**Model 2: Draft Statement by [*Country*]**

Ms/Mr Chairperson,

1. I am honoured to announce that [*country*] supports the proposal made by Finland to celebrate the International Year of Plant Health in 2020 and we agree to the adoption of the resolution on the International Year of Plant Health.
2. The protection of plant health is one of the key aspects in ensuring food security in developing and least developed countries. The international spread of pests and diseases, especially through trade and travel, presents evermore risks to agriculture and the environment. We firmly believe that we need to strengthen national, regional and international plant health organizations in order to address the growing challenges related to plant health. We strongly support the proposal for an International Year of Plant Health because it will provide us with opportunities to raise the awareness about the damaging effect of plant pests and disease and help us garner support to strengthen our plant health protection infrastructures.

Thank you Ms/Mr Chairperson.