



REPORT

2ND FAO/WHO JOINT MEETING ON PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT

and

**4TH SESSION OF THE FAO PANEL OF EXPERTS ON PESTICIDE
MANAGEMENT**

**6 – 8 October 2008
Geneva**



**Food and Agriculture
Organization
of the United Nations**



**World Health
Organization**

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Abbreviations

ADI	Acceptable Daily Intake
ASP	Africa Stockpiles Programme
CCPR	Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues
CIEN	Chemicals Information Exchange Network
CMR	Carcinogenic, Mutagenic and Reproductive toxicant
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GCDPP	Global Collaboration for Development of Pesticides for Public Health
GHS	Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
GLP	Good Laboratory Practice
GMP	Global malaria Programme
HHP	Highly Hazardous Pesticide
HQ	Headquarters
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce
ICCM	International Conference on Chemicals Management
ICSC	International Chemical Safety Card
IFCS	Inter-governmental Forum on Chemical Safety
IGO	Inter-governmental Organization
IOMC	Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IVM	Integrated Vector Management
JMPR	Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues
JMPS	Joint Meeting on Pesticide Specifications
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MRL	Maximum Residue Limit
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development
PAN	Pesticide Action Network
PIC	Prior Informed Consent
PIM	Poisons Information Monograph
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WHO	World Health Organization
WHOPES	World Health Organization Pesticide Evaluation System

1. Introduction

The 2nd FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management and 4th Session of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Management, were held at WHO Headquarters in Geneva from 6 to 8 October 2008.

The FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Management is the official statutory body that advises the Organization on matters pertaining to pesticide regulation and management, and alerts it to new developments, problems or issues that otherwise merit attention. The Panel in particular counsels FAO on the further implementation of the revised version of the *International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides*¹ (the Code of Conduct). Members of the WHO Panel of Experts are drawn from the WHO Panel of Experts on Vector Biology and Control, or are academic or government experts invited to advise the Organization on policies, guidelines and key actions to support Member States on sound management of pesticides.

Experts invited to this meeting have been selected for their personal expertise and experience in specific aspects of pesticide management, both in agriculture and in public health, and do not represent the position of governments or institutions they may belong to. They are appointed in their personal capacity by either FAO or WHO. In addition, representatives from other Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs), pesticide industry and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) also attended the meeting as observers.

Dr Morteza Zaim welcomed all participants on behalf of WHO and expressed his great pleasure in hosting the joint meeting for the first time in Geneva. He thanked all present for kindly having responded to the invitation to participate in the meeting.

Mr Mark Davis, of FAO, noted the absence of Dr Gero Vaagt, former Senior Officer of the FAO Pesticide Management Group, who had been called to other duties. He recalled the long involvement of Dr Vaagt in the organization of this Panel and noted that his experience would be greatly missed. Mr Davis underlined the importance of the guidance which the Panel is providing, in particular to developing countries, which are in the complicated situation of having to balance trade, health and environmental interests.

All participants in the meeting are listed in Annex 1.

2. Opening of the meeting

Dr Lorenzo Savioli, Director Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases, gave the opening address on behalf of Mr Hiroki Nakatani, Assistant Director General of WHO. He welcomed the Panel members from FAO and WHO and colleagues from other UN organizations and the World Bank to the meeting, as well as representatives of industry associations and public interest groups who attended the meeting as observers.

¹ <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/core-themes/theme/pests/pm/code/en/>

Dr Savioli reminded the participants that the Panel has an advisory role to FAO and WHO on policies, guidelines and key actions to support Member States on the sound management of pesticides. He stressed that the strengthening of capacity for judicious and effective management of pesticides is a priority for WHO and that the collaboration with FAO provides an opportunity to ensure complementarity, harmonized and coordinated guidance and support to Member States and other stakeholders on this important issue.

The Director underlined that Integrated Vector Management (IVM) is being promoted by WHO as a key strategy for the sound management of pesticides. Capacity building in the field of public health pesticides is an important element of IVM, in particular given the increased use of insecticides in the health sector in many vector-borne disease endemic countries where resources and infrastructure for such activities are often inadequate.

Dr Savioli noted that important guidance documents are being prepared by the Panel and requested the meeting to ensure that these are pragmatic and useful to the main target groups, which are governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition. He emphasized that the Code of Conduct serves as a framework and guiding document for both FAO and WHO and invited the Panel to carefully review the Code and advise whether any improvements can be made to the document to better address the specific needs of public health pesticides.

Finally, Dr Savioli, wishing the meeting success and stating he looked forward to its recommendations, declared the 2nd FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management open.

3. Election of the chairperson and rapporteurs

Dr Vibeke Bernson was elected Chairperson of the meeting, and Dr Gamini Manuweera and Dr Sandhya Kulshrestha were appointed rapporteurs.

4. Adoption of the agenda

One additional issue was included under agenda item 13: counterfeiting and illegal trade in pesticides.

The definitive agenda was adopted as shown in Annex 2.

5. Developments since the previous session of the Panel

A brief summary was presented of some important developments with respect to pesticide management that had taken place since the 1st Joint Meeting in October 2007.

5.1 WHO

Chemical safety

WHO Chemical Safety is in the process of updating the Poisons Information Monographs (PIMs) on dieldrin, endosulfan, paraquat and aluminium phosphide. PIMs are concise but comprehensive, internationally peer-reviewed documents about individual agents or groups of agents to which poisoning exposures may occur. The PIMs are primarily intended to facilitate the work of poison information specialists and clinicians in dealing with poisoning cases. They summarize the physico-chemical and toxicological properties of the substance, the clinical features of poisoning and patient management. These will be available on the INTOX and INCHEM websites².

Chemical Safety has also developed International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs). ICSCs summarize essential product identity data and health and safety information on pure chemicals for use by workers and employers, agriculture and for the public at large. There are now approximately 150 ICSCs on pesticides, available through the WHO web page of the International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS)³.

Chemical Safety is undertaking a risk assessment of the use of DDT in indoor residual spraying for malaria prevention. The draft document will be released for public and peer review, followed by an expert meeting.

Food safety

The 2008 FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) was held in Rome, Italy, in September 2008. The meeting evaluated 26 pesticides, of which six were new compounds and six were re-evaluated within the periodic review programme of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR).

JMPR consists of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Residues in Food and the Environment and the WHO Core Assessment Group. During the Meetings, the FAO Panel of Experts is responsible for reviewing residue and analytical aspects of the pesticides under consideration, including data on their metabolism, fate in the environment and use patterns, and for estimating the maximum residue levels that might occur as a result of the use of the pesticides according to good agricultural practices. The WHO Core Assessment Group is responsible for reviewing toxicological and related data and for estimating, where possible, acceptable daily intakes (ADIs) for humans of the pesticides under consideration. Relevant information is accessible on the respective JMPR websites of FAO and WHO⁴.

² <http://www.inchem.org> and <http://www.intox.org>

³ <http://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/icsc/en/index.html>

⁴ <http://www.who.int/ipcs/food/jmpr> and <http://www.fao.org/ag/AGP/AGPP/Pesticid/JMPR>

Evidence, research and action on mental and brain disorders

Pesticide ingestion accounts for over 60 percent of suicides in many rural areas of China and South-East Asia and there is evidence of increased pesticide self-poisoning in Central and South American, as well as African countries. The WHO Team of Evidence, Research and Action on Mental and Brain Disorders of the WHO Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse held a meeting in Nonthaburi, Thailand, in December 2007 to launch the global public health initiative *The Impact of Pesticides on Health: Preventing Intentional and Unintentional Deaths from Pesticide Poisoning*. The meeting identified actions for safer access to pesticides through community interventions.

The Team also published *Prevention of suicidal behaviours: Feasibility demonstration projects on community interventions for safer access to pesticides*⁵. The document provides draft protocols for the demonstration of feasibility of community-level interventions for safer access to pesticides and the identification of potential sites where to conduct those demonstration projects. The Team also convened a meeting on *Prevention of Suicidal Behaviours: Clinical Management of Acute Pesticide Intoxication*, in Nonthaburi, Thailand, in December 2007. The purpose of this meeting was to do an in-depth review of guidelines on the clinical management of acute pesticide intoxication and to develop clinical guidance for health care workers at different levels of the health care system (i.e., primary health care, district hospitals and specialized units) and a strategy for implementation.

Global Malaria Programme

The Global Malaria Programme (GMP) has produced an update on the WHO Position statement on DDT: *The Use of DDT for Malaria Control*, which includes increased focus on occupational and environmental safety guidance.

The GMP has been collaborating with UNEP and the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), in providing technical support to countries for capacity building in the use of DDT according to the provision of the Convention. In this context, the Secretariat of the Convention has signed a memorandum of understanding with WHO to support countries in fulfilling their requirements for reporting to the Secretariat on the production and use of DDT for disease vector control.

Two national workshops on DDT reporting were held in 2008, respectively in Rabat, Morocco and in Sana'a, Yemen. Both workshops were preceded by a field visit conducted on assessment and support for safe storage of DDT. In July 2008, a three-day inter-regional

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_29169

