

The International Public Health Pesticides Workshop was held 19-21 May 2009 in London, UK at the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH). The purpose of the Workshop was to identify new approaches, processes, and implementation strategies for the development and approval of new public health pest control tools.

The outcome of the Workshop will complement on-going international public health efforts. Representatives from government and non-government agencies, other organisations and the public health and vector pest control industries agreed to work towards a better framework for conducting global joint reviews of new public health pesticide products.

The Workshop was designed to improve the availability of safe, efficient, and cost-effective insecticides to control insects that transmit disease and that are used in public health programmes around the world.

The 100 participants from 22 countries, representing regulatory and other government agencies, public health authorities, the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, the pest control industry and other technical experts, considered current pest control topics including:

- availability of tools for use in public health programmes
- possibilities and prospects for development of new tools
- the regulatory processes currently in use around the globe
- the WHO Pesticide Evaluation Scheme (WHOPES)
- the possibilities of global cooperation to review public health pesticides and other mechanisms to encourage development and facilitate approval of these pesticide uses.

The Workshop confirmed the need for harmonization of regulatory review processes and data requirements for public health pest control tools among the different schemes operating internationally. This would facilitate the development and approval of these tools.

Participants identified the following next steps to advance the important work of increasing the availability of appropriate pesticides to improve public health around the world by:

- communicating the content and findings of this Workshop to a broader audience, initially by convening a meeting of regulators from developing countries
- conducting a test case for global review of new public health pesticide products
- initiating discussions with world regulatory authorities and WHO on regulatory review processes and data requirements specific to public health pesticides.

The organising committee is grateful for the attendance of all the participants and will be taking the issues raised at the Workshop forward. Full details will be available on the website www.iphpw.org

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A joint initiative by



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