



# U.S. EPA Role in Engaging Harmonization

**IR-4 International Crop Grouping  
Consulting Committee Meeting**

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# EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs

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## ✦ Principal Business

- ✦ Protect human health and the environment
- ✦ Ensure that society has access to pesticides and the associated benefits

## ✦ Harmonization efforts linked to meeting these goals

# OPP - Role in Engaging in Harmonization to Achieve Goals

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## ✦ Leadership

- Promote harmonization efforts internally and externally

## ✦ Advocacy/Championship

- Identify opportunities for collaboration and cooperation

## ✦ Foster Communication

- Promote dialogue between regulatory authorities
- Promote dialogue with and among all stakeholders

# Opportunities to Engage and Promote Harmonization

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✦ **NAFTA**

✦ **OECD**

✦ **Codex: Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR); CCPR (Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues)**

✦ **Communication with regulatory authorities – Australia, Canada, China, EU, Japan**

✦ **Incorporation into routine work**

# Specific Initiatives

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## ✠ NAFTA

- **Joint Review Program** : new active ingredients, minor use initiative - - (19 joint reviews on new active ingredients; 1 minor use crop; 8 work share projects on new active ingredients (1996-2005))
- **Trade Irritant Project** – working with pesticide users to identify MRL discrepancies and remedy in most cost-effective, sustainable manner.
- **Tolerance/MRL Harmonization Group**

# Specific Initiatives

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## ✦ OECD

- ✦ **Working Group on Pesticides (WGP) and Registration Steering Group (RSG)**
- ✦ **Vision Statement – “*By promoting work-sharing, the OECD Pesticide Programme helps governments more efficiently and effectively protect human health and the environment and work towards the goal of sustainable development.*”**

# Specific Initiatives

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## ✦ OECD (Continued)

- Study review template initiative
- Exchange of regulatory authorities' review schedules/available reviews
- Allows regulators to meet regularly
- Various projects comparing study review results show substantial similarity in conclusions
- Work share initiatives between EU/US
- Possible global joint review on new active ingredient

# Codex

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## ✦ JMPR/CCPR

- EPA staff chair JMPR/FAO committee (residues) and participate in JMPR/WHO(toxicology) committee
- EPA heads US delegation to CCPR
- US promoting initiative to accelerate setting of MRLs for new active ingredients – risk assessment and risk management work
- Consideration of Codex MRLs in decisions
- Codex Crop Grouping Revision
- Promote dialogue between stakeholders within US as well as with stakeholders in other countries

# Work Sharing/Joint Reviews

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## ✦ **New Active Ingredients/New Uses**

- **EU/US Work share – new insecticide**
- **NAFTA Joint Reviews on new active ingredients and new uses**
- **Proposed Global Work Joint Review**

## ✦ **Utilization of EU Reviews – Section 18 requests associated with control of Soybean rust**

## ✦ **Routine inquiry of existence of country reviews by staff**

# Summary

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- ✦ **Proven that collaboration and harmonization enhances ability to meet goals of protecting public health and ensuring growers and other pesticide users have access to appropriate tools**