



Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

20 April 2018

Dear Mr Schliemann,

Thank you for your letter of 21 November 2017 regarding the effectiveness of the ad-hoc monitoring procedure of the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management (“the Code”). We have noted the concerns expressed in your letter which will be made available to the next meeting of the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPM) for consideration. In the meantime we welcome the opportunity to clarify the role of the JMPM and the Secretariat and to highlight our ongoing efforts to support countries in the sound management of pesticides.

The Code is a voluntary instrument that sets out standards of conduct for all public and private entities engaged in, or associated with, the management of pesticides. Several major pesticide companies have stated that they adhere to the Code. Full compliance with the Code has yet to be achieved in many countries, particularly developing countries.

The JMPM is an expert panel providing technical advice and guidance to FAO and WHO on pesticide management. Feedback on implementation of the Code from the field can help in setting priorities for the development of technical guidelines and policy advice by the JMPM. Neither FAO, nor WHO, or the JMPM has enforcement powers for compliance of the provisions of the Code or any of the associated technical or policy guidelines.

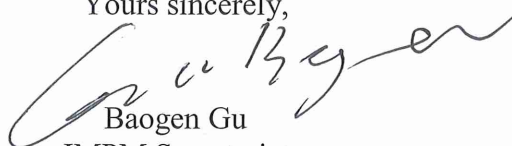
FAO is working with a broad range of countries on improving their management of pesticides throughout their lifecycle and has recently released the Pesticide Registration Toolkit, a web-based decision support system for pesticide registrars in developing countries. It is important to note that a key element of FAO’s support to countries on the implementation of the Code is to strengthen their pesticide regulatory and legal framework. Legislation can provide a government a mechanism to approve enforceable obligations for pesticide companies that are in line with the Code. Further information on FAO’s and WHO’s programmes on pesticide management may be found on respective websites.

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Christian Schliemann
Carolijn Terwindt
European Center for Constitutional
and Human Rights

In closing, we would like to thank you for your interest in the work of the JMPM in towards supporting countries in reducing the risks associated with the use of pesticides. We are particularly thankful for your call on Member States to provide FAO/WHO with the necessary resources to strengthen this work and to promote sustainable crop protection programmes and further reducing the reliance on pesticides.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Baogen Gu', written in a cursive style.

Baogen Gu
JMPM Secretariat
Senior Agricultural Officer
Pest and Pesticide Management
Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP)