

Resolution (XX) Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)

Participants in the 4th Latin American and Caribbean regional meeting on the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, convened in Mexico City, Mexico, from 19 to 22 August 2013;

Recognizing the serious risk to human health and the environment from the use of highly hazardous pesticides through their life cycle;

Considering also the recommendation of the Food and Agricultural Organization, that governments in developing countries should speed up the withdrawal of highly hazardous pesticides from their markets;

Noting the concerns of chemical exposures due to agriculture and the large number of agricultural workers in the Latin American and Caribbean region;

Recalling the Statement of Health Ministers of Mercosur and Associated States on Chemicals Management that calls, *inter alia*, for the development of health risk reduction programs for vulnerable and at risk populations (workers, women, children and others);

Recalling also the strong support for action on highly hazardous pesticides expressed at the third session of the International Conference on Chemical Management and the support for intercessional work on this topic;

1. *Invite* the Food and Agricultural Organization to develop an information paper on safer alternatives to HHPs, including ecosystem-based approaches, which is targeted to the situation and needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition including the Latin American and Caribbean region.
2. *Encourage* countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region to perform surveys of HHPs including the following elements:
 - (a) Regional Coordination Committee of the Latin American and Caribbean region develops a simple questionnaire on HHPs for distribution to SAICM national focal points in the region;
 - (b) SAICM national focal points coordinate with relevant agencies to survey HHP substances registered and prohibited in the country;
 - (c) Countries may wish to start with surveys of HHPs listed in WHO Class Ia and Ib, and Rotterdam Convention Annex III and the Stockholm Convention but include other substances from lists utilizing the criteria from the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management;
3. *Recommend* the Regional Coordination Committee of the Latin American and Caribbean region utilize the HHP surveys to collect success stories on HHP phase-outs, including information on alternatives and strategies for implementation.
4. *Encourage* development of an on-line clearinghouse of HHP registrations, restrictions, and prohibitions in the Latin American and Caribbean region utilizing information from the HHP surveys and other available updated information, in different languages of the region.
5. *Invite* governments and organizations in a position to do so to provide financial and in-kind resources for activities on HHPs.