Global MRL Harmonization Initiative - Africa
March 30-April 2, 2009
Alexandria, Egypt

AGENDA

Special appreciation to the Southern African Development Community (SADC), CropLife International and CropLife Africa Middle East for their financial and programming support.
**Sunday, March 29**

6:30 pm  Registration (Renaissance Hotel lobby)

7:30 pm  Shuttle bus from Renaissance to Four Seasons

8:00 pm  Welcome reception (Four Seasons): **hosted by the Egypt Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation - H.E. Mr. Amin Abaza**

**Monday, March 30**

**Theme:** The minor use/specialty crop MRL problem; global perspectives and initiatives to address the problem

**Outcomes:**
1) List of completed and planned African and international efforts;
2) List of specific obstacles facing African countries
3) Discussion on how to better coordinate various efforts

**Morning Session (Moderator – Salah Soliman)**

8:30 am  Transportation to Bibliotheca Alexandrina

9:00 am  Welcome and introductions (**Egypt – Salah Soliman**)

9:10 am  Address (**FAO of the United Nations FAO – YongZhen Yang**)

9:20 am  Address (**U.S. Department of Agriculture – Peter Kurz**)

9:30 am  Address (**Chairman of Egypt Agricultural Pesticide Committee – H.E. Professor Mostafa Tolba**)

9:40 am  Opening (**Egypt Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation - H.E. Mr. Amin Abaza**)

10:00 am  Workshop objectives / desired outcomes (**U.S. – Jason Sandahl**)

**The global MRL “dis-harmonization” problem**

10:15 am  Break

11:00 am  How a dis-harmonized MRL system impacts global trade (**EPA – Luis Suguiyama**)

11:00 am  How a dis-harmonized MRL system impacts African trade and development (**Kenya – Lucy Namu**
11:30 am  Private and public food safety standards – the route to peaceful coexistence
(World Bank – John Lamb)

12:15 pm  Open discussions – the benefits of harmonization

12:30 pm  Lunch

Afternoon Session (Moderator – Jason Sandahl)

Addressing the dis-harmonization problem – what is being done?
1:30 pm  IR-4: The U.S. Specialty Crop Program, Genesis of the Global Minor Use
Summit; The Global Minor Use Portal; Global field trials; Commodity
grouping initiatives (IR-4 - Dan Kunkel)

2:15 pm  EPA: Global Joint Reviews; Concurrent reviews by JMPR and participating
countries – ideas for harmonizing the process (EPA - Luis Suguiyama)

3:00 pm  Break

3:30 pm  West Africa (Mali - Amadou Diarra and Traore Halimatou)

4:00 pm  Harmonization efforts on pesticide regulation under the East African
Community (Kenya – Paul Ngaruiya)

4:30 pm  SEARCH (Uganda– Mike Odong)

5:00 pm  Open discussion – what else is being done in Africa and elsewhere? How to
coordinate (or join) various efforts?

5:30 pm  Close (Jason Sandahl)

5:45 pm  Transportation to Renaissance Hotel

Tuesday, March 31

Theme: Navigating and utilizing the Codex system and other international opportunities

Outcomes: 1) Understanding how African countries can better engage and benefit from
Codex and other international initiatives

Morning Session (Moderator – Luis Suguiyama)

Enhancing engagement in the CCPR
8:00 am  Transportation to Bibliotheca Alexandrina
8:30 am    Review of the day (EPA – Luis Suguiyama)

8:45 am    Codex Alimentarius and its role in developing Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides (FAO – Jeronimas Maskeliunas)

9:30 am    Lifecycle of a Codex MRL (FAO – Jeronimas Maskeliunas)

10:00 am   JPMR procedures for the estimation of Maximum Residue Levels (FAO – YongZhen Yang)

10:30 am   Break

10:45 am   Review of CCPR agenda: Identifying topics of interest to African countries (Kenya – Lucy Namu; FAO – YongZhen Yang)

11:15 am   The 2009-2012 CCPR pesticide schedule in relation to African priorities (EPA Luis Suguiyama; FAO – YongZhen Yang)

11:45 am   CCPR Electronic Working Group for Specialty Crops (Kenya – Lucy Namu)

12:00 pm   Open discussion – engagement in CCPR by African countries

12:30 pm   Lunch

Afternoon Session (Moderator – Jeronimas Maskeliunas)

Opportunities for African engagement
1:30 pm    Registration harmonization – experiences from West Africa (Mali – Amadou Diarra and Traore Halimatou)

2:15 pm    Global joint field trials and data sharing (IR-4 – Dan Kunkel)

3:00 pm    Break

3:30 pm    Commodity grouping and data extrapolation benefits for African countries (IR-4 – Dan Kunkel)

4:15 pm    Open discussion – nuts and bolts of these initiatives

5:00 pm    Close (Jeronimas Maskeliunas)

5:15 pm    Transportation to Renaissance Hotel
Wednesday, April 1

Theme: Moving African priorities forward, regionally and internationally

Outcome: 1) List of registered pesticides for prioritized crops by country, region, continent that require intervention at JMPR/CCPR;
2) List of contact points for each country – registration officials, MRL setting officials, CCPR delegates;
3) Outline of registration structure of each country;
4) Champions of new African initiatives (if applicable)

Morning Session (Moderator – Lucy Namu)

Development of pesticide/crop priorities
8:00 am Transportation to Bibliotheca Alexandrina
8:30 am Review of the day (Kenya – Lucy Namu)
8:45 am House keeping: Confirming list of contact points: registration officials, MRL setting officials, CCPR delegates, workshop participants (USDA – Jason Sandahl)
9:00 am Summary/Review of questionnaires (EPA – Luis Suguiyama; Egypt – Salah Soliman)
10:00 am Break
10:30 am Country, regional, continent priorities (EPA – Luis Suguiyama; Egypt – Salah Soliman; Uganda – Geoffrey Onen; Botswana – Tshepo Mosedame; Cameroon – Daniel Souop)
12:30 pm Lunch

Afternoon Session (Moderator – Salah Soliman)

Discussion and actions to move forward
1:30 pm Registration harmonization – discussion on steps toward better harmonization (Mali – Amadou Diarra and Traore Halimatou; EPA – Luis Suguiyama)
2:15 pm Global joint field trials benefits – discussion on steps toward participation in these initiatives (Egypt – Salah Soliman; IR-4 – Dan Kunkel)
3:00 pm Break
3:30 pm  Commodity grouping: matching CCPR list with African priority list
(Kenya – Lucy Namu; EPA – Luis Suguiyama; IR-4 – Dan Kunkel; FAO – YongZhen Yang)

4:30 pm  Open discussion – review of priorities, identify champions for African initiatives, other issues

5:00 pm  Close (Salah Soliman)

5:15 pm  Transportation to Renaissance Hotel

Thursday, April 2

Theme: In-depth topics (specific requests from participants prior to meeting)

Outcomes: 1) Agreements on “minor crop” definition and field trial protocols; 2) Agreement on specific next steps and actions 3) Agreement on future workshop topics

Morning Session (Moderator – Geoffrey Onen)

Agreements toward harmonization
8:00 am  Transportation to Bibliotheca Alexandrina

8:30 am  Review of the day (Uganda – Geoffrey Onen)

8:45 am  Agreement on the African definition of “minor crop” and/or “specialty crop” (Morocco – Zine El Alami)

10:00 am  Break

10:30 am  Agreement on standard field trial protocol as basis to accept trial data across region (Mozambique - Khalid Cassam)

11:30 am  Other topics of interest (TBD)

12:30 pm  Lunch

Afternoon Session (Moderator – Salah Solimon)

Follow up and planning
1:30 pm  Biopesticide registration follow up (Egypt – Salah Soliman)

3:00 pm  Break

3:30 pm  Formalize commitments (USDA – Jason Sandahl)
4:00 pm  Closing remarks *(Representatives from Egypt, FAO, USDA, other)*

4:30 pm  Transportation to Renaissance Hotel