



Enhancing Phytosanitary Systems for Healthy Plants, Safe & Sustainable Trade”



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
PLANT HEALTH
2020

Sub-theme:

**INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANT
HEALTH**

Title:

**THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PLANT HEALTH
CHAMPIONED BY ZAMBIA**

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Introduction



- In December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH).
- The year was a once-in-a Life time opportunity to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect the environment, and boost economic development.
- Zambia being a contracting party to IPPC joined in commemorating the International Year of Plant Health.
- Zambia, through its National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO), engaged several cooperating partners to produce various awareness materials such as caps, t-shirts, posters, brochures and car stickers
- In addition to awareness materials, activities such as holding of awareness meetings and workshops, television documentaries and writing newspaper articles among others were done for the IYPH 2020



Introduction cont'

- At Government level, Zambia elevated the Plant Quarantine and Phytosanitary Service (PQPS) which is the designated NPPO of Zambia from a Unit under the Ministry of Agriculture to a fully-fledged Department with additional staff in order to enhance phytosanitary work
- The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, at its 12th Session (April 2017), endorsed the proclamation of an International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) as one of the key outputs of the IYPH



Problem Statement



- The world is faced with the challenge of plant pests outbreak, rapid spread especially, as exacerbated by the effects of climate change and expansion in international trade
- Most countries, especially the LDCs lack the needed resources to put up infrastructure and phytosanitary systems that can assure pest introduction prevention and their spread
- Policy makers, traders and the general public don't have enough information in order for them to reinforce the fight against pest introduction or regulated non quarantine pests
- Pictures Ref: <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=images+fall+armyworm>
- Pictures Ref: <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=images+global+trade>



Justification



- New pest introduction in new territories and quick spread for some of them is a source of concern and calls for concerted efforts from all stakeholders
- Support can only be obtained from well informed stakeholders who are able to appreciate the importance of fighting invasive species
- The quest to end hunger, poverty, threats to the environment and spur economic development can only be achieved if invasive pest species are well managed with their spread and establishment in new territories prevented.
- Pictures Ref: <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=images+locusts>
- Pictures Ref: <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=images+hunger>



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Objective

The IDPH's objective is to provide continuity to the efforts made throughout the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) 2020/2021 and continue to raise awareness among the public and policy makers of the key role of plant health in tackling hunger, poverty, threats to the environment and economic development



Methodology

- The IPPC Secretariat in April, 2020 made a proposal for Zambia to champion the IDPH
- Zambia welcomed the proposal and in May, 2020 wrote a letter of championing the IDPH proposal to FAO/IPPC through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- The IPPC Secretariat subjected the proposal made by Zambia to the Divisions of FAO for endorsement
- The proposal was firstly presented to the Committee on Agriculture (CAOG) on 1st October, 2020



Methodology cont'

- Followed by the 165th Session of the FAO Council on 2nd December, 2020
- Then the 42nd Session of the FAO Conference on 18th June 2021
- Finally, the draft resolution endorsing the IDPH will be presented to the General Assembly of the United Nations by FAO Director-General, in December, 2021 for possible adoption



Results

- On 1st October, 2020, the FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG) endorsed the [proposal tabled by the government of Zambia](#) to proclaim 12 May the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH)
- COAG members that expressed their support to the proposal for the IDPH included Argentina, Australia, Cabo Verde, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, the European Union and its 27 Member States, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Sudan, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Zambia
- On 2nd December, 2020, during its 165th Session, the FAO Council discussed and endorsed the draft Conference resolution submitted by the 27th Session of COAG on the observance by the UN system of an “International Day of Plant Health” on 12 May every year



Results cont'

- Explicit support to the initiative came from several FAO Members, from all FAO Regions. These included:
- Indonesia on behalf of G-77 and China (further supported by interventions of Dominican Republic, Argentina, Brazil and Peru);
- Thailand on behalf of the Asia Regional Group (further supported by Japan, Republic of Korea and China);
- Germany on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States (further supported by Spain);



Results cont'

- Iran on behalf of the Near East regional group (further supported by Saudi Arabia);
- Sweden on behalf of the Nordic countries;
- Zimbabwe and Uganda on behalf of the Africa regional group (further supported by Ghana);
- Australia; Canada; Mexico; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and United States of America



Results cont'

- The draft resolution to establish the observance of an International Day of Plant Health was presented for adoption by the 42nd Session of the FAO Conference in July 2021 at which it was unanimously endorsed.
- The draft resolution endorsing the IDPH will now be forwarded to the General Assembly of the United Nations by FAO Director-General, with the official proclamation expected by the end of 2021



Conclusion

- Zambia as the champion of the IDPH is optimistic about the resolution being adopted by the UN General assembly in December, 2021
- The IPPC community looks forward to celebrating the first International Day of Plant Health on 12 May 2022, which marks also IPPC 70th anniversary

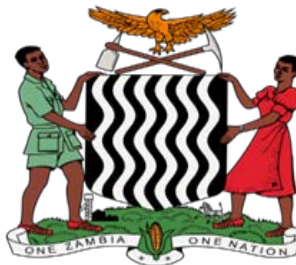


Recommendation

- The member states should create awareness to their foreign missions in order for the resolution to get the needed support to proclaim 12 May as the IDPH



Acknowledgements



Theme: *"Enhancing Phytosanitary Systems for Healthy Plants, Safe & Sustainable Trade"*

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