leading to social economic impact. There is therefore the need for development of a global intervention strategy to mitigate these challenges.

Over the years, the IPPC has, become globally significant and relevant in the protection of plant resources and biodiversity, assurance of food security and support of the safe expansion of global trade in plant products thereby promoting economic growth opportunities.

While aiming to protect global plant resources from the spread and introduction of plant pests, the IPPC shall promote the following:

- **Sustainable and cost effective integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods:** The promotion of cost-effective and sustainable pest management solutions contributing to an enhanced agricultural productivity, biodiversity conservation and improved livelihood should be encouraged. Crop protection technologies addressing post-harvest losses and that are integral to a holistic approach to crop protection should become a vital instrument for tackling food insecurity and poverty reduction. The promotion of investment in pest management practices sustaining the natural balance and reducing the reliance on pesticides is needed for global food security and CPs should be encouraged to promote such methods, as long as these methods achieve the set appropriate level of protection.
- **Institutional capacity development:** NPPOs, RPPOs and Research institutions involved in studies focusing on reduction of losses in food production from pests, diseases and weeds through sustainable integrated pest management shall be encouraged and assisted where possible to get funding from donor agencies to increase and improve their capacity. **Sustainable environmental policies:** The IPPC shall encourage CPs to work with their governments in the development of environmental policies and programs to increase both environmental and food security and to promote sustainable development. Sustainable farming practices and environmental regulations affecting land use and pollution control shall be effectively integrated into agricultural policies. Environmental policies should spell out the economic value of outputs from well managed landscapes, but also balance these against the long-term values of ecosystem services, biodiversity and interventions at the landscape scale. Encouraging the development and implementation of policies should be achieved at the local, national and regional levels.
- **Regional approaches:** There is a need to utilize opportunities of global international and regional trade agreements so as to integrate provisions for environmental management into trade/market development that are ecologically oriented and farmer-driven, and well adapted to local needs and conditions. Furthermore, effective ecosystem management, biodiversity conservation and sustainable development may require trans boundary approaches, since landscapes may cross several regional or national borders. The IPPC shall encourage CPs sharing borders to cooperate with each other in environmental issues affecting them both.
- **The introduction and promotion of technical environmental projects, expert assistance and training fellowships:** The IPPC shall encourage CPs of developing countries to work with institutions dealing with environmental issues and come up with environmental projects addressing environmental protection. The IPPC should assist in the facilitation of environmental and plant protection experts to guide CPs in using sustainable protection methods and addressing environmental challenges. The IPPC should further work with agencies providing training fellowships that involve

effective ecosystem management, biodiversity conservation and sustainable agriculture and encourage CPs to work with colleges and universities in identifying students to train or conduct research.

- **Promotion of plant health as a key component of sustainable agriculture:** Poor farming practices in developed and developing countries often degrade the natural resource base threatening the health of ecosystems. CPs shall be encouraged to promote plant health into agriculture activities, and encourage the participation of local people.

**Promote science based phytosanitary measures in order to facilitate economic prosperity:** CPs shall be encouraged and assisted in facilitating trade through the establishment of public private partnerships to develop trade opportunities using science based phytosanitary measures to increase economic growth in their respective countries.

To facilitate the IPPC's contribution to food security, environmental protection and economic prosperity a number of activities could be undertaken:

- Continue to promote global harmonization of phytosanitary policies and measures through the development of practical and implementable ISPMs
- Build stronger relationships with research institutes and academic institutions
- Raise the awareness of the industry and policy makers on the IPPC and ISPMs
- Define relationships with FAO internal and external bodies with regard to environment, food safety and trade policy
- Harness new technologies in an IPPC context, such as technologies for treatments and diagnostics
- Seek solutions for remedying technical imbalances between countries, especially within the regulatory area
- Define the role of the IPPC in pest outbreaks or emergency responses, such as fusarium wilt in bananas.

## **Theme 7. Simplify regulatory environment for the complexities of future global trade**

**Prepared by Mr John GREIFER (USA) and Ms Jane CHARD (United Kingdom)**

A key challenge for the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be to adapt the regulatory framework to accommodate the needs of commerce (i.e., harmonized and simplified product standards and a less costly regulatory environment) while at the same time preventing the spread of economically significant pests that may threaten crop production, food security, and the environment.

### **Context**

The United Nations estimates the world's population will increase from 7 billion in 2011 to 10 billion by the end of the century. To feed this growing population, food production and its distribution must increase in quality but also in efficiency. Furthermore, the ability to trade plants and plant products will remain fundamental to commerce and essential to many national economies. Advances in transportation, handling, and storage will continue, thus improving the efficiency in distribution and creating even greater trade and marketing opportunities at the regional and international levels. The type and origin of plant food products will increase in diversity and complexity in terms of how and where they were produced, processed, re-bundled, and shipped, resulting in new challenges. The challenge for NPPOs is how to manage pest threats in this increasingly complex trade environment where products cross the borders multiple times before being finally marketed. The challenge for industry will be to develop systems that allow NPPOs to verify that phytosanitary import requirements are met.

There has been a proliferation of bilateral and regional Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) in recent years. While regional trade agreements may result in certain economic benefits for the signatory parties, many of FTAs contain sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) provisions which may not be fully aligned with the core WTO obligations, principles and concepts as regards the application of SPS measures. This will result in greater complexity of phytosanitary rules which affect trade and give rise to new trade impediments. The WTO's overall goal of harmonization may very well be undermined by this trend of preferential bilateral and regional agreements.

Last, it could be argued that the pendulum may be moving from free, fair, and safe trade to environmentally sustainable trade but with a tremendous push from the private sector for simplifying entry requirements, facilitating trade, and expanding the world of e-commerce for the marketing of goods.

### **IPPC in 20 Years**

With respect to trade, commercial entities around the world will continue to seek governmental actions which will reduce the costs of regulations, including providing a more predictable and transparent regulatory environment that allows for the smooth, low cost movement of their products.

NPPOs will need to work with such commercial entities to ensure that required plant health requirements can be met, for example by ensuring that their plant production systems and handling, processing and storage processes provide sufficient safeguards for pest freedom or meeting required tolerances.

To facilitate trade in plant-based commodities and mitigate potential plant pests, it is therefore essential that the IPPC:

- Continue to promote global harmonization of phytosanitary policies and measures through the development of practical and implementable ISPMs
- Enhance the effectiveness/credibility/capacity of NPPOs to implement ISPMs
- Maintain a highly functioning and credible venue for international dialogue among NPPOs on emerging phytosanitary issues
- Strengthen NPPOs' national pest management and product certification systems

- Promote mutual recognition of systems and other approaches which reduce costs, simplify, and streamline regulatory requirements between trading countries
- Partner with its sister organizations (WTO SPS Committee, Codex and the OIE) with respect to advocating for the benefits of single multilateral phytosanitary framework and for the needed resources to support a broad vision and goal of global harmonization
- Work more actively with the private sector in a concerted and coordinated approach when it comes to plant protection, trade, and preventing the spread of pests
- Embrace emerging phytosanitary paradigms and technologies (diagnostic technologies (ie, molecular diagnostics), emerging IT technologies (ePhyto), emerging trade paradigms (such as harmonised standards for globally traded commodities)) and ensures that these technologies and paradigms are accessible to all member countries.