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منظمة
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COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

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| Fifteenth Session |
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| Report from the IPPC Secretariat |
| Agenda item 7 |
| Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat |

1. 2019 has been remarkable for the IPPC community as it marked a historical link between the IPPC Strategic Objectives for 2012-2019 and the IPPC Strategic Framework for 2020-2030. 2019 has also been crucial to get ready for delivering the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) in 2020. Thanks to the strong support from all relevant stakeholders, the IPPC Secretariat continuously improved its performance and increased its impact globally, regionally and nationally. This report outlines ten outstanding achievements by the IPPC Secretariat in 2019:

- 1) *Preparation for delivery of the IYPH in 2020.* The programme to promote the IYPH 2020 was endorsed at the fourteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-14). The IYPH International Steering Committee (ISC) was established by FAO. The IYPH launch event was successfully organized at FAO headquarters on 2 December 2019 combined with an exhibition on Plant Health and a reception to promote the IYPH.
- 2) *Support to IPPC governing body activities.* The smooth organization of all key meetings and events, in particular CPM-14, was ensured. The IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 and the five-year investment plan of the IPPC Secretariat for 2011-2025 were endorsed at CPM-14.
- 3) *Promotion of standard setting.* Eight standards were adopted, including two International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and six Diagnostic Protocols (DPs). Four draft ISPMs were approved for second consultation. The “concept-overarching” commodity standard was drafted by the Focus Group of Commodity and Pathway Standards.
- 4) *Enhancement of standards implementation.* Six IPPC projects on implementation of the IPPC and its ISPMs were successfully carried out with a total budget of USD 1.7 million. The first IPPC Symposium on Pest Free Areas and Surveillance was held in Japan at the presence of over 90 attendees from nearly 50 contracting parties (CPs). Eight IPPC regional and national

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reporting obligations workshops were organized at the presence of over 160 participants from more than 140 CPs.

- 5) *Development of the IPPC ePhyto solution.* The IPPC ePhyto hub and the Generic ePhyto National System (GeNs) were opened for full operation with over 80 countries getting on-board. Three regional ePhyto workshops were organized with participation of 45 CPs. A trade facilitation innovation award was received at the UNESCAP Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum.
- 6) *Dissemination of the IPPC annual theme.* A series of activities were organized to showcase the IPPC annual theme “Plant Health and Capacity Development”, including one keynote address, one special session and one side event at CPM-14, as well as one IPPC Seminar during the Strategic Planning Group meeting. The IPPC factsheet on plant health and capacity development was issued in six FAO languages.
- 7) *Promotion of communication and advocacy.* The IPPC structure was renewed and a revamped website launched in all six FAO languages. The IPPC visibility was substantially improved, with the number of IPPC news increased by 12%, website visitors by 42%, Twitter followers by 74% and Facebook followers by 86% compared with the previous year.
- 8) *Deepening of partnerships and liaison activities.* The IPPC Secretariat established partnerships with 38 international and regional organizations, and signed joint work programmes with the World Customs Organization (WCO) for 2019-2021, and with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat for 2019-2020. The IPPC Secretariat together with the FAO Plant Production and Protection (AGP) division jointly organized the first FAO Plant Health Team meeting during CPM-14, at the presence of the majority of plant protection officers from FAO regional and sub-regional offices.
- 9) *Increase in resource mobilization.* The IPPC Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) reached a record amount of contributions with over USD 1.2 million received from nine CPs. The IPPC projects also reached to a record amount of funding with USD 2.4 million from EU DG-Trade and EU DG-SANTE. The IPPC in-kind contributions were over USD 1.0 million from 18 CPs and 20 international or regional organizations. The IPPC regular programme allotment from FAO was increased by USD 0.5 million for 2019, and 1.0 million for the 2020-2021 biennium (17% increase), which was the first increase in regular programme allotment for the IPPC Secretariat in a decade.
- 10) *Optimization of internal management.* The organizational structure of the IPPC Secretariat was further improved by formally establishing the ePhyto Group. Financial management was strengthened by initializing a biennial planning, with the drafting of the IPPC Secretariat work plan and budget for 2021. Staff professional development was supported, providing better chances for training, and five staff were recognized as outstanding employees of the IPPC Secretariat, with two of them recognized by FAO in the categories “100 outstanding employees” and “100 outstanding young staff”.

2. The year 2019 was memorable for the IPPC community and the IPPC Secretariat from many points of view. 2020 will be an exceptionally exciting and memorable year for the IPPC community, with the once a lifetime opportunity to deliver the IYPH. The contribution by IPPC CPs will be crucial in delivering the IPPC mission for 2020-2030: “*Protecting Global Plant Resources and Facilitating Safe Trade*”.

3. The IPPC Secretariat wishes to express its high appreciation to the IPPC governing bodies for their valuable guidance and oversight; to all contracting parties (NPPOs) and the regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) for their strong support and positive contribution; and to all partners and collaborators for their close cooperation.

4. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *note* the report presented by the IPPC Secretariat.