Address of the new President

Philippe Nicot

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General Assembly,
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Some thoughts about IOBC-WPRS

1. Our strengths / Opportunities
2. Our weaknesses / Threats
3. What way forward?
1. Our strengths / Oportunities

- Very dynamic and productive organization
- Wide research-based pool of knowledge
- Our collective voice is increasingly heard
- IOBC-WPRS collaborates with but is independent from industry appreciated as a source of non-biased scientific expertise
- Our collective expertise is useful for society — even more so with the increasing demands on agricultural production — and for industry
- Funding opportunities continue to arise — IOBC is a fantastic matchmaker for collaborations
2. Our weaknesses / Threats

• Financial fragility
  – our financial independence from industry must be kept
  – income depends essentially on membership

• Visibility: needs constant efforts and could still be improved

• Organization: Busy volunteers & smooth sailing depends on everyone's good execution of their tasks
  – one person's laps can cause lots of hurdle and useless waste of time for many others
  – Convenors / Council collaboration can be improved

• Competition: Surge of various expert groups on biocontrol- or IPM-related issues
3. What way forward?

Safeguard our precious 62-year old heritage

1. Consolidate the financial situation
   – everyone's continued help is essential

2. Keep the good work going smoothly
   – core activities of WGs: scientific meetings + Bulletins
   – core activities of Commissions

3. Consolidate our visibility on the international scene
   – website (requires more frequent updates – collective & personal image);
   – tweets? videos? other "modern ways"?
   – consolidate visibility in EU – foster in North Africa – Near East

4. Outreach on IPM for advisors, farmers, ordinary citizens
3. What way forward?

5. Continue collaborations with
   - Industry … without strings attached (IBMA)
   - Other organizations: EPPO, FAO, PAN-Europe?
   - IOBC-Global and other regional sections (EPRS)
Thank you