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Food and Agriculture  
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Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная организация  
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Organización de las  
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منظمة  
الغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

# CONFERENCE

## Fortieth Session

Rome, 3-8 July 2017

### International Year of Plant Health (Draft Resolution)

#### Executive Summary

The Government of Finland made a proposal to establish 2020 for observance by the UN System of the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH). The main objective will be to raise awareness of the importance and impacts of plant health in addressing issues of global importance, including hunger, poverty, food security, and threats to the environment and economic development. It aims at addressing new and emerging plant health challenges, including the impact of climate change, the significant increase in international trade, the rapid loss of biodiversity, and the new pest pathways such as e-commerce by developing more efficient national, regional and global policies, structures and mechanisms.

*Extract from CL 155/REP:*

12. The Council:

- b) endorsed the draft Resolution “International Year of Plant Health” in 2020 [...] to be submitted to the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference for adoption.

#### Suggested action by the Conference

The Conference may wish to approve the draft resolution in Annex and to request the Director-General to transmit it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider, at its next session, declaring 2020 as International Year of Plant Health.

*Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:*

Mr Jingyuan XIA  
Secretary  
International Plant Protection Convention  
Tel: +39 06570 56988



**Annex****Resolution ../2017  
International Year of Plant Health****The Conference,**

**Noting** that healthy plants constitute the foundation for all life on Earth, ecosystem functions, food security and are key to sustaining life on Earth;

**Recognizing** that plant health is key to the sustainable intensification of agriculture to feed the growing global population by 2050;

**Affirming** that plant health is critical to addressing the pressures of a growing population and that recognition, advocacy and support for the promotion of plant health is of paramount importance if the international community is to guarantee plant resources for a food secure world based on stable and sustainable ecosystems;

**Recognizing** that sustaining plant health protects the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests, issues of climate change and supports efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition and poverty;

**Recalling** the urgent need to raise awareness and to promote and facilitate actions towards the management of plant health in order to contribute to the agreed United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030;

**Trusting** that such a celebration would establish a platform and encourage actions to promote and implement activities in favour of the preserving and sustaining global plant resources, as well as raise awareness of the importance of plant health in addressing issues of global concern, including hunger, poverty and threats to the environment;

**Affirming** the urgent need of raising public awareness of the importance of healthy plants for food security and ecosystem functions;

**Stressing** that additional costs of activities arising from the implementation of the International Year of Plant Health be met through voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

**Requests** the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider at its next session declaring the year 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health.

(Adopted on ... 2017)