

Inter- American Coordinating Group in Plant Protection
GICSV
HLB Working Group

HLB WG Report 1/2021

Date:	June 3, 2021.
Time	9 a.m. Costa Rica Time
Held:	Videoconference. Zoom Session.
Link to join the meeting	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82883559622?pwd=VGpnZzE3b05wSkNvYkZ5RmhKR1VmUT09 Meeting ID: 828 8355 9622 Passcode: 105439

I. List of participants

Group	Participant	Institution
HLB	CAHFSA	
	CAN	
	Iván Garcia	Agrocalidad
	Camilo Beltran	Comunidad Andina Secretariat
	COSAVE	
	Julián Jezierski	SENASA Argentina
	NAPPO	
	José Hernández	USDA/APHIS/PPQ
	Glorimar Marrero	USDA/APHIS/PPQ
	Carolina Ramírez Mendoza	Senasica Mexico
	Stephanie Bloem	Executive Director
	Alonso Suazo	Technical Director
	Nedelka Marín Martínez	Interpreter and Technical writer
	Maribel Hurtado	Scientific officer
	OIRSA	
	Xavier Euceda	HLB Coordinator Program
	IICA	
	Lourdes Fonalleras	Technical Secretariat

1. Opening session.

Dr. Stephanie Bloem, GICSV Coordinator, welcomes participants and explains that at the beginning of this year GICSV Coordination was renewed and NAPPO it is in charge of Coordination for the next biennium 2021 - 2023. Dr. Bloem reaffirms the best NAPPO's willingness to support GICSV.



2. Agenda, consideration and adoption.

WG Coordinator, Eng. Xavier Euceda, greets the participants and submit the agenda for WG consideration, it is approved without modifications.

Draft AGENDA	
09:00* hs	Opening session. <i>Dra. Bloem, GICSV Coordinator</i>
09:10 hs	Agenda, consideration, and adoption. <i>Eng Xavier Euceda WG Coordinator</i>
09:15 hs	Work Plan 2021 – 2023. Moderator: <i>Eng Xavier Euceda WG Coordinator</i>
09:45 hs	New Technical Events. Moderator: <i>Eng Xavier Euceda WG Coordinator.</i>
10:15 hs	Other issues. <i>Eng Xavier Euceda WG Coordinator</i>
10:30 hs.	Close the meeting. <i>Eng Xavier Euceda WG Coordinator</i>

*Costa Rica Time

3. Work Plan 2021 – 2023.

WG Coordinator conducts the review of work plan activities proposed, concluding:

- **3.1.1. Members of HLB WG.** RPPOs confirmed the WG members
- **3.1.2. WG meeting program.** WG approves Coordinator's proposal of bimonthly meetings schedule.
- **3.1.3. Meeting agendas.** Coordinator suggests organizing the meetings agendas close to each one and invites the RPPOs to propose topics of interest that should be developed in the meetings. It is approved.
- **3.1.4. Exchange of information on events, technical documents, and others for updating GICSV website.** Coordinator invites the RPPOs to enrich the content of GICSV website with technical documents from different regions. RPPOs are invited to verify that the link to GICSV site is found on their web pages and that it is active. NAPPO, CAN and COSAVE confirm that the link is accessible on their pages.

- **3.1.5. Exchange information and experiences on HLB and its vector, regulatory changes, management, production of propagation material, lessons learned, innovations and others.** It is validated.
- **3.1.6. Dissemination Campaign for the Harmonization of HLB prevention and management messages.** It is recalled that this task was a CAN initiative with the objective of harmonizing the messages related to HLB prevention, especially those oriented to border areas. Coordinator invites the Group to think about a dissemination campaign at continental level and not to work independently, starting by sharing RPPOs materials drawn to prevention and management and making it available to WG members.

CAN confirms that the proposal is to harmonize key messages and prevent the transfer of plant materials in the border zone without the required measures. COSAVE offers to share dissemination material it has available and suggests that each RPPO do the same, to the WG review them, make the adjustments that the Group deems appropriate and thus obtain a harmonized document. CAN presents a flyer available to the RPPOs (available on YouTube) that gathers basic information (importance of citrus fruits in CAN countries, what HLB is, damage, transmission, vector, symptoms and recognition, and messages to the farmers on how to help prevent the income)

NAPPO shares a link to its site with related information <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/pests-diseases/hungry-pests/the-threat/citrus-greening/citrus-greening-hp>

It is agreed that RPPOs will share this type of material prior to next meeting and through the Technical Secretariat, with the purpose of being reviewed by WG, thinking of harmonizing a campaign focused on key messages for border areas.

- **3.1.7. Preparation of a manual or protocol for production of safe plants.** NAPPO considers it necessary to establish a simpler and more specific objective because manual or protocol requires time and effort and a standardization is necessary, it proposes to start with some topics and then to arrive at a general protocol.

The Group agrees to delete the topic as it is and incorporate the topic in 3.1.6. to add it to the dissemination campaigns. HLB Group members will propose topics to be addressed and WG will analyze and decide on which specific topics to work on.

- **3.1.8. Other activities proposed by the WG.** Coordinator invites to identify face-to-face events that, on HLB, are scheduled to take place in America or the Caribbean in 2022, in order to hold a face-to-face HLB WG meeting.

4. Organization of new events.

Coordinator mentions that OIRSA programs an International Forum on HLB every two years in different countries of the region. The next one will take place at the end of 2022 in Panama, in which different approaches such as IPM, management, safe plant production systems, among other topics, will be addressed in about 3 days and invites those present to participate in this event.

NAPPO mentions that the 7th HLB Conference will take place in Riverside, California, which is proposed for October 25-27, 2022. It will share with the TS the announcement of the event for publication on GICSV website.

The coordinator invites the RPPOs to develop a working session with experts on different topics and to socialize the events that are taking place in the regions.

5. Date and agenda of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on July 8 at 9 am (Costa Rican time), after which they will be held bimonthly. This meeting will be mainly focused on a final review of the 2021-2023 work plan and the deliverables planned for the WG.

6. Acknowledgment

The Group and TS thanks NAPPO for the generosity of providing interpretation for the meeting and especially Ms. Nedelka Marín Martínez for the effort made in this regard.

7. Commitments

Commitments	Responsible	Date
Share HLB technical documents	RPPO	Permanent
Share information about HLB national, regional, and international events.	RPPO	Permanent
Share materials for HLB dissemination campaign.	RPPO	07/05/2021
Propose topics for dissemination campaign (Additional to key messages for countries borders) included safe plants production.	RPPO	07/05/2021

Website GICSV: <http://apps.iica.int/GICSV/default.aspx>
