

The 15th meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures is adjourned after adopting new standards

The 2020-2030 Strategic Plan of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) will produce practical benefits to facilitate the safe trade of various products.



The fifteenth meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-15) headed by Mexico concluded with the adoption of four international standards for phytosanitary measures, seven phytosanitary treatments that provide green alternatives for managing pests around the world, and the 2020-2030 Strategic Plan.

The CMF-15 period of meetings included a presentation about the response of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) against the current rise of desert locusts.

After the term of Mexico in the presidency of the Commission expired, Lucien Kouame Konan, from Ivory Coast, and John Greifer, from the United States, were elected as the new president and vice-president, respectively, of the Commission, which is the governance body of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

During the virtual meeting, the IPPC's members welcomed Uzbekistan as the 184th member country, and informed that during 2021-2023 Mexico will keep representing the region of Latin America and the Caribbean at the CPM Bureau.

The purpose of the foregoing is to reflect the diversity of the world's opinion regarding any subject under discussion, and to assist the preparation of international standards that facilitate the harmonization process of the phytosanitary measures in Mexico and the region.

The CPM thanked Zambia for advocating that the UN designates the 12th day of May of every year as the International Plant Health Day, and asked the IPPC member countries to support this process.

Further, it recognized Ralf Lopian, from Finland, for his contributions to the IPPC's mission, his work in favor of the plant health world community over the past 30 years, and for his commitment with the celebration of the International Year of Plant Health.

It was announced that the IPPC's Technical Advisory Body of the 2020 International Year of Plant Health will plan and organize the International Plant

Health Conference that will take place on May, 2022, and the previous web seminars, which will take place on May-June, 2021.

The extraordinary term of three years of Francisco Javier Trujillo Arriaga, Head of the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (Senasica), as President of the governance body of the IPPC came to a close after its 15th meeting. The IPPC is a multilateral treaty supervised by the FAO, tasked with adopting the international standards on sanitary measures that the National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO's) of 184 countries implement to protect the plants cultivated around the world.

While giving his second work report, the officer from the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development underscored the importance of the Strategic Plan to associate the work of the IPPC with the 2030 Agenda from the United Nations (UN) and the Sustainable Development Targets.

Moreover, he pointed out that the organization will start preparing standards for products that will improve the processes required to establish the export and import requirements for vegetables, in order to facilitate their safe trade.

Over 350 attendants from 122 countries and 40 observer organizations participated in the first virtual edition of the meeting of the IPPC's governance body, and contributed with defining priorities and key actions for the world's phytosanitary community for the years to come.

The CMP backed the establishment of two new discussion groups on communications and climate change and plant pests, and approved the progress of the works on cleaning of maritime containers, phytosanitary electronic certification and e-trade.