

PESTICIDES MANAGEMENT IN BURKINA FASO

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Burkina Faso is one of the nine Member States of the Permanent Inter States Committee for drought control in the Sahel (CILSS). None of the nine countries has enough means to build and carry out an efficient pesticide control system. In order to solve the weakness of their resources, the nine countries decided to put together their capacities related to experiences, experts and finances. By this way, they could elaborate and implement a common regulation for the registration of pesticides in CILSS Member States. The Common Regulation is executed through a specialized body named Sahelian Pesticides Committee (SPC) at the regional level.

The SPC is composed of at least two experts representing each State. I am one of the Burkina Faso representatives. The SPC members meet twice a year in Bamako, Republic of Mali in June and December. Their main task is to assess the registration dossiers submitted by industries that deal with pesticides. The assessment shows if the pesticide can be accepted to be used in the CILSS area by granting full or provisional registration. Some articles of the Common Regulation clarify the tasks to be done by each Member State at the national level.

These tasks are:

Article 5-2: The control of import, export, placing on the market, use and destruction of pesticides registered under this Common Regulation, the regulation of advertising with respect to pesticides are part of this control.

Article 8-1: The stipulation in national regulation that pesticides cannot be placed on the market and be used in their territory unless after registration of the product.

Article 9: The stipulation also that the pesticides must be used properly in compliance with the conditions of good plant protection, veterinary or vector control practice, as well as with the principles of integrated pest management whenever possible.

Article 24-1: The post-registration control of the distribution and use of pesticides. This type of control concern:

- The quality of formulations placed on the market,
- The authorized areas of use and the restrictions as specified on the provisional registrations and registrations,
- The standards and use indications shown on the labels,
- The use of the commercialized pesticides according to the indications as specified on the labels
- The effects of the pesticides on the environment.

Article 35-2: The ratification of the Common Regulation and subsequently the modification of existing national legislation.

Article 37: The adoption of new regulation that lays out financial and/or criminal sanctions for offenders, in case of non-compliance to the present Regulation.

When it comes to the national level, each State must create a National Pesticide Management Committee (NPMC) which role will be the implementation of the SPC meetings conclusions and recommendations.

In Burkina Faso le NPMC has been installed in August 2000 by the Minister in charge of Agriculture. Before the setting up of the NPMC, laws and regulations in compliance with the Common Regulations have been elaborated and adopted by the Government and the Parliament.

Some of the laws and regulations are:

Two laws have been adopted in compliance with the Common Regulation. Some articles stipulate clearly the policy of pesticide control system adopted by Burkina Faso.

Article 1er: Local production, imported and exported pesticides must be submitted under control.

Article 2: pesticides without full registration or provisional registration are strictly forbidden in Burkina Faso.

Article 4: an agreement is required to all person, association or company who want to import or commercialise pesticides in Burkina Faso. The agreement is delivered by the Trade Minister on proposal of Agricultural Minister.

Producers of pesticides have to apply for an Authorisation which is delivered by the Industry Minister on the proposal of the Agricultural and Environment Ministers.

Article 7: the control of the pesticides is assumed by the agents of the Ministry in charge of Agriculture.

Article 15: fees must be paid for some control documents or agreements delivered to the dealers of pesticides after each control.

Decrees and Arêtes have been elaborated to determine how to execute the two cited above

Decree on the agreement.

This Decree explains to all candidates how to get the agreement:

It is requested to the candidate papers that prove he knows a lot about pesticides, he has got stores for selling and stocking pesticides in conditions that are not harmful for human health and environment. He has to pay fees that will be used for the evaluation of the dossier.

Decree on the NPMC

This Decree describes the attributions, composition and functions of the NPMC.

The NPMC is charged with the examination and follow up of the agreements applications, the establishment of an inventory of pesticides used and commercialize in Burkina Faso, the

definition of the methods of control of pesticides, the evaluation of the legislation in Burkina Faso and the training of all stockholders.

According to its internal Rule of Procedure, the NPMC shall meet twice a year.

It has a wide composition taking into account private and public sectors, NGOs, civil society, users, industry etc.

Arête on the fees

The arête specifies the amount of the fees for the studies of dossiers of agreement requests and for delivering authorizations for importations and certificates of control.

What have been done since the installation of the NPMC in 2000?

The NPMC has held with success five ordinaries sessions and one extraordinary session.

It has also provided trainings sessions to lots of representatives of the sectors of trade, health, environment, extension workers, customs, users etc.

Thirty five agreements have been granted to traders and producers.

An association of wholesalers and retailers of agricultural inputs has been created.

Pesticides have been controlled since 2003 according to the recommendations of CSP at eighteen borders (road, airport and railways) of Burkina Faso.

Funds have been generated for national budget from control fees.

Problems.

The main problem is related to the collaboration and coordination between on one hand the different Ministries (Agriculture, Environment, Trade, Health, Research, Industry, Labour etc.) and on the other hand between private, public and civil society sectors.

The second problem is the lack of means (Financial, Technical knowledge, Staff, Laboratory equipment etc.)

For the success of the implementation of SAICM in Burkina, the above problems must be sorted out and I hope that the conclusions of the workshop will contribute to reach this target.

NB. Laws, regulations and figures related to the results of the NPMC activities are available if needed.