

## Work plans of the Standing Committee of Pesticide for 2012-2013

*Source: Report of the twenty-seventh session of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (Item 13.3.3), 15-19 August 2011, Manila, Philippines*

The following items for the work programme were discussed:

(a) Promotion of the implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct on the use and distribution of pesticides

The purpose of this proposal is to ensure the sustainable enforcement of all the provisions of the CODE. Eight countries will be involved. Activities include:

- Guidelines from FAO-TCP established, validated and applied
- Post-application survey undertaken to get feedback
- Identification of the best available technology and best environmental practices (disposal of obsolete pesticide). Information from similar projects may be used as reference

(b) Promotion of the ratification and implementation of the Rotterdam Convention

In cooperation with the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, this proposal will address issues of common interest in the region. The National Action Plan of Laos and Malaysia will be used as a model. Nepal and Thailand will work on the Pesticide Incident Reporting System. One sub-regional (ASEAN + China, Nepal, India and Pakistan) consultation will be held on trade related issues. Activities include:

- Facilitate development of national action plans, cooperation with customs trade partner, including export notifications
- Support national capacity on reporting of pesticide incidents caused by severely hazardous pesticide formulations
- Facilitate network of DNAs in the AP region
- Promotion of ratification of Conventions concerning pesticides in relevant regional activities

(c) Information exchange and database

The purpose of this proposal is for the exchange of information on national regulatory status (banned, restricted and registered pesticides), and import decisions. There will also be a mechanism to maintain the information exchange, for example, the list of chemicals banned by China will be made available in the database. All countries are to submit the relevant web link and/or the list of banned and restricted pesticides in English to the Secretariat for posting on APPPC web site. A country or working group will be nominated to lead in setting up and maintaining the website and database. Further discussions will be held at the pesticide management workshop. Activities proposed include:

- Establishment of links to the relevant databases: TCP, FAO PM, RC, ASEAN
- Requirement for countries to regularly submit their official pesticide status including banned and restricted and crop-based pesticide usage to APPPC to be posted in its website.
- Requirement for the addition of the list of registered pesticides and other relevant information

(d) Regional workshop on pesticide management

This proposal addressed issues on pesticide management, regulatory harmonization, enforcement, labeling and trade. A workshop will be hosted by Thailand. The development of the concept and agenda will be led by Malaysia and Thailand. The programme will be funded by APPPC funds and FAO regional risk reduction project funds. Activities include:

- Report on the TCP
- Presentation on guidelines developed under TCP
- Development of follow-up plan
- Presentation on FAO registration toolkit
- Presentation on Rotterdam (Severely Hazardous Pesticide Formulations)
- Evaluation of new approaches on pesticide assessment
- Report on the new developments from the FAO's regional pesticide risk reduction project
- Introduction to eco-toxicology

(e) Reduction of the use of highly hazardous pesticides (HHP)

This proposal studies the availability of alternative to HHPs, the compilation of records of pesticide incidences and the promotion of national efforts toward phasing out of HHPs. Pesticide Regulatory Authorities (PRA) will work to seek information on alternatives through the national IPM programme, NGO's and research centres. Pesticide incidences will also be reported. Activities include:

- Identification of alternatives in cooperation with IPM
- Pesticide incident reporting to be linked to regulatory decision process (cooperation Rotterdam Convention Secretariat)
- Consideration of regulatory actions by other countries (e.g. notifications and export notifications) and at international level (listing in Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions)