

Message from Dr. Rudolf Guyer– Director General CropLife AME

For CropLife Africa Middle East, the year 2012 has marked some important milestones and more importantly it has opened new avenues for an even stronger and more impactful performance of our association in the future.

Firstly 2012 was the 10th anniversary of our association, which was founded in Amman on May 23, 2002. Although no particular celebration was scheduled an appropriate review and forward outlook took place at the regional hub and regulatory workshop again in Amman, Jordan on October 17-18. Despite the limited annual funding our association receives and run by a small team only, the name and brand of CropLife has been established very successfully in most countries of our region. In fact, the name has become so powerful and attractive that in some countries local member companies request to use the CropLife logo on their product labels to give their products greater credibility. This recognition has created its own problems and challenges that none of our sister associations in the global network have so far been confronted with. This proves that despite the very limited resources we have been relatively successful in building our brand and image in Africa. Without doubt, CropLife has established itself as a reliable and trusted stakeholder in the area of stewardship, particularly covering responsible use training and obsolete stocks removal.



Rudolf Guyer

In our 10th year of existence, the association has also taken a significant step forward in becoming financially less dependant on our main sponsor, CropLife International. On one side, the previously very modest flat membership fee has been changed to a scheme that is at least partially aligned to the market presence of the individual member companies. A second and potentially even more relevant development has, for the first time, been our success in being able to offer our training materials and trainer network for the execution of donor funded projects particularly in the area of stewardship. We hope that this breakthrough will develop into a sustainable business model for our African association. Particularly valuable and promising in this area appears to be our SSP (Spray Service Provider) concept for which development started four years ago in Zambia and which has now attracted a great deal of interest in many other countries and with various donors. We are hopeful to continue to develop this option in the years to come.

Improved regulatory standards and regional harmonization is our second strategic priority. Building on the global project, Principles of Regulation (POR), developed and rolled out by CropLife International, we have conducted a series of workshops and training sessions throughout the region during the past year. We have been privileged to receive the excellent support and personal engagement from Bernhard Johnen, Director of Regulatory Affairs at CropLife International who participated at all three hub regulatory meetings. With his support we have conducted a thorough gap analysis of most of the priority regulatory environments in our region and we are in the process of discussing appropriate steps to improve on the identified weaknesses. In addition, we started in 2012 to undertake a specific training workshop on the relevance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), particularly the importance of appropriate Protection of Regulatory Data (PRD) and Confidential Business Information (CBI). Benchmarked globally, these concepts play a decisive role in the support of innovative and productive agricultural systems including the field of successful and modern pesticide management. All these activities and workshops aimed at the improvement of regulatory environments and have been received positively by both local industry experts and by responsible government officials.

On a more internal matter, we have developed a Strategic Blueprint for the planning, implementation and monitoring of our association activities. Our previous strategic priorities which are still shown on our CropLife Africa website, have been renamed Strategic Imperatives. These are:

Regulatory Stewardship Association Management IPR and Anti-Counterfeiting Communication Biotechnology.

For all 6 imperatives, detailed strategic objectives with specific mid and short-term goals have been defined which then lead to the very specific annual action plans. The new planning tool is now fully in place and has greatly helped to align internal discussions and to develop and implement daily activities.

By end of 2012 Ali Mohamed Ali will leave our network after more than 14 years of dedicated service both regionally and globally. There is not sufficient space in this editorial to describe all the contributions and achievements that Ali has delivered for the benefit of the Plant Science Industry in Africa. Above all, Ali has been a tireless networker and gifted spokesperson for our industry over the 14 years. It will be a very difficult task for our association to fill the gap that Ali leaves behind. We do hope that Ali will continue to be available for specific missions and tasks in the future. On behalf of CropLife Africa Middle East and the entire Plant Science Industry I would like to thank Ali Mohamed Ali for his great and lasting contributions for the benefit of our industry. We wish him and his family all the very best in the years to come.

With these thoughts I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable festive season with your family and friends. I would like to thank you for your interest and support of our association's work over the past year and I look forward to working with you in 2013.

Rudolf Guyer

Director General CropLife Africa Middle East

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East & Southern Africa

SSP ToT & Responsible Use Training: Zambia



A SSP training of Trainers & Responsible Use Training took place in Lusaka, Zambia from 12 – 16 November

The training was managed by Herman Louw and facilitated by both Perry Ngoma and Evelyn Lusenaka.

The content of the course covered 19 topics on Day (1) and 12 topics on Day (2)

Feedback from the trainers included the following:

The objectives of the training were met and probably exceeded.

The number of participants totaled 9. This smaller group resulted in higher results and better-equipped trainers. It is recommended that the number of participants for future training sessions be limited to 12 with a maximum of 15 persons.

A final SSP Trainer-of-Trainer intervention is recommended for the Zambia SSP Project during 2013.

It is recommended that a thorough assessment, including field visits, Interviews, plus an audit of the numbers, of the SSP Project in Zambia be undertaken to establish:

- The number of trainers active in the field
- The number of SSP's active in the field
- The status of the registration process
- The status of the re-registration process
- Actions needed to ensure the active continuation of the process



Closing Remarks: Secretary CropLife Zambia, Chola Kamaki



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Development of Master Trainer Capacity in East & Southern Africa

Over the past two years both Perry Ngoma and Evelyn Lusenaka underwent 5 separate training programs in their development towards Master Trainers. The final component of this training coincided with the SSP and Responsible Use Training, which took place in Zambia during the week of 12 November. This comprised of the following:

- Preparation for training
- Planning, Logistics and Arrangements
- Training sessions
- Facilitating "re-cap" sessions
- Evaluation of participants (written exam)
- Evaluation of individual presentations
- Time management of the week's training

Both trainers are now capable of facilitating any of the CropLife training programs and will strengthen our capacity in the region. Initial plans are for Perry to attend to the training needs in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi, whilst Evelyn will attend to the training requirements in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. Both will also be available for interventions in the other two Hubs of CLAME.



Herman Louw (left) with Chola Kamaki (right) presenting certificates to Perry and Evelyn, seated



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CropLife Madagascar Appoints Fulltime Secretariat



In the past CropLife Madagascar made use of project leaders attached to specific projects. They have now taken on a permanent staff member, Mr. Julien Rakotoarimanana. Julien will hold the function of Secretary General of CropLife Madagascar under direct supervision of the President. He will be responsible for the running of the day-to-day activities of the association as well as coordinating the projects including the levy fee, container management, anti-counterfeiting programs, the SSP program, etc.

Julien is the former Registrar of the Crop Protection Bureau and retired last year from public office.

Julien Rakotoarimanana (L) with Rivo Andriamanalina (R), President of CropLife Madagascar

Participants Excel at TOT and Accreditation Courses: CropLife Zimbabwe

“One of the best groups I’ve had in the last three years” was how the CropLife Regional Trainer, Herman Louw, described the 14 participants on the CropLife Zimbabwe TOT course held in March. All 14 qualified in both the theory and the practical sections of the course.

Training of Trainers (ToT) is, as the information sheet says, a fast-moving and intensive 5-day course. It gives students the skills needed to plan and run courses. They learn to identify training needs, to compile course materials, to run powerful training sessions - and to handle difficult participants. One of the students described the course as “great fun and very interactive”.

Steve Manonge of Bayer, who graduated from the course in 2003, was in recent years the only TOT trainer left in the industry in Zimbabwe. He is now coordinating the new 15-strong team of trainers.

The annual CropLife Zimbabwe accreditation-training course was held in July. Staff from the Tobacco Research Board (TRB) updated and presented three modules. Geoff Bradshaw, an independent consultant, and Themba Pilime of the CropLife Technical Sub Committee each presented one module. Jacob Nyagweta, Chairman of CropLife Zimbabwe, opened the course and gave the introductory module.

The course topics were, as in previous years:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| • The Agricultural Chemical Industry in Perspective | Jacob Nyagweta |
| • Basic Weed Science and Principles of Weed Control | Themba Pilime |
| • Basic Plant Pathology and Principles of Plant Disease Control | TRB |
| • Basic Entomology and Principles of Pest Control | TRB |
| • Basic Nematology and Principles of Nematode Control | TRB |
| • Basic Principles of Crop Chemical Application | Geoff Bradshaw |

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Of the 15 students on the accreditation-training course, 12 passed the final exams and are now fully accredited to CropLife Zimbabwe. As well as certificates, the graduates will each receive a CropLife Zimbabwe accreditation identification card that they can show to customers and others to prove their essential knowledge of their field.

'To ensure closer relations with relevant government ministries' is one of the Executive Committee's goals for the current year and, with this in mind, CropLife Zimbabwe paid for a number of government employees to attend the TOT and accreditation courses. Four Agritex officers were sponsored for the TOT course, while the Registrar of Pesticides, Kwadzanai Mushore, was invited to attend the accreditation course where he passed the exams with flying colours.



Learning about calibration



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North Africa Middle East

CropLife Egypt and Ministry of Agriculture Building Alliances

Chair APC, Dr. Mohamed
Abdulmajeed



In the context of building a partnership and a sound alliance with the Ministry of Agriculture, CropLife Egypt held a meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Dr Salah Abdelmoemen in the presence of the Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC), to discuss the joint projects between CropLife and the APC.

Both the Minister and the APC approved of the proposal made by CropLife Egypt to cooperate with the MARL/APC in the following activities:

- The execution of training programs for applicators in Egypt.
- The management of pesticide counterfeiting and the smuggling of plant protection products.
- Supporting IPM/Pesticide Responsible Use at National level.

The APC requested a formal MOU to be developed and signed between CropLife and the APC covering the above mentioned. The MOU is in the process of preparation for discussion with APC management later this month and will then be signed by both parties under the auspices of the Minister of Agriculture.



Adaptation to climate change: Egyptian Project

CropLife Egypt held further discussions with Dr Guy Jobbins (Project consultant) to reinforce the role of the organization in this project. CropLife also confirmed its interest and capability to be a service provider for the component covering sustainable agriculture focusing on Responsible Use and Application training.



Dr Guy Jobbins



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Egypt Anti-Counterfeiting Update

A discussion on Anti-Counterfeiting activities addressed by private and public disciplines covered the following:

Dow AgroSciences & CropLife Egypt will be organizing a workshop under the slogan "Use the right products – Eat healthy food" to alleviate pesticide counterfeiting and the illegal trade in this area in Egypt.

The workshop will be held in March 2013 as a joint activity between Dow AgroSciences and CropLife Egypt. The intention is to invite decision makers, enforcement bodies and stakeholders who have a global presence.

CropLife Egypt will deliver a presentation covering pesticide anti-counterfeiting and IPR at "The New Agricultural Technology for Export Workshop" which will take place in Luxor in January 2013 and which will be attended by senior governmental staff and exporters.

CropLife Egypt had a meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Dr Salah Abdelmoemen with the participation of the Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC) management to discuss joint projects between CropLife and APC.

The Minister and APC approved the proposal made by CropLife to cooperate with the MARL/APC in the management of pesticide counterfeiting and the smuggling of plant protection products.

The APC is preparing a "black list" of counterfeiters to be published on their website as a part of their strategy to alleviate counterfeiting and illegal trade.

The Ministry of Agriculture received reports about attempts to import 500 tons of Atrazine (banned product) hidden in shipments from China for five Egyptian companies to be used for coming maize season. These companies use their license for the importation of chemicals to smuggle in banned products. These shipments didn't enter the country.



Said Abdella



Minister, Dr. Salah Abdulmomein



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West & Central Africa

CropLife Côte d'Ivoire: IPM/RU Training for Dealers and Applicators

On 26 - 30 November, in Gd Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire, 72 trainees in sub-groups of applicators dealers and advisors were trained as part of the on-going training programme aimed at the responsible and safe handling of pesticides. The 5-day program covered topics such as:

- Pesticide Legislation and Regulations in Côte d'Ivoire with an emphasis on the certification of dealers and applicators, and an understanding of the need to fight the illicit trade of pesticides
- Pesticides and the need for GAP in sustainable agricultural production
- Reading the label and understanding pictograms
- Safe Transport and Storage requirements
- Pesticide application for effective control of pests and diseases through sound calibration
- The correct use of Personal Protection Equipment
- Pesticides poisoning and First Aid, focusing on how pesticides enter the body

All participants passed the required tests and received a certificate of competence.



The program also comprised of practical outdoor exercises related to the calibration of sprayers



Closing ceremony by the Director of Crop Protection Directorate (L) and the presentation of certificates (R)



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CropLife Ghana: Container Management

A visit was made to the Ejura Sekyeredumase district on 15 – 17 November. This was organised under the supervision of the Ashanti Regional PPRSD Officer, Mrs. Gifty Boakye, to verify the ongoing usage of the collection bins erected as part of the pilot scheme. Opportunity was also taken to distribute new water bottles to the mosques in return for the empty pesticide containers they were presently using for their prayer preparations. This sensitization and donation was highly appreciated by the Muslim community; and promise was made to pray for CropLife Ghana in their effort to educate neighbors and other communities for not reusing empty pesticides containers, but to send these to the collection sites.



Collection of empty pesticides containers being used in mosques (L) and presentation of new bottles (M, R).

The importance of PRD/CBI in Morocco



Participants to the workshop from regulatory services (Above) and the industry (Below)



On 22 November, in Mohammedia, Morocco, CropLife AME conducted a workshop covering the benefits for the Protection of Regulatory Data (PRD) and Confidential Business Information (CBI). Participants included 24 registrars and regulators, 22 representatives of CropLife Morocco member companies, and 8 members of the Regional Regulatory Committee. Rudolf Guyer, DG, CropLife AME, and Bama Yao, facilitated the program under the supervision of Michael Carroll Chairman of the global PRD Project Team

The purpose of the workshop was to organize the launch of the French version of the PRD module aimed at building capacity for regulators as well as industry personnel. The interactive sessions focused on the following topics:

- IP in plant protection.
- TRIPS and articles related to CBI (39.1 to 39.3). Importance of PRD/CBI.
- Protecting safety and efficacy data and CBI.
- Equivalence: this session targeting only the regulators was facilitated by Jean-Phillippe Bascou.

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31st Session of CSP



The 31st Session of the CSP was organized to study dossiers submitted for registration in the CILSS region. The Malian Minister of Agriculture chaired the opening ceremony, in the presence of representatives from FAO and WHO. The Regional Coordinator and the Chairman of CropLife Mali represented CropLife AME. Following on from the opening, the “closed session” discussed the report of the Permanent Secretary focusing on:

- Implementation of the recommendations of the 30th session;
- Feedback on the FAO evaluation of the CSP framework;
- Reactions on the latest version of the composition of the registration dossier;

Reactions of the industry on recommendations for health and environmental requirements for renewal and registration of pesticides in the CILSS. To this, the Regional Coordinator explained the need to delay the enforcement of such requirements. The delay was found necessary, as the recommendations were not sent within a reasonable time period to allow CropLife to provide inputs and guidance for the implementation of those recommendations. This request was found favorable by the CSP.

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Meetings with the MD of the PCPB in Kenya, CropLife Kenya and CropLife Uganda	Dec 3 - 7
PRD Steering Committee meeting Brussels	Dec 11
UAE visit to follow up on IPM issues	Dec 12- 15
POR Meeting, Brussels	Dec 12
RSC Meeting, Brussels	Dec 12-13
Anti-Counterfeiting Training to customs officers, Accra, Ghana	Dec. 13
Seed Treatment Working Group meeting, South Africa	Dec 14
Anti-Counterfeiting Training to customs officers, S-Pedro, Côte d'Ivoire	Dec 19
CleanFarms “Handover workshop, Nairobi	Jan 28-30
Anti-Counterfeiting Training, Zambia	Feb 8
Meeting of the CPSC in Washington	Feb 12
Meeting of the Anti Counterfeiting Steering Committee	Feb 13
Association Management Training, CropLife Zambia	Feb 25-26
Container Management Workshop, Zambia	Feb 27-28
Africa Region Plant Biotech Workshop, Ghana	March 4-8
Meeting of the Regional Regulatory Committee	March 13-14
Hub and Regulatory Meeting, West and Central Africa	Apr 16-17

Change in the Distribution of the Monthly Newsletter

We have moved the Monthly Newsletter onto a new unified messaging platform. The system is called Everlytic and it's primarily a web based, bulk email / SMS management tool. The system is very "feature rich" and has many benefits such as HTML email template design, automated subscription management, list management, full geographic detailed message reporting, Data cleansing, social integration and a whole lot more. Aside from the numerous features offered, the system does not require as much manual human intervention to send out mail or manage a subscription as was previously the case. All Opt-In and Opt-Outs are now managed automatically by the system based on the users choice, so this keeps us inline with rules around bulk messaging.

The first proof of this new platform was tested with the November 2012 Newsletter and this was a great success. Going forward, it will take us around 30 minutes to setup, check and send out the Newsletter.

We have also built-in a subscription form on the website that will allow visitors to register to receive the Newsletter. You can see this by going onto the CropLife Africa website and clicking on "Subscribe to our newsletter" at the bottom of the page.

The system is a lot more powerful than just sending emails but for now we will just stick to the Newsletter and see where this takes us.



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GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY

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