



CropLife Africa Middle East Newsletter

Number 49 December 2009

Message from the Executive President

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B O T S W A N A E T H I O P I A K E N Y A N A M I B I A M A L A W I M A D A G A S C A R

A year ago I described the significant changes that occurred during 2008 with a major transformation of the Board and the strengthening of the association and the added resource of an Executive President. At that time we envisaged that the new team would remain together for at least one or two terms. However, less than a year later in our October newsletter we reported major changes in our Board with the unforeseen departure of two members of our team, Eric Barbedette who left Arysta and our president Pierre Flye Sainte Marie from Dow AgroScience who took a new role in the United States. We thank both colleagues for their valuable contributions during their time with the association and wish them every success in their new positions. Fortunately Eric Bureau from Bayer CropScience was ready to fill the gap of the presidency and Mats Edh from Cheminova joined as a new Board Member. We now look forward to a long association with Eric and Mats.



Dr Rudolf Guyer

Looking at the external achievements of our association during the past 12 months presents an impressive and notable list of events and these will be summarized in our 2009 Annual Report. Some of the more noteworthy events were:

- The further strengthening of our regional association's position to serve as a platform for the many activities of our member companies and for external stakeholders with their own agenda and objectives to support the agricultural development in the region of Africa and Middle East. As a direct outcome of this we have seen the extension of our cooperation with IFDC where a new partnership for 5 years has been agreed.
- A new Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the Agribusiness and Trade Promotion Project a USAID funded project aiming at the strengthening of national and regional agricultural trade as an engine for economic development for countries in West and Central Africa.
- Ongoing local project cooperation with CNFA and other partners particularly in East and South Africa also continue and have been further intensified.

CropLife Africa Middle East is the partner of choice for many organizations that want to help move subsistence farming systems out of poverty.

With the accepted and followed concept of public private partnership as a recipe for successful economic development our local associations and their members have a very important role to play. They are the key source for the required agricultural inputs and assistance with the upgrading of local trade structures. In addition to supplying the products, our local associations and their members are one of the most important sources for technical advice and guidance on product stewardship and the implementation of the International Code of Conduct. We have considerably increased our efforts in this area and we have launched a broad campaign with a standard IPM training. The respective training material is now available in English, Arabic, French, Swahili and Hausa and is being used by our certified master trainers in the whole region.

In addition to our training activities being the "core business" of our regional association, we continued with our efforts to support local authorities to strengthen and improve their regulatory systems through respective regulatory meetings and workshops and we increased our communication regarding the risks and problems brought by the growing presence of counterfeit and illegal products in many countries.

In closing we would like to thank all our internal and external stakeholders for their support over the past year and we look forward to continued cooperation with them in the future. We wish all our readers of this newsletter a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

Rudolf Guyer—December 2009

C A M E R O O N G H A N A I V O R Y C O A S T M A L I N I G E R I A S E N E G A L

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Message du Président Exécutif

BOTSWANA ETHIOPIA KENYA NAMIBIA MALAWI MADAGASCAR

Il ya un an je décrivais les changements significatifs intervenus au sein de notre association au niveau de la direction et le renforcement par la nomination du Président Exécutif. Nous avons alors pensé que la nouvelle équipe allait rester plus longtemps tout au moins pour un mandat ou deux. Malheureusement moins d'un an après et dans notre édition d'octobre nous annonçons d'importants changements dans notre direction avec le départ inattendu d'Eric Barbedette de Arysta, et de notre Président P. Flye Sainte Marie de Dow AS affecté à de nouvelles fonctions aux USA. Heureusement Eric Bureau de Bayer CropScience était prêt à combler le vide laissé à la présidence, et Mats Edh de Cheminova acceptait de rejoindre le Comité Exécutif. A présent nous aspirons à une association avec une direction stable avec Eric et Mats.



Dr Rudolf Guyer

Jetant un regard sur les succès externes de notre association au cours des 12 mois passés une impressionnante et notable liste d'évènements a marqué notre association, lesquels évènements vont être présentés dans notre rapport annuel 2009. Quelques évènements ont été:

- * la consolidation continue de la position de notre association comme plateforme pour les activités des sociétés membres et des acteurs externes avec leurs propres programmes et objectifs pour soutenir le développement agricole dans la région Afrique et Moyen Orient. La conséquence directe de ceci est la prolongation de notre protocole de coopération avec l'IFDC pour une autre période de 5ans.
- * un nouveau protocole de partenariat a été signé avec le projet Agribusiness and Trade Promotion (ATP) financé par l'USAID visant à accroître le volume et la valeur du commerce intra régional sur les produits agricoles comme moteur de développement économique en Afrique de l'Ouest.
- * l'intensification de la coopération locale en cours avec CNFA et d'autres partenaires en Afrique de l'Est et Australe.

CropLife Afrique Moyen Orient est le partenaire idéal pour beaucoup d'organisations qui entendent contribuer à extirper l'agriculture de subsistance de la pauvreté. Avec le concept partagé du partenariat public-privé comme recette pour un développement économique réussi nos associations locales et leurs membres ont un rôle important à jouer. Elles sont la principale source d'approvisionnement des intrants et d'assistance avec des structures de commerce local améliorées. En plus de fournir des produits nos associations locales et leurs membres sont une des sources importantes d'assistance technique sur la gestion avisée des produits et la mise en œuvre du code de conduite international. Nous avons considérablement accru nos efforts dans ce domaine, et nous avons par ailleurs lancé une campagne de formation standard en lutte intégrée. Le document de formation est à présent disponible en anglais, français, arabe, swahili, haoussa et est utilisé par nos formateurs professionnels dans toute la région.

En plus de nos activités de formation qui constituent l'"activité centrale" de notre association régionale, nous avons poursuivi nos efforts en appuyant les autorités locales pour renforcer et améliorer les systèmes réglementaires à travers des réunions et ateliers. Nous avons amélioré notre communication sur les risques liés à la prolifération croissante des produits contrefaits et illégaux dans plusieurs pays.

Nous voudrions remercier tous les acteurs internes et externes pour leur soutien durant l'année écoulée et nous espérons compter sur eux pour une coopération soutenue dans le futur.

Joyeuses Fêtes de Fin d'Année à tous nos lecteurs !

Dr Rudolf Guyer – Décembre 2009

CAMEROON GHANA IVORY COAST MALI NIGERIA SENEGAL

East & Southern Africa

Participation at the ACTESA Stakeholder's Meeting, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

COMESA launched the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) in September 2008. The initiative was designed with the support of the Alliance for the Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), Department for International Development (DfID), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

The main goal of ACTESA is to increase farmer productivity and incomes in the COMESA region through trade in staple crops. This, in a region where 90% of all staple crop producers are smallholder farmers and of these only about 10% produce for the market and are characterized by poor organization with no predictable selling mechanisms.



Participants at the Meeting

ACTESA will focus on building market information systems, providing services and increasing commercialization of smallholders in the following sectors:

- * Grains and Pulses
- * Oil seeds
- * Roots and Tubers
- * Livestock
- * Forest and Natural Products
- * Tree Crops
- * Agricultural Inputs

CLAME were invited to the stakeholder's meeting, as defined under "agricultural inputs" includes both pesticides and biotechnology.

A presentation on the development of biotechnology in Africa was given based on the "3 Year Strategic Plan"

Bilateral discussions with numerous agencies took place covering stewardship activities with the main interest being obsolete pesticides and the management of empty pesticide containers.



L – R: Peter Ewell, USAID, Cris Muyunda, ACTESA, Aster Stephanos, MOA Ethiopia, Phillip Kiriro, EAFF.

les@croplifeafrica.org

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Participation at the Department of Environmental Affairs Stakeholder Workshop – Development of a Framework for the Management of Contaminated land / soils.

CLAME participated at the abovementioned workshop of which the agenda covered the following:

- * Overview of a legal framework for contaminated land
- * International best practice and assessment of alternative review
- * Reporting guidelines for contaminated sites
- * Development of soil screening values
- * Application of site specific quantitative assessment.

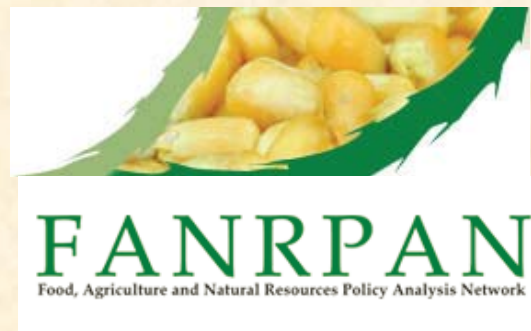
CLAME / CLI is considered a stakeholder through the ASP.

Launch of the SADC Seed Security Network (SSSN) Project: A Swiss Aid Programme through FANRPAN

SADC Seed Security Network Project

Overall Goal of the Project

The goal of Phase II of the SSSN project is to contribute to food security in the SADC region through the domestication of harmonized, effective and efficient seed systems to enhance availability and access to improved seed varieties to small-scale farmers. This involves working both on legislation framework as well as knowledge management aspects of seeds in the region.



Expected Outcome

Within the context of the project, the major outcome is envisaged to be increased availability and access to improved seed varieties to small-scale farmers in the SADC region, and specifically to 4 initial countries: Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Swaziland.

Role of FANRPAN

In order to implement policy related changes, a strong multi-stakeholder involvement in Phase II is critical. In consultation with other stakeholders FANRPAN has been identified as the implementing partner as it has a regional mandate from SADC Secretariat to operationalise policy dialogues regarding food and agriculture in southern Africa.

FANRPAN dialogues are convened by the Permanent Secretary of Agriculture in each of the 13 countries. Formulating and implementing smart policies requires a range of skills and capacities, including research capacity to generate relevant data and technologies; analytical skills to convert research findings into policy options; a dialogue platform to debate these options; and advocacy skills to push for adoption of preferred policies. FANRPAN uses a wide range of tools to collate, analyse and disseminate data.

Role of CLAME

As a partner to FANRPAN, the role of CLAME will be to provide IPM training when agricultural inputs are covered.

West & Central Africa

Stewardship and Sustainable Agriculture

International Code of Conduct (CoC) - Learning Tool

A meeting was held on 26 November with the Department of Crop Protection, Ministry of Agriculture (DCP/MoA) in order to demonstrate the use of the CoC Learning Tool. 15 Participants attended; CropLife Côte d'Ivoire (4), DCP/MoA (10) and FAO (1)

The presentation covered:

- Importance of the CoC together with the implications and commitment of CropLife for the revision and promotion of the CoC
- Learning Tools and available guidelines developed by CropLife International, the use of these tools by companies and national associations of the CropLife network;
- Demonstrations and exercises on the use of the tools;
- Recommendations for using the tool and subsequent reporting on the training conducted. Also on the distribution of the tool, and subsequent actions on improving the regulation systems towards better conformity with the CoC.



Executives of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire (L) during the session facilitated by B. Yao, WCA hub Coordinator in presence of Dr L. Kouamé, Director DCP/MoA (R)



B. Yao, presenting copies of the CD version of the learning tool on the international CoC to Dr L. Kouamé, Director DCP/MoA (L) and to A. Affro of FAO Côte d'Ivoire (R)

Cooperation: IFDC MIR Plus/ECOWAS Regulatory Harmonization Initiative



Dr Amit H. Roy, CEO IFDC during his address at the launch ceremony (L), and G. Dimithè (R at microphone), MIR Plus Project Coordinator, addressing participants during the Advisory Committee meeting

The launching of the MIR Plus Project and setting up of the Advisory Committee took place between 13- 14 November 2009 at the ECOWAS Conference Centre, Abuja, Nigeria. Participants included IFDC (Amit H. Roy, CEO; Marjatta Eilitta, Director NW Africa Division, Willem Van Campen, Representative in Mali, Georges Dimithè, Project Coordinator & Project Coordinating Unit), ECOWAS, WAEMU, Ag-Inputs associations, CILSS and farmer organization networks.

The opening ceremony included addresses by ECOWAS, WAEMU, IFDC and the Dutch International Cooperation and focused on the goal of improving agricultural productivity for hunger and poverty alleviation through the proper use of quality ag-inputs, and called for cooperation amongst suppliers and other stakeholders.

The contribution by CropLife Africa Middle East in MIR (first phase) was acknowledged and appreciated. Dr Amit Roy, President and CEO, IFDC, and Georges Dimithè, MIR Plus Project Coordinator highlighted the financial and technical contributions received and called for the continuous cooperation in the MIR Plus project.

The Advisory Committee Meeting agreed on the presentation and adoption of the following:

- * Structure/Organization
- * Mission/Articles and procedures governing the function of the committee.
- * Strategic Objectives (SO)

A side meeting took place with Georges Dimithè, IFDC-MIR Plus Project Coordinator— discussions covered the following:

- * An IPM course for the ECOWAS regional capacity building initiative to be considered for 2010
- * An Action Plan to be discussed early in 2010 - activities will seek stronger involvement from the national associations.
- * Develop actions on Anti-Counterfeiting and illegal trade of ag-inputs
- * Strengthen communication between CropLife and IFDC

North Africa Middle East

PhytoFerti Forum Held in Algeria

The Inter Professional Forum on Plant Protection and Fertilization was held in Algiers between 14 -15 November, 2009 at the Hilton Hotel under the patronage of HE Dr. Rachid Benaissa, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Algeria.



The forum included wide participation by scientists from various research institutions, regulatory authorities and industry representatives. Over the two days, the focus was on all aspects related to sound pesticide and fertilizer management, husbandry practices and regulatory procedures.

Regional coordinator, Ali Mohamed Ali, presented an introduction to CropLife International and CropLife AME focusing on the various industry initiatives and activities in the region. Executive President, Rudolf Guyer delivered 2 interactive presentations on the issues of obsolete stocks and container management highlighting the industry's activities in the process.

Other industry speakers highlighted the ongoing developments on EU pesticide regulations and their impact on the region. The presence and participation of CropLife Africa Middle East was well received by the forum organizers and audience. Parallel meetings were held by the Executive President and the Regional Coordinator with local industry representatives which resulted in the formation of an interim committee aimed at the legal incorporation of a local industry association, CropLife Algeria

HE Dr. Rachid Benaissa, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Algeria.



Phyto Ferti Forum

ali@croplifeafrica.org

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Safe Use Workshop in Saudi Arabia



Workshop at Riyadh Chamber of Commerce

The Riyadh Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with industry representatives conducted a full day workshop on 31 October 2009 on the "Safe Use of Pesticides" under the patronage of his Excellency the Saudi Minister of Agriculture.

The focus of the workshop was:

- * The role of Saudi MOA in pesticide regulations
- * GAP: including IPM, biological control and other alternative control methods
- * Organic Farming
- * The future role of the Saudi Food & Drug Authority in pesticide regulations and food safety

Presentations on the above subjects were delivered by speakers from the local industry, the Ministry of Agriculture, FAO and the Food and Drug Authority in KSA. Over 40 participants from the MOA and private sector attended the workshop.

The event received coverage by local newspapers, media and TV. The Minister of Agriculture had also conducted a brief press conference during the day. A new Pesticides Guide Book and CD were released and will be published shortly.

In a separate discussion with the Head of the Agricultural Committee on the issue of the Code of Conduct, he confirmed his full support for the introduction of a national CropLife Association in KSA.

IPM course launched in Bari



The IPM course in session

CropLife Africa Middle East conducted an IPM course at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (MAIB) in Bari, Italy between 7-14th of November 2009.

The course was based on the modules developed by CropLife International on the introduction to integrated pest management (IPM).

The overall objective of the course was to provide an understanding of the underlying concepts and principles of IPM through an overview of the component elements and how they are related and interlinked.

The course was facilitated by Tony Treen, as consultant to CropLife AME, with participation of 13 students originating from Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Botswana and Eritrea.

On completion of the post-course evaluation, participants were presented with certificates of attendance, signed by both the institute of Bari and CropLife Africa Middle East.

The course was held in the context of the ongoing cooperation between MAIB and CropLife Africa Middle East.



Participants at the IPM course

all@croplifeafrica.org

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OBSTOCKS

Ethiopia



Discussions with the Project Management Team – Obstocks, Ethiopia

The recent participation at the ACTESA Meeting provided the opportunity to hold discussions with members of the PMT in Ethiopia. This covered both the safe guarding programme that CLI will manage as well as an update on ASP Ethiopia.

Fikre Markos MOA Ethiopia (L) and Getachew Cherinet, CropLife Ethiopia (R)

Mali

A workshop was held on 23 November 2009 in Mali covering the management of inventory by dealerships.

Dr Mamadou Camara, PASP Mali / Prevention Component attended along with 45 other participants. Among the participants were 20 retailers, representatives of CropLife Mali (5), PASP Mali (3), PAN-Mali (1), and public and civil society organizations involved in the handling and management of pesticides.

Important recommendations reached were:

- Identifying retailers and guiding and supporting them for the creation of retailer associations
- Organizing the supply chain
- Training and sensitizing retailers on regulations, proper handling and illegal trade and risks
- Setting up procedures for dealership certification
- Publicising the list of registered pesticides
- Approval of the inventory procedures



chris@obstocks.org

Representing the Plant Science Industry



Contributors:

Ali Mohamed Ali (North Africa Middle East) ali@croplifeafrica.org

Bama Octave Yao (West-Central Africa) bama@croplifeafrica.org

Les Hillowitz (East-Southern Africa) les@croplifeafrica.org

GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY

Representing the Plant Science Industry