



CropLife Africa Middle East
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Strengthening Regional Pesticides Regulations to support Agricultural Productivity in West and Central Africa

Lomé, Togo, March 22, 2007.

CropLife Africa Middle East annual workshop for West and Central (WCA) hub concluded its deliberations yesterday in Lomé, Togo. Held under the patronage of HE Mr. Yves MATOW NAGOU, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the conference was co-organised by CropLife Africa Middle East and the Africa Division of the International Center for Soil Fertility and Agricultural Development (IFDC-A).

Participants were representatives of national industry associations members of the CropLife network and allied agri-inputs associations. Experts from international organizations and multinational companies representing the plant science industry provided technical support to the conference proceedings.

Deliberations focused on several issues pertaining to the appropriate pesticides management in the sub-region such as frauds and counterfeiting, intellectual property rights with emphasis on trade marks and patents protection as supportive measures for investment in innovative technologies. The workshop also debated on collaborative measures among stakeholders for compliance to the FAO code of conduct and observance of international treaties related to pesticides such as the Rotterdam convention and the Stockholm convention.

The workshop concluded relevant recommendations in relation to all issues emphasising on a strong involvement of local industry associations in domestic as well as regional agricultural policies and promoting stewardship activities for proper and greater benefits of pesticide uses.

Addressing the workshop, Yves Demeure, Vice President of CropLife Africa Middle East and WCA Hub Chair emphasised the crucial and vital need for a regional workable regulatory initiative to encourage investment in crop protection innovative technologies, while confirming CropLife commitment to contribute and full support the ongoing harmonisation initiatives in the sub-region.

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