

Final document

**CEUREG FORUM XI
Budapest, 24-25 October 2007**

The eleventh meeting of CEUREG FORUM was organised. The European Commission and Council have been informed that the Forum of Central and Eastern European Countries Registration Expert Group (CEUREG FORUM) is a regional official workshop of Central and Eastern European Countries' official bodies involved in authorization of plant protection products (PPPs).

CEUREG FORUM participants: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Serbia and Slovak Republic.

CEUREG FORUM papers and documents were revised and supported by: Albania, Byelorussia, Estonia, Romania and Ukraine.

The CEUREG FORUM meeting took place according to the Agenda. The FORUM highly appreciated the lectures of Ms. Lilian Tornqvist (DG SANCO) on the Draft Regulation replacing the Directive 91/414/EEC including general overview of current status, zonal co-operation and evaluation, possible impacts on capacity and organisation of regulatory authorities, data protection, and parallel import.

Delegations from EU Member States (MSs) expressed their concerns about potential serious impact of some of the changes approved by the European Parliament on the competitiveness of the EU agriculture and availability of PPPs for some crops in future.

On behalf of ECPA, Mr. Jean-Pierre Busnardo (DuPont Crop Protection) introduced the industrial point of view and approach on the draft of the new Regulation.

Following the conclusions of the discussion, the European Commission is urged by participating EU MSs:

1. to prepare an impact analysis of cut-off criteria proposed, especially on availability of effective insecticides after PPP Regulation implementation,
2. to reflect, in the legal texts, the necessity of aerial application as the only suitable solution for some situations and crops in large number of countries,
3. to include in the EU legal texts provisions and requirements obliging MSs to put in place harmonized system of licensing of all distributors and re-packaging companies within their territory to enable inspections of placing on the market of

more effective PPPs and to enable an efficient action against counterfeited products,

4. to make the PPP inspection system more effective by legal harmonization of minimum requirements on competence and power of relevant inspection bodies,
5. to support traceability of PPPs by legal harmonization of requirements on data and documents accompanying re-packed product in the distribution chain,
6. to re-designate the zonal system proposed in such a way that scientific criteria for comparability of the climatic and other conditions are involved and any increase of administrative and co-ordination work is reduced to a minimum.

Representative of Austria, Mr. Robert Womastek (AGES) gave a thorough lecture on parallel import of PPPs based on the Austrian experiences after the accession of ten new MSs to EU and comments to the parallel import provisions of the draft Regulation.

In the country contribution section, each New EU MSs presented their 3 years experiences (including quality control) and commented the parallel import provisions of the draft Regulation.

Participants agreed on the importance of legal provisions for parallel trade and for the post-registration control activities. The participating EU MSs recommend the European Commission:

1. speeding up the process of creation a database of PPPs authorised on EU territory,
2. preparing a guideline on identity assessment of parallelly imported PPPs.

All countries representatives expressed the necessity of a co-operation within inspection activities, especially to reduce illegal trade and counterfeited products.

Mr. Janos Molnar (MARD, Hungary) reported on the Conference and Demonstration on Aerial Application held on 11-12 September 2007 in Hungary. Then Mr. Martin Streloke (BVL, Germany) informed the participants on Germany rules, criteria and scheme for authorisation of a product for aerial use. In the country contribution section each participating delegation presented their current situation and opinion on criteria for the risk assessment and authorisation of a PPP for the aerial application and risk mitigation measures used.

Mr. Neil Byron (PSD, UK) gave a presentation on regulation of PPPs for amateur uses – UK rules and practice (rules, risk-assessment criteria, safety measures, distribution, labelling). In the country contribution section each participating delegation presented their opinion on amateur use regulation and risk mitigation measures.

The participating EU MSs recommend that the European Commission initiate works on harmonized criteria for PPPs for amateur use.

Croatia and Serbia as Candidate countries to EU – gave a status report on the harmonisation procedure, problems, experiences, and expectations. It was evident from the reports that the accession countries have made many efforts to step forward.

Russia gave a presentation on the general overview and the latest development in pesticides registration.

The meeting proposed some topics for the next CEUREG meeting: quality control, mutual recognition, GEP (role of FOCUS in the national registration).

The Chairman, Mr. Josef Svaricek introduced Brno, the venue of the next CEUREG FORUM in 2008. Stanislaw Stobiecki proposed Poznan as a possible location of the 2009 CEUREG meeting.

Done in Budapest, 25 October 2007