

Near East Plant Protection Organization

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35TH TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AMONG RPPOS

From 24th to 27th October 2023

Bogotá Colombia





- The Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO) is an **intergovernmental organization** responsible for international cooperation in plant protection in the Near East and North Africa region within the framework of the IPPC (Article IX establishing regional organizations in the protection of plants),
- The NEPPO is a platform for **member countries** to develop and implement a **regional strategy** and **standards of plant protection**.
- The Near East and North Africa region includes 22 countries and the organization founded in 2011 consists of 11 member governments. Three countries signed the Agreement but not yet ratified.

**Encouraging international
& regional cooperation to
support plant protection
and enhance capabilities**

**Facilitating & encouraging
regional & international
trade exchange**



**Prevent the entry &
spread of pests**



**Pest control in sound
ways**



Plant health

- **Cooperation and coordination** to enhance phytosanitary measures and support efforts to prevent the introduction or spread of pests.
- Establishing regional **phytosanitary measures standards**.
- Assess **pest risks** and develop scientific measures.
- Preparing **recommendations** to governments.

Cooperation & coordination



Pesticides

- Encouraging the application of the international code of conduct for the distribution and use of pesticides.
- Promoting the **use of safe, effective and modern pest control** methods (IPM control), to reduce the negative impact on humans, plants and the environment, especially on water resources.



Collect & disseminate information

- **Facilitating** commercial **exchanges** by making available legal texts related to phytosanitary measures,
- **Enabling countries** to take necessary measures to prevent the entry of new pests, destroy them, or limit their damage (the importance of early detection).

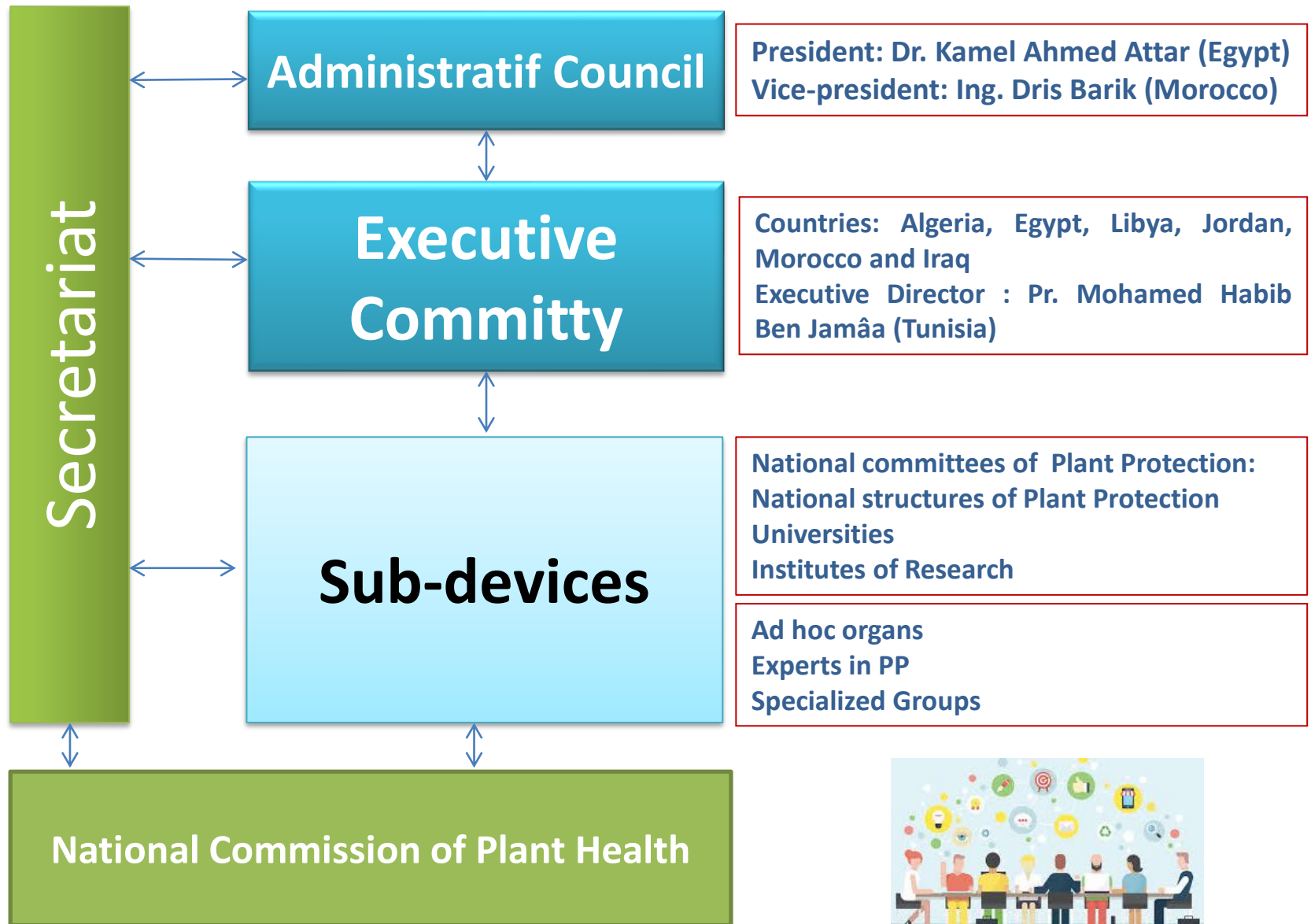


Capacity support

- Implementation of the **IPPC** (rights and obligations)
- Understand and implement **international standards** for phytosanitary measures
- **Pesticide license**
- Rational use of pesticides (reducing negative impact)
- **Integrated** pest control



Organogram of NEPPO



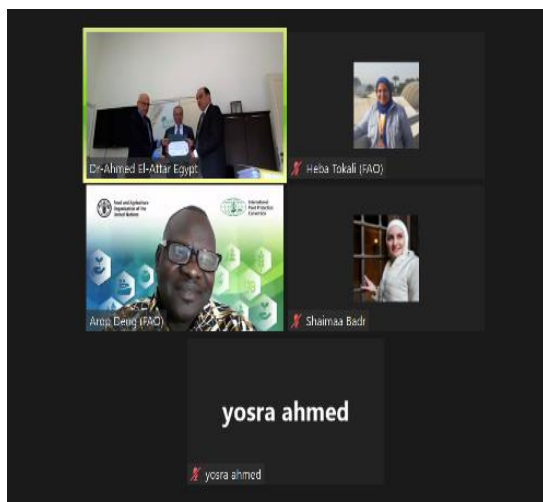
Extraordinary Meeting of the Administrative Council

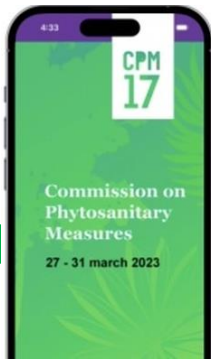
24 January 2023

- ❖ **Seven countries** participated in this meeting: Oman, Egypt, Tunisia, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Jordan.
- ❖ The meeting concluded with **three points**:
 - ✓ The situation of the NEPPO is **crucial** and requires the combined efforts of all member countries that may pay their contributions to support the organization.
 - ✓ Election of **Pr. Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa** as Executive Director for 4 years from February 2023 to 2026.
 - ✓ The two years 2023 and 2024 are transitional.

The handover 2-3 April 2023 – Rabat Morocco

- ❖ This meeting was an opportunity to honorate **Dr. Makki Shuibani** (former ED-NEPPO) and to hand over responsibilities to **Pr. Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa** (new ED-NEPPO)
- ❖ In this meeting, participated:
 - ✓ **Dr. Ahmed Al-Attar** : the Chairman of the Board Commety
 - ✓ **Dr. Arup Deng**: the IPPC Secretariat - Rome.
 - ✓ **Mrs. Heba Tokali, Mrs. Yosray Ahmed and Shaima Badr**: the Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa for Plant Protection in Cairo.





CPM17 (27-31 March 2023)

Renewal of the membership of **Dr. Ahmed El-Attar**, in the Bureau of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures.

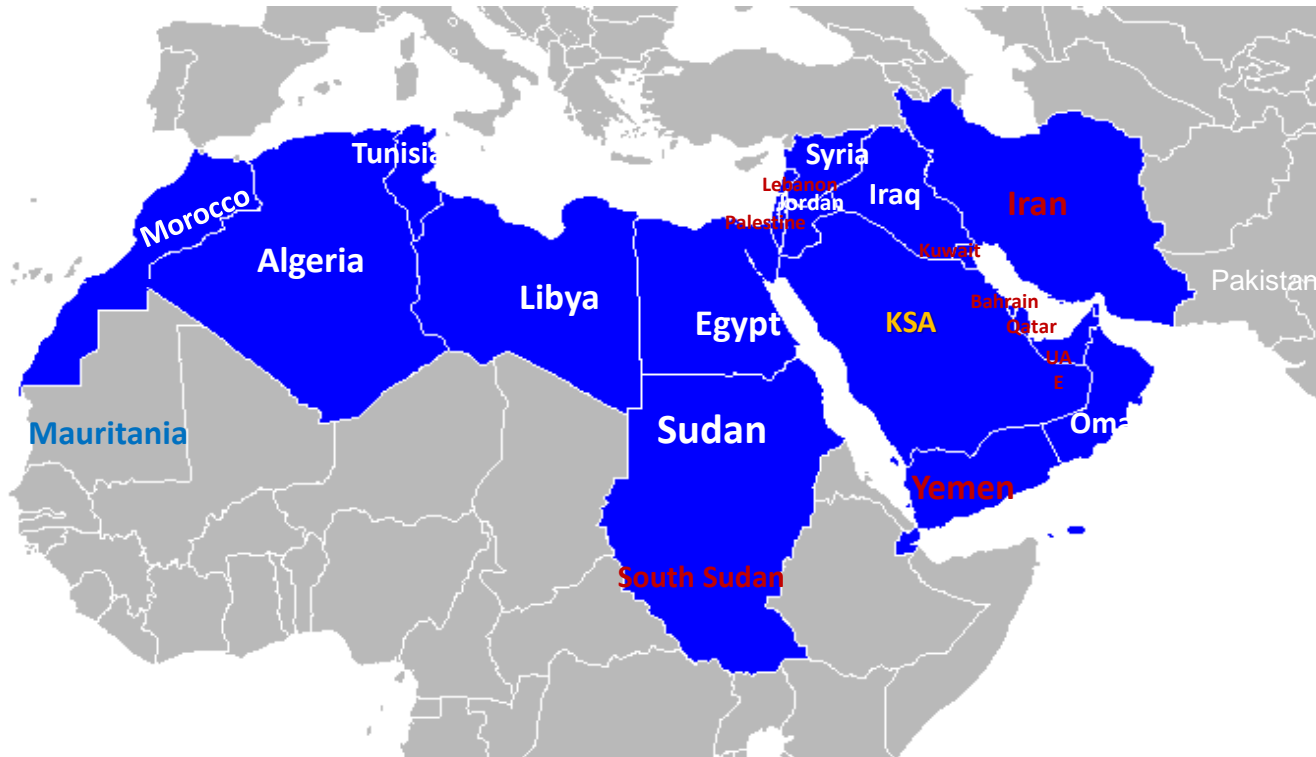
Standards Committee (SC)

Country	Delegate	Nominated/ re-nominated/Substitute	Current term/duration	Term expires
IRAN	Mrs. Maryam Jalili MOGHADAM	CPM-15 (2021)		
EGYPT	Mr. Nader ELBADRY	CPM-15 (2021)		
SUDAN	Mr. Abdelmoneem Ismaeel ADRA ABDETAM	CPM-15 (2021)	First term /3 years	2024
SYRIA	Mr. Eyad MOHAMED	Mr. Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa (TUNISIA) CPM-15 (2021)		



NEPPO – Member Countries

- The Near East and North Africa region includes 22 countries
- The organization currently consists of 11 member countries: Oman, Syria, Morocco, Tunisia, Iraq, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Pakistan, Sudan, and Jordan.



- ✓ The request of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is in progress.
- ✓ Mauritania request to join the NEPPO since August 2022.
- ✓ Yemen request to join the NEPPO in September 2023.

NEPPO Bulletin (issued every three months)

- ❖ The bulletin provides **information, technical data** and **statistics** regarding **pests** (insects and pathogens) harmful to agricultural crops and, **quarantine pests**.
- ❖ The bulletin exposes the most important **development** and **events** at the **regional** and **international** levels.

Near East Plant
Protection
Organization
Bulletin



نشرة منظمة
وقاية النباتات
للشرق الأدنى

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Editor: Pr. Ben Jamaa Mohamed Habib, Executive Director, NEPPO
اعداد : محمد الحبيب بن جامع، المدير التنفيذي لمنظمة وقاية النباتات للشرق الأدنى

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- ✓ Regional strategy for **sustainable management** of **transboundary plant pests** and **diseases** in the Near East and North Africa region.
- ✓ Plant pests and diseases, as major **threat** to agriculture and environment.
- ✓ **Difficulty** and **weaknesses** in the plant protection systems of the NEPPO countries **to control** transboundary plant **pests** and **diseases**.

This program aims to propose a regional strategy as a tool to strengthen regional cooperation in addressing transboundary pests and diseases. The strategy aims to improve the performance of national plant health services (i.e. National Plant Protection Organizations NPPOs) in NENA countries to enable better monitoring, prevention, early detection, and effective and timely control of transboundary plant pests and diseases.

TRANSBOUNDARY PLANT INSECT PESTS



Fall Armyworm (FAW)



Red Palm Weevil (RPW)



Fruit Flies

TRANSBOUNDARY PLANT DISEASES



Xylella fastidiosa



Huanglongbing (HLB, Citrus)



Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. albedinis



Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense

CLIMATE CHANGE INFLUENCE ON PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES

Different climatic regions likely harbor distinctive plant pests and pathogens, with future changes in temperature and precipitation caused by global warming, pests, and pathogens are expected to change their behavior, including their spreading patterns and population fluctuation.

FAO INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS TPPDs

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has established the Food Chain Crisis Management Framework (FCC), an integrated and interdisciplinary approach combining prevention, early warning, preparedness, and response to food chain emergencies. FCC addresses the challenge of transboundary animal (including aquatic) and plant (including forest) pests and diseases, food safety, and radiological events threatening the food chain and affecting human health and food security.

TOWARDS EFFECTIVE REGIONAL COOPERATION STRATEGY TO ADDRESS TPPDs IN NENA COUNTRIES

Countries in the NENA region face significant challenges and implement a wide range of measures to combat TPPDs. However, insufficient national capacities and the lack of proper regional cooperation programmes increase these problems by limiting the capacity of surveillance, border controls and inspection, risk assessments, accurate diagnosis, and effective and timely response.

The following pillars and practical actions need to be promoted as a regional programme:

I. Coordination and Knowledge Sharing

II. Capacity building

- A- Surveillance, Monitoring & Early Warning Systems for TPPDs
- B- Developing Appropriate Quarantine Measures
- C- Harmonized Production Systems for Certified Plant Propagation Materials
- D- Harmonised registration systems for pesticides

III. Environmental, economic, and social Assessment

I. PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Overall supervision will be carried out by FAO-RNE as the main implementing party, with guidance from the FAO-RNE Regional Plant Protection Officer, NEPPO, and CIHEAM IAMB experts. Technical and management coordination meetings with the three partner organisations will occur quarterly in person or remotely. In addition, regular on-site visits, support, and supervision missions will be performed at least once a year and as needed based on the partners' performance. Within the targeted countries, contact points appointed by each partner organisation will be responsible for implementing the work plans and timely delivery of activities and outputs. They will also be responsible for compiling and preparing quarterly reports and other particular documents to be submitted to the programme's funders.

The management structure and mechanisms of the program will consist of three levels:

II. MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

III. RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

FAO will work closely with the governments of the targeted countries to formulate and appraise this programme to ensure that it meets national objectives and priorities.

IV. FUND LIAISING AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

V. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

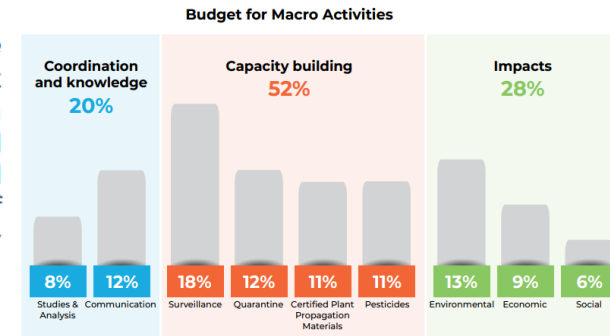
- » Risks of TPPDs introduction and spread are mitigated
- » Losses caused by TPPDs are reduced
- » Trade without TPPDs is facilitated
- » Phytosanitary measures in NENA countries are enhanced
- » Food security against TPPD is strengthened

VI. Partnership

FAO will coordinate and manage the program and contribute to its implementation with CIHEAM-Bari and Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO). NEPPO is a coordinating body in the NENA region seeking to strengthen cooperation among countries to prevent the spread and introduction of plant pests.

VII. SDG contribution

This regional strategy contributes to the following sustainable development goals (SDGs): 1, 2, 3, 5, 13, 15 and linkages to FAO'S four betters.



The shared % for each pillar and action of the regional strategy

The estimated budget allocated for the three pillars and actions of the regional strategy (\$ 47.7 M)

Coordination / Knowledge Sharing (\$ 9.4 M)	Capacity Building (\$ 24.8 M)	Impacts (\$ 13.5 M)
Studies & Analysis (\$ 3.6 M) Communication & Awareness (\$ 5.8 M)	Monitoring & Early Warning (\$ 8.7 M) Quarantine Measures (\$ 5.7 M) Certification Programs (\$ 5.2 M) Pesticides Registration (\$ 5.2 M)	Environmental (\$ 6.2 M) Economic (\$ 4.5 M) Social (\$ 2.8 M)

The annual continuation of NENA countries

No.	Country	USD K
1	Algeria	38
2	Bahrain	14
3	Egypt	49
4	Iraq	35
5	Jordan	6
6	Kuwait	68
7	Lebanon	13
8	Libya	8
9	Morocco	15
10	Oman	31
11	Qatar	77
12	Saudi Arabia	187
13	Syrian Arab Republic	3
14	Tunisia	7
15	United Arab Emirates	140
16	Mauritania	3
17	Sudan	3
18	Yemen	3

The total annual contribution of NENA countries USD 700K

CONCLUSIONS

TPPDs still threaten food security and safety in the NENA region; prevention is the only method to reduce the spread of those pests and diseases. Production of healthy plants and sustainable food in the NENA region requires specific and smart solutions. In addition, appropriate policies and legislation, intelligent investments, and planning are all key factors in ensuring higher efficiency levels and prompt responses to threats to food systems. Regional collaboration by supporting the role of NEPPPO is essential to prevent the introduction and spread of destructive plant pests and diseases. Ensuring higher levels of efficiency, early warning, and reaction to threats to food systems requires regional collaboration. NENA countries are not adequately prepared to respond effectively to new and re-emerging transboundary plant pests and diseases.



Activities of prevention, early warning, control and eradication, and containment are not conducted to the fullest extent possible. The human resources and logistical capabilities of NENA countries are generally not at a level sufficient to face large and urgent plant health threats.

On this occasion, we urge NENA countries and plant protection experts to support establishing a regional programme to face transboundary plant pests and diseases in the NENA region.



NEPPO provides

a standard on the certification system for palm propagation materials

“Certification scheme for date-palm propagation material”



**STANDARD
CERTIFICATION**

- ✓ A number of 18 countries from the region participated in this event (13 in attendance and 5 via Zoom), academics and specialists. The theme of this year 2023 is **plant health to protect the environment** and the aims of this meeting are:
- ✓ Providing the stockholders with current information in areas related to the IPPC.
- ✓ Exchanging experiences at the professional level.

Topics discussed in this meeting:

- ❖ Updates on Governance and Strategic issues.
- ❖ Discuss substantive comments on draft standards and recommendations.
- ❖ Implementing and raising awareness in the Framework of FAO/ RPPOs.
- ❖ Topics of interest to the Near East and North Africa region.
- ❖ Moving together from ideas to action (facilitated session).
- ❖ Advertising slides and a video on guides and training materials and standard-setting process.
- ❖ Technical Visits At Al-Qassim Region, KSA.



Africa Phytosanitary Program (APP)

**Train-the-trainer workshop for Africa Phytosanitary Program
from 25 to 29 September 2023 (Cairo, Egypt)**

- ✓ Eleven African countries (from Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, **Egypt**, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mali, **Morocco**, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) are taking part in a training on advanced plant health science and state-of-the-art digital tools that will better equip field staff and administrators to make timely decisions to prevent plant pest outbreaks.
- ✓ The first phase of the **APP**, a new regional initiative designed to profoundly boost the **technical capacity** of Africa's phytosanitary personnel in all **54 countries**.
- ✓ A novel program, led by the **IPPC Secretariat**, in collaboration with the African Union Commission on Agriculture.
- ✓ The **APP** aims at equipping **National Plant Protection Organizations** with science-based approaches, advanced technology and
- ✓ tools to monitor, prevent, detect, and
- ✓ manage significant plant pests and
- ✓ diseases that threaten food security, the
- ✓ environment and economic growth.
- ✓ The countries in the first phase of APP
- ✓ are expected to train field staff in their respective countries in a bid to strengthen national capacity to prevent pests.



Regional Workshop on Production, Conservation and Utilization of Certified Propagative Materials of Fruit Trees in Near East and North Africa countries From 14 to 16 November 2023 (Rabat, Morocco)

- ✓ An agreement between the NEPPO and the Regional Office for Plant Protection for the Near East and North Africa – FAO, Cairo.
- ✓ This workshop will be an opportunity to request recommendations from member countries to develop and move forward with the sustainable production of certified fruit crops in the NENA region.
- ✓ Cross-country experience exchange is also a vital topic that will be discussed with the aim of identifying achievements, gaps, challenges, and needs.

The specific objectives of the workshop are:

- Strengthen the technical capacities of nursery organization and management of the Production of Certified Fruit Trees;
- Identify gaps and needs to establish and manage sustainably the certification systems;
- Defining proposals for capacity building on plant certification schemes in the region.

Strategic Meeting

This session will be expanded and will participate:

- ❖ Executive Committee (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Jordan, Morocco, Iraq)
- ❖ Chairman of the Board of Directors,
- ❖ A representative of the IPPC Secretariat, Rome;
- ❖ A representative of the Regional Plant Protection Office (Cairo),
- ❖ The countries member (Tunisia, Syria, Pakistan, Sudan, Oman)
- ❖ The countries in the process of accession (KSA, Mauritania, Yemen).

The meeting will discuss the current situation of the NEPPO and establish a strategic plan.



**WHAT
WE
NEED
TO
DO
NOW**

'Crisis
renewal
We c
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الاتفاقية الدولية
لوقاية النباتات



NEPPO
منظمة وقاية النباتات للشرق الأدنى
Near East Plant Protection Organization

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة



Encouraging international & regional cooperation to support plant protection and enhance capabilities

Transboundary pests pose a major threat to the region's agriculture and biodiversity

countries cannot control these threats alone

Cooperation, especially regional cooperation, represents a priority in:

- risk analysis,
- setting regional standards,
- exchanging information and experiences,
- coordination between countries in the region,
- building the capabilities of countries in the region.

Joint work is an absolute necessity to confront these pests and establish regional standards

that take into account the region's specificities

شكرا
Thank you



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