



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# REPORT

## First Meeting of the Technical Advisory Panel for the FAO Global Conference on Sustainable Plant Production

Online via Zoom  
16 June 2022



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## **Introductory remarks**

Jingyuan Xia, Director of the Plant Production and Protection Division, informed participants of the last minute absence of the Chief Scientist and Vice-Chair of the TAP due to Council commitments, and set the scene for the meeting organization and housekeeping rules.

### **1. Opening remarks**

FAO Deputy Director General, and Chair of the GPC Steering Committee, Beth Bechdol, welcomed the participants to the meeting. She highlighted the current relevance of a global conference on sustainable plant production, and its importance to FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, in order to achieve the United Nations SDGs. Beth highlighted that the ongoing FAO Council had endorsed FAO's new Strategy on Climate Change and the Science and Innovation Strategy, which will feed into this conference that will provide a space for all stakeholders to meet and discuss key topics. She introduced the Conference governance structure including the Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Panel and Secretariat and the proposed Thematic Sessions.

### **2. Welcome address**

Martin Kropff, Chair of the Technical Advisory Panel, emphasized the timeliness and urgent needs for the conference. He underlined the need for science-based solutions for innovating agrifood systems to make them more efficient and resilient. The conference must facilitate the voices of many stakeholders to be heard, in particular, those of the Global South, and should aim at allowing the creation of new networks, and instigate future discussions and collective action. Martin stressed the importance of choosing the most pertinent content and the most experienced and inspiring speakers to ensure the conference is a success.

### **3. Self-Introductions**

All external members of the TAP introduced themselves. With only a few members being absent, it was appreciated that the TAP is composed of a very diverse and rich group of specialists, including academia, civil society, NGOs, international organizations, and farmer groups.

#### **4. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda of the first TAP meeting was adopted without objections as showed in [Annex 1](#).

#### **5. Overview of the Conference**

Jingyuan Xia presented a PowerPoint overview of the Global Conference on Sustainable Plant Production (GPC). He detailed the justification for the GPC (WHY), the expected outputs (WHAT), the organization and coordination (HOW). Xia highlighted the seven Thematic Sessions to be developed by TAP, the working mechanisms and role of the Steering Committee.

#### **6. Establishment of Technical Advisory Panel (TAP)**

Fenton Beed presented the Terms of Reference of the TAP, with a focus on the following points:

- TAP has authority to develop an innovative and inspiring programme, to propose potential speakers, presenters, panelists and chairs for Thematic Sessions, for endorsement by the Steering Committee.
- TAP will be supported by FAO Secretariat and focal points to ensure the speakers/chairs/panellists are balanced with respect to gender, different geographic areas and stakeholder groups;
- TAP members will serve as ambassadors for the GPC and call upon their professional network to increase awareness.
- Each Thematic Session is managed by a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, with the Chairs also serving as members on the Steering Committee, which will have the first meeting on 29 June 2022.

#### **7. Conference Programme**

Haekoo Kim presented the tentative GPC programme. An opening plenary session will be followed by Thematic Sessions, a Conference Recommendations session and a High-Level Ministerial Segment. Each Thematic Session will be divided into two sub-sessions of 1.5 hours, to be developed by each Vice-chair of the corresponding thematic working group.

#### **General Discussion - Results of the meeting**

- Presentation and introduction of all members of the TAP
- Presentation of an overview of the Conference Programme and governance structure.
- Participants underlined the importance of integrating the different Thematic Sessions.
- Presentation of the Terms of Reference of TAP
- TAP participants were given the opportunity to provide any further comments on the presented items within 2 days by email to [M.Kropff@cgiar.org](mailto:M.Kropff@cgiar.org) and [GPC-Secretariat@fao.org](mailto:GPC-Secretariat@fao.org).
- Dr. Jingyuan Xia provided information on the standard structure of the seven sub-Thematic Sessions, to be organized as follows: opening remarks (5 minutes), 5 speakers (10 minutes each), open and active discussion (30 minutes) and closing remarks (5 minutes).
- The conference will convene at least 80 speakers at FAO HQ.
- Preet Lidder proposed a side event to promote GPC at <https://www.fao.org/science-technology-and-innovation/science-innovation-days/en> and the World Food Forum.

#### **8. Closing remarks**

Martin Kropff urged TAP members to quickly organize within each Thematic Session working group: to network and brainstorm, to propose candidate topics and speakers before 10 July, with a focus on representation from the Global South.

## Annex 1: Meeting Agenda

**Moderator:** Mr Martin Kropff, Global Director of Resilient Agrifood Systems of CGIAR, and Chair of the GPC Technical Advisory Panel

ITEMS	DOCUMENTS	PRESENTER	PROPOSED TIME (Mins)
<b>1. Opening Remarks</b>		<b>Ms Beth Bechdol</b> Deputy Director-General of FAO, and Chair of the GPC Steering Committee	5
<b>2. Welcome Address</b>		<b>Mr Martin Kropff</b> Global Director of Resilient Agrifood Systems of CGIAR, and Co-Chair of the GPC Steering Committee	5
<b>3. Self-introductions</b>	<b>GPC-1st-TAP-01</b> (List of TAP)	Panel members (introduced by Mr Fenton Beed, Team Leader of FAO Rural, Urban Crop and Mechanization System Team)	10
<b>4. Adoption of the Agenda</b>	<b>GPC-1st-TAP-02</b> (Meeting Agenda)	<b>Mr Martin Kropff</b>	5
<b>5. Overview of the Conference</b>	<b>GPC-1st-TAP-03</b> (Concept Note of GPC)	<b>Mr Jingyuan Xia</b> Director of FAO Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP), and Executive Secretary of the GPC Secretariat	10
<b>6. Establishment of Technical Advisory Panel</b>	<b>GPC-1st-TAP-04</b> (Terms of Reference (ToRs) for TAP)	<b>Mr Fenton Beed</b>	10
<b>7. Conference Programme</b>	<b>GPC-1st-TAP-05</b> (Tentative programme of GPC)	<b>Mr Haekoo Kim</b> , Technical Adviser, Director's Office of NSP	10
<b>8. General Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of the Conference</li> <li>• ToRs of TAP</li> <li>• Conference Programme</li> <li>• Other relevant issues</li> </ul>		<b>Mr Martin Kropff and All</b>	30
<b>8. Closing Remarks</b>		<b>Mr Martin Kropff</b>	5

## Annex 2: List of Participants

#	Role in TAP	Name	Position and Institution	Email
1	<b>Chair</b>	Martin Kropff	Global Director, Resilient Agrifood Systems (RAFS), CGIAR	<a href="mailto:m.kropff@cgiar.org">m.kropff@cgiar.org</a>  Focal point: Roberto Rocha Correa, (CIMMYT, CGIAR) <a href="mailto:r.rocha@cgiar.org">r.rocha@cgiar.org</a>
2	<b>Vice-Chairs</b>	Niels Louwaars	Director of Plantum	<a href="mailto:n.louwaars@plantum.nl">n.louwaars@plantum.nl</a>
3		Jon Hellin	Platform Leader, Sustainable Impact through Rice-Based Systems, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), CGIAR	<a href="mailto:j.hellin@irri.org">j.hellin@irri.org</a>
4		Yüksel Tüzel	President, International Society for Horticultural Science. Professor, Department of Horticulture, Ege University.	<a href="mailto:yuksel.tuzel@ege.edu.tr">yuksel.tuzel@ege.edu.tr</a>  Alternate: Peter Vanderborght, CEO (ISHS) <a href="mailto:peter.vanderborght@ishs.org">peter.vanderborght@ishs.org</a>
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9		Bernard Vanlauwe	Director R4D, Excellence in Agronomy, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), CGIAR	<a href="mailto:B.Vanlauwe@cgiar.org">B.Vanlauwe@cgiar.org</a>
10		Weijie Jiang	Professor, Institute of Vegetables and Flowers, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IVF/CAAS)	<a href="mailto:jiangweijie@caas.cn">jiangweijie@caas.cn</a>
11		Pietro Tonini	Doctoral Researcher, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology,	<a href="mailto:Pietro.Tonini@uab.cat">Pietro.Tonini@uab.cat</a>

			Autonomous University of Barcelona (ICTA-UAB)	
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18	<b>Members (FAO Internal)</b>	Maher Salman	Senior Land And Water Officer, Land and Water Division (NSL)	<a href="mailto:Maher.Salman@fao.org">Maher.Salman@fao.org</a>
19		Preet Moninder Lidder	Technical Adviser, Office of Chief Scientist (DDCC)	<a href="mailto:Preetmoninder.Lidder@fao.org">Preetmoninder.Lidder@fao.org</a>
20		Guilherme Brady	Partnerships Officer, Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division (PSU)	<a href="mailto:Guilherme.Brady@fao.org">Guilherme.Brady@fao.org</a>
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27		Josef Kienzle	Agricultural Engineer, Plant Production and	<a href="mailto:Josef.Kienzle@fao.org">Josef.Kienzle@fao.org</a>

			Protection Division (NSP), FAO	
28		Haekoo Kim	Technical Adviser, Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP), FAO	<a href="mailto:Haekoo.Kim@fao.org">Haekoo.Kim@fao.org</a>
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