



via Email to:

Harpreet Kaur (South Asia Researcher & Representative) &
Annabel Short (Program Director)

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

Bayer CropScience Response to Ad Hoc Monitoring Report

Dear Harpreet, Dear Annabel,

Thank you very much for your message on the Weekly Update and your invitation to respond to the Ad Hoc Monitoring Report by the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights. We have approached the authors of the report and are interested to meet with them for further insights and discussion. Let me provide you with our overall view of the situation, please:

Bayer CropScience only distributes crop protection products which have been granted regulatory approval by authorities in the countries concerned, which are safe when used responsibly and according to label instructions, and which do not pose a risk to neither the operator nor the environment. India, in this regard, has a robust national legislation to regulate plant protection products.

We are fully committed to Product Stewardship as an integral part of our activities. In line with Chemical Industry's principles of Sustainable Development and Responsible Care, Bayer CropScience endorses the international FAO Code of Conduct on the distribution and use of crop protection products and has taken it as the basis of its Product Stewardship programs. Education and training for wholesalers, retailers, farming communities and agricultural workers are provided by Bayer through local advisory centers and international cooperation with the associations. To this endeavor, Bayer undertakes all efforts to supplement the information given on the labels with appropriate educational materials.

As manufacturer, we strictly adhere to the label and leaflet regulations. These are written in a language understood in the country concerned and supported by the internationally recognized picto-

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Dr. Arnd Nenstiel

Bayer CropScience AG
Alfred-Nobel-Straße 50
40789 Monheim
Germany
Phone +49 2173 38 5647
arnd.nenstiel@bayer.com
www.bayercropscience.com

Board of Management:
Liam Condon,
Chairman
Bernd Naaf
Michael A. Schulz

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Registered Office:
Monheim am Rhein
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HRB 46985



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grams recommended by the FAO. In India, the Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee regulates the manufacturing, sale, storage, transport and distribution of crop protection products with a view to ensure operator safety. Labels and leaflets are also strictly regulated and Bayer CropScience follows the law of the respective country. In addition, we are constantly working to optimize product packaging and application techniques to minimize unnecessary contact with the agrochemical product.

The application of crop protection products requires the greatest possible care. We follow any suggestions how we can even better inform and train our customers/growers in the proper and safe handling of our products which is a focus of Product Stewardship at Bayer CropScience. These comprehensive activities include providing safety information, for example labeling and package leaflets. In addition, we also follow and investigate reports of any possible violation of applicable regulations or relevant code of conduct and take appropriate remedial action.

Therefore, we have contacted the authors of the Ad Hoc Monitoring Report to discuss its content in order to jointly establish further areas of improvement on our and the industry's product stewardship measures and good agricultural practices. This will happen in close collaboration with the Indian authorities and the FAO.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Arnd Nenstiel", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Arnd Nenstiel
Head of Global Public and Governmental Affairs
Bayer CropScience AG