



North Africa Middle East Mini - Hub Meeting



Prof. Dr. M Abdel Meguid, Head of the APC, representing the Minister of Agriculture

A Mini-Hub meeting was organized for four countries; Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan and Egypt to allow for in-depth discussions on regulatory issues in the respective countries. This took place in Cairo, Egypt on 28 & 29 October. Prof. Meguid on behalf of HE, the Minister of Agriculture and Land reclamation of Egypt officially opened the meeting. In his speech he lauded CropLife Egypt's "flagship anti-counterfeiting project" and reiterated the commitment of the Government of Egypt in dealing with counterfeiting.

Plenary presentations and discussion sessions were around various themes including the value and role that modern agricultural technologies can play to mitigate the expected effects of climate change to ensure food security. This was highlighted in the detailed simulation model developed by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). This was particularly relevant to the countries represented, as they are vulnerable to climate change challenges. A special highlight was the Spray Service Provider concept within the World Cocoa Foundation Project implemented by CropLife Africa Middle East. The program has registered tremendous benefits for cocoa farmers in West Africa as depicted in the videos of the project. In addition, the progress made in Egypt and Kenya's anti-counterfeiting flagship projects were covered.



Below: L-R Prof. Dr. Moustafa Abdel Sattar, Prof. Dr. Ashraf Al Marsafy, Prof. Dr. Mamdouh El Sharif. All are members of the APC, Egypt



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North Africa Middle East Mini - Hub Meeting - cont.

On regulatory matters, emerging policy changes around Pollinator Health, Highly Hazardous Pesticides and Endocrine Disruptors were discussed, specifying the need for action in some of the countries. Country specific discussions looked at various themes including the implementation of FAO Good Labelling Practice, Confidential Business Information and the protection of regulatory data; WHO classification; multiple formulation sites and minor formulation changes. Agreement was reached on the handling of these issues going forward. A gap analysis session was held for Egypt and Sudan. This was a reflective exercise aimed at assessing the regulatory norms and practices on various aspects including the scope of regulatory policy; Intellectual property; registration and post registration, data requirements, application review and approval processes respectively. Identification of the needs at country level was then used to assess capacity enhancement efforts in the respective countries.

Stella Simiyu-Wafukho



Several of the delegates at the meeting

Eng. Lama Haydar,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Lebanon with Rémy Le
Bris of Arysta



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CropLife Africa Middle East holds year-end Board Meeting in Milan

On Friday 7 November, CropLife Africa Middle East held its second Board Meeting for the year in Milan, Italy.

An update on achievements for 2014 was reviewed in line with the Strategic Blueprint. Plans for 2015 were discussed and the Board requested a stronger focus on core countries.

Under financials, the year-end expectations were provided as well as the budget for 2015.

On operations, updates were provided on the Spray Service Provider Project with the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), regulatory issues with a focus on Pollinator Health, Endocrine Disruptors and Highly Hazardous Pesticides and Stewardship matters.

With the meeting-taking place in Milan, the Board used the opportunity to pay special tribute to the Management of SIPCAM for the 16 years dedicated service that the company made to CropLife Africa Middle East. Tribute was also paid to Sarwat Sakr for the valued contribution he has made to the Regional Association.

Les Hillowitz



Nadia Gagliardini, President, Sipcam-Oxon Group accepting the Croplife token of appreciation



Above: Rudolf Guyer paying tribute to both Michel Chartouni and Sarwat Sakr for their valued services over the years.



Left: Karim Benbrahim and Eric Bureau enjoying the occasion

Representing the Plant Science Industry

Stewardship

Container Management Project Team meeting with Country Managers: 7 – 9 October : CMPT Meeting on 10 October.

The meeting commenced on Tuesday 7 October with a field tour organized by PAMIRA and included a visit to a reprocessor, a collection site and an analytical laboratory. Highlights covering the discussions on Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th were:

- The CLI Philosophy & Objectives – Vision 20/20 and Roles & Responsibilities.
- The keynote address by Prof Mauer, European Commission on “Challenges of Packaging Waste Management”
- The address by Ms. Beatrice Grenier of FAO
- An update on GIZ activities around the globe by Helmut Krist
- Report back on “Mature Programs” covering the following countries:
New Zealand Germany France Belgium USA Canada Brazil
- The introduction of four “Pilot Programs” who were asked to elaborate on the following aspects:
 - Highlights on setting up the program
 - Lessons learned
 - Feedback on training materials including posters, etc.
- For CLAME, the presentation was delivered by Perry Ngoma covering the development of the Container Management Scheme in Zambia.
- Discussion and adoption of recommended practices included:
 - Hard-to-rinse containers (e.g. seed treatment)
 - Drums and totes (IBC's)
 - Crisis management / crises communication
 - Health & environmental check list
 - Communications
 - The “Eco-efficiency” tool

The group of approximately 50 participants at the meeting



Representing the Plant Science Industry

Stewardship

Container Management Project Team meeting with Country Managers: 7 – 9 October : CMPT Meeting on 10 October.

During the second day, two Working Groups were formed, one covering “Mature Programs” and the second, “Pilot Programs”. Feedback from both groups were discussed at the CMPT meeting on Friday 10th.

“Criteria for country selection” was a key point that emerged from the feedback on Pilot Programs. This information together with the questionnaire developed by ECPA and CropLife Asia will be used to produce a “one page” selection sheet for CLAME. This will also be used in decision taking when “coaching” is considered.

The CLAME objectives for 2015 covering Container Management were provided as follows:

- Cote d'Ivoire: develop a pilot in partnership with the Council of Coffee & Cocoa.
- Mauritius: manage the project established in partnership with UNEP
- Ethiopia: rollout the pilot into the horticultural belt of Addis (1000 ha). Move from incineration to recycling.
- Kenya: rollout the pilot into the Mt Kenya region.
- Ghana: manage the existing pilot project
- Zambia: start rollout of pilot nationally.
- Mozambique: be a key stakeholder in the FAO pilot project
- Tanzania: determine a possible project using the new selection tool.
- Uganda: determine a possible project using the new selection tool.
- South Africa: hold a Container Management workshop in 2nd quarter 2015

Les Hillowitz

Perry Ngoma presenting on the Pilot Project in Zambia



Members of the Container Management Project Team

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Stewardship Steering Committee Meeting: Washington, 21 October

Following the appointment of Reiner Emrich as head of the CPSC, a new Committee Chair was appointed to lead the Stewardship Steering Committee. He is Ramiro De LaCruz from Dow AgroSciences. A decision was also taken to appoint a Vice Chair and names of candidates will be put forward.

Project Team “report backs” were either provided as pre-reads to the meeting or delivered as presentations. This covered:

- IPM/RU
- Container Management
- Obsolete Stocks
- FRAC - Fungicide Resistance Action Committee
- IRAC - Insecticide Resistance Action Committee
- HRAC - Herbicide Resistance Action Committee
- RRAC - Rodenticide Resistance Action Committee

Regional Presentations with a focus on “impact” covered the following territories / countries:

- Asia
- Australia: The highlight was the presentation on BeeConnected, which helps to connect farmers with nearby beekeepers. Instant notifications inform farmers of registered beehives near their properties and secure messaging allows sharing of information on crop protection product activities. Australia has one of the healthiest honey bee colonies in the world.
- Africa Middle East: This covered the sharing of information on the positive impact of the Spray Service Provider Concept.
- Canada
- Japan
- Latin America

Cross-functional priority area updates were provided on the following:

- HHP's Pollinators ED's RNAi

With regard to pollinators, the “Reduced risk from CPP's to pollinators through Stewardship” has been developed. The first draft of this document was produced in March 2014. This was updated and loaded onto the CLI website in May 2014. A 3rd version has now been prepared and will be uploaded shortly. Training materials are in the process of being finalized and will form part of our Responsible Use training package.

Communications on Stewardship focused on the Newsletter, “Leading the Vision”, which was viewed as highly positive by all

IPM / RU Project Team, Washington 22 October

A presentation was given showing IPM development in the regions. This included feedback on the IPM Workshop undertaken at the Hub Meeting in Lusaka.

Details were provided on the maintenance of the “Adoni” project in India and the upcoming IPM rice project in Vietnam.

Regional reports covered new “strategic partnership projects in:

- Asia – Sri Lanka & Bangladesh
- Africa Middle East
- Latin America

IPM / RU Project Team, Washington 22 October—cont.



Participants at the meeting: L-R Rolando Zamora, Anna Armstrong and Raghavan Sampathkumar

The Africa Middle East presentation covered plans to introduce a “2-day” IPM Training into the SSP Concept. For existing projects this will be introduced when SSP’s are re-tested for the 2-year renewal of their identity card. For new projects this will form part of the overall training program. This new development was well supported by the Project Team

An update on Training Materials covered:

- The development of the Retailer (Agro - Dealer) Manual
- The Responsible Use Manual
- The finalization of the “Poisoning Poster”

Communications covered the completion of the SSP videos in Ghana and discussions on the next video project.

The US Team provided an update on their IPM development program

Les Hillowitz

Regional Regulatory Committee Meets in Egypt

The Regional Regulatory Committee (RRC) held its third and final meeting for the year in Cairo, Egypt, following the conclusion of the North Africa Middle East mini-hub meeting. This committee plays an oversight role on the region’s regulatory issues affecting the registration and uses of crop protection products respectively. As is the norm in these meetings, updates on implementation of activities in respective countries were provided with specific emphasis on continuation with capacity enhancement in the Principles of Regulation (POR).

The meeting provided an avenue for deliberations on the specific issues affecting the West African Sub Region including the regional pesticides registration frameworks under the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)and those from the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC). In the same region, changes in product handling requirements currently being implemented were discussed as well as an update provided on the capacity enhancement efforts under implementation by the CLAME team in partnership with COLEACP-PIP on risk assessment. An additional update on the North African region was provided covering current data requirements. Similarly changes in regulatory policies including reviews of legislations were highlighted for countries in Eastern Africa.

Capacity development efforts by FAO involving CropLife International among other stakeholders were shared including the current development of a registration by analogy tool which aims at assisting countries with no pesticide registration agencies to be able to approve applications by benchmarking on registrations for similar uses in selected countries once finalized.

The RRC also discussed the implications of global policy issues around Pollinator Health, Highly Hazardous Pesticides and Endocrine Disruptors for specific AME countries following an update provided from global team meetings held in Washington from 20 – 24 October, on the need to share impact information widely.

Stella Simiyu-Wafukho

A new obsolete pesticides collaboration between FAO and CropLife International

FAO and CLI have adopted a new mode of collaboration for start-up obsolete pesticides projects in Benin and Morocco. The two organisations have worked well together before on several African country projects, but will now have a more 'joined-up' approach to the partnership

Throughout the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP), CropLife International has collaborated with the leading partners, FAO and the World Bank, on their programmes of obsolete pesticide projects. CropLife International has made contributions to the costs of disposal and provided technical assistance in the form of international hazardous waste experts on the ground in the project countries. In the case of Ethiopia, CropLife International contracted the export and disposal of 400 tonnes of obsolete pesticides left over from a previous project. At the same time, CropLife International started a small number of projects to safeguard high-risk stocks in new countries expected to be part of Phase 2 of the ASP. Projects in Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya and Malawi were set up and branded 'CleanFarms' projects. They involved an outreach programme targeted primarily at the private sector (which might not have been comprehensively reached by previous inventories), collection, repackaging into UN approved containers and centralization of the high risk obsolete stocks in one or more secure, refurbished stores. In this way, the risks posed by these obsolete pesticides to communities and the environment was reduced in the short term. The expectation was that they could stay in this safeguarded state until such time as disposal funds became available. However, little was known about the storage of repackaged obsolete pesticides and, with some combinations of product and drum type, corrosion, swelling and leakages began to occur not long after repackaging.

FAO has recently initiated several new pesticide management projects in Africa, mostly funded by the Global Environment Facility. Each of these projects has an obsolete stocks component, alongside components such as regulatory reform, IPM promotion and pesticide container management. The FAO/GEF projects in Cameroon and Malawi will dispose of the stocks safeguarded by the CleanFarms projects in those countries and FAO will also co-finance the disposal of the CleanFarms stocks in Kenya. Thus the strong support of FAO will result in ultimate disposal of the stocks safeguarded in the past. However, the drum or product instability that occurred between safeguarding and export for disposal meant that some further re-packaging was and will be required. It was clear that an improved model would be needed for any future obsolete pesticide collaborations between CropLife International and FAO.

The Obsolete Stocks Project Team at CropLife International looked closely at the other countries with new FAO-led projects and found that Morocco and Benin met the criteria for its participation. Joint missions early in 2014 to both countries by staff from FAO Rome, CropLife International and CropLife Africa Middle East resulted in very positive meetings with staff from the FAO country office, the national CropLife association in Morocco (Benin does not have one), Ministries and other stakeholders. FAO was already in action on the ground with a stand-alone project to dispose of 350,000 litres of endosulfan. It was agreed by both FAO and CropLife International that they would collaborate closely to tackle the remaining 150 tonnes of inventoried stocks in Benin and the 770 tonnes of inventoried stocks in Morocco. However, to avoid the possibility that safeguarded obsolete pesticides would have to be stored for extended periods, and the associated risks of drum leakages, a new modus operandi was agreed. Rather than CropLife International implementing the safeguarding of these obsolete pesticides, FAO will contract the safeguarding and disposal as one seamless operation and CropLife International will finance the safeguarding component of the operations via its international Framework Agreement with FAO. Prior to this, CropLife International will also run outreach and declaration campaigns in both countries to give owners of any additional high risk obsolete stocks a chance to surrender them for collection and disposal.

The FAO/GEF project in Morocco is now approved with an inception workshop planned for January 2015. Final approval formalities for the FAO/GEF project in Benin are expected to be complete by the end of 2014. CropLife International preparations are well underway – a Memorandum of Understanding between CropLife International and the Ministry of Agriculture has been drawn up for each country. The Benin MoU has already been signed and the Morocco MoU is being reviewed. All outreach, safeguarding and disposal activities are expected to be complete in both countries by the end of 2015

Hans Dobson



THE WORLD BANK



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SSP Concept Promoted during World Cocoa Foundation Conference

A team from CropLife promoted the Spray Service Provider (SSP) concept during the annual conference of the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF). With a colourful stand that displayed banners, supported by the video that was recently shot in Ghana, the team attracted the attention of many representatives from the cocoa industry; including chocolate manufacturers, cocoa buying companies and other stakeholders. The conference took place on 15 and 16 October 2014 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

One of the visitors to the stand was Dr. Stephen Opine, Chief Executive of the Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD). He was very positive about the SSP concept and urged the project to include the spray-men from the Mass Spray Exercise. Many other organizations responded positively to the SSP concept. They see this as a way to reduce the application of counterfeit agrochemicals and to ensure that cocoa that is exported complies with certification requirements with regard to pesticides.

During the conference several panel discussions took place on the sustainability of cocoa and other challenges facing the industry. The use of pesticides was mentioned by several speakers as one of the key elements to ensure production. Dr. Kouassi Edouard N'Guerrri, Deputy Director General of Conseil du Café-Cacao (CCC) in Ivory Coast said: "Remember the biggest consumer of cocoa are pests, diseases and insects."

The conference attracted several hundred representatives from companies including ADM, Barry Callebaut, Blommer, Lindt, Mars, Nestle, Toms, and Touton; certification schemes Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ; development organizations such as Agro Eco, SOCODEVI, Solidaridad and USAID/MARKETS; and other organizations such as Cocoa Abrabopa Association and International Cocoa Organization (ICCO).

Manon Dohmen



Rolando Zamora and Rudolf Guyer manning the CropLife stand

Rudolf Guyer in discussion with Dr. Stephen Opuni, Chief Executive of the Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD)



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AVCASA / CropLife South Africa is an AgriSETA accredited training service provider. The CropLife SA Aerial Applicators Course that was recently approved by the AgriSETA was offered for the first time to a group of aerial applicators

AVCASA (CropLife South Africa) was recently registered as an AgriSETA accredited training service provider. This accreditation gives AVCASA the platform to offer an accredited training course in the field of aerial application of agrochemicals and issue AgriSETA accredited certificates.

Aerial applicators are specialist pest control operators that are regulated by the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947) and the South African Bureau of Standards' SANS 10118, a standard that is particularly focused on aerial application that is also reflected in the Pest Control Operator's regulation under Act No. 36 of 1947.

Gerrit Janse van Vuuren presented the first accredited CropLife SA Aerial Applicators course under the auspices of AVCASA to 11 candidates in Bethlehem during the second week of November. He is the most experienced aerial application specialist in the country and compiled the learning materials for the course. Gerrit's extensive experience in the field of aerial application offers candidates more than just a qualifying course; it brings practical experience into the training that cannot be found in similar courses that simply focus on theory. One of the key elements in the CropLife Aerial Applicators Course is 'drift management' and only Gerrit has the practical experience to guide candidates through this challenging subject. Candidates are put through a rigorous program of theory, practical and planning before being examined on the skills required for responsible aerial application. Candidates who successfully complete the course are eligible to apply for an aerial applicator's PCO license from the Registrar of Act No. 36 of 1947.

AVCASA presents courses both in the agrochemical and animal health arenas.

Hundreds of candidates have completed the CropLife SA Basic Crop Protection course and the South African Animal Health Association's Animal Health Course. These courses are regarded as benchmarks for those entering the agrochemical and animal health sectors in South Africa.

Tom Mabesa



Africa Agri Forum: Abidjan Cote d'Ivoire

The Africa Agri Forum, which took place on 13-14 October in Abidjan, attracted more than 200 participants from over 20 countries. The Forum, representing public and private institutions, with speakers from the FAO, WB, ADB, amongst others, focused on the enormous potential offered by agriculture in Africa.

The 2-day event was organized under the partnership of the Morocco Phosphates/Fertilizers industry (Office Chérifien des Phosphates), with several sponsors such as Monsanto and Bayer.

Focus areas were:

- Sharing expertise and best practices of governments, the private sector and the civil society
- Defining strategies to bring together public policies and private investments;
- Build alliances and synergies for successful, profitable and sustainable agriculture
- Financing, food safety & security, sector modernization, technological innovations, agribusiness and public-private partnerships.
- Marc Chardet, Country Manager Bayer CropScience, addressed the issue of "Inputs and Promotion of Intensive Farming".

The Forum confirmed the potential of agriculture in Africa and particularly the ongoing development and investment in Agriculture in Cote d'Ivoire, hence the need in agricultural inputs.

Bama Yao

Regulatory

Health and Environment Monitoring Training Workshop for the CSP: Burkina Faso

On October 22-23, a workshop including the President, the Permanent Secretary and the Scientific Secretariat of CSP, representatives of the 2 registration subcommittees, the Director of Crop Protection Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture Cote d'Ivoire, registration experts of CropLife member companies, the President of CropLife Mali, representatives of CropLife AME and COLEACP-PIP, took place in Ouagadougou.

The workshop was organized in the context of capacity building of the members of CSP, following the earlier initiative in 2013. The presentations during the workshop focused on:

- Risk Assessment for Surface Water (SW) covering the four models (REXTOX, GENEEC, FOCUS, FIRST). FIRST is the recommended model as this generates conservative screening concentrations, requires a limited number of inputs, is easy to implement in an Excel macro. The protection goal for SW as well as for ground water (GW) is to protect drinking water sources at a level safe for human consumption.
- Risk Assessment to non-target organisms comprising aquatic organism (fish, invertebrates and algae), soils organisms (earthworms) and bees/pollinators (honeybee). The recommended model is GENEEC.
- Risk Assessment to Operator (OPEX). The protection goal was defined as was the toxicity assessment and the exposure to operator using the German and the US-EPA models. The risks assessment to operator (MOE) and OPEX tool are based on 4 formulations types, 5 application techniques, 7 PPE combinations, calculation as % of AOEL and MOE, oral NOAEL used as input.



L. Loiseau (Top-L) addressing the workshop chaired by M. Moreau (between the President of CSP and the Director of Crop Protection Directorate Cote d'Ivoire (Below)



Representing the Plant Science Industry

Health and Environment Monitoring Training Workshop for the CSP: Burkina Faso

- The tools were presented and the demonstration was conducted on the models by Ludovic Loiseau (Syngenta AG). These tools will be presented and used for training the members of the CLSS-CSP and then discussed for adoption during the session of May 2015. A feedback will be provided to CropLife AME on the progress and ease of use, the final decision/adoption of the tools for pesticides evaluation and approval in the CSP and proposed for the future ECOWAS framework.
- Trials issue on protocol for evaluating the bioefficacy of pesticides was discussed following guidance from G. Thewys, COLEACP-PIP and X. Schmid, Consultant for CropLife AME. It was agreed that the CSP protocols need to be updated for alignment with those of the ECOWAS regional registration framework. COLEACP-PIP will propose a report template to be discussed/adopted together with the trials protocols during a workshop to be organized during the first CSP session of May 2015.
- The issue of IP/PRD-CBI was reminded as an important and urgent need for inclusion in the regulations to attract and secure innovative technologies in the sub-region
- Decision on the old dossiers (disposal or return to owners) in the premises of CSP will be discussed during the upcoming session of November 24-28 and communicated on due time.

Bama Yao



The workshop was attended by the various members of the CSP and representatives of member companies of CropLife AME

Plant Biotechnology

Côte d'Ivoire: Plant Biotech workshop on rules and procedures covering GMO's.

The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Environment, Urban Salubrity and Sustainable Development for the adoption of Plant Biotechnology in Côte d'Ivoire. It was aimed to validate 6 draft decrees on GMO's and derived products under the Outreach for Biotechnology Adoption and Safe Management in West Africa (OBAMAWE CARE) project.

Four decrees, related to Confinement of GMO's, confinement of transgenic plants, rules for the confinement of transgenic animals and rules for issuing permits for the confined utilization of GMO's, were validated. Two other decrees related to the procedure for authorization and the dissemination of GMO's and the procedure for commercialization of GMO's will be discussed and validated during a follow-up workshop.

The Ministry of the Environment, Urban Salubrity and Sustainable Development chaired the workshop and undertook the signing of the decrees.

Bama Yao

Cameroon may take on genetically modified cotton in 3 years

The flagship of the agro-industry in northern Cameroon plans to launch, Société de développement du coton (Sodecoton), will be starting the second phase of research to introduce genetically modified cotton to Cameroon next year. This second phase will last three years and could make GMOs commonplace in Cameroon.

Unlike the first phase, when research was done behind closed doors from 2012, this time, the agro-industrial cotton company will be experimenting with GMOs in an open area. This was the main information revealed at a workshop held by Sodecoton from 23rd to 24th October 2014 in Garoua to assess the results of the first phase of research on the introduction of GMOs in Cameroon's cotton cultivation.

The research concluded that the GMO strain currently tested by Sodecoton is more robust against herbicides and more resistant to diseases, enabling significantly higher yields. This was indicated by Célestin Klassou, a researcher on the Sodecoton project.

Although initial results are encouraging, the Managing Director of Sodecoton, Abdou namba, is cautious. "We're far from the stage of widespread cultivation. The government, via legislation governing this area, has put restrictions in place to prevent breaches. Further experimentation will be necessary to ensure that it is safe for the environment and not a danger to the other varieties of cotton."

Currently, Sodecoton produces around 230,000 tons of cotton per annum and plans to increase this volume by introducing GMOs like in Burkina-Faso where the trials have been very successful for several years.

Business in Cameroon



MPs Promise Action towards Lifting Ban on GM Foods in Kenya

Nine Kenyan members of Parliament promised to take specific measures towards lifting the ban on importation of genetically modified (GM) foods that was instituted in November 2012. The MPs visited the Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA) project's confined field trials site at KALRO Kiboko on October 9, 2014. They were briefed on ongoing efforts to develop water efficient maize with insect resistance trait.

The legislators expressed their satisfaction with the experts' work towards food security. "We know that GM foods are safe for human consumption. Credible institutions have conducted trials on this and they have assured us of the safety," said Hon. Fred Outa. The MPs regretted that the technology is already available, yet people could not benefit from it as a result of the ban. "We are in the process of constituting a Parliamentary Select Committee, to independently gather information on GM food safety, and ultimately advise the House and the Cabinet to lift the ban" said Hon. Wilbur Otichilo. He lauded the scientists for having done their work in ensuring that the country has the technology and that it was now for the parliamentarians to work around the politics hindering the commercialization of the biotech crops for the benefit of poor farmers.

The tour had been organized to create awareness on biotechnology among key parliamentarians from parliamentary committees on agriculture, education, environment and labour. The tour provided them with information on the research process of the WEMA drought tolerant maize varieties developed in Kenya. The tour was organized by the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA), and the Open Forum on Agricultural Biotechnology in Africa (OFAB-Kenya).

Hon. John Serut said that a lot more effort was required to sensitize especially the public about GM food safety. "Our people (electorates) have a lot of stigma on this technology, which needs to be removed by public education on GM foods," he said.

This month, EuropaBio met with a delegation representing the Kenyan Prime Minister's office, who was participating in a biotech study tour organized by ISAAA. The Spanish biotech and growers associations, ANTAMA Foundation and ASAJA Huesca organized a visit to a biotech maize field in Aragon, Spain for the delegation.



From left to right) Hon. Wilbur Otichilo, Hon. Cecilia Ng'etich, Hon. Florence Mutua and, Hon. John Serut during the field visit in Kiboko - Photo Courtesy CROP BIOTECH UPDATE

Upcoming
EventsUpcoming
EventsUpcoming
Events

WCF-ACI-CLP Steering Committee Meeting, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire	Nov 4
CLAME Board Meeting, Milano	Nov 6-7
Meeting of the Obsolete Stocks Project Team, Brussels	Nov 19
IPM Training Workshop for SSP's under GIZ program	Nov 17-29
Visit to SSP Project, Uganda	Nov 24-27
CILSS-CSP 2nd Session for Pesticide Registrations	Nov 24-29
Follow-Up workshop on Anti-Counterfeiting Training of Regional Directors of the Ministry of Agriculture in Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire	Nov 27
NAME Regulatory Meeting of the Gulf Countries, Dubai	Nov 25-26
Workshop to Update Training Materials, Johannesburg	Dec 1-5
Global Meeting of the Regulatory Steering Committee, Brussels	Dec 4-5
Global Meeting of the PRD Steering Committee, Brussels	Dec 9
Obsolete Stocks Meeting, South Africa	Dec 9
Container Management Planning Meeting, Johannesburg	Dec 11



Photo : Courtesy
IFAD

GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY

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GROWING FOOD – CREATING RENEWABLES – SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY

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