**Model 3: 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. We believe that biodiversity loss through the international movement of pests and other invasive alien species must be dealt with through better interactions of biodiversity and climate change, and plant health authorities at national, regional and global levels. The International Year of Plant Health 2020 will provide a stage to improve the understanding and cooperation between these relevant authorities and will help to develop effective instruments to preserve our biodiversity. Small and developing island economies are especially vulnerable when it comes to the disastrous effects of incursions of invasive plant pests and diseases. We would like to request that all efforts are undertaken to raise the profile of the efforts to control the spread of plant pests and diseases.

Thank you Ms/Mr Chairperson.