INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE SAFE USE OF PESTICIDES IN COCOA AND HARMONIZED LEGISLATION FOR FOOD SAFETY

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PRODUCER COUNTRIES' PERSPECTIVES ON LEGISLATION AND OTHER MEASURES ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES AND FOOD SAFETY

Prof. Dembélé Ardjouma A.
Dr. Kouamé Lucien
Mr. Brou Allatin
Mr. Joseph Kouame
MAIN POINTS

I. COCOA PRODUCTION IN AFRICA
   - Production structure
   - Pesticide use

II. REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS : IMPACTS
   - Regulations/standards international on pesticide residues
   - Benefits / Problems facing farmers for African growers

III. PERSPECTIVES
I. CACACO PRODUCTION IN AFRICA

1. Cocoa Production structure

Cocoa is grown in Africa mostly by smallholders: 90% of cocoa production

- Traditional type of practices: no or very little use of pesticides (less than 20% of treatments, small holders;

- Industrial type of production: agro-industrial companies intensive use of input, pesticides.
2. Trade and Economy

Cocoa from African : exported worldwide

European market is the main destination, 53% of the global cocoa market

Cocoa : an important role in the economy and socio-life of many countries

Côte d'Ivoire : 40% of national income, employs one million farmers, subsistence for over six million people
1.2. Pesticides for cocoa production

Many harmful plant pests:
- insects (mirides, leaf feeder, stem borers,
- fungal diseases black pod and brown pod caused by Phytophthora

High losses: 50% and up

Pesticides are used: several active ingredients / various chemical groups
Côte d'Ivoire: 15 insecticide active ingredients, 7 herbicides, 2 fungicides (2009)

Appropriate use of good quality pesticides: positive impacts

Non compliance with good agricultural practices (phytosanitary treatments): problems

**High level pesticide residues in cocoa.**
II. REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS: THEIR IMPACT

1. Regulations and standards on pesticide residues

International regulation / standards: more stringent for food quality and food safety, use of pesticides and potential residues in foodstuffs

A large number of regulations and standards have been adopted.
International organisations (Codex, ISO, etc);

EU 178/2002 of 28/01/2002 (food safety authority, procedures); 882/2004 of 29/04/2004 (official controls); 396/2005 of 23/02/2005 (pesticide MRLs in food and feed);

USA, Japan

“Private” market driving standards/certification systems

National standards and regulations : NI 33-100 « Café – cacao Guide pour le stockage et le transport
2. African producers and international regulations

Positive / Negative

- Specific criteria to follow defined & transparent practices: common understanding, common methods for product description, proof of compliance with regulations, harmonized practices confidence to consumers and official authorities.

e.g: Regulation (EC) n° 396/2005: harmonized MRLs in Europe, eliminates differences of MRLs between EU countries.

→ Facilitates exports of cocoa to different EU countries.
- Significant improvement in the quality of the products from the producers, Facilitate market access

- Many standards take into consideration also several aspects of the supply chain/ producers’ well-being, health, social and cultural life, environmental, production sustainability aspects, etc.
Problems facing farmers

- Too many standards and specifications; too diverse and disparate

➡ smallholders: what to do??
Because no the appropriate tools and knowledge to get the good information, and to adequately comply with the requirements

Most of cocoa producers do not read/write, limited knowledge on good agricultural practices, including phytosanitary practices.
- Some of the trade related standards: some requirements not always realistic & doable in producing conditions

- LOD MRLs for no-defined-MRL pesticides

- Existence of long time banned pesticides in some producing areas: fraud and use of non recommended pesticides by some producers.
III. PERSPECTIVES

- Harmonization of international regulation:
  Essential, with clear principles based on realistic approaches and feasible practices in the production conditions

- Capacity building stakeholders in the supply chain:
  many producers & stakeholders have limited phytosanitary and storage knowledge. appropriate capability building activities smallholders and SMEs (training, awareness rising and sensitization
Adaptation of private standards to local conditions: to enable requirement adaptation to local conditions

Determination of LOD MRLs: There is a need for determining MRLs for pesticides which still do not have MRLs? avoid the LOD MRL (0.01 mg/kg) requirement

Ban on the production of prohibited pesticides: pesticide industry/regulatory authorities to take actions to stop production and distribution of prohibited pesticides.
STEP TAKEN AT REGIONAL LEVEL

-Regional and sub regional economic communities in Africa have initiated actions to develop local regulations and standards

- Trend is the harmonization of regulations on food safety, pesticide registration, pesticide use and management

ECOWAS : Regulation establishing the West African registration committee (COAHP/WACPR);
Sahel Region: Common regulation for pesticide registration through CSP;

Central Africa REC (CEMAC): CPA; FAO a TCP to include CEAC countries

Southern countries of Africa (SADC) are also very active in this field
Expectation: Harmonize food safety regulations, pesticide registration procedures, regulate pesticide use and management (obsolete, non-registered, fake/poor quality, prohibited, and pesticide illicit cross-border movements, etc.)
Echantillonnage (campagne 2007-2008)

- Les deux (2) ports (PAA et PASP)
- Les zones de production

Prétraitement des échantillons

- Stockage
- Expertise
- Broyage

Méthodes d’analyses

- Paramètres de validation des...