

Eight Steps to Better Regulations

CropLife International and its member companies are committed to helping farmers achieve better yields and quality in a safe and sustainable way. As part of that effort, CropLife International helps train over 300,000 farmers and other stakeholders every year in the safe use of its products through IPM training. But this is not enough. CropLife International is also committed to helping achieve better regulations that enable the safe use of agricultural chemicals and improve access to new technologies. CropLife supports regulations that help address the goals of an abundant and safe food supply while protecting the health of consumers and growers/farm workers as well as the environment.

CropLife International has outlined an **Eight Steps System to Better Regulations**:

- 1- The registration requirements and the evaluation and decision-making criteria and processes must be clearly defined, guarantee the competence of regulators, ensure dialogue between registrant and regulatory authority and operation mutual acceptance of data and evaluations where relevant and applicable:** A clear process improves public confidence and allows all applicants to understand what is required to achieve regulatory approval. Dialogue between competent regulators and registrants will assure full understanding of the regulatory data package. Mutual acceptance supports harmonization, streamlines processes and saves resources.
- 2- Regulatory decisions must be objective and based on sound scientific principles using a transparent decision making process:** In this way, openness and transparency are ensured and public confidence will be improved. It also promotes harmonization in the sense that a common set of data requirements and risk assessment processes can be defined without compromising the ability of countries to make independent decisions in the local context.
- 3- The pesticide active ingredient and formulated product must be defined and the specifications shown to be equivalent to those used in the generation of the regulatory data provided:** This principle will ensure the safety of the product and prevent untested products entering the market that may not work correctly and may cause an unacceptable risk.
- 4- Pesticide products must be efficacious in use and safe to the crop:** Adherence to this principle ensures that there is a demonstrable benefit to the grower in using the product.
- 5- Protection of human health and the environment takes priority over crop protection:** There should be no unacceptable risk for human health or the environment.
- 6- The pesticide treated crop must be fit for local consumption and export:** MRLs should be established and a dietary risk assessment conducted at national or regional level to ensure consumption of residues is within acceptable limits. Where international trade takes place, MRLs should be established in importing countries, consistent with those in exporting countries.
- 7- All applicants for approval of pesticides should be treated equally.** This ensures a "level playing field" and fair competition.
- 8- Intellectual property rights must be respected.** The respect for IPR should cover the recognition of patents established for new innovations, the protection of regulatory data (PRD) and confidential business information (CBI).