

## OBSTOCKS UPDATE

### Working with obsolete stocks in Cameroon and Ghana

CropLife projects to reduce the risks from obsolete pesticide stocks moved ahead in both Cameroon and Ghana in March with training courses in inventory taking, risk assessment and operational safety. The courses were given to representatives from government, industry and other stakeholders and were run jointly by CropLife International and Veolia Environmental Services, UK. Both courses were funded by CropLife International and organised in collaboration with CropLife Ghana (Accra), and CropLife Cameroon (Yaoundé).

### Technical Advisor Appointed in Mali

Dr. Joan Nielsen from the Danish consulting firm COWI has been appointed to advise the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP) project in Mali on collection, safeguarding and disposal of the estimated 1000 tonnes of obsolete pesticides in the country. Dr. Nielsen has considerable experience in other obsolete stocks projects in Africa and elsewhere. Her two year appointment is being funded by CropLife International as part of its contribution to the ASP.

Dr Joan Nielson



### Regional Support

The Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP) is pleased to confirm that Manon Dohmen of the IFDC will be providing support to Chris Waller as an Association Specialist with special focus on Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Tanzania, Tunisia and Ethiopia. National Associations in these countries will soon develop and discuss training initiatives for the ASP.

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## ACTUALITES SUR LES STOCKS OBSOLETES

### Evolution au Cameroun et au Ghana

Les projets de CropLife pour la réduction des risques liés aux stocks obsolètes de pesticides avancent au Cameroun et au Ghana avec les récentes formations sur l'inventaire, l'évaluation des risques et les opérations de sécurité.

La formation assurée par CropLife International et Veolia Environnement a vu la participation des représentants des structures administratives, de l'industrie et autres institutions partenaires.

La formation a été financée par CropLife International, qui a bénéficié de la collaboration de CropLife Cameroon (Yaoundé) et de CropLife Ghana (Accra) pour l'organisation.

### Un Conseiller Technique au Mali

Dr. Joan Nielsen du Cabinet de consultants COWI au Danemark a été nommé comme conseiller auprès du Programme Africain de Stocks de Pesticides Périmés (PASP) au Mali pour la collecte, la sécurisation et l'élimination d'environ 1000 tonnes de pesticides obsolètes.

Dr. Nielsen a acquis une grande expérience en matière de stocks obsolètes à travers des projets similaires en Afrique et ailleurs. Son contrat de 2 ans est financé par CropLife International, faisant partie de la contribution de CLI au PASP.

### Appui Régional aux Associations Nationales

Le PASP vient de confirmer que Manon Dohmen, Spécialiste en Appui aux associations à l'IFDC, assistera Chris Waller, Responsable du programme International Stocks Obsolètes à CropLife International, pour guider les associations nationales membres de CropLife dans le cadre du PASP.

Les associations nationales d'Ethiopie, du Mali, Maroc, Nigeria, Tanzanie et Tunisie vont dans ce cadre développer et discuter des plans de formation relatifs au PASP dans leurs pays respectifs.

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## North Africa Middle East

### Anti-Counterfeiting Training Launched in Egypt

CropLife Egypt organised the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop in the region on anti-counterfeiting and illegal trade. The workshop was held on 15 & 16 February 2009 at the Central Pesticide Laboratory (CAPL) in Cairo. The workshop was attended by 15 participants ranging from extension services, plant protection and pesticide control departments of the Ministry of Agriculture as well as 9 participants representing CropLife member companies.

The workshop was conducted by Dr. Said Abdellah, training specialist of CropLife Egypt, and focused on the following aspects:

- \* Poor business practices
- \* Good business practices
- \* Regulations governing pesticides in Egypt
- \* Laws and conventions governing pesticides

All these topics were supported by demonstrating current Egyptian cases.

The workshop is the kick-off of a series of anti-counterfeiting training workshops targeting various groups such as customs officers, retailers, distributors and farmers. These training workshops are scheduled to be conducted throughout the different governorates of Egypt during 2009.

The opening session in Cairo was addressed by Sarwat Sakr, Chairman of CropLife Egypt, Ali Mohamed Ali, Regional Coordinator and Dr. Muneer Almaz, Director of (CAPL). The workshop was also attended by Mahmoud Altabaishi, Chairman of AMATPA, Jordan as an observer.



Dr. Said Abdellah leading the anti-counterfeiting workshop in Cairo

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## Jordan Exempts Agricultural Inputs from VAT

The Jordanian Council of Ministers have formally decreed the exemption of agricultural inputs from value added tax. This previously ranged between 4-16% and the total volume of exemption amounts to approximately US\$ 25 million per annum with effect from 11 November, 2008.

Exempted inputs include seeds, pesticides, fertilizers, agri-plastics, packages of agricultural products, agricultural equipment, fodders together with veterinary medicines and vaccines.

## Mahmoud Altabaishi re-elected as Chairman of AMATPA



The Agricultural Materials Traders and Producers Associations of Jordan (AMATPA) held its annual general assembly meeting on 22 February 2009. A new executive board of the association was elected for a 3-year term of office extending to February 2012.

Mr. Mahmoud Altabaishi has been re-elected as Chairman of the association for the 3rd successive term.

## Afrique du Nord et Moyen Orient

### Formation sur les Actions contre les Contrefaçons en Egypte

CropLife Egypte a organisé un atelier sur les contrefaçons et commerce illégitime des pesticides du 15 au 16 Février. L'atelier a eu pour cadre le Laboratoire Central des Pesticides (CAPL) du Caire et enregistré la participation de 15 cadres des services de développement, du département de la protection et du contrôle des pesticides du Ministère de l'Agriculture, et de 9 représentants des sociétés membres de CropLife Egypte.

- \* Les sujets débattus concernent :
- \* Bonnes et mauvaises pratiques
- \* Réglementations sur les pesticides en Egypte
- \* Lois et conventions sur les pesticides

Cet atelier est le premier d'une série qui va cibler d'autres acteurs comme les douanes, les revendeurs, les distributeurs et les agriculteurs à travers tout le pays.

La séance d'ouverture était présidée par Sarwat Sakr, Président CropLife Egypte, avec à ses côtés Ali M. Ali, coordinateur Régional CropLife Afrique Moyen Orient, et Dr. Muneer Almaz, Directeur du CAPL.

Mahmoud Altabaishi, Président de l'association de Jordanie a pris part à l'atelier en tant qu'observateur.

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## East & Southern Africa

### Communications – “Sharing the Story”

One of the elements within the Communications Strategy was to embark on a proactive media initiative to help tell the positive human-interest side of the crop inputs story. To achieve this CropLife made contact with writers, photographers and videographers from around the globe to dig out stories from farmers in each region that tell, in very human terms, why farmers need and embrace the technologies of plant science – both crop protection and biotechnology.

Whilst the aim was to tell the human side of plant science, the resulting stories were an aggregate of human impact and science.



Keith Jones viewing the filming in South Africa



The filming and interviewing process in Malawi

Within Africa three countries were selected, South Africa, Malawi and Zambia. Interviews and filming took place from 9 – 20 Feb. The success of this assignment can be attributed to Gerit Boman of Agro Centre and his team in South Africa, Bamey Kamvazina of Farmers Organisation in Malawi and Max Bweupe Ng'onga of Mana Agro Chemicals in Zambia.

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## Afrique de l'Est et Australe

### Communication – “Partager les Faits”

Le Conseil Stratégique en Communication s'est engagée dans une initiative de communication proactive pour présenter des faits réels sur les bienfaits des intrants agricoles. CropLife s'est appuyé sur des écrivains, photographes et vidéographes pour faire ressortir en des termes très humains pourquoi les agriculteurs à travers le monde adoptent les technologies, aussi bien la protection des plantes que les biotechnologies.

L'Afrique du Sud le Malawi et la Zambie sont les 3 pays africains sélectionnés pour le tournage du film. Le succès de cette mission peut être attribué à Gerrit Boman de Agro Centre et son équipe en Afrique du Sud, Barney Kamvazina de Farmers Organisation au Malawi, et Max Bweupe Ng'onga de Mana Agro Chemicals en Zambie

### Biotechnology -Update on Africa

#### Africa's Region Three Year Strategic Goals:

- To support the commercialization of biotech products in Africa and to reach a target of 2.6m ha covering maize, cotton and soybeans
- To increase the number of countries commercialising biotech from 3 to 5
- To achieve science and risk- based, practical regulations, in Africa and build confidence in the regulatory and political systems
- To achieve enabling policies for Intellectual Property protection in order to attract investment in ag-biotechnology;
- Promote product stewardship and sustainable agriculture

#### Priority Countries 2009 – 2012

Priority countries outside of South Africa, Egypt, Burkina Faso and Kenya will be the following:

- Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, Mali and Senegal, all of which should be at field trial

#### Developments over the past six months

- South Africa's plantings moved positively to the “stacked gene”
- Egypt planted it's first BT maize crop
- Burkina Faso planted it's first BT cotton crop
- Biosafety Bill's were signed in Kenya and Mali
- The “Super Sorghum” project now taking an African initiative
- The establishment of the WEMA project

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## Biotechnologie : Actualités en Afrique

### Objectifs Stratégiques de 3 ans de la Région Afrique

- \* Soutenir la commercialization des produits de biotechnologie en Afrique et atteindre 2.6m ha pour le maïs, le coton et le soja.
- \* Passer de 3 à 5 pour les pays commercialisant des produits biotechnologie
- \* Parvenir à des réglementions pratiques en Afrique fondées sur la science et les risques et créer la confiance aux systèmes réglementaires et politiques.
- \* Parvenir à des politiques favorisant la protection de la propriété intellectuelle afin d'attirer les investissements en agrobiotechnologie.
- \* Promouvoir le stewardship et l'agriculture durable

### Pays Prioritaires 2009 – 2012

- \* Exception faite de l'Afrique du Sud, l'Egypte, du Burkina Faso et du Kenya les pays sont le Malawi, l'Uganda, la Tanzanie, le Mali and le Senegal, tous pour des essais au champ.

### Développements des six mois passes

- \* South Africa's plantings moved positively to the "stacked gene"
- \* l'Egypte a semé son premier maïs BT
- \* le Burkina Faso a planté son premier coton BT
- \* Lois Biosécuritaires ont été signées au Kenya et au Mali
- \* le projet "Super Sorgho" actuellement considéré comme initiative africaine
- \* Mise en place du projet WEMA

## Responsible Use Training—South Africa



Israel Mashile

During 2008 Israel Mashile, of Bayer CropScience South Africa trained nearly 2500 participants from various activities. Participants included:-

- \* Government extension officials
- \* Students from Universities and Agricultural Colleges
- \* Agricultural training centres
- \* Farm workers
- \* Non Government Organisations—pest control operators and individuals who tender for pesticide distribution to the State

Although a significant amount of training was completed there is still a high demand in the country as well as in the neighbouring countries of Lesotho and Swaziland. Bayer CropScience is playing an active role in getting this training out to where it is required most.

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## Mauritius

A workshop was organised by CropLife Mauritius for members on its Code of Conduct during the period 25 -26 February 2009.

The objective of the workshop was to revive member awareness of the provisions of the association's Code of Conduct in order to consolidate the public image and credibility of the association.

Fifteen company member representatives participated. The topics for the 1st day were:

- \* The Code of Conduct, a voluntary standard based on the FAO CoC for distribution and storage;
- \* Product Stewardship – the responsible and ethical management, from discovery to ultimate use and beyond;
- \* Regulatory framework and risk management;
- \* Trade and Distribution – CropLife's standard;

On the second day, participants had the opportunity to listen to three presentations, namely:

- \* IPM practices and prospects in Mauritius, by the Principal Scientist (Entomology) of AREU;
- \* Government's policy and plans on solid waste management and re-cycling, by the Director of the Solid Waste Division of the Ministry of Local Government;
- \* Pertinent aspects of the Dangerous Chemical Control Act, with emphasis on imports and distribution, by the Secretary of the Dangerous Chemical Control Board.

These presentations were followed by two sessions, one of which dealt with the framework for a fully-fledged container management project in Mauritius. The last session was devoted to 'The way forward – member commitment and resolutions.'



The CropLife Mauritius Team at work

The participants committed to implement the Code of Conduct within their respective companies and in the marketplace through specific actions. The stewardship activities selected for implementation starting in 2009 were:

- \* A pre-programme for container management.
- \* Closer monitoring of distributors with regard to responsible management

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## West & Central Africa

### Strengthening National Associations — CropLife Cameroon: General Assembly Meeting

The CropLife Cameroon General Assembly Meeting was held on 20 February in Douala, Cameroon. The meeting was attended by 20 participant representatives of member companies of CropLife Cameroon. The objective of the meeting was to update and guide the association on the major priorities for their activities.

This 1st ordinary AG meeting was held in a preliminary internal session to discuss the various issues, then in an open session which was extended to some guest speakers, Dr Syxtus Nuza, Director Regulations and Quality Control of Agricultural Inputs and Products (Direction de la Réglementation et du Contrôle de la Qualité des Intrants et Produits Agricoles, DRCQIPA) and Benoit Bouato, Permanent Secretary of the Common Pesticides Committee of Central Africa (Comité Pesticides d'Afrique Centrale, CPAC) who updated participants on the pesticides regulations in Cameroon and on the CPAC activities.

The internal meeting and its conclusions presented to the extended session focused on:

- **Reports of the 2008 activities**

Activities conducted by project teams (Training, Anti-Counterfeits, Regulations, Communication, Obsolete Stocks, Budget-Funding) were presented, discussed and adopted.

- **Action Plans 2009**

Plans submitted by the above mentioned project teams were discussed and adopted with some minor changes. In the overall the activities will place great emphasis on combating counterfeiting and illegal trade of pesticides in cooperation with regulatory authorities, dealers, farmers/farmers unions and other sectors facing these situations. Active communication will be needed to coordinate the activities, more specifically on the Anti-Counterfeits and fraud issues. The core messages of CropLife will be rolled out shortly.

- **West & Central Hub Workshop 2009**

Participants were reminded of the upcoming event on April 21-22. The hub coordinator informed participants on the progress of preparations and invited all members to make this event a success and a profitable one through their personal involvement in the preparation and effective participation in the activities on the agenda.

The meeting concluded with a panel discussion/press conference with 3 journalists who are actively involved in environment issues.



Left: Journalists attending the General Assembly Meeting. (Right) B. Bouato, Permanent Secretary CPAC, President H. Fosso of CropLife Cameroon, Dr S. Nuza, DRCQIPA and B. Yao, WCA Hub Coordinator



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## Afrique de l'Ouest et Centrale

### Afrique de l'Ouest et Centrale

L'AG de CropLife Cameroun du 20 Février a vu la participation de 20 délégués représentant les sociétés membres avait pour objectifs d'actualiser le plan d'actions en conformité avec les priorités stratégiques de CropLife Afrique Moyen Orient.

La session interne a discuté des différents points, puis une session élargie avec la participation de Dr Syxtus Nuza, Directeur de la Réglementation et du Contrôle de Qualité des Intrants et Produits Agricoles (DRCQIPA) et de Benoit Bouato, Secrétaire Permanent du Comité Pesticides d'Afrique Centrale (CPAC) qui ont présenté les évolutions récentes sur les activités de leurs structures respectives.

### Alliances / Coopération

A meeting was held with the African Organization of Intellectual Property on 16 February 2009 with the view to seek participation of the African Organization of Intellectual Property (Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle, OAPI) at the upcoming WCA hub workshop. The meeting was attended by Mr Faouly Bangoura, Manager Legal Affairs and Cooperation.

The meeting was a follow up on the informal arrangement made during the OAPI conference in Dakar in November 2008 at which CropLife Africa Middle East played an active part which called for cooperation and the participation of both organisations in various activities related to IPR promotion in the sub-region.

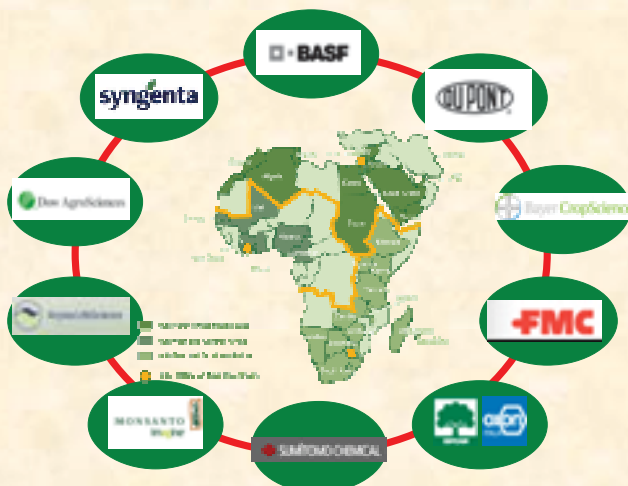
OAPI welcomed the invitation and will make a presentation at the upcoming workshop. This will centre around the sensitization of participants on IPR and create awareness on the needs for cooperation to combat counterfeits and illegal trade and in so doing contribute to economic growth and development.

La rencontre entre Bama Yao, Coordinateur Afrique de l'Ouest et Centrale, et M. Bangoura Faouly, Directeur des Affaires Juridiques et de la Coopération à l'OAPI avait pour but d'obtenir la participation de l'OAPI à l'atelier de CropLife à Douala.

Cette participation est la matérialisation de l'accord de principe non formel de collaboration entre les 2 structures sur toutes les questions relatives à la promotion de la propriété intellectuelle et des actions anti-contrefaçons.

CropLife avait pris une part active dans le séminaire sur la propriété intellectuelle organisé à Dakar Sénégal en Novembre 2008 par l'OAPI.

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**GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY**

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