**24 January 2019**

**Virtual Meeting Report of the IPPC ePhyto project Technical Committee**

**& IPPC ePhyto Steering Group**

**Present Participants**:

Craig Fedchock (IPPC Secretariat)

Josiah Syanda (KE)

Younes Kabbab (MAR)

Laura Vicaria (IPPC Secretariat)

Venkat Venkateswaran (UNICC)

Gianluca Nuzzo (UNICC)

**Participants not able to attend:**

Christian Dellis (US)

Walter Alessandrini (AR)

Chen Ying (CN)

Peter Neimanis (AU, Chair)

Philippe Loopuyt (NL)

**-Hub/GeNS progress – UNICC**

The UNICC provided an overview on the advancements of the Hub and the GeNS.

The Hub: a release will be ready by the end of the month (January 2019), also factoring in changes to the documentation. A communication will be sent out once all these changes are applied.

The GeNS: Advancing well. Changes that were discussed in Japan are currently being applied. A new release is currently being tested. Primarily the work is focused on advancing the user interface into to a better level of usability. Pilot countries are advancing well with their testing and useful feedback is being received. The UNICC requested that when a support email form a pilot country is received to make sure to add to the conversation the ePhyto-support email. In the next months the UNICC hopes to advance in the user interface and experience of the GeNs ( the next interface).

The Secretariat also announced that the collaboration with GIZ with the Morocco project is on going. There has been significant delay in advancing it due to required legal process that needs to be undertaken. More information will be provided as it advances.

**- NeNA workshop – Laura**

The secretariat communicated that the contact person has replied stating that Oman is interested in the event. The next step is for them to provide official confirmation. Some concerns were raised with reference to the budget and Omans cooperation in this regard. Based on recent communication with the contact person we should receive more official news next week.

**-Egypt Update – Craig**

The secretariat shared with the ESG recent discussions with a separate department in FAO that had shown interest in supporting Egypt at their motivation to implement the ePhyto solution. A small meeting took place to basic features of the system. The team is currently in Egypt and they will follow up in the upcoming weeks for further discussion.

**- PAC/IAG/ABCDs meeting – Laura**

The PAC and IAG will be taking place next week ( 29 and 30th of January) the WTO. On the 31st of January an ePhyto specific will be taking place at Cargil headquarters in Geneva.