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CropLife Africa Middle East signs MoU with FANRPAN

The Food Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is an autonomous stakeholder-driven policy research, analysis and implementation network that was established in 1997. FANRPAN is represented in 11 SADC countries. The main objectives of FANRPAN are to promote appropriate agricultural policies in order to reduce poverty, increase food security and promote sustainable agricultural development in the SADC region.



Dr. Björn Neumann of CropLife Africa Middle East, East-Southern Hub signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Dr. Lindiwe Sibanda, Chief Executive Officer of the Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN).

Within the project portfolio of the organisation, two projects were identified in which CropLife Africa Middle East saw the opportunity for a partnership. These are:

- “Contract Farming” as a mechanism for the commercialisation of smallholder agriculture in the SADC region.
- Addressing agricultural biotechnology policy issues to improve food security in the SADC region

With the above as background a MoU was signed between the parties on 24 January 2006 which outlines the partnership covering the promotion and facilitation of:

- 1) “Safe use initiatives”

2) Regional harmonisation efforts of biosafety regulations for the registration and commercialisation of genetically modified organisms (GMO's)

An action plan has been developed and which comes into immediate effect.

Les Hillowitz
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