

PAN Europe

Pesticides Action Network Europe

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PAN Europe is facilitated by PAN Germany and PAN UK

PAN Europe Position

Elements for a proposed EC Directive on measures for reduction of impacts to health and environment from use of pesticides ('plant protection products', PPP) October 2000

- **Establishment of national PPP use reduction programmes within three years**
 - Baseline year selected so as not to penalize those countries that have already achieved significant (at least 50%) pesticide use reductions since a pre-selected baseline period (DK, 1981-85; NL, 1984-88; SW, 1981-85)
 - Specific numerical targets designed to achieve progressively more stringent qualitative and quantitative reductions in overall pesticide use, e.g., 40% reduction in frequency of applications within 5 years, 50% within 8 years, 60% within 10 years
 - Specific numerical targets designed to achieve qualitative and quantitative reductions in pesticide use on specific crops
 - Specific numerical targets for amount of cultivated land in each Member State to be in biological agriculture (e.g., 15% in each MS in 5 years, 30% in 10 years) and in IPM/ICM
 - Regular review of pesticide use reduction programmes and adaptation as needed to meet the progressively more stringent targets
 - Mandatory national studies to determine the overall consequences (including economic benefits as well as costs) of a targeted reduction or a total phasing out of pesticides, e.g., based on existing studies and on the OECD work just initiated.

- **Promotion of alternative pest control methods**
 - Development of principles for Good Agricultural Practices that specifically deal with how to reduce dependency on chemicals for plant protection and that require IPM/ICM as a minimum
 - Development of definitions of IPM and Integrated Crop Management that support the goal of pesticide use reduction and require application of the substitution principle (i.e, use of least-harmful option wherever feasible and practicable)
 - Financial support for research and extension on biological and low-input agriculture, non-chemical plant protection measures, and IPM
 - Establishment of an EU-supported "GAP research facility" to develop and promote best available (least-harmful) plant protection practices
 - Additional financial support for conversion to biological and low-input agricultural practices

- **Controls over unsafe pesticide application practices**
 - Mandatory “best environmental practices” to cover all uses of chemical pesticides, to be defined at EU-level and covering at a minimum the elements set forth in PARCOM Recommendation 94/7
 - Bans on applications of pesticides in ecologically vulnerable zones such as nature sites and in buffer zones (objective criteria for determining ecological and human vulnerability to be determined at EU level)
 - Bans on applications of pesticides in areas where high risk of exposure to persons, e.g., private houses, schools, wellheads supplying drinking water, public spaces such as parks
 - Bans on aerial application of pesticides
 - Mandatory inspections of distributors and users, e.g., storage practices, state of equipment
- **Minimum education/certification requirements for distributors (wholesale and retail), crop protection advisors, extension service experts, and professional users**
 - Mandatory training and accreditation of dealers and distributors
 - Mandatory training and certification of farmers and professional users of PPPs
 - Access to high-risk PPPs restricted to certified users
- **Minimum standards for application equipment and handling of packaging**
 - Essential requirements for equipment, including annual calibration of sprayers
 - Mandatory annual inspection programmes for equipment
 - Mandatory systems to ensure safe recovery and/or disposal of used PPP packaging
- **Monitoring and data collection to determine impact of PPPs on health and environment**
 - Mandatory monitoring and surveillance of pesticide poisoning and pollution incidence reporting (both agricultural and non-agriculture), including tracing to source wherever possible
 - Coordinated monitoring and data collection in exposed species and in the environment at EU level to allow a systematic interpretation of information with respect to determining the presence and impact of PPPs, particularly in surface, ground and rain water
 - Development and monitoring of risk reduction indicators, e.g., based on OECD work in this area
- **Publicly accessible inventories of pesticide sales and applications**
 - Mandatory record-keeping/registration of PPPs sales (wholesale and retail), e.g., based on OECD work
 - Mandatory farm-level record-keeping of PPPs usage, e.g., Denmark
 - Compilation of data into inventories of individual pesticide use by area and crop
- **VAT and/or levies on pesticide products high enough to impact levels of sales of PPPs**
 - Funds generated through the VAT or levy to be earmarked for support for research and training on measures to reduce pesticide use, and for conversion to pesticide-free agriculture and development of markets for safe foods
- **Access to information and public participation in regulatory decisionmaking on PPPs**
 - Public access to all information held by public authorities related to registration of specific products, data on sales and uses, and exposure and impact on environment and human health

Signatories to the PAN Europe Position

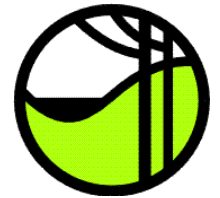
- ÄrztInnen für eine gesunde Umwelt (AeGU), ISDE Austria
- Banana Link, UK
- BAYERwatch (Coordination gegen BAYER-Gefahren), Germany
- Bond Beter Leefmilieu, Belgium
- Children of the Earth, Czech Republic
- Center for Environmental Studies, Hungary
- Danish Society for the Conservation of Nature
- The Ecological Council, Denmark
- EKOROL, Poland
- European Public Health Alliance, EPHA, Belgium
- France Nature Environnement
- Friends of the Earth EWNI, UK
- Green Doctors - ISDE Ukraine
- Green Group in the European Parliament
- Inter-Environnement Wallonie, Belgium
- Leefmilieu, The Netherlands
- Liga para a protecção de natureza LPN, P
- Medio Ambiente y Salud Laboral de Comisiones Obreras, España
- "Medium et Sanitas" Association, Romania
- Monitoring Network Health and Environment, I
- PAN Belgium
- PAN Germany
- PAN UK
- Polski Klub Ecologiczny Gliwice, Poland
- SEPANSO, France
- Stichting Natuur en Milieu, I
- Soil Association, UK
- WWF Germany



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