2016 IPPC Regional Workshops

*(prepared by the Secretariat)*

Background

Six IPPC Regional Workshops were organized in Asia, Latin America, Near East and North Africa, Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Southwest Pacific, and the Caribbean. A total number of 212 persons from 114 countries have benefited from these workshops across six regions.

This year, the IPPC Regional Workshop were reshuffled as a forum for exchange in between contracting parties, RPPOs, FAO offices, cooperation institutions and the IPPC. The strengthened alliances with the organizers allowed more interactive activities. This new way of operating allowed the IPPC to get a better understanding of NPPOs concerns, and to promote synergies and collaboration between interested parties.

This year, the new Online Commenting System (OCS) was launched and training activities were provided to contracting parties in attendance, resulting in a significant increase in the number of comments, particularly from developing countries.

Major activities: content of the regional workshops

1. Reinforce the capacity of Contracting Parties to formulate productive comments on draft standards

* Online Comment System (OCS) and Revised standard setting procedures for 2016
* Overview of the 2016 consultation on ISPMs
* Draft amendments to ISPM 5 (2016) Glossary of phytosanitary terns (1994-001)
* Draft revision of ISPM 6: National surveillance systems (2009-004)
* Requirements for the Use of Temperature Treatments as Phytosanitary Measures  
   (2014 – 005)

2. Implementation and awareness raising in the framework of the IPPC/FAO

* Facilitated exercise on the IRSS Helpdesk, the IRSS studies, the Phytosanitary Resources Page and IPPC technical resources
* Import verification – the IPPC manual (facilitated exercise)
* FAO projects or any other capacity development activities (as determined by the FAO regional offices)
* Delivering Phytosanitary Diagnostic Services (IPPC guide, CPM 11 recommendation, available diagnostic/detection tools, diagnostic protocols)

3. Moving together from ideas to action (facilitated sessions)

* FAO/IPPC Foresight and the questionnaire on emerging issues in plant health: discussion and conclusions for the region
* 2020 International Year of Plant Health: setting a work plan for the region
* IPPC implementation pilot programme on surveillance: toward concrete actions

Emerging issues

Regions hold specific presentations and discussions on the basis of their specific concerns. The presentations specific to a region are summarized in the below table.

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| **Region** | **Specific presentations** |
| Asia | / |
| Latin America | * Mesoamérica, Una región prioritaria para la cooperación técnica de FAO * Temas para analizar con la Secretaria de la CIPF |
| Near East and North Africa | * FAO projects and other plant protection capacity development activities in NENA Region * Activities of the Technical consultation of the RPPOs * Biological Control of the Invasive Weed *Parthenium hysterophorus* in East Africa * Multiple Uses of cactus Pear (*Opuntia ficus-indica*) and threat of recent cochineal (*Dactylopiusopuntiae*) outbreaks in the Mediterranean basin |
| Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia | * e-Phyto recent development, progress and IPPC Hub concept pilot programme Emerging issues * Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia – introduction * Emerging pests in the region, gaps and problems of phytosanitary services of the countries * National, Regional and Cross-regional priorities on plant protection in REU region * Discussion on future steps at national, regional and cross regional levels in REU region |
| Southwest Pacific | / |
| Caribbean | * Discussion topics from the Caribbean region * Update: FAO Regional and Capacity Development Activities - 2016 |

Major achievements

1. Analysis of the workshop feedback survey

Sixty-three persons answered the survey, mainly from Africa, Latin America, Caribbean and Central Asia and Eastern Europe workshops, out of a total of 212 participants. Participants generally found the content of the workshop relevant, thorough and easy to understand, and considered they were well informed on the objectives of the workshop. Most participants reported that they were well prepared for the workshop, having analysed the draft standards and other documents, but some admitted they were not. Presentations allowed participants to increase their knowledge on the topics presented. Although the pace of the workshops was generally considered appropriate, a few participants found it too fast, and suggested further time could be dedicated to the workshops.

Participants considered particularly valuable:

* Better understanding of the IPPC, OCS, IYPH, IPP website, etc.
* Information and experience exchange
* Interactions among NPPOs
* Group work
* Availability of documents
* Understanding the regional issues
* The revision of standards

2. Information available and news on the IPP

The reports from all workshops are available on the IPP: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/regional-ippc-workshops/>

The presentations in English, Spanish, Russian and Arabic and presentations specific to workshops are available on the IPP: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/regional-ippc-workshops/2016-ippc-regional-workshops/>

Headline news has been published on the IPP for each workshop:

* Asia: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-ippcapppc-regional-workshop-for-asia-held-in-republic-of-korea/>
* Latin America: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-2016-ippc-regional-workshop-for-latin-america-held-in-panama/>
* Near East and North Africa: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-2016-ippc-regional-workshop-for-the-near-east-and-north-africa-held-in-algeria/>
* Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-2016-ippc-regional-workshop-for-the-central-and-eastern-europe-and-central-asia-held-in-republic-of-belarus/>
* Southwest Pacific: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-2016-ippc-regional-workshop-for-the-south-west-pacific-held-in-fiji/>
* Africa: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-2016-ippc-regional-workshop-for-africa-held-in-ethiopia/>
* Caribbean : <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-2016-ippc-regional-workshop-for-the-caribbean-held-in-barbados/>

The opening speech from the IPPC Secretary: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/enhancing-global-food-security-through-strengthening-plant-health/>

3. Comments on draft standards through the OCS

In 2016, 5327 comments were provided on draft standards. This included 84 NPPOs and international organizations commenting on draft standards (the EU is counted as 1, even though it provides comments on behalf of 28 member states)

News on the OCS: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/the-ippc-continues-to-strengthen-stakeholders-engagement-in-setting-international-standards-for-phytosanitary-measures/>

Recommendations: IPPC Regional Workshops for 2017

Participants of the 2016 IPPC Regional Workshops made the following suggestions for improvement:

* More time for the workshop, one more day (Africa)
* Participants should continue communicating (Africa)
* More time for discussions and exercises (Africa)
* Split work into working groups (Africa)
* By working prior to the workshop on the content
* Receiving agenda and related documents (Africa)
* More discussions on standards (Africa and Caribbean)
* Have the presentations in French (Africa), standards and documents in Spanish (Latin America)
* Have good physical conditions for the workshop (Africa), better logistical arrangement (Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia)
* Practical sessions were perceived as too basic (Caribbean).

In 2017, IPPC Regional Workshops should be organized from the 1st August until the 10th of September, to give two to three weeks for contracting parties to submit their comments after the workshops. Places are to be determined or confirmed. The agenda of the 2017 regional workshop should be discussed in the 2016 TC-RPPO to be held on 14-18 November. A draft agenda should be ready prior to CPM, by the 1st of March.

Since all regions have different needs, it was proposed a list of topics could be provided to countries for them to select and compose their agenda prior to the workshops. The workshops should last three to four days.

The TC-RPPO is requested to:

* *Note* the organization and the new developments of the 2016 IPPC Regional Workshops.
* *Suggest* topics to be included in the agenda of the 2017 IPPC Regional Workshops
* *Make* recommendations for an improved organization of the 2017 IPPC Regional Workshops

Annex 1: table of IPPC Regional Workshops held in 2016 per region with the date, venue, number of participants and of contracting parties and details on organizers and funding agencies.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Region** | **Date and venue** | **Nb participants** | **Nb contracting parties** | **Organizers and Funding Agencies for 2016** | **Discussions on next date and venue** |
| Asia | July | 30 | 18 | Financed by the Republic of Korea and organized by the APPPC. The IPPC Secretariat will contribute on Standard Setting components. | 04-08 September, in Busan, South Korea |
| Latin America | 23-26 August  Panama | 41 | 19 | Financed by the IPPC Trust Fund and organized by IICA under a letter of agreement, OIRSA, COSAVE and the National Agricultural Health Service of Panama | 04-08 September. Peru and Brazil proposed to host the next RW, which proposals were accepted by the participants |
| Near East and North Africa | 5-9 September  Algiers/Algeria | 38 | 15 | Financed by the IPPC Trust Fund and the FAO Regional Office for the Near East (FAO-RNE) and organized by IPPC Secretariat, FAO - RNE and NEPPO | 21-24th of August in Cairo, unless a country proposes otherwise. |
| Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia | 5-9 September  Minsk/Belarus | 32 | 17 | Financed by the IPPC Trust Fund and FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (FAO REU) and FAO Subregional office for the Central Asia (SEC) and organized by the IPPC Secretariat, FAOREU and the Main State Inspectorate for Seed Production, Quarantine and Plant Protection of the Republic of Belarus and EPPO. The All-Russian Plant Quarantine Centre provided translation of training materials. | 04-08 September, tentatively in Uzbekistan[[1]](#footnote-1). Proposals for hosting the meeting will officially be submitted by April 2017. |
| Southwest Pacific | 12-16 September  Nadi/Fiji | 32 | 17 | Financed by the Australian Government’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade with assistance from the Pacific Horticultural and Market Access project (PHAMA). Organized by the Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO) | / |
| Africa | 14-16 September  Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) | 26 | 16 | Financed by the IPPC Trust Fund, the ASTF project, with the help of FAO-RAF and IAPSC | / |
| Caribbean | 13-16 September  Trinidad and Tobacco | 13 | 12 | Financed by the European Union 10th European Development Fund (EDF) SPS project, the IPPC Trust Fund and the IPPC Secretariat. The meeting was  organized by IICA under a letter of agreement | 06-08 September, place to be determined at a later stage. |

1. Uzbekistan is not a contracting party to the IPPC and would therefore not be eligible to host an IPPC meeting. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)