Bureau update to TC-RPPOs October 2019

*(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)*

December 2018 Bureau meeting

1. The IPPC Secretariat provided updates from both the Standards Committee and the Implementation and Capacity Development (IC) November 2018 meetings.
2. **The SC** approved two draft ISPMs for CPM, continued to work on the draft ISPM pest risk management, approved a new Specification 69: *Use of systems approaches in managing the pest risks associated with the movement of wood,* discussed the commodity and pathway standards focus group main outcomes, considered the proposed approach as an important step and acknowledged possible changes to the standard setting procedure; and requested the Bureau to consider adding a capacity-building side event/session during CPM-14 (2019) on enhancing submissions for topics proposals
3. **The IC** reviewed members’ comments on the IC Sub-group Rules of Procedure (ROPs) and Terms of Reference (TORs) for the IC Sub-groups and approved them. There was some discussion that CPM should be involved in these approvals, however, the Bureau agreed that this was under the oversight of the IC and that the IC had the authority to approve them. A process for developing guides and training materials was also approved.
4. A point concerning the role of industry representative in the Sea Containers Task Force (SCTF) was discussed, the Bureau met virtually and developed a CPM paper, proposing to set up the SCTF independently, allowing industry representatives to become full members. However after considerations, it was agreed to keep the status quo of the SCTF but requested the IC to revise the IC Sub-group rule on decision making.
5. The IC reviewed Implementation and Capacity Development (ICD) projects for the first time. It is hoped that making this information publically available will help raise awareness and provide opportunities to build synergies and help to avoid duplication. Work is ongoing how best to presenting collective information on standards, guides and training material and contributed resources on the IPP.
6. It was noted that there are different interpretation of the IC TORs and ROP. The Bureau requested the IPPC Secretary to work with FAO legal and propose revisions. In the meantime the Bureau a*greed* that the composition of the IC was 12 members (seven regional representatives and five experts and one representative from the RPPOs and one from the SC (observers).
7. **Both the SC and IC** reviewed the submissions from the 2018 joint Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation and discussed the recommendations developed by the Task Force on Topics (TFT), and provided responses to the TFT suggestions. It was noted that there is uncertainty on how to deal with Implementation and Capacity Development topics that are currently being worked on that were not submitted via the call for topics. Also both the SC and IC agreed on the paper on the analysis of the Implementation Pilot Programme on Surveillance and it was agreed to present this to CPM.
8. An update on the outcome of the last **TC-RPPOs** was given.
9. The Bureau reviewed **IYPH** activities noting that the IYPH resolution was adopted by the Second Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) with 94 co-sponsors. The UNGA Plenary is proclaimed the IYPH on 20 December 2018.
10. The Bureau reviewed a paper on IYPH resource mobilization, noting that only USD 246K has been raised for the estimated budget of USD 1.1 million. The Bureau requested more guidance about sponsorship and receiving contributions from entities other than contracting parties. The IPPC Secretariat noted that FAO already has a policy for contributions from other actors besides CPs, and that contributions are assessed by FAO on a case-by-case basis, which usually takes up to three weeks.

The Bureau a*pproved* a template for proposals going to CPM to help identify resource implications and requested it be submitted along with any paper proposed additional activities that required unbudgeted funds.

1. The Bureau reviewed comments and revised the draft CPM recommendation on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) technologies as a diagnostic tool for phytosanitary purposes making it more applicable to situations when an NPPO may need to consider the application of measures based on results of high-throughput sequencing technologies.
2. The Bureau reviewed plans for CPM-14 (2019) including finalizing the agenda, special topic session and side sessions and meetings.

Arrangements for Bureau Activities in 2019

1. The Bureau assigned members to follow these activities:

* IYPH partners meeting: Mr Lucien KUAME KONAN
* SC liaison: Mr Fuxiang WANG
* IC liaison: Ms Marica GATT
* It was also noted that the Chairperson would not be able to attend relevant meetings, so it was agreed that Mr Diego QUIROGA (Argentina) could represent him as needed.

June 2019 Bureau meeting

IPPC Secretariat update

1. A revised IPPC strategic framework for 2020-30, based on comments received during CPM-14 (2019) was presented to the Bureau and it was agreed to submit it to the SPG.
2. Cooperation has begun COLEACP and a new joint work plan for 2019-2020 was signed with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Two projects in the pipeline, one new with the EU DG-SANTE (1.4 million USD) and one renewed project with EU DG-Trade.
3. It was noted that only four out of eight development agenda themes on the new IPPC Strategic Framework are resourced and that there is a need to mobilize resources the others.

Finance Committee Report

1. In relation to the IPPC Strategic Framework, the FC discussed that a robust financial planning and sustainable resources are needed to implement it over the next ten years. Ongoing voluntary contributions are still needed from contracting parties but NPPOs have difficulty in approaching donors so an information package was requested to help NPPOs approach relevant organizations.
2. In relation to funding on ePhyto, discussions were held on whether a fee could be applied on ePhyto and the pros and cons should be explored. The FC also considered that an opportunity for applying fees in relation to ISPM 15 may have been missed and we should learn from our past.

Financial, Budgetary and Work Plan Issues

1. It was noted that a letter addressed to ministers, based on the outcome of the June 2019 FAO Conference, would be finalized by the Bureau in October 2019. The CPM Bureau further noted that a key decision on increasing FAO Regular Programme funding for the IPPC is to be made during the June 2019 FAO Conference.
2. The Bureau accepted a five-year plan and 2021 budget and work plan in principle, acknowledging that it would be refined and agreed to group the activities realted to the devleopment agenda items to the IPPC Secretariat units and teams as follows:

* Standard setting will include: e-commerce; commodity and pathway standards; and third-party authorization.
* Implementation and facilitation will include: harmonization of electronic phytosanitary certification; emerging pest responses; and diagnostic networks.
* Integration and support would be: research coordination and climate change.

1. The Bureau were informed that there was a half million USD shortfall for the IYPH in 2020. They discussed the possibility of approaching selected organizations to mobilize resources. It was recognized that there was also a need for increasing support from the FAO Office for Corporate Communication (OCC) in view of scaling up the IYPH. The CPM Bureau discussed specific performance indicators for IYPH, including receiving additional funding in years following IYPH. The future IPPC budgets should be increased to reflect the expected funding increases, if IYPH is successful. It was agreed that the SPG will discuss the development of a new IPPC communications strategy.

Commodity and Pathway Standards

1. It was noted that a focus group on commodity pathway and standards would meet again to consider if commodity and pathway standards should go through the normal standard setting process, consider the establishment of a technical panel to govern the development of commodity and pathway standards, the establishment of a permanent steward, and transition arrangements that might be assisted by the focus group as an advisory group.

Task Force for Topics update

1. The Bureau agreed that Task Force for Topics is a good example of collaboration between SC and IC, noting that this process could be a first step towards a consistent CPM work programme. The IC recommended that the scope should be defined based on the Strategic Objectives of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and the Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics[[1]](#footnote-1). It was also agreed that incomplete submissions should not be accepted. It was noted that activities planned for the IPPC Regional Workshops should help improve the quality of topics submissions and agreed to the IC recommendations on the scope of the call.

Draft action plan for Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems

1. A draft action plan for strengthening pest outbreak alert and response systems based on the IPPC Strategic Framework for 2020-2030 was presented, noting that no funding is currently allocated for the related activities. The CPM Bureau discussed the need to clarify further concept of emerging pests or emerging issues, which in turn are different from the concept of emergency response. The Bureau agreed to consult with RPPOs and rework the paper taking on comments including reflecting the “One Health” approach, emphasizing a regional approach, highlighting that there are currently no regular programme funds for this activity, ensuring that FAO-AGP and IPPC share information and coordinate activities better, taking into account that IPPC Secretariat is not responsible to field-level response to emergencies and include details on activities to be conducted at the national and regional levels in the paper. The revised paper should be presented to the SPG.

Discussion on surveillance activities

1. A paper outlining the IPPC Global Plant Health Surveillance Initiative (2019-2020) was presented. It highlighted PPPO activities being carried out in relation to ISPM-6, described the five-year implementation project being conducted in Asia-Pacific region is conducting which have led to the development of procedures and training materials on surveillance. It was also proposed to revise the guide on surveillance, to develop a new surveillance e-learning module, and develop a new surveillance portal on the IPP.
2. In relation to contributed resources, clarification is being sought with FAO on where these could be published, as the FAO policy does not foresee the possibility to upload publications that are not developed by FAO or IPPC or are not processed via the FAO Publications Workflow System. This might be a stumping block.
3. The Bureau agreed:

* to recommend the priority for the revision of the IPPC surveillance guide be changed from 3 to 1.
* that the IPPC Secretariat should continue working on the restructuring of the IPP Surveillance Landing Page.
* that Australia should develop an e-learning on surveillance and possibly which could be hosted on the IPP or a relevant website as a contributed resource, following the IC process for the review of contributed resources.
* to make the best use of the International Pest Free Area (PFA) & Surveillance Symposium to advance on surveillance activities, which is fully funded and organized by the IPPC Secretariat.
* that the Global Plant Health Surveillance Information Portal would be further discussed in the SPG October meeting, in view of ensuring a sustainable solution in coordination with the IPPC Secretariat.
* to develop the Global Surveillance Experts Register under the remits of the IC, led by Australia
* that the IPPC Secretariat would develop the Global Surveillance Projects Register as part of its current activities, following the recently adopted IC process on the topic

CPM Recommendation on AMR in relation to plant health

1. The Bureau discussed this issue and agreed not to develop a CPM Recommendation requested the IPPC Secretariat to continue to work closely with the FAO AMR Task Force to monitor the AMR in relation to plant health and *recommended* that plant health should be part of the One Health strategy.

Governance and Strategy

* The Bureau nominated Mr Fuxiang WANG as the Bureau representative on the IC Sub-group on IRSS.
* The Bureau also agreed to have Ms Raymonda JOHNSON as the alternative IC member for Africa

Review of Revised IC Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure

1. The Bureau reviewed the proposals from the IC. TheBureau considered the project management role of the IC. It was agreed that in principle project proposals would be aligned with CPM priorities and the IC should provide a review and recommend function on new implementation and capacity development projects to ensure that they are aligned with the IPPC strategic objectives. The Bureau agreed with the FAO Legal advice to leave to the CPM the authority to establish and dissolve IC Sub-groups based on recommendations by the IC. It was also noted that in the proposed revision, RPPO and SC representatives were considered members in the IC instead of observers but would be excluded from decision-making. The revised paper will be presented to the SPG.

SPG agenda

1. The Bureau developed a draft SPG agenda and agreed the SPG should devote as much time as possible to strategic discussions among SPG members and not devote too much time to going over updates, reports, briefings, etc.

CPM-15 (2020) agenda

1. The Bureau developed a draft CPM -15 agenda suggesting making the agenda light enough to accommodate eventual extra ministerial speeches that may run overtime. It was suggested that special focus be put on preparing the ministerial session.

* The bureau noted that the President of Finland will attend the Ministerial day and high-level participants have been invited for the 2nd of April 2020. It was suggested that all regular business be finished by Wednesday evening so that Thursday remains flexible to accommodate the ministerial session. To facilitate this, purely informational topics should not have discussion sessions but instead the information should be delivered through papers. The Bureau agreed to develop a Ministerial declaration to be presented during the Ministerial segment.

Updates from SC meeting in May 2019

1. The suggestion not to hold SC and IC meetings during IYPH was not welcomed by the SC as they deemed that the IYPH is about raising awareness of the importance of plant health and to raise the profile of the IPPC in protecting plant health.
2. |Concerns were raised on the timing for the development of a standard and the opportunity to review the standard setting process. The trade-off between speed and relevance of standards development was recognized. It was also mentioned that ownership of the process is essential for members to feel engaged.

Updates from IC meeting in May 2019

1. The IC is considering how to update the national phytosanitary capacity development as a plan on national capacity development, to be fully consistent with the new IPPC Strategic Framework for 2020-2030. In relation to IC Sub-groups, relevant work plans were approved. As per the call for experts for Dispute Avoidance and Settlement, it was extended as no official nominations were received. Other updates on progress of the ICD work were given
2. The Secretariat also informed the CPM Bureau that there has not been a lot of response from NPPOs to calls for case studies, surveys, calls for experts, etc. The CPM Bureau member suggested making a recommendation during CPM-15 suggesting that contracting parties be more involved. The Bureau suggested that the IPPC Secretariat prepares a paper on why there is limited engagement from contracting parties and NPPOs and ways to address it.

Update on IPPC regional workshops

1. The Secretariat provided an update on 2019 IPPC regional workshops. It was recalled that guidelines for the organization of IPPC regional workshops have been agreed, with regions taking ownership and increasing responsibility to fund them. Organizing committees have been established in all regions and effort are underway. The IPPC Secretariat is developing and coordinating the development of all relevant presentation.

Update on Dispute between EU and South Africa

1. The Secretariat informed that the EU had submitted some documents related to the dispute, which has been ongoing for over five years, but South Africa had not yet responded to the EU’s proposal. The Bureau s*uggested* getting feedback from the SPG on whether theIPPC Secretariat should continue to be involved in dispute settlement or have a dispute settlement panel.

Update of ePhyto and next steps of the five-year strategic plan for ePhyto

1. An update on ePhyto, focusing on the five-year strategic plan for ePhyto was provided. As the ePhyto Generic System (GenS) is being launched, and pilots have been launched in a number of countries, ePhyto funding challenges are now an issue to be addressed. The Bureau established a small group to come up with an ePhyto sustainable funding proposal to be reviewed by the SPG at their October 2019 meeting.

Update on IPPC e-Commerce project

1. The Secretariat informed the CPM Bureau that an in kind contribution from Canada was not supporting some of the work on e-Commerce and that an informal e-commerce network would be set up to help facilitate this work.

Update on the Sea Containers Task Force

1. The Bureau representative on the SCTC provided an update on their work. He noted that additional extra-budgetary funding will be required in 2020. He informed that responses to the sea containers questionnaire are very low and yet are crucial for the continuation of the STCF work.

1. Criteria for justification and prioritization of proposed topics: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85790/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)