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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

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Report from the CPM Chairperson
Agenda item 6
Prepared by the CPM Chairperson

1. It is already two years since the new Bureau was elected during CPM-9. During the last year the IPPC went through many changes especially as the new Secretary, Mr. Xia, started to work and implementation of the recommendation of the Secretariat enhancement evaluation has been initiated. The Bureau warmly welcomes Mr. Xia's leadership and new ideas. One big improvement is that the Bureau has more interaction with the FAO high officials, which provides chances to transfer CPM's opinion directly and to understand FAO's situation.
2. The Bureau had 4 meetings in 2015; in March at the last day of CPM-10, a one-week meeting in June, a 2-day meeting in October connected with the SPG meeting, and a few hour teleconference in December. These meetings covered a wide range of issues including regular updates and the provision of direction to ensure progress was maintained. Especially in the June meeting the Bureau reviewed the comments on recommendations of the Secretariat enhancement evaluation from the contracting parties, RPPOs and Secretariat and discussed these with the IPPC Secretary and Assistant Director General Wang of FAO. It was a bit surprising for me to have very similar comments, which suggests that the contracting parties and RPPOs share similar views in management of the Secretariat.
3. The ePhyto proposal made significant progress in 2015. The STDF project was approved and the project will be initiated this year for establishment of the global hub, development of the generic system and capacity development. The 2nd IPPC global symposium on ePhyto was successful with more than 80 participants from contracting parties, RPPOs, international organizations and industries. I would like to express special thanks to the ePhyto steering group for their work in achieving the funding approval and assisting the organization of the symposium. And big appreciation goes to the Korean government to host and support this symposium.

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4. The Bureau has put efforts to encourage better communication between the SC and CDC because this cooperation is critical for effective and efficient work in IPPC. This was well received by the SC and CDC members and discussion on practical implementation are continuing.
5. Based on the CPM-10 decision on the Year of Plant Health, the Bureau and SPG discussed the objectives, outcomes and steering mechanism which is submitted to the CPM-11 for approval. 2016 will be the year the IPPC makes steps for the Year of Plant Health in 2020.
6. IPPC has been given the same level of regular budget from FAO in this biennium. Despite the increased importance of phytosanitary measures in food security, safe trade and environment, the level of core funding from FAO is not sufficient to support an agreed IPPC work program. The Bureau encourages the CPs to urge and request FAO to increase FAO regular program budget allocation for the IPPC activities even though this is quite difficult due to overall budget cuts in FAO.
7. The IPPC trust fund mainly comes from contributions of the Contracting Parties except capacity development projects. The Secretariat continuously has been looking for non-traditional donors, because without funding through the trust funds, many of the planned activities cannot go ahead. I would like to recognize with special thanks the valuable donors, Australia, Canada, EU, New Zealand, Ireland, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Switzerland, South Africa, Sweden, USA, STDF/WTO and FAO, all of whom have been the major funding sources of various capacity development projects of IPPC. Also, countries generously contribute experts to work in the Secretariat. Without these generous contributions, the IPPC cannot accomplish its work. The Bureau strongly encourages the CPs to consider the multi-donor trust fund and in-kind contributions while at the same time the Secretariat should work to improve transparency in financial management and reporting and solicit resources with more targeted and outcome focused projects and ideas.
8. The Bureau has tried to attend various meetings of IPPC. The Chairperson and the bureau member from Europe region attended 2 CDC meetings, the Vice Chair attended an SC meeting, the Chairperson, the Bureau members of Latin and Caribbean and Near East participated to the 2nd IPPC global symposium on ePhyto, the Bureau member of Latin and Caribbean attended the ePhyto steering group meeting. I attended the concept of commodity standard working group meeting and the TC-RPPO meeting.
9. Furthermore I attended the NAPPO annual meeting and the APPPC session. Many Bureau members attended their regional meetings and IPPC regional meetings.
10. We hope this active participation of the Bureau members in IPPC meetings and relevant meetings increases the recognition of the importance of the meeting and enhances understanding and communication.
11. IPPC is moving forward. I believe success of the International Year of Plant Health and ePhyto implementation will be significant milestones of IPPC. In this sense this year is very important to set the strong foundation and direction. Personally it is great honor to play roles in this critical period of IPPC as a Chairperson. Even though the structure of the Secretariat and subsidiary bodies are changed, CPM should be a forum to provide big picture direction and priorities with trust and recognition of the relevant bodies. The relevant bodies should work with coordination and cooperation to maximize efficiency and performance.
12. I would like to thank and recognize the hard work of the members of Secretariat, Financial Committee, SC, Technical Panels, Expert working groups for development draft ISPMs, Subsidiary Body for Dispute Settlement, Capacity CDC, NROAG, e-Phyto steering group, OEWG for implementation and RPPOs. Also there are many experts who are always willing to help and often we do not have a chance to properly recognize their efforts. Sincere appreciation goes to their countries that support the expert's participation and contribution and hope that the countries also recognize their expert's work in IPPC.

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13. I am very proud of the Bureau members who provide strategic directions, expertise and their time and energy with their experience and enthusiasm.
 14. Thank you and I wish another productive week of CPM.
 15. The CPM is invited to:
 - 1) *note* the Report from the CPM Chairperson.