

EUREAU with the support of the European Commission

**WATER RESOURCES AND
SUSTAINABLE USE OF PESTICIDES IN AGRICULTURE**

Proposed actions from an invited workshop 25-26 June 2002 in Brussels to discuss practical cross sectoral policy approaches to implementing EU legislation

This workshop was held in June 2002 in Brussels and comprised a group of experts from water companies(EUREAU), the European Commission, crop protection companies(ECPA), farmers(COPA-COGECA) and environmental organisations. The group reached a good degree of consensus on some key issues and on ways in which they could be taken forward in conjunction with other key stakeholders. The following ideas were discussed as options that might be followed up, but the responsibility for doing this will rest with the individual organisations working as appropriate in partnership.

- Workshop organisers to produce short summary report of the Workshop process and key conclusions for wider distribution to other stakeholders
- All participants to receive CD ROM with set of workshop material
- Organisers to circulate e-mail contacts for all delegates to promote informal and ongoing post-workshop dialogue
- Specific issues arising from Workshop relevant to Meeting on Directive 91/414 (10-12 July) should be sent to DG Sanco as a matter of urgency
- Some of the ideas discussed will provide helpful input to proposals for a reform of the CAP. All non-Commission participating organisations to consider sending appropriate comments to relevant Commissioners, Committees of the European Parliament and Ministers from Member State Governments as soon as possible
- All participating organisations to disseminate and discuss outputs from the workshop within their own sector
- EUREAU / ECPA to be invited to give presentation on workshop outputs to next meeting of Expert Advisory Forum on priority substances
- Outputs from workshop to be considered as a special mini topic at the conference on 4th November to discuss the Commission thematic strategy on sustainable use of pesticides
- EUREAU and other organisations to write to relevant Commissioners referring to the Workshop and requesting wider dialogue on cross-sectoral approaches between water protection and agricultural policy
- Consider an initiative to produce harmonised set of relevant terminology which would include not only definitions which are consistent with existing EU regulatory / policy requirements but also facilitates a better understanding of different stakeholder expectations in using this terminology
- EUREAU to write to DG Environment raising questions relating to guidance on article 7.2 and 7.3 of the Water Framework Directive
- Organisers to consider the value of a follow-up workshop in say 18 months time but with wider participation e.g. retailers and consumer protection groups
- All participants to consider ways of raising awareness of issues discussed at the Workshop both at EU and local and state level. It was considered important that ways are found to actively involve farmers in the process

- EUREAU to consider updating information contained in its pesticide report at an appropriate frequency.
- EUREAU / ECPA to contact coordinators of WFD pilot river basin exercises to propose the setting up of local catchment fora, to include Article 14 on public participation
- Organisers to collect list of useful relevant initiatives in different Member States and contact point for more information