U.S. EPA Role in Engaging Harmonization

IR-4 International Crop Grouping Consulting Committee Meeting

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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

**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

- 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

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

**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

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**

**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

- **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

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