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**INTER-AFRICAN PHYTOSANITARY COUNCIL CONSEIL PHYTOSANITAIRE INTERAFRICAIN**

**IAPSC`s contribution to** [**the 28th Technical Consultation meeting among Regional Plan Protection Organizations**](https://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ippc.int%2Fen%2Fnews%2Fthe-27th-technical-consultation-among-regional-plan-protection-organizations%2F&h=dAQGtAPyp&enc=AZPp1Kxpx5JanAQ1SffH9DLDG7Tf_PWEgPF7rl3lvPVYWtUq4UgOnO5bg1rgwIjv7b42z8FPxDbEmcCea82msQ_zOe5k6AXW-yDCkU-RGBemxARTwFR5Zj88FXo2SVnYTBtYpztbaVN8uxWCDNX9Iei0YJlfkX7NTlugRFd3JWtpvWO2ajDJLjIRCyTyCf0293hHmpzso6hYSPpP9apTHQUD&s=1) **scheduled on 14-18 November in Rabat, Morocco.**

1. **Introduction**

The 28th Technical Consultation (TC) meeting among the Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) is scheduled to take place from the 14th to 18th November 2016, in Rabat, Morocco. IAPSC will be attending this meeting since it is a unique opportunity to get an update on all nine RPPOs yearly activities and the IPPC secretariat activities. It is within this framework that IAPSC seizes the opportunity to report on its activities implemented since last November 2016.

1. **Update on IAPSC activities**

 From November last year to November 2016; IAPSC was able to carry out a number of activities with the technical and financial support of IPPC Secretariat, the African Solidarity Trust Fund (ASTF) and our limited budget program. These activities include:

* The organization of the 11th session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures preparatory meeting (CPM-11) held on 16th - 17th March, 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; for common African position. This meeting saw the participation of some 10 African countries. Participants reviewed the full topics listed in the CPM-11 draft agenda and other plant protection issues prior for the common stand at the CPM meeting. They recommended that African countries should take necessary measures for the implementation of ephyto and that, IAPSC should identified African experts to be part of the oversight body-IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (ICDC).
* The Participation of IAPSC to CPM-11 meeting which took place from 4th to 8th April , 2016 in Rome, Italy . IAPSC organized parallel meetings for the African group to harmonize their position on candidates for the African members of the standards Committee whose mandate had ended.
* The Organization of a continental workshop on the harmonization of pesticides regulation in Africa with the generous sponsorship provided by the European Union under the bee health project. The workshop was held on 17th - 19th April 2016 in Cairo, Egypt. It was attended by 80 participants from 38 African countries and institutions like: COMESA, ICPALD/IGAD, UMA, CPAC, Crop life Africa; who proceeded to the validation of the draft framework for the harmonization of pesticide regulations in Africa developed by IAPSC under the scope of African member states National pesticide regulatory management systems in relation to the 2010 Code of Conduct Guidelines for registration of pesticides. The validated document will be submitted to the extraordinary conference of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on agriculture, rural development water and environment scheduled on 5th- 9th December in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. Upon endorsement of the document by the STC, Member states will be able to work together, more closely, share resources, lower costs of pesticides registration and coordinate implementation of a number of international conventions related to pesticides such as the Rotterdam, Stockholm, or Basel conventions. African countries upon adoption of this document will stay competitive in international market place, improve trade and protect their population and the environment against poor quality and highly hazardous pesticides.
* The participation of IAPSC to the Australia-Africa plant biosecurity Partnership workshop held from 23rd May- to 3rd June 2016 in Arusha, Tanzania.
* The participation of IAPSC to the 39th session of Codex Alimentarius from 27th June to 1st July 2016 in Rome Italy where a standard on Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues in food was discussed.
* The participation of IAPSC to the third Africa Plant Biosecurity Network workshop held on 5th -9th September 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya. This was to Work together to boost regional trade and food security. 35 African biosecurity champions from ten Central and East African countries took part to the workshop.
* The participation of IAPSC to the International Phytosanitary Conference in Africa held from 12th to 16th September 2016, at KEPHIS Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya. The theme of the conference was “Phytosanitary Regulation for Improved Trade Facilitation and Food Security”.
* The participation of IAPSC to the 3rd General Assembly of the African Apiculture Platform on honey production bee health and pollination services on 21st -23rd September 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda.
* The organization of the IPPC Regional workshop for Africa held on 14-16 September 2016 in Addis Ababa Ethiopia to review draft ISPMs and draft annexes to ISPM27 with productive comments formulation, build phytosanitary capacity and raise awareness on all activities related to the IPPC, exchange level on surveillance, continental emerging issues in plant health and major pest of economic importance. 26 participants from 16 African contracting parties, representatives from FAO-RAF, African Union Commission, IAPSC, IPPC secretariat and an African member of the Standard Committee attended the workshop.
* The participation of IAPSC to:

 - Workshop on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (Maximum Residue Levels)-24th -25th October, 2016 in Geneva;

- Informal Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

26th October, 2016 in Geneva and

- Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

27th -28th October, 2016 in Geneva.

* The participation of IAPSC to the 2016 CAADP business meeting on 3rd - 5th November, 2016 in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. The meeting focused on reporting CAADP for an accelerated implementation; going for results and impact to secure partnership in support of the organization. Partners were highly committed to mobilize their respective support to the guiding documents and frameworks provided by the African Union and coherence.

3. **Emerging plant health issues in Africa**

IAPSC has identified important emerging issues related to plant health in Africa in the next two to five years to be as follows:

* Out-dated and or non – existence of phytosanitary legislation of / in many African member states;
* Insufficient of qualified personnel or inadequate human resources in member states National plant Protection Organizations(NPPOs);
* Insufficient financial resources and inadequate infrastructures to better control pest and / or handle pest incursion in the continent;
* Invasion of Alien Species (IAS) due to increase of globalization that facilitate IAS establishments and environmental changes including climate change;
* Insufficient research and pest diagnostic; development coordination, collaboration and capacity building among member states NPPOs; and
* Political Situation and social conflict which render some countries not too stable.

Constant effort is required in IAPSC`s part to foster cooperation and collaboration with all stakeholders, especially IPPC Secretariat to address the above mentioned problems so as to protect Africa plant resources from pests, improve crops production and productivity, ensuring sustainable food security, protecting continental environment, facilitating trade and promoting capacity building in Africa; according to article IX of the Convention.

**4. Emerging pests in Africa**

The following are identified as the priority pests which emerge and /or re-emerge and affect plant and plants products in the continent.

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| **Serial**  | **Pest** | **Control measures** | **Stakeholders** |
| 1 | Fruit flies: classic trade, but complex ecosystem invasion *Bactrocera invadens* | Pheromones, Food baitsIPM (burying infected fruits)AugmentoriumAwareness of stakeholders | Researchers, Producers, ExportersUniversities, Agro dealers, CustomsForestry, Extension workers, IAPSC, Member states, IPPC,STDFCORAF, , ASTF, IAEA, African Regional Economic Communities  |
| 2 | Cassava African Mosaics Virus : conflict traffic | Resistant varieties (research)Management guidelines | ResearchProducersExtension workers |
| 3 | Banana Bunchy Top Virus  | Resistant varietiesTissue cultureControl measures (administrative and chemical)Awareness creation | ResearchUniversitiesProducersTransportersAgro dealersExtension workersCustomsIITA |
| 4 | Tuta Absoluta Reported to cause losses 50%-100% in Northern African region with extension to Sub - Saharan countries. It may be resistant to pesticides | Governmental approachPheromone trapsAwareness creation | FarmersExtensionUniversitiesResearchersDonor community |
| 5 | False codling moth*Thaumatotibia leucofreta* | Research is ongoing with support from Ghana veg and CABI |  |
| 6 | Thrips | Researchis ongoing with support from Ghanaveg and CABI |  |
| 7 | Panama wilt race 4:Limited to East Africa; in Mozambique some farms are completely destroyed. | Removal of infected materialsSpecific surveysTesting of tolerant varieties | Local leadersGrowersExporters |
| 8 | Cocoa swollen shoot(limited to western Africa) | Removal of infected plantsDissemination of tolerant varietiesRegulations to limit transportationChemical control of vectors of the virus | ResearchExtensionNPPOProducersIndustry |
| 9 | *Achea catocaloides* | Control by insecticides an biological controlManagement by MOA-Liberia/FAO/ USAID |  |
| 10 | Maize Necrotic Lethal Disease (Limited extent) For the future | Trade bans from east Africa |  |
| 11 | Cassava Brown Streak: humanitarian; | IPM approach | Farmers, NPPOs, Research, Academia, IAPSC, IPPC |
| 12 | Locusts | IPM approach | Farmers, NPPOs, Research, Academia, IAPSC, IPPC |
| 13 | Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN) | IPM approach | Farmers, NPPOs, Research, Academia, IAPSC, IPPC |

 **5. Conclusion**

In the pipeline is the organization of a workshop on best practices in invasive alien plants management in Africa which will be held in Libreville, Gabon before the end of the year.

It is thanks to the multilateral cooperation and partnerships that IAPSC has been able to implement some of the above mentioned activities.