

North Africa Middle East

Annual NAME Hub Workshop Held in Jordan

The annual Hub & Regulatory Workshop for North Africa and Middle East took place on 17 and 18 October, at the Bristol Hotel in Amman, Jordan.

Held under the patronage of HE, the Minister of Agriculture of Jordan, the conference was organized in cooperation with the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development and co-organised by the Agricultural Materials Traders and Producers Association of Jordan.

Over one hundred participants attended the conference representing various disciplines of the agricultural sectors in Arab countries, together with CropLife member companies and both regional and international organizations.

The conference encompassed the annual workshop of the registrars of pesticides together with the CropLife national associations workshop for the North Africa Middle East region.

A number of recommendations were reached aimed at strengthening the harmonization of pesticide regulations in the region with major emphasis on the rollout of the Principles of Regulations initiative driven by CropLife International. Successful PRD training was held with the registrars of pesticides of the region.

Projects and action plans were outlined and approved in the areas of "responsible use" of pesticides and "integrated pest management" at national and regional levels.

The conference deliberated and resolved measures to combat counterfeiting and the illegal trade in pesticides with emphasis on law enforcement and border control requirements.

Director General, Dr Rudolf Guyer and Vice President, Mr. Michel Chartouni, expressed the commitment of CropLife Africa Middle East to support regulatory harmonization and stewardship projects in the region.

The conference witnessed a strong presence and participation from CropLife International reflected in the attendance of Keith Jones, Director Stewardship, Bernhard Johnen, Director Regulatory Affairs, Eva Erisgen, Chair IPM Project Team and Michael Caroll, Chair of Protection of Regulatory Data Committee.



Keith Jones and Eva Erisgen receiving awards



Director General - Rudolf Guyer addressing the conference



Official Farewell of Ali Mohamed Ali

During the closing session of the Amman conference, a special ceremony was held as an official farewell to the Regional Coordinator, Ali Mohamed Ali, who will retire at the end of the year.

Ali joined CropLife International (GCPF at that time) in the year 1998 as the Regional Coordinator for Africa and the Middle East, which was then managed through a Working Group Structure. He was also a member of the team that concluded the transformation of the Working Group into an international association incorporated under Belgian law with the name of CropLife Africa Middle East.

With the founding of the association, his contract was transferred to CropLife Africa Middle East where he continued his roles on regional coordination in addition to the role of global liaison on CropLife International Committees and project teams.

The ceremony included speeches by the executives of CropLife Africa Middle East, CropLife International and delegates of national associations in appreciation of his contributions to industry activities over the past 15 years.



CropLife Egypt paying tribute to Ali Mohd Ali



Ali Mohd Ali receiving an award from CropLife Sudan



West & Central Africa

SSP Training



Group photo of the participants with the facilitation team from CropLife AME



The programme emphasized the importance of calibration and maintenance of a knapsack sprayer (above) and mist blower (below).



On 1 – 5 Oct, in Accra, Ghana, 12 participants from CropLife Côte d'Ivoire, CropLife Ghana, CropLife Nigeria and CropLife Cameroon were trained as Master Trainers in the SSP concept.

This initiative was undertaken as part of the launch of the Spray Service Provider (SSP) program in the hub, and was in part to develop trainers for building-up the pool of master trainers. There was also the need to adapt the training modules to the cocoa sector.

Three sessions were organized over the 5-day period focusing on:

- The presentation of the training manual and the special topics on IPM and pesticide residues in cocoa beans
- The practical use of the manual with each participant having to conduct a training exercise with feedback from the other participants and the facilitator
- The feedback on the manual for improvement to be made based on the training exercise by the participants

The course provided an opportunity for:

- Identifying new potential master trainers for the sub-region
- The setting-up of a network of master trainers for the sub-region; almost all the participants are from member companies of CropLife national associations
- The focusing and strengthening of in-house member companies.
- The challenging of the trainers to follow this through further in their respective member companies

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Anti-Counterfeiting: Cooperation between CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and Customs authorities

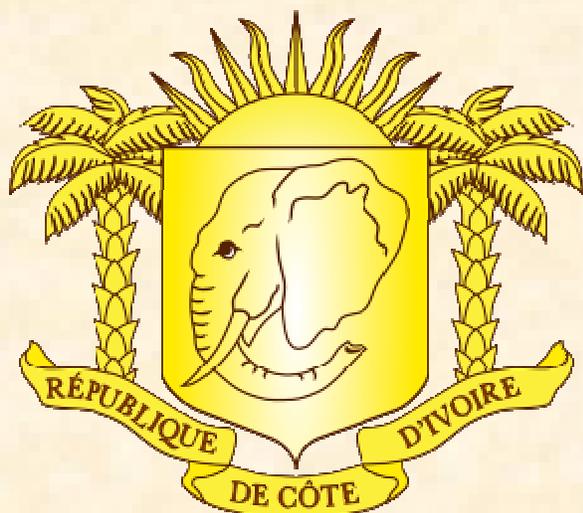
The recent seizures of illegal pesticides have provided motivation to pursue the rollout of further liaison on anti-counterfeiting with the customs services. A meeting was duly organized between the customs services of Côte d'Ivoire and CropLife Côte d'Ivoire to plan a training course for the customs services in the cocoa growing areas where illegal pesticides are frequently found on the market. Agreement was reached for this to take place, end November, early December, in San-Pedro in the S-Western region. Twenty-Five customs agents are expected for this training while a one-day seminar will also be organized for about 100 agents on a traineeship programme in the School of Customs in Abidjan. CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and CropLife AME will provide a booklet to showcase counterfeited and illegal pesticides and also assist the customs services in getting a list of registered pesticides from the Crop Protection Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Both sides are mindful of the need for:

- Strengthening cooperation between CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and the customs authorities
- Building capacity for the customs services covering borders and ports of entry
- Media messages to educate the public



N. Tigori, Training Unit
Customs Services,
discussing the upcoming
training programs with the
WCA Hub Coordinator



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CropLife Côte d'Ivoire: Association Management Training

On 24 October a meeting was held with 4 member companies of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire. This was to enlighten the association on the Spray Service Provider (SSP) program. The following topics were covered:

- Discussion on the SSP concept with a focus on the selection of SSP trainers by the member companies of the national association. The participants were also informed of the upcoming WCF-ACI program, which they will need to implement
- The strengthening needed of the association in order to be able to implement the activities identified
- The guidance and alignment of activities on the strategic priorities of CropLife AME
- The proactive approach and alliance building needed to conduct the various activities, with particular attention to container management
- The support needed for improving the national regulations based on the PoR
- The promotion and capacity building in IP and the combating of the illegal pesticide trade

CropLife Côte d'Ivoire: Partnerships

On 25 October, in Soubré, Côte d'Ivoire, CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and GIZ organized the launch of the 4th Business Services Center (BSC) "Demba Store", to provide easy access for cocoa farmers to quality inputs as stipulated in the MoU between the two organizations. The executive secretary of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire took the opportunity to address the 100 participants on the issue of pests and pest control for sustainable production. He stressed the need to use only registered products as offered by member companies of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire, from certified reputable dealers of the BSC. The local authorities attending the ceremony committed to assist CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and the regulatory authorities in combating the illegal trade of pesticides to ensure that farmers can improve their yields and incomes. The request that CropLife Côte d'Ivoire train more farmers, dealers as well as police officers in identifying illegal pesticides on the market was again made.



Participants (above left) and local authorities (above right) took note on the message delivered by CropLife Côte d'Ivoire

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East & Southern Africa

Completion and Handover Workshop: Malawi

The CleanFarms Project in Malawi completed the collection and safeguarding of in excess of 300 tons of obsolete pesticides together with several thousand empty pesticide containers. This is now housed at two government SFFREM warehouses in Lilongwe and Blantyre.

A workshop took place on 3 October in Lilongwe “to inform the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and stakeholders what the project accomplished and the proposed way forward”. The workshop was opened by Dr. J Luhanga, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and attended by 30 participants.

The workshop addressed the following issues:

- How to manage ‘left over’ pesticides in the future
- The implementation of a ‘Container Management Program’

As the mechanics of these two areas embrace a number of role players it was agreed to form a working group comprising of both the public & private sectors. The first meeting of this working group will take place before the end of November.



Dr J Luhanga conducting the opening of the workshop



David Laycock summarizing what the Project had accomplished



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INTERPOL Trafficking in Illicit Goods Programme: Tanzania



The training undertaken by “Trafficking in Illicit Goods Sub-Directorate of the INTERPOL”, took place in Dar es Salaam 15 – 17 October.

This three day training, attracted around 70 participants from Rwanda, Burundi, DRC-Congo, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania; comprising of Police Officers, Customs officers, the Judiciary, Prosecutors, and Regulatory. Authorities from Tanzania included the Fair Competition Commission (FCC), Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), and Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA).

Representatives from the Private Sector also participated in the seminar. Those represented included; - SC Johnson (Kiwi, Baygon), British American Tobacco (cigarettes / tobacco), Beiersdorf (personal care products - NIVEA), Unilever (home products) and CropLife Tanzania (pesticides).

Officers from the INTERPOL General Secretariat, the U S Dept. of Justice, and the U S Patent and Trademarks Office conducted the training.

The programme was comprehensive with the following topics of immense interest to CropLife:

- Overview of the INTERPOL Trafficking in Illicit Goods Sub-Directorate
- Introduction to Intellectual Property Infringements – General Aspects
- How to build an Intellectual Property case to be prosecuted
- How to liaise with the Prosecution Authority
- How the Tanzanian Police are fighting against Intellectual Property crime
- Customs actions to defeat Intellectual Property crime in Tanzania
- International experience – Overview of the US Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center and how to work in partnership to provide a response to transnational organized crime

All participating organizations made presentations on their experiences with counterfeit and illegal goods and the inherent dangers resulting from these activities. A brief on the various legislative frameworks available for the control of illicit goods as well as the apparent shortcomings was included as an addition to the presentations.

A total of 25 presentations were made, followed by interactive discussions.

Overall, the training was well conducted and highly informative, at the end of which, all participants agreed to increase vigilance in the control of illicit goods as well as recommending the review and harmonization of the current legislations in order to make them more deterrent to the illicit goods trade in the region.

CropLife Tanzania’s presentation covered the “Risks Associated with Counterfeit and Illegal pesticides.

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CropLife Zambia holds AGM

CropLife Zambia held their 2012 AGM on 17 October at which 24 member companies participated.

The notable highlights of the meeting were that:

- During the year under review, 4 new members joined bring the total membership to 29 companies
- Member companies continued to support the SSP program
- ZEMA (regulatory body) would support initiatives covering both “container management” and “anti-counterfeiting”
- Accommodation for the Secretariat / Coordinator was in the final stages of being resolved
- The amended Constitution and Code of Conduct were in the final stages of review
- MUSIKA (successor of PROFIT) was keen to become involved with CropLife Zambia programs, more particularly “container management”
- The 1st Anti-Counterfeiting training will take place before year-end

The new ExCo for the period 2012 – 2014 are the following:

Chairman:	Yosi Karni
Secretary:	Chola Kamaki
Treasurer:	Chola Chakonta
Committee Member:	Roger Griffen (Syngenta)
Committee Member:	Jeremiah Shakubanza (BASF)
Committee Member:	Peter Whitbread
Committee Member:	Mark Stokes



Group Participants



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Meeting with GIZ, Pretoria Office, South Africa

On Tuesday, 30 October, a meeting took place with Carsten Schüttel, Support to Africa's Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) at the GIZ offices in Pretoria.

Key points covered:

- Their role within the CAADP is to bring both "strategy and planning expertise". To implement this they have personnel based, both at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and at the NEPAD Agency in Midrand, South Africa
- They have 3 Regional Programs which are funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
 - Cashew: African Cashew Initiative: This program is currently in the following countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Mozambique
 - Cotton: Competitive African Cotton Initiative: This program is currently in the following countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique
 - Cocoa: Cocoa Livelihoods Program: This program is in the following countries: Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria



Carsten Schüttel

They have several "Bilateral Programs" including the following:

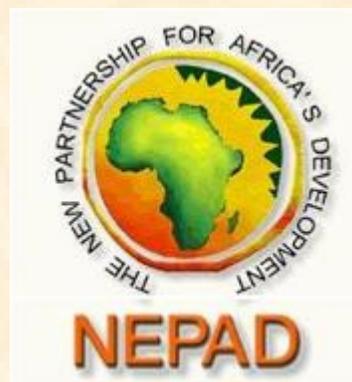
- Seeds: Zimbabwe and Ethiopia
- Forestry: Madagascar
- Value chain development: South Sudan

They have two new modules, which will be rolled out in 2013. These will probably start in Ghana and Kenya or Togo owing to bilateral arrangements.

- Climate change
- Agricultural Education

Actions agreed upon:

- That they will get back to us in the event that IPM / RU training will be needed in either the "Cotton or Cashew" programs. The "Cocoa" program is already well covered
- That our services could well be needed in the new "Agricultural Education" module
- That we will communicate regularly and meet on an ad hoc basis, as is necessary



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Pre Board Meeting and discussions covering the Strategic Blueprint	Nov 5
Board meeting in Lyon	Nov 6
Obsolete Stocks Project Team Meeting in Monheim	Nov 7
Meeting with Interpol in Lyon	Nov 7
Meeting with ACIDI / VOCA to discuss project extension	Nov 14-15
SSP ToT Training, Zambia with trainer capacity building	Nov 12-16
World Cocoa Conference, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	Nov 19-23
IPR and CBI training, Rabat	Nov 22
Anti-Counterfeiting Training, Zambia	Nov 28
CropLife Ethiopia AGM + ASP Closure Meeting	Dec 3-7
PRD Steering Committee meeting, Brussels	Dec 11
UAE follow-up visit on IPM	Dec 12- 15
POR Meeting, Brussels	Dec 12
RSC Meeting, Brussels	Dec 12-13



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Representing the Plant Science Industry