



Establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre – PPA04/SK/6/8

Completion report

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Author	W. Peijnenburg (RIVM)
Main contractor	Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu (RIVM, Netherlands)
Sub contractors	TNO (Utrecht, Netherlands) CTB (Wageningen, Netherlands) Septa Management Group B.V. (Rotterdam, Netherlands) Enviconsulting (Bratislava, Slovak Republic)
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1. Introduction

The project: “*Institutional support to the Slovak Pesticides programme*” (PPA03/SK/9/1) was implemented in the period 1/1/04 – 31/12/05. This project was part of a programme financed by the Netherlands Government to support candidate member states in meeting the criteria for EU-membership with emphasis on the consequences of implementing European legislation. EVD managed this programme on behalf of the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment. The project aimed at assisting the Slovak Republic in the implementation of:

- Council Directive 91/414/EEC of 15 July 1991 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market;
- Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.

More specifically, the project purpose was to strengthen the capacity of the Slovak authorities to deliver a complete, good and EU conform contribution within the Registration Commission for Pesticides in the Slovak Republic. The project outcome has been reported in a report prepared by TNO at the end of the project (R. Jongbloed and H. van Duijne. Completion Report of Project PPA03/SK/9/1 – Institutional Support to the Slovak Pesticides programme – 2006).

Following completion of the project “*Institutional support to the Slovak Pesticides programme*” it was recommended to establish a Pesticide Information and Support Centre (PISC) in the Slovak Republic (SR). A proposal for support from the Netherlands was submitted and in December 2006 a follow-up project was initiated to support the establishment of the PISC. In between the completion of project PPA03/SK/9/1 and the initiation of the follow-up project PPA04/SK/6/8, there have, however, been a number of changes within the SR. These changes have an impact on the originally advised establishment of the PISC. Prior to the execution of the actual project, a mission was therefore organized to investigate the current situation in the SR with regard to pesticide regulation, to inventorize the wishes of the Slovak counterparts, and to identify the most adequate actions to be taken within the course of the project.

The main purpose of the follow-up project was to strengthen the capacity of the Slovak Hydro Meteorological Institute (SHMU) as the main beneficiary of the project, to enable the SHMU-staff to properly contribute to the execution of the environmental aspects of European Directive 91/414/EU (Execution of the EU policy on pesticides). Initially, the following project results were anticipated to be achieved:

- To enable SHMU to establish the Pesticide Information and Support Centre;
- To use the Pesticide Information and Support Centre to improve communication and exchange of information within the Slovak Registration Commission for Pesticides, and the other stakeholders involved in pesticide registration in the Slovak Republic.

The initializing mission already mentioned above was organized from 26 February till 28 February 2007. The aims of this mission were:

1. To investigate the situation in the SR at the initiation of the follow-up project with regard to pesticide regulation;
2. To get commitment of the Slovak counterparts regarding the most efficient way forward, thus assuring that the Dutch expertise that is made available is optimally used;
3. To identify the most adequate actions to be taken within the course of the project.

The mission was carried out by Hans van Duijne of TNO and Willie Peijnenburg of RIVM. The mission report is given in Annex 1. The most important finding of the mission was that SHMU was no longer capable of acting as the beneficiary of the project. On the one hand this is due to the fact that the follow-up project was granted after the activities of SHMU and the corresponding budget were granted for the year 2007 by the SR Ministry of Environment; on the other hand this is due to personnel changes and uncertainties associated with expected changes in the staff of SHMU. It was proposed by Mrs. Pridavkova, SR project manager of the project on the establishment of the PISC and representative of the Slovak Ministry of the Environment, to have the SR Water Research Institute (WRI) and the Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA) act as the beneficiaries of this follow up project. This proposal was accepted by the EVD and four activities were identified:

1 – Organization of a workshop on increasing public awareness, organizing the set-up of the PISC, the preparation of a plan of activities for 2008, and the organization of a final conference. This activity includes sharing Dutch experiences in communicating information on pesticide regulations and results of monitoring activities (including demonstration of a general available website application that can be consulted by any interested expert, stakeholder or the public at large on mapping of the risks of pesticides (Dutch CML-approach)).

2 – Training on groundwater monitoring in relation to complex contamination and the presence of obsolete pesticides, in order to assist in the design of a pilot project on groundwater monitoring in SK.

3 – Training on environmental risk assessment of pesticides and general chemical risk assessment.

4 – The establishment of a platform for information exchange at SEA, complementing the existing system of environmental information.

The four activities identified were agreed upon by the EVD and they were translated into three missions of Dutch experts to the Slovak Republic:

A – A 5-day mission of Adi Cornelese (risk assessor at CTB), Bas van der Grift (groundwater modeller at TNO) and Willie Peijnenburg (risk assessment expert at RIVM) in order to carry out the activities 2 and 3 at WRI.

B – A mission of Gert Jan Reenen to prepare the first workshop (activity 1) in meetings with participating institutes and to have the 2-day workshop, combined with a mission of Hans van Duijne of TNO and Willie Peijnenburg of RIVM.

C – The organization of a final workshop, as a follow-up to the first workshop, to finalize activities 1 and 4. In between the two workshops, additional information is to be made available regarding the documents that jointly make up the Dutch agreement among the actors in pesticides control, as well as overviews of international funding programmes that potentially are suited for funding (parts of) the PISC.

The Ministry of Environment (MoE) is the counterpart of the project, while WRI and SEA are the beneficiaries. EVD has contracted RIVM-LER (Laboratory for Ecological Risk assessment), TNO-BEG (Bouw & Ondergrond / Built Environment & Geosciences), the Dutch Board for the Authorisation of Pesticides (CTB), the Septa Management Group b.v., and Enviconsulting (Slovak Republic) to implement the project.

As compared to the original project plan (December 2006), the main modifications in the execution of the project were the substitution of SHMU as the main beneficiary by WRI and SEA, whereas instead of an anticipated final conference, an additional technical workshop was organized. This final workshop was considered to better serve the project objectives given the momentum that was generated during the first workshop. It was also expected that the second workshop would better serve the achievement of sustainability of the outcomes of the project, whereas a second workshop would improve communication related to the use of pesticides by the end-users of pesticides. These modifications were agreed upon by the EVD.

The names of the persons and the organisations involved as consultants in the project are listed in Table 1. The contact persons of the beneficiaries were Dr. Anna Patschová and Dr. Zuzana Makizova of the Water Research Institute (WRI) and Dr. Elena Bodikova of the Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA).

Table 1 Composition of consultant team

Task in the project	Expert	Institute
Project management		
Overall Project Manager	Dr. W. Peijnenburg	RIVM – LER
Mission 1: Initializing mission		
Investigation of current situation in SK	Dr. H. van Duijne Dr. W. Peijnenburg	TNO - BEG RIVM – LER
Mission 2: Training on groundwater monitoring, chemical risk assessment, and pesticide risk assessment		
Training course SK	Ing. A. Cornelese Drs. B. van der Grift Dr. W. Peijnenburg	CTB TNO - BEG RIVM – LER
Mission 3: Workshop on increasing public awareness and organizing the set-up of the PISC		
Workshop + preparations	Dr. G. van Reenen Dr. H. van Duijne W.J.G.M. Peijnenburg	Septa Management TNO - BEG RIVM – LER
Mission 4: Final Workshop		
Preparation of Task Force to guide the establishment of the PISC	Dr. H. van Duijne W.J.G.M. Peijnenburg	TNO - BEG RIVM – LER

This report contains the project outcome in terms of overviews and results of each activity (Chapter 2), and the main recommendations and conclusions (Chapter 3). All mission reports as well as additional relevant information are included in the annexes to this report. Thereupon, all presentations are separately made available by means of pdf's. Letters of satisfaction of the beneficiaries, an overview of budget and actual costs are also given separately to the report.

2. Project outcome

2.1 Results

As indicated in the Introduction chapter of this report, four activities were identified during the initializing mission of February 2007. These activities were translated into three additional missions. Annex 1 gives the report of the initializing mission of February 2007.

Training

The two training activities requested by the Slovak beneficiaries (aimed at pesticide and chemical risk assessment according to the current procedures adopted within the EU, and groundwater monitoring) were given in the week of 4 – 8 June 2007. A report on the training is given in Annex 2. Thereupon, the presentations are made available in separate files.

Workshop on increasing public awareness and organizing the set-up of the PISC Following the training session, this first workshop was organised on 11 and 12 June 2007. The report of the workshop is given in Annex 3 and includes the registered participants as well as the workshop programme.

The Dutch workshop partners first of all made available all relevant Dutch experiences in communicating information on pesticide assessment. This included information on the Dutch organisational model based on a ‘covenant’ between the most important actors in the field of pesticide assessment. Given the differences in the socio-political setting between the Netherlands and the Slovak Republic it is not recommended to implement (copy) the Dutch model in the SR, but to use the relevant parts only. The major issues discussed were related to the identification of chances and threats in setting up the PISC. The major threat that was identified was a lack of political commitment to bring the topic of pesticide awareness in the media. In addition to the lack of commitment, some other problems were identified like the more or less permanent change of staff members at the ministries and institutes, lack of funding, and lack of exchange of the available information. The latter aspect works in both ways: the organizations that have information but do not share this information, need additional information themselves, but they do not get this either. The information system on chemical accidents could be of importance in solving this problem, but needs to be improved. For example, pesticide registration information and monitoring information would be very helpful supplementary information that can be made publicly available. A general problem is that the monitoring is insufficiently structured regarding timing of monitoring and locations.

With regard to the design of the information exchange platform, it was first of all recognized that a formal cooperative agreement needs to be prepared between the various ministries involved, like Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and Economy. UKSUP was identified as a possible central organization since UKSUP already has a lot of information on pesticides, but the Ministry of Environment is also important as this Ministry will deal with obsolete and expired pesticides. It was concluded at this stage that the Ministry of Environment should be the initiator of a cooperation model that is needed for the set-up of a platform of information exchange. The model should include the following aspects:

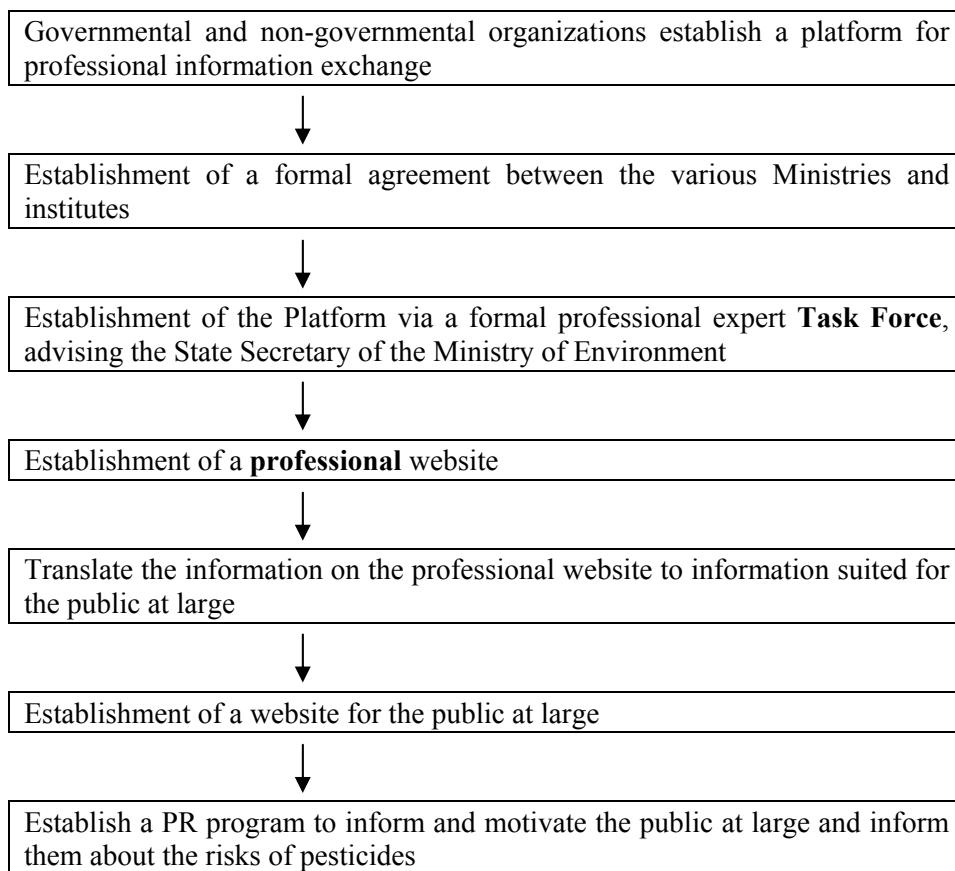
- 1 – Clearly defined competences and delegation of tasks to the various organizations involved.
- 2 – Clear structure of the platform.
- 3 – Sufficient staffing/funding, especially to sustain the centre and the platform.
- 4 – The establishment of a declaration of agreement at the level of the top of the Ministries.
- 5 – Info provided by the pesticide information centre should finally be directed to the public at large.

6 – Increase of the awareness of the potential dangers caused by misuse of pesticides, otherwise there will be no general basis for the centre or the platform.

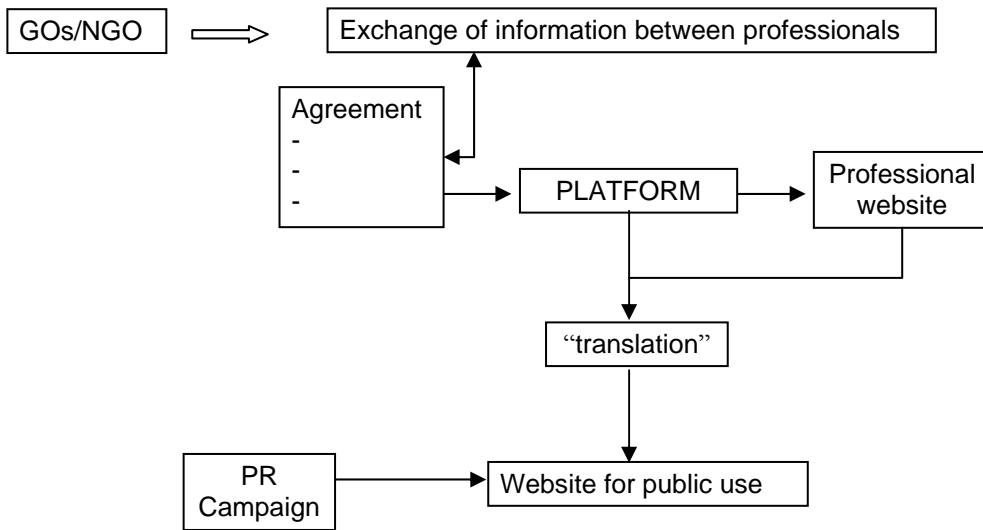
7 – Increased awareness and commitment of high-level officials.

With regard to the set-up of the platform, it was proposed to start now with an inter-sectoral Task Force that is to prepare the platform of information exchange. The Ministry of Environment is planning to initiate a project in 2008 to formally establish the platform and provide the means for staffing and funding. It was remarked that EU-funds are available for initiatives like the set-up of the Pesticides Information Centre.

An important question brought forward was whether the Centre would be focused at experts, at the public at large, or at both. There was consensus that the platform should be established for both experts AND the public at large, but that a tiered approach is needed. This is reflected in the following organization scheme:



This flow-chart of activities translates into the following organization scheme:



The position (statutes) of the professional Task Force should be officially confirmed by the Minister of the Environment and the Directors of all other Stakeholders.

Membership of Task Force:

- Professional Institutes
- Representatives of State Authorities
- Representatives of NGO's
- *Ad hoc* invited parties

The scope of the activities should first of all be the exchange of information on pesticides, the definition of a thematic strategy, preparation of source documents for adoption of National legislation based upon European requirements, elaboration of the measures deriving from this legislation, and creation of an information page for the website for informing the public. The first step is the formation of a website within the Environmental sector. After that, the other sectors will be involved and then the public at large. Finally, an agreement needs to be established on the possibility of providing information exchange between the involved professional expert institutes and government bodies. The Dutch Covenant can be used as an example for such an agreement. This document is translated and given in Annex 4. It is signed by the Dutch organization of farmers, the Ministry for Agriculture, the Ministry for Environment and the Dutch Nature and Environment Conservation organization.

Another issue of importance is the funding of the PISC. Funds are needed for:

- 1 – Creation of a website (basic for all additional activities)
- 2 – Creation of an information system
- 3 – Creation of the Centre.

Costs will increase at each level. It is not possible to give an estimate of all costs to be made at this moment since no reliable numbers are available and since there is no detailed overview yet of the flows of information, and the 'broadness' of the system (broadness is amongst others related to the number of sectors involved). This will be one of the first sub-projects to be executed by the Task Force.

At the end of the workshop it was decided that it is preferable to organize a second workshop instead of the planned formal final conference in order to use the momentum generated during this first workshop to further prepare the establishment of the PISC. Issues to be prepared in between the two workshops include:

information on costs, overview of potential international funding programmes, and further deliberations among the Slovak participants.

Second Workshop on the Establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre

This workshop was organised on 27 June 2007. The report of the workshop is given in Annex 5 and includes the registered participants as well as the workshop programme.

The discussions during this workshop were centred on the setup of the Task Force responsible for establishing the PISC, taking account of the Slovak institutional setting of pesticide regulation and the organization of the International Commitments. The institutional setting is complex, with various Ministries and Institutes involved in different parts of the pesticide assessment chain. Given the current institutional setting, there was consensus reached with regard to the fact that the PISC can only be established following a decision at the Ministerial level, involving the Ministries of Environment, Soil Management and Health. The Ministry of Environment will enforce the establishment of the PISC. The Dutch model of a stepwise approach will be followed in this respect, starting with the Task Force. This will be initiated via the Pesticide Commission of the Ministry of Agriculture that is amongst others dealing with the new EU legislation. Subsequently, the scheme depicted in the report of the Workshop of 11 and 12 June 2007 will be followed. Funding will be made available in 2008.

2.2 Effect (project level)

Two direct effects may be distinguished:

1 – The effect of the training on risk assessment and groundwater monitoring given to (pesticide) risk assessors of WRI, SHMU and SRS (Czech Republic).

The knowledge gained during this training is of direct use to the trainees, as most trainees were relatively new at their job and lack the needed experience. Thereupon, bilateral contacts have been established between the (Institutes of) the trainees and the (Institutes of) the trainers. All materials used during the training have been made available to the trainees, and they have gained experience in working with the software used in Europe for risk assessment and for modelling of groundwater quality. Overall, the Slovak governmental Institutions WRI and SHMU have increased their knowledge in the area of environmental risk assessment and monitoring of pesticides in groundwater.

2 – Assistance in the establishment of the PISC.

Two workshops were dedicated to this topic. The Dutch project partners have first made available all their experiences with regard to exchange of information on the impact of pesticides to man and environment. Thereupon, they have provided overviews of the organisational structure of pesticide assessment in the Netherlands. This structure is based on mutual consent and not on strict legislation. The Slovak counterparts were enabled to extract the parts that, given the socio-political situation, are of use in the SR. During the workshops, there were intense discussions on various aspects related to the design of the PISC. Consensus was reached on the conditions that need to be fulfilled before the PISC can be established, the organization scheme of the PISC, the involvement of the relevant actors in the area of pesticide assessment (include end-users and the public at large), the time schedule to be followed, the costs, as well as means of funding the set-up of the Centre. Most importantly, increased awareness was generated at Institutional and Ministerial level on the need of establishing the PISC, whereas increased communication was envisaged as the main

solution for optimal public awareness about the use of pesticides, control and monitoring in the environment. Following completion of the project, all tools needed to establish the PISC are available to the Slovak authorities. It is now up to the Slovak counterparts to transform the momentum generated among the Institutions involved in the project into the actual establishment of the PISC, taking good account of the threats identified during the workshops.

2.3 Sustainability (project level)

The sustainability of the project lies in the continuation of the momentum to form the Pesticide Information and Support Centre (PISC). The PISC can only be established following a decision at the Ministerial level, involving the Ministries of Environment, Soil Management and Health. The Ministry of Environment will enforce the establishment of the PISC. The Dutch model of a stepwise approach will be followed in this respect, starting with the Task Force. This will be initiated via the Pesticide Commission of the Ministry of Agriculture that is amongst others dealing with the new EU legislation. Subsequently, the scheme given in paragraph 2.1 will be followed. The formal establishment of the Task Force is essential for the sustainability of the PISC. Funding will be made available in 2008 by the Ministry of Environment.

Contacts during the project have been established between the relevant institutes in the Netherlands and the Slovak Republic. The continuous contact is a matter of who takes the initiative, and the Dutch project partners have indicated that they are available for any questions during the establishment of the PISC. This should be sufficient for both parties to know where to find which advice. Sustainable contacts were also established with regard to the trainees of WRI and SHMU. These trainees have been offered additional tools and insights to carry out their tasks, allowing them to carry out the assessment according to the European requirements.

2.4 Fulfilment of program aims

Two aims are distinguished:

- 1 – Contribution to the strengthening of the bilateral public relations.
- 2 - Contribution to the accession/ integration process.

Ad 1: Strengthening of bilateral public relations.

As already indicated in the previous paragraph, sustainable relationships have been established between the Slovak and the Dutch partners. The Dutch partners have indicated their willingness to contribute to the establishment of PISC beyond termination of the project. Thereupon, contacts have been made aimed at carrying out joint (research) projects. Amongst others, possibilities of joint research proposals within the EU Research Framework will be investigated for this purpose.

Ad 2: Contribution to the accession/integration process.

European regulation requires a strict control of chemicals in order to minimize their adverse effect, in a scientifically accepted manner. Pesticides are an important class of chemicals of special concern given their specific application patterns. Thereupon, there is EU-wide concern on potential impacts of obsolete pesticides and pesticides that have expired maximum dates of application. In most countries of the EU, special legislation has been brought in practise to specifically regulate pesticides. In the Slovak Republic, the procedures for establishing effective legislation and effective control of pesticide usage have yet been optimally effectuated. This results not only in lack of effective control, but the procedures followed in pesticide legislation are unnecessarily long and non-transparent, with many players involved in a non-effective manner. Thus, current EU requirements are not fully met at the moment.

Establishing a Pesticide Information and Support Centre would assist in effectuating communication regarding all aspects of pesticide legislation, usage, control, and monitoring. Thereupon, the Pesticide Information and Support Centre would provide an optimal tool for informing the public at large. Procedures for pesticide regulation and pesticide control would be optimised by establishing the Pesticide Information and Support Centre, thus meeting the European requirements and allowing the Slovak Republic to proceed further in the accession process. Thereupon, the lessons learned with regard to optimised pesticide legislation and communication, are of benefit for the regulation of chemicals in general in the Slovak Republic. Especially given the implementation of the new chemicals policy in Europe (REACH), implementation of transparent procedures and optimised communication among all stakeholders, is an essential part of REACH. The Pesticide Information and Support Centre would provide an excellent tool in this respect.

3. Lessons learned and recommendations

The main lesson learned and also the main recommendation following completion of the project is the need to improve cooperation and communication among the actors in the Slovak Republic regarding the use and possible effects of pesticides. A balance needs to be found between increased awareness (and potential concern) of the public at large on the one hand, and the benefits of the use of pesticides for the Slovak Republic (like improved agricultural production and control of pests) on the other hand. The PISC can assist greatly in this respect.

A second lesson learned is that information and assessment models that function well in a given country cannot be translated directly into the Slovak situation. In this case, the Dutch model of informal covenants instead of strict legislation is not directly transferable to the SR. Instead it is recommended that the basic philosophy of the Dutch approach is seriously considered by all institution involved in the establishment of the PISC, after which the appropriate elements may be implemented.

It is common in the SR to use new legislation to impose new developments. This habit hinders innovative initiatives like the establishment of the PISC. A lesson learned in this respect is the observation that a relatively complicated organization scheme needs to be followed before the PISC is factually established. It is recommended that effort is put into minimizing the procedures and optimizing new initiatives that are vital to meet the current and future EU obligations.

Various threats that may hinder the establishment of the PISC have been identified during the project. Partly in view of the previous observation, it is recommended to take good account of these threats. Changes in the institutional setting, possible lack of capacity of staff at institutes related to the pesticide programme and at the Ministries involved, lack of funds, as well as lack of co-operation need to be taken seriously at any stage of the establishment of the PISC. After all, there are many stakeholders involved and it is essential that all stakeholders are part of the PISC.

As also mentioned in the TNO report on the establishment of the PISC (2006) it is the intention to establish lasting relationships between the Slovakian and Netherlands counterparts by assisting in the PISC. Several agencies and authorities are involved in the PISC. In general it can be recommended to stimulate permanent education and development of the infrastructure of knowledge in Slovakia (Human Resources Development could be one of the tasks of the PISC). Organisation of application of present and future methodology is another issue on the interface of knowledge management and organisation development. National evaluation of pesticides has to be carried out according to the present state of science. Relevant knowledge from foreign countries has to be used as well in the evaluations as determined by the European Court. The evaluation methodology develops constantly. This means that development in this field has to be followed, attributed to and implemented. Through a business plan of the PISC this activity could be included. The tasks of the PISC are costly but inevitable in order to prevent poorly based registrations that can be legally disputed by companies or anti pollution movement. Agencies like the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment, CCTIA (UKSUP) and Evaluating have to realise this. The PISC is an appropriate centre to channel the information flow internally and also externally. It will simplify the communication with the end-users and address knowledge gaps. Appropriate process and organisation must be made possible financially; this needs to be included in the business plan of the PISC.

4. Annexes

1. Report of Initializing Mission
2. Report of training on groundwater monitoring, chemical risk assessment, and risk assessment of pesticides
3. Workshop on the Establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre
4. Slovak Translation of the “Covenant” underlying the Dutch approach towards pesticide assessment
5. Report of the Second Workshop on the Establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre

Annex 1 Report of Initializing Mission

Dates of mission: 25 – 28 February 2007

Participants: Willie Peijnenburg (RIVM), Hans van Duijne (TNO), with support from Jozef Richtarcik (local consultant).

Report prepared by: Willie Peijnenburg

Introduction

Following completion of the project “Institutional support to the Slovak Pesticides programme” (project number) PPA03/SK/9/1, it was recommended to establish a Pesticide Information and Support Centre (PISC) in the Slovak Republic (SR). A proposal for support from the Netherlands was submitted and in December 2006 a follow-up project was initiated to support the establishment of the PISC. In between the completion of project PPA03/SK/9/1 and the initiation of the follow-up project, there have been a number of changes within the SR, which have an impact on the originally advised establishment of the PISC. The purposes of this first mission of the follow-up project PPA04/SK/6/8 were to investigate the current situation in the SR with regard to pesticide regulation, to inventorize the wishes of the Slovak counterparts, and to identify the most adequate actions to be taken within the course of the project. The project is to finish by 30 June 2007.

To achieve these objectives, meetings were arranged with representatives of the Ministry of the Environment (Mrs. Pridavkova), SHMU (Mr. Roncack and Mrs. Domenyova), WRI (Mrs. Patschova), and the Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA - Mrs. Orlikova). Thereupon, a meeting was arranged with Mrs. Rothenberger of the Dutch Embassy in Bratislava. At the last day of the mission, a workshop was organized in which the main conclusions and recommendations of the mission were presented.

Below, a report is given of the main topics of each meeting. Thereupon a set of recommendations is given for further activities that will be of benefit to all stakeholders involved in the sustainable use and utilization of pesticides in SR, including small end-users. These recommendations were discussed in a workshop with representatives of all Institutions visited during the mission (organized on 28 February at WRI)

Monday 26 February

A – Meeting with Mrs. Pridavkova of the Ministry of Environment

Mrs. Pridavkova explained the current institutional setting with regard to pesticides regulation in the SR, and she gave her view on the aspects that are of importance in improving the awareness of all stakeholders in the registration process of pesticides.

Since the finalization of the first project, there have been drastic changes in the Slovakian political arena. A new government was elected and the outcome of the elections had (and still has) a big impact on the Slovak environmental institutions. Establishment of a PISC in the form proposed is no longer an option. Instead, a registration commission for pesticides and an expert group have been established in order to assure the sustainable use of pesticides, to minimize the environmental impact, improve the registration process, and to involve all stakeholders. Awareness is a big issue in this respect. The Ministry is expecting that the follow-up project provides a basis for the establishment of a platform for information of stakeholders and institutionalizes the best common practices for optimal use of pesticides.

In the opinion of Mrs. Pridavkova, SEA has to play an important role as the SEA is supervising monitoring and is involved in the execution of EU-legislation which amongst others involves the increase of public awareness and information of the public in general.

As stated above, the sustainable use of pesticides and sustainable environmental management of pesticides are key parameters in the regulation of pesticides. Therefore it is of importance to increase cooperation and communication between the State Nature Protection (in view of their task of giving permits for use of pesticides in sensitive and protected areas), SHMU, WRI, SEA, and UKSUP. After all, it is of importance to use all information and all expertise available to decrease the environmental risks of using pesticides. As a matter of course, NGO's need to be involved as well.

Following recommendations of an English Twinning project, an important development has been the revision of the tasks and mission of the Registration Commission for pesticides. This commission is no longer directly involved in the registration of individual pesticides but is intended to solve inter-sectoral problems. The Commission now is an advisory body of the Ministry for Soil management, in cooperation with the Ministries for Health, Environment and Education. Thereupon, the Commission is responsible for the coordination of food chain and animal health aspects of pesticides within the corresponding EU commissions and working groups.

The commission contains a maximum number of members, on *ad hoc* basis it is possible for NGO's (like distributors and producers) and other stakeholders as well as experts to participate in the ad hoc activities of the Commission. The Commission contains representatives of:

- Ministry for Soil Management (it is the Ministry which appoints the chairman of the Commission)
- UKSUP (the vice-chairman and secretary are from UKSUP)
- Office of Public Health
- National Reference Laboratory for Pesticides
- National Forest Centre
- Technical and Testing Institute of Agriculture
- Slovak Centre of Agricultural Research (a university organization partly focusing on bees, involvement of this centre explains why the Ministry of Education is involved)
- WRI
- SHMU
- Slovak Association for Plant Protection

The aim of the commission is to coordinate the activities related to sustainable use and utilization of plant protection products and prepare for the Slovak input in different EU commissions with emphasis on health protection of humans, animals and plants, and protection of landscape and the environment. Areas of emphasis include:

Education of end-users and sellers, integrated protection of production plants, mechanical means of plant protection, recycling of waste materials and disposal of waste of preparations, obsolete pesticides.

Commission members are paid for by their institutes.

Next to the Registration Commission, an Expert Group has been established which regularly meets at UKSUP to discuss the assessment of individual preparations.

Expectations – suggestions for project activities

Mrs. Pridavkova first of all stressed that she would like to strengthen the aspect of the fate assessment of pesticides. The institutional setting is to be established for this aspect and a National Reference Laboratory will be made responsible for dealing with the fate of active substances in the environment, including assessment of the effects on animals that get in contact with pesticides.

Strengthening the expertise of WRI and SHMU is an important topic. The follow-up project should provide technical training in this respect.

A second topic of importance is the processing of information to **actively inform the public and provide them with non-confidential information on pesticides.** This includes the public at large as well as users of pesticides. This is essential in view of the task for the registration commission of increasing the awareness of the general public by means of collecting, processing and disseminating general information on pesticides. This is not a future task of SEA. The end-result of this topic could be a seminar or conference at the end of the project, including additional national publicity. Increase of awareness of EU regulations with regard to the thematic strategy for sustainable use of pesticides is one of the issues to be dealt with in this activity. Mrs. Belohorska is the SK-representative in the EU Environment Commission on this latter topic, and any activity in support of this activity would be most welcome.

It was anticipated by Mrs. Pridavkova that the results of this follow-up project, in combination with the results of the UK-Twinning project could lead to a reorganization of the current system of sustainable assessment of pesticides. The Ministry is willing to support institutions in 2008 to support the pesticide assessment.

B – Meeting with Dr. Roncac and Mrs. Demenyova of SHMU

The central issue of this meeting were the limited possibilities of SHMU to contribute to the project. There are currently many uncertainties. Thereupon, SHMU was informed on the follow-up project after official approval of their activities for the year 2007. This activity could therefore not be included in the 2007-list. Nevertheless, possible activities and organizational aspects were discussed topics of interests were identified.

TUESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2007

C - WRI

A meeting was organized with 6 representatives of WRI, headed by Mrs. Patschova – Head of the ground water department of WRI, and Mr. Kutchnik of Syngenta (former WRI and actively involved in the previous project).

The purpose of this meeting was to get an idea of the wishes and ideas of WRI representatives with regard to the follow-up project.

General information related to the project:

WRI is focused on studying fate and behaviour and fate of pesticides, with focus on groundwater. Second aim is implementation of WFD with emphasis on groundwater. Currently, the staff dealing with pesticides consists of 4 persons, of which one has

experience with pesticides. Mr. Zoltan Krascsenits is dealing with analytical aspects of pesticides. The other colleagues are focusing on modelling the environmental fate of pesticides. As far as PISC is concerned: MoE did not include this centre in its planning of budget for 2007. WRI was asked whether WRI could be part of the process of establishment of the PISC. WRI is willing to do so provided that this is assigned as one of the main tasks of WRI by the MoE.

An overview was given of the main topics that were identified so far as being of interest for a possible follow-up. WRI agrees with the topics mentioned. In addition, monitoring of groundwater is a topic of interest, in order to meet the requirements of the WFD. Important is to know where and when pesticides were applied, in connection with an analysis of the use of pesticides. Recommendations of Dutch partners would be appreciated on how to implement the monitoring and how to calculate the necessary budget for the next year. It would be necessary to know which pesticides are applied, which migration parameters are to be assessed, which pesticides are at highest risk, time aspects of monitoring because pesticides are appearing only in certain periods of the year. In connection to that, the proposal of a monitoring network is of importance, including relation to neighbouring water bodies as the chemicals to be monitored are connected. SHMU is responsible for monitoring of pesticides in surface waters, while WRI is responsible for pesticides monitoring in groundwater and has interest in requiring experience in meeting the requirements of the EU.

Possible topics of the follow-up project:

- Establishing long-lasting relationships between the NL and SK partners, starting with a pilot project: for instance the design of a case study of a polluted (industrial) area that is worked out in detail later on (an example could be the assessment of the impact of obsolete pesticides). Start with the development of a conceptual model for ground water that is further worked out in consultation with the Dutch project partners, who will provide feedback whenever required. This idea is supported by WRI.
- Training in groundwater monitoring of pesticides according to the WFD requirements, based on the Dutch approach and first experiences of the Dutch groundwater monitoring system which has officially started last year.

WRI adds that last year a proposal for monitoring was completed in which, compared to nitrates, pesticides are not an important topic of attention. WRI has a task regarding integrated monitoring of the sources of pollution and they would like support in this respect. An example is a steel plant where a tailored monitoring program is to be installed. Also, WRI would like information on websites in the Netherlands where information on monitoring can be found. SK has big industrial complexes and it is expected that the number of these complexes will increase in future. Management of such large areas is complicated since there are various sources of pollution.

There are four examples of such mega-sites that were investigated within the WELCOME-project. Information can be found at www.EUwelcome.nl/kims

Final remark: what is needed will be a final request of MoE to WRI to take part in the project. This is a requirement for WRI to be able to formally take part in the follow-up project. WRI will then act as the beneficiary of the follow-up project instead of SHMU.

D - SEA

Meeting with Slovak Environmental Agency, Centre for Waste Management (SEA - Mrs. Orlikova (Head of Dept. of Chemical Waste) and Mr. Jancarik, responsible for information systems on waste, packaging, and electrical waste. Another colleague is responsible for equipment containing PCBs).

SEA is of importance, amongst others because they have an environmental information system and deal partly with pesticides. They are the national focal point for POPs, in the framework of which SEA is collecting information on pesticides that are considered POPs. Reporting is done to the European Commission.

The other area of interest is the risk assessment of the impact to the environment and health of biocides regarding national legislation. A register of POP-pesticides is maintained at SEA. SEA is amongst others advising the Ministry of Agriculture on the environmental risks associated with obsolete pesticides.

Mr. Jancarik: As I understood, the main idea was to make information on pesticides available to the general public. It is on forehand difficult to envisage a role of SEA in the project since a role of UKSUP is more likely. SEA is operating a portal to make information available on the environment as such, which means that it is divided in individual sectors like water, waste, air, etc. A possibility is to include pesticides in the existing system. It is important to note that this environmental portal is already known at large, which would make it easier to make the problem of pesticides known to a wider audience. However, this also requires more advanced expertise on the area of pesticides, which would mean that apart from the means of providing information on pesticides, expertise of other institutes is needed. SEA can act as integrator or technical facilitator of an environmental information system on pesticides, which would allow access to individual institutions or other users.

It should be noted that the Bratislava department provides information on waste if all expert institutions have a platform for provision of information then SEA could be of assistance in enabling an information platform. The question is what information needs to be provided within such a platform.

Important aspects to consider:

1 – The provision of a basis for a platform between Ministries and institutions from different sectors, which requires cooperation across sectors. SEA can provide this platform in a technical sense.

2 – The current situation of SEA, which is facing reduction of member staff and finances.

3 – What is needed would be an overview of operational costs of an environmental information platform, including costs of additional software needed. Funding from the Ministry of Environment will be needed for this.

4 – Essential is that the short-term project provides the basis for a sustainable cooperation after completion, and a good outlook for a successful platform. A plan for the future information system in which SEA is playing a role, is needed for this purpose. SEA can then incorporate this plan in their activities for the next year, provided that the MoE is giving formal approval for this.

SEA is expecting that the follow-up provides an overview of information that is available, as well as an overview of what is expected of each institute (role of each institute) and what is

obliged to do. Then the Ministry has to provide the means. The main information source will be the register of pesticides that is maintained by UKSUP. It is not known to which extent this register is available.

SEA can provide the technical facilities for an information centre, in which for instance emails are generated for experts in case of question that arise when someone is consulting the information platform. A plan that overviews the steps needed to generate the centre would be one of the deliverables of the follow-up project.

E – DUTCH EMBASSY BRATISLAVA

A meeting was organized with Mrs. Rothenberger. In this meeting, the background to the project and the current (political) situation in Slovakia as far as it affects the project were discussed. Mrs. Rothenberger confirmed that she will make sure that representatives of the Dutch embassy will contact the Slovak Ministry of Environment, highlighting the importance of the project and asking for commitment.

This can, however, only be done when more information on the content of the project becomes available, following agreement between the Dutch and Slovak partners and following approval of the EVD. Willie Peijnenburg will send the modified project plan as soon as possible to Mrs. Rothenberger.

WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2007

E – Workshop in which the main findings of the mission were presented.

A copy of the PowerPoint-presentation used during the presentation of Willie Peijnenburg is attached. In the discussion that followed during and after the presentation, it was explained by Mrs. Pridavkova that the Slovak Ministry of Soil Management is preparing training related to sustainable use of pesticides, focussing on end-users, producers, etc. This is a condition for the use of pesticides in a specific area. It is important to realize that any training given within 'this' project needs to confirm to existing training aspects. It should aim at reflecting environmental aspects not covered by the training provided by the Ministry of Soil Management. Mrs. Pridavkova will provide information on this latter training.

Thereupon it was stated by Mrs. Pridavkova that the MoE currently is not in a position to provide financial support for this year. The Ministry will however provide the background for support in next years and a budget for sustainable activities can be made available for the year 2008 and after. WRI and SEA are content with this proposal and when the proposal is formalized, it will provide them sufficient basis to actively contribute to the follow-up project in 2007. The follow-up project feeds nicely into the activities of SEA since they have a portal for exchange of information.

Summary

Summarizing the following suggestions were made in the meetings with Mrs. Pridavkova, Dr. Roncac/Mrs. Demenyova, Mrs. Patschova et al., and Mrs. Orlikova/Mr. Jancarik:

1. Expert group training on risk assessment of pesticides.
2. Training on increasing public awareness.
3. Establish a training program to educate end-users, registrators, and sellers: “train the trainers”. General message to bring across is that inappropriate use of even small amounts of pesticides could be a danger.
4. Organization of a final conference in which amongst others the developments within the EU regarding the sustainable use of pesticides are discussed.
5. Establishment of a (electronic, web-based) platform for information of non-stakeholders and all institutions involved in the sustainable assessment of pesticides: SEA could provide the technical means for this platform.
6. The issue of obsolete pesticides.
7. Establish a pilot project, for instance the design of a case study of an area that is worked out in detail later on (an example could be the assessment of the impact of obsolete pesticides). Start with the development of a conceptual model that is further worked out in consultation with the Dutch project partners, who will provide feedback during the project duration.
8. Training in groundwater monitoring of pesticides according to the WFD requirements, based on the Dutch approach and first experiences of the Dutch groundwater monitoring system which has officially started last year.

The main aim of the follow-up project is to improve the communication and cooperation among Slovak partners, providing them with the necessary technical and operational tools to do so.

Topics 2 - 4 could be combined as one activity, as could be topics 6 - 8. This leaves topics 1 and 5 as separate activities. Activities 2 – 4 could include mapping of the risks of pesticides (Dutch CML-approach) as a general available website application that can be consulted by any interested expert, stakeholder or public at large.

During the workshop organized on 28 February 2007 at WRI, the following conditions to go ahead with the project were identified:

1. Consent of all Slovak institutions present at the workshop: WRI/MoE/SEA. This consent was indeed given during the workshop.
2. Approval of EVD needed in view of changes in project activities.
3. Ministry of Environment to approve and support proposed activities.

Annex 2 Report on training on groundwater monitoring, chemical risk assessment, and risk assessment of pesticides

Dates: 4 – 8 June 2007

Location: WRI – Bratislava

Trainers: Bas van der Grift (TNO), Adi Cornelese (CTB), Willie Peijnenburg (RIVM)

Participants:

Zuzana Makišová (WRI)
Katarina Chalupkova (WRI)
Zoltán Krascenicz (WRI)
Miroslav Holubec (WRI)
Katarina Slivkova (WRI)

Michaela Pokludová (SRS - Czech Republic)

Jana Domeniová (SHMI)
Marcela Dobiášová (SHMI)
Andrea Lubtáková (SHMI)

Pavol Kútnik (Syngenta)

General overview of the training

The training consisted of three main topics:

1. Ground water monitoring
2. Risk Assessment according to the processes prescribed in the EU
3. Pesticides Risk Assessment

All topics were presented by a combination of lectures and hands-on training. The hands-on training included working with the relevant models and software that is made available either within the EU or within the Netherlands.

All presentations were made available to the participants in the training. Thereupon, wherever possible, the software used in the training was made available.

Programme

Introduction

Training day #	Date	Who	What	How	Starting time
1	04/06/2007	All trainers	Preparation of facilities, identification of additional topics	Bilateral with WRI participants	14.00

The second day of the training was initiated by a welcome speech made by Ing. Viliam Višacký, Ph. D. (WRI). Dr. Višacký welcomed the trainers on behalf of the management of WRI and expressed that he hoped that the training would be fruitful to all participants.

Training program on groundwater monitoring on pesticides and nutrient pollution and the design of a groundwater monitoring plan

Training day #	Date	Who	What	How	Starting imet
2	05/06/2007	Bas van der Grift	Groundwater monitoring under the Water Framework Directive and Groundwater Directive	Lecture	9.00
2	05/06/2007	Bas van der Grift	Design of a groundwater monitoring plan	Lecture	10.00
2	05/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	Post registration monitoring of pesticides	Lecture	11.00
2			Lunch		
2	05/06/2007	Bas van der Grift	Trends in groundwater quality	Lecture	13.00
2	05/06/2007	Bas van der Grift	Selection of wells for post registration monitoring	Hands-on training	14.00
	05/06/2007	Bas van der Grift	Evaluation of first day	General discussion	16.30 – 16.45



Risk assessment of chemicals according to the EU regulations: REACH and the Water Framework Directive

Training day #	Date	Who	What	How	Starting time
3	06/06/2007	Willie Peijnenburg	General introduction on the WFD	Lecture	9.00
3	06/06/2007	Willie Peijnenburg	Design and interpretation of monitoring campaigns	Lecture	9.45
3	06/06/2007	Willie Peijnenburg	Principles of ecological risk assessment	Lecture	10.30
3	06/06/2007	Willie Peijnenburg	Introduction EUSES	Lecture	11.00
			Lunch		
3	06/06/2007	Willie Peijnenburg	EUSES training	Hands – on training	13.00
3	06/06/2007	Willie Peijnenburg	Example of Risk Assessment: the Copper case	Lecture	15.00
3	06/06/2007	Willie Peijnenburg	Evaluation of second day	General discussion	16.30 – 16.45



Training program on pesticides risk assessment (soil, groundwater and surface water)

Training day #	Date	Who	What	How	Starting time
4	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	FOCUS groundwater modelling PEARL 3.3.3	Lecture	9.00
4	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	Practical PEARL 3.3.3	Hands-on training	10.00
4	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	Evaluation of core data requirements,	Lecture	11.00
4	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	Introduction into FOCUS kinetics	Lecture	11.45
			Lunch		
4	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	Principles of Kinetics, use of ModelMaker	Lecture	13.00
4	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	Practical ModelMaker parent substance (on request)	Hands-on training	13.30
4	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	PECsoil calculation	Lecture/hands-on	14.30
	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	General information FOCUS Surface water (Step 3)	Lecture (hands-on on request)	15.00
	07/06/2007	Adi Cornelese	Evaluation of third day	General discussion	16.30 – 16.45





Final day

Training day #	Date	Who	What	How	Starting time
5	08/06/2007	All trainers	Remaining issues not covered in the first 3 days – Future Risk Assessment – REACH	Lecture	9.00
5	08/06/2007	Participants	Additional issues	Discussion	10.00
5	08/06/2007	All trainers	Evaluation of the training	General discussion	11.30

A major part of the 5th day was spent on additional hands-on training with Modelmaker (software to mimic metabolite formation of pesticides) as this software is available in Slovakia, whereas no experience was yet gained in applying the software.

Annex 3 Workshop on the Establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre

Date: 11 – 12 June 2007

Location: Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA), Bratislava

Report prepared by: Willie Peijnenburg

Introduction

Following completion of the project “Institutional support to the Slovak Pesticides programme” (project number) PPA03/SK/9/1, it was recommended to establish a Pesticide Information and Support Centre (PISC) in the Slovak Republic (SR). Following an initiating mission held in February 2007, three activities were identified: 1 – Organization of a one-week training on monitoring and risk assessment.

2 – Preparation and organisation of a workshop on the establishment of PISC.

3 – Organisation of a closing workshop, after which the PISC can formally be initiated.

A report on the training is given in a separate document, this Annex deals with the outcome of the second activity: the first workshop on the establishment of the PISC.

The main outcomes of the workshop are a proposal for the establishment of a tiered PISC. An approach is proposed that on the one hand is tiered with regard to timing of the activities as related to available funding. On the other hand, a tiered set-up is proposed to distinguish professional users of the Centre, and the public at large. The Centre is to take shape as an electronic website for information exchange in which the information made available for professional workers is processed and supplemented in order to inform the public at large.

In a second workshop (Activity 3), further information will be made available in support of the PISC, like funding opportunities and information on Dutch informal treaties on pesticide regulation.

All presentations given during the meeting are available, but for the sake of convenience they are not included in this report. At the end of this report, an overview of the participants to the meeting is given, as well as the programme of the workshop.

Presentations

The meeting started with three presentations:

1 – Willie Peijnenburg, giving a general introduction on this follow-up project.

2 – Hans van Duijne, giving an overview of the outcome and major recommendations of the previous project.

3 – Mrs. Pridavkova (Slovak Ministry of Environment) on legal issues and the EU: relevance and meaning of the workshop.

Presentation Mrs. Pridavkova (Ministry of Environment)

Some of the main aspects of the presentation:

The main purpose of the presentation of Mrs. Pridavkova was to inform the participants on the current situation and legislative actions taken in the area of pesticide registration and risk reduction legislation.

To inform and update all participants, Mrs. Pridavkova gives an overview of the actors and processes of relevance in the pesticide registration, including the need of cooperation between the Ministries (like the Ministry for Soil Management and Ministry of Environment), the offices responsible at a regional level for application of pesticides, the monitoring of the usage, and EU regulations like Natura 2000.

An important aspect is to increase the awareness of the use of pesticides as everyone needs to be active to protect the environment. Farmers need to protect the environment near the area sprayed, and they need to make humans aware of the use of pesticides. Thereupon, notice needs to be taken of the danger of further unwanted side-effects like effects on birds. But, this needs to be put in a broader perspective, like the combined effect of stressors on birds and other species (including for instance noise). Additional tools and regulations become available for this purpose, like the EU regulation (example: WFD). It is needed to optimize information exchange, and to prepare pesticide action plans in order to diminish the risks, and to have overview-indicators that show that risks have been reduced as required by Europe, but also as required by Slovak legislation (National states can set requirements by themselves as well). The Ministry of Environment is thus involved in setting regulations and preparing information systems that help to reduce risks.

Subsequently, Mrs. Pridavkova gave an overview of the main actors in the field of pesticide registration, apart from the Ministries. Monitoring is for instance done by various institutes, now is the question which action is needed to optimize information exchange and optimization of the monitoring programmes between amongst others the Ministries. Pesticides need to be covered by both sectors. An important role in this respect is played by the regulations set in Europe, including the protection of soil and water bodies against pesticides.

Then, Mrs. Pridavkova asks the attendees to monitor methods that can help in assessing new actions that can be done to minimize the risks of pesticides use. The latest action programme is aimed at protection urban environment and country sides, including public parks and public areas. This is followed by an overview of legislative action that is either completed or is to be implemented in line with the legislation to be adopted within the European Union.

Finally, Mrs. Pridavkova expressed that the Dutch partners are able to assist in the implementation of the new legislation, jointly with the various Slovak institutes and all partners were invited to indicate means to do so.

After coffee break – introduction of all participants in the workshop as most participants do not know each other.

After that, two discussion groups were established.

The task of the first round of discussion was to identify overlaps and complimentaries on each others tasks, think about each others role within the process of information exchange, think about the role of the stakeholder-institutes not represented at the workshop.





Before the reporting of the subgroups, there was a presentation of Ing. Lešínský Daniel, PhD. The presentation dealt with residues of pesticides in food, eco-farming, use of pesticides, and all other relevant information on pesticides. The underlying documents were made available to the participants in the workshop.

Reports of the two sub-groups

Group 1

First of all, the ambitions of the different institutes participating in the discussions were discussed, reflecting the missions of each institute. These include monitoring, crop protection, economic aspects (Ministry of Economy), environmental protection, risk assessment, nature and species protection at the national and European levels.

Secondly, an agreement was obtained on how individual institutes could contribute to the proposed system. The Slovak Inspection could contribute results of inspections, and especially report on deterioration and the occurrence of accidents. WRI and SHMU could elaborate methodological tools for gardeners who use active ingredients in small packages, and contribute to the methodology of monitoring in waters, and report on monitoring results. SCPH (Slovak Crop Protection Association) could provide new ideas for communication, the Ministry of Agriculture could provide information on legislation on application, Ministry of Environment could contribute by providing its legislation and information on protected areas could be provided by other ministries. Institutes not present like health care institute could provide information on results of inspections, UKSUP could contribute by providing their database of registered preparates. UKSUP could also present results of inspections and results of training, workshops, etc.

Group 2

Various institutes were represented in this group, including the national forest centre and the institute for bees. It was concluded that the capacity of public organizations is insufficient regarding the amount of work required for them to do. This is one of the reasons of a bad communication, and a pesticide information centre could be a new but valuable task. It would be good if this project on the establishment of the pesticide information centre could be politically supported.

The Slovak Environmental Agency and the National Forest Centre have information on the use of pesticides in forestry. The centre could provide information on the use of products in individual forests/areas. The Forest Centre provides already consultancy services via telephone and organizes already an annual workshop on the occurrence of pesticides. SEA has a centre for chemical agents and materials which should have capacities for registration of all chemicals. It is managed by the Ministry of Economy.

The information system for industrial accidents of SEA could be provided with regard to the structure of the system, as this would be a good model for the Pesticides information centre. Again, a problem is the high throughput of personnel. An additional issue is the topic of the obsolete pesticides dealt with by the Slovak Inspection Agency and this issue could also be an issue of the centre when structural funds are made available to tackle this issue, as planned as of 2007. This operation deals with amounts of over 3000 tons, and jointly with amounts of 30000 tons of pesticides that have passed their limit date of use, these pesticides should be destroyed.

Another point of discussion was the association of bee breeders. They can advise on how to optimally use pesticides in gardens, since the inspectors are trained to optimize the use of pesticides in order to minimize residues in Slovakian honey with very low pesticides residues.

VUVH (WRI) is preparing models on how soil and water quality can be affected by pesticides. WRI could provide capacity on monitoring results as well.

Biocides are another topic as well as they have different means of use, but they might be more dangerous as pesticides. The problem is with biocides used as sprays. The experience is that despite of the organization of International events, there was no awareness on harmful pesticides in Slovakia, and the public at large is not informed. The political pressure seems to be lacking.

For the future, it is hoped that the European Directive EPRDR and REACH (all chemicals) will facilitate information of the public and allow for further regulation of pesticides.

Presentation Willie Peijnenburg – Dutch Organizational Model for Pesticide Assessment

Basic question for a new round of break-out groups: is this model feasible for the Slovak Republic and if not, which model would be most suited?



Tuesday 12 June 2007

The start of this day was a wrap-up of the discussion of yesterday. In addition to what was discussed yesterday, the representatives of SEVS indicated that SEVS could provide input to the databases on information of industrial accidents in which chemicals are involved.

An important aspect in the discussion was the discussion on possible input of institutes not represented during the workshop.

After this a discussion started on the input of the institutes and ministries, and the formal agreements that are needed for this purpose. It was at this stage concluded that there is a lack of political pressure to bring the topic of pesticide awareness in the media. In addition to the lack of commitment, some other problems were identified, like the more or less permanent change of staff members at the ministries and institutes, lack of funding, lack of exchange of the information that is available. The latter aspect works in both ways: the organizations that have information but do not share this information need additional information, but they do not get this either. The information system on chemical accidents could be of importance, but needs to be improved. For example, pesticide registration information and monitoring information would be very helpful supplementary information that can be made publicly available. A general problem is that the monitoring is insufficiently structured regarding timing of monitoring and locations.

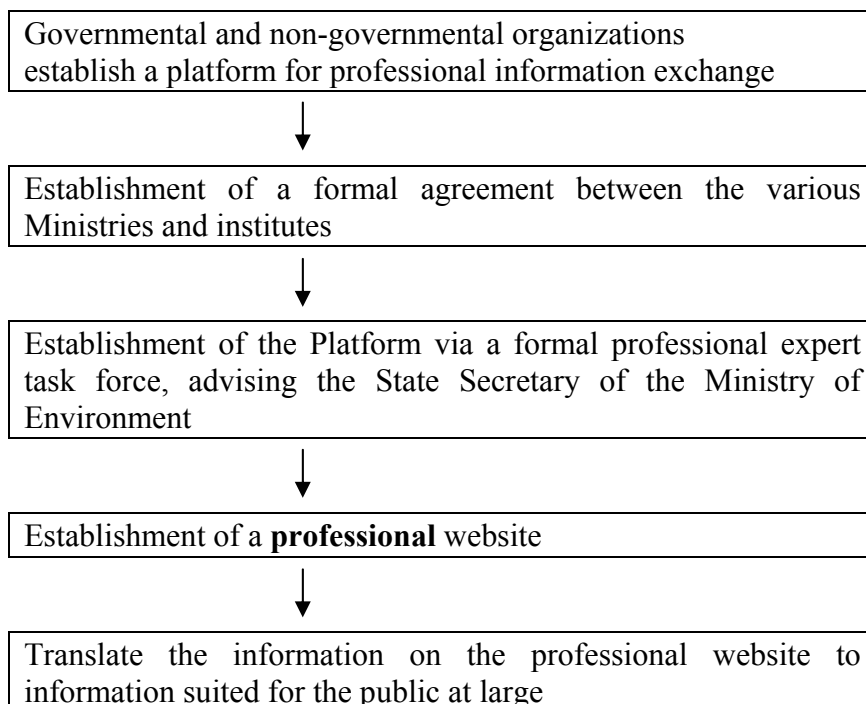
After this general wrap-up, there was an initial general discussion on the design of a platform. First of all it was recognized that a formal cooperative agreement needs to be prepared between the various ministries involved, like Ministries of Agriculture,

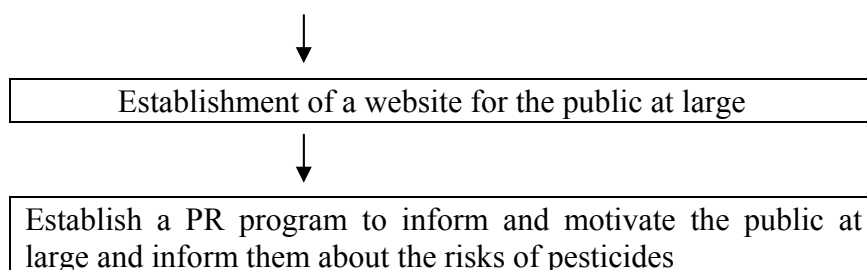
Environment and Economy. UKSUP was identified as a possible central organization since UKSUP already has a lot of information on pesticides, but the Ministry of Environment is also important as this Ministry will deal with obsolete and expired pesticides. It was concluded at this stage that the Ministry of Environment should be the initiator of a cooperation model that is needed for the set-up of a platform of information exchange. The model should include the following aspects:

- 1 – Clearly defined competences and delegation of tasks to the various organizations involved.
- 2 – Clear structure of the platform.
- 3 – Sufficient staffing/funding, especially to sustain the centre and the platform.
- 4 – The establishment of a declaration of agreement at the level of the top of the Ministries.
- 5 – Info provided by the pesticide information centre should finally be directed to the public at large.
- 6 – Increase of the awareness of the potential dangers caused by misuse of pesticides, otherwise there will be no general basis for the centre or the platform.
- 7 – Increased awareness and commitment of high-level officials.

With regard to the set-up of the platform, it was proposed to start now with an inter-sectoral Task Force that is to prepare the platform of information exchange. The Ministry of Environment is planning to initiate a project in 2008 to formally establish the platform and provide the means for staffing and funding. It was remarked that EU-funds are available for initiatives like the set-up of the Pesticides Information Centre.

An important question brought forward was whether the Centre would be focused at experts, at the public at large, or at both. There was consensus that the platform should be established for both experts AND the public at large, but that a tiered approach is needed. This is reflected in the following organization scheme:





The position (statutes) of the professional Task Force should be officially confirmed by the Minister of the Environment and the Directors of all other Stakeholders.

Membership of Task Force:

- Professional Institutes
- Representatives of State Authorities
- Representatives of NGO's
- Ad hoc invited parties

The scope of the activities should first of all be the exchange of information on pesticides, the definition of a thematic strategy, preparation of source documents for adoption of National legislation based upon European requirements, elaboration of the measures deriving from this legislation, and creation of an information page for the website for informing the public. The first step is the formation of a website within the Environmental sector. After that, the other sectors will be involved and then the public at large. Finally, an agreement needs to be established on the possibility of providing information exchange between the involved professional expert institutes and government bodies.

At this stage, the Dutch formal document that is underlying the Dutch pesticide platform of information exchange and pesticide regulation, was shown as an example of a document that can be used as a basis for the formal Slovak agreements. The Dutch document is signed by the Dutch organization of farmers, the Ministry for Agriculture, the Ministry for Environment and the Dutch Nature and Environment Conservation organization.

What is needed now is coordination in finding additional sources of funding, like LIFE+ in the EU, specific bi-national programmes, the department of environmental projects at SEA. A task force will be established. If it is funded right now then it can act more effective and with more success, otherwise the main activities will start next year.

Funds are needed for:

- 1 – Creation of a website (basic for all additional activities)
- 2 – Creation of an information system
- 3 – Creation of the Centre.

Costs will increase at each level. It is not possible to give an estimate of all costs to be made at this moment since no reliable numbers are available and since there is no detailed overview yet of the flows of information, and the 'broadness' of the system (broadness is amongst others related to the number of sectors involved). This will be one of the first sub-projects to be executed by the Task Force.

Finally it is proposed NOT to go ahead with the organization of the final conference. Instead, the following actions were agreed upon:

1 – The Dutch project partners will make available the documents that jointly make up the Dutch agreement among the actors in pesticides control.

2 – The Dutch project partners will prepare an overview of (international) funding programmes that potentially are suited for funding (parts of) the Pesticides Information Platform.

3 – The Dutch project partners will prepare information on costs associated with the set-up of the various parts of the platform, especially the costs associated with the set-up of the website.

4 – The Slovak counterparts will initiate further activities in making the platform known within the various sectors. As an example: in the week starting 18th of June, there will be a meeting of the pesticide commission. Mrs. Pridavkova will announce the steps made during this workshop.

5 – On the 27th of June, a workshop is planned in which the results of the activities 1 – 4 will be presented, and in which the various tiers of the Platform will be further established. In addition to the participants of the workshop of 11/12 June, the directors of the organizations active in the non-environmental sectors will also be invited in order to obtain further support for the platform. After that, the Task Force will start its activities.

List of registered participants to the workshop - June 11-12, 2007, Bratislava, SAŽP Hanulova 5/D

Institution	Address	Name of participant		Accommodation		Meals					
				10.6	11.6	Vegetarián	11.6		12.6		
							Raňajky	Obed	Raňajky	Obed	
Ministerstvo životného prostredia SR Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic	Nám. L. Štúra 1, 812 35 Bratislava	1	Ing. Pridavková Magdaléna								
		2	Ing. Fratricova Marta								
Ministerstvo pôdohospodárstva SR Ministry of Soil Management of the SR	Dobrovičova 12 812 66 Bratislava	3	Ing. Žemlová Jana				x				
Výskumný ústav vodného hospodárstva Water Research Institute	Nábr. arm. gen. L. Svobodu 5 812 49 Bratislava	4	RNDr. Patschová Anna				x			X	
		5	RNDr. Makišová Zuzana				x			X	
		6	Ing. Chalupková Katarína					o			O
Slovenská agentúra životného prostredia Slovak Environmental Agency	Hanulova 5/D 844 40 Bratislava	7	Ing. Čertíková Daniela				x			X	
		8	Ing. Hrabovský Ján, CSc.					o			O
		9	Ing. Konderla Branislav					x			X
	Tajovského 28 975 90 Banská Bystrica	10	RNDr. Galková Margita		x			x	x		X
		11	Ing. Kňazovická Juliana		x			x	x		X

Institution	Address	Name of participant		Accommodation		Meals				
				10.6	11.6	Vegetarián	11.6		12.6	
							Raňajky	Obed	Raňajky	Obed
Slovenská inšpekcia životného prostredia Slovak Environmental Inspection	Prievozská 30 851 02 Bratislava	12	Ing. Žabková Denisa			x		x		x
		13	Ing. Hutňanová Katarína					x		x
		14	Ing. Konderla Branislav					x		x
Národné lesnícke centrum, stredisko lesníckej ochrannárskej služby National Forestry Center, Center of forestry conservational service	Lesnícka 11 969 23 Banská Štiavnica	15	Ing. Longauerová Valéria	x	x		x	x	x	x
Ústredný kontrolný a skúšobný ústav poľnohospodársky Central Controlling and Testing Institute in Agriculture	Hanulova 9/A 844 29 Bratislava	16	Ing. Schlosserová Juliana, CSc.					o		o
	Matúškova 21 833 16 Bratislava	17	Ing. Hrdina František					x		
		18	Ing. Nováčková Michaela					x		
Štátna ochrana prírody SR Ústredie State Nature Conservancy of the SR Center	Lazovná 10 974 01 Banská Bystrica	19	Ing. Sanitrár (Mgr. Sujová Katarína)		x			x	x	x
		20	Mgr. Adamec Michal		x			x	x	x
		21	Ing. Antal Vladimír		x			x	x	x

Institution	Address	Name of participant	Accommodation		Meals					
			10.6	11.6	Vegetarián	11.6		12.6		
						Raňajky	Obed	Raňajky	Obed	
Štátna veterinárna a potravinová správa SR State Veterinary and Food Administration	Botanická 17 842 13 Bratislava	22	Ing. Matúšová Mária							x
Spoločnosť spotrebiteľov potravín Association of foodstuff consumers	Garbiarska 5 040 01 Košice	23	MVDr. Martičeková Miriám	x	x		x	x	x	x
Výskumný ústav živočíšnej výroby Ústav včelárstva Research Institute of Animal Husbandry, Institute of Apiculture	Gašperíkova 599 038 80 Liptovský Hrádok	24	Čermáková Tatiana, RNDr.	x	x		x	x	x	x
Syngenta Slovakia, s.r.o. Syngenta Slovakia, Ltd. Slovenská asociácia ochrany rastlín Slovak Crop Protection Association	Rešetkova 11 831 03 Bratislava	25	Ing. Kútnik Pavol					o		o
CEPTA - Centrum pre trvalodržateľné aktivity CEPTA – Center for sustainable activities	Nogradyho 39 960 01 Zvolen	26	Ing. Lešínský Daniel, PhD.		x	x		x	x	x
Interpretor		27	Šimoničová Mária					o		o
TNO - Built Environment and Geoscience	Utrecht, Netherlands	28	Ir. van Duijne J.D.G.					x		x
People Dynamix	Rijswijk, Netherlands	29	Mr. van Reenen Gert Jan					x		x
RIVM	Bilthoven, Netherlands	30	Mr. Peijnenburg Willie					x		x
Enviconsulting	Gerlachovská 35 060 01 Kežmarok	31	Ing. Richtarčík Jozef					x		x
Spolu/Total				3	9	2	3	28	9	26

RIVM, TNO, and Septa (The Netherlands)

in cooperation with

Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic
Slovak Environmental Agency
Water Research Institute

invite you for
workshop

“PESTICIDES INFORMATION EXCHANGE PLATFORM”

which will be held

in the framework of the project PPA04/SK/6/8 „Support to the starting up phase of the establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre“

on

11. - 12.6.2007

**at Slovak Environmental Agency
Hanulova 5/D, 844 40 Bratislava**

Objective

Increasing of cooperation and communication between pesticides stakeholders and design of electronic platform for information exchange

Programme

Monday 11 June 2007

08:45 Arrival and registration of participants

09:15 Introduction and Opening the workshop
(Willie Peijnenburg and Magdalena Pridavkova)

09:30 1st session

Objectives of workshop (Gert Jan van Reenen)

Overview of the program (Gert Jan van Reenen)

Wrap up: history and outcomes of the project (Hans van Duijne)

10:45 Coffee/tea break

11:00 2nd session

Participants introduce themselves and their organizations

Questions and discussion

12:15 Lunch

13:30 3rd session

Mapping the risks of pesticides; Dutch CML approach as example (Willie Peijnenburg)

Discussion in 3 sub groups: feasibility of CML approach in Slovak context

Per sub group: short presentation

14:45 Coffee/tea break

15:00 4th session

Discussion in 3 sub groups: How Slovak institutions (GO and NGO) can be involved. Alternative solutions for CML approach.

Per sub group: short presentation

16:15 Summarising

16:30 Closing of first day

Tuesday 12 June 2007

08:30 Opening of 2nd day

Wrap up (Gert Jan van Reenen)

08:45 1st session

Discussion in 3 sub groups: How to coordinate the expertise/ input in the platform: Responsibilities

What could each of the institutions (GO and NGO) contribute in terms of expertise?

Coordination between institutes

Per sub group: short presentation

10:15 Coffee/tea break

10:30 2nd session

Discussion in 3 sub groups: Action plan: design of the platform/website/messages

12:00 Lunch

13:15 3rd session

Per sub group: presentation

Plenary session 1: putting together the best approach:

Organizational set up

Contents/message

Sustaining the platform

14:30 Coffee/tea break

14:45 4th session

Plenary session 2: putting together the best approach:

organizational set up

contents/message

sustaining the platform

15:30 Summary and conclusions

16:00 Closing the workshop

Organisational instructions

Participants do not pay any fee for the workshop.

Meals and accommodation are covered from the project budget

Official languages of the workshop are Slovak and English. Interpretation is provided.

Applications for workshop

Applications for the workshop to be sent by mail before **31.5.2007** to:

Ing. Jozef Richtarcik
E-mail: jr@slovanet.sk
Consortium RIVM
Tel.: +421 905 478 127

Copy of application (cc) to be sent by mail to:

Ing. Magdalena Pridavkova
E-mail: pridavkova.magda@enviro.gov.sk
Department of Environmental Risks Management
Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic
Tel.: +421 2 59562162

Venue of workshop
Slovak Environmental Agency
Meeting room on 2nd floor
Hanulova 5/D
84440 Bratislava
Tel.: +421 2 60201629
Web site: www.sazp.sk

Public Transport in Bratislava

Web site: www.imhd.sk

Annex 4 Slovak Translation of the “Covenant” underlying the Dutch approach towards pesticide assessment

Partneri Ministerstvo poľnohospodárstva, prírody a rybnarstva, Ministerstvo zdravotníctva, územného plánovania a životného prostredia, Organizácia pre poľnohospodárov a záhradníkov v Holandsku a Výbor pre prírodu a životné prostredie sa dohodli nasledovne:

Na základe iniciatívy vládneho kabinetu sa budú zúčastnení partneri cestou vzájomných stretnutí, naplánovaných do 1. januára 2003, snažiť dosiahnuť dohodu o hlavných bodoch trvalo udržateľného využívania pesticídov. Súčasťou tejto dohody bude riešenie problematiky pri povolení pesticídov. Táto dohoda nadväzuje na proces premeny poľnohospodárstva na trvalo udržateľné poľnohospodárstvo.

V prípade trvalo udržateľného využívania pesticídov je riadenie a konanie verejných organizácií ako aj kľúčových partnerov zamerané na realizáciu existujúcich cieľov v životnom prostredí spôsobom, ktorý zodpovedá aj prevádzkovo-ekonomickým aspektom. Partneri chcú dosiahnuť dohodu, ktorá je záväzná a ktorá je zameraná na dosiahnutie spomínaných cieľov. K riešeniu sa nebude pristupovať jednostranne, ale doraz bude ležať na integračnom prístupe, ktorý vedie k vzájomnému prospechu. K metódam založeným na integračnom prístupe patrí napríklad zúšľachtovanie, používanie nechemických ochranných metód a zvýšenie odbornosti pestovateľov.

Partneri sa dohodli na možnosti a na zájmy v každom prípade preskúmať nasledujúce najdôležitejšie body, ktoré budú viesť ku koherentnému súboru cieľov, aktivít a opatrení:

- ciele, ktoré treba dosiahnuť, pričom sa zohľadnia súčasne ciele na ochranu životného prostredia a prevádzkovo-ekonomická realizovateľnosť; nutné je pritom zabezpečiť dostatočný súbor opatrení.
- nutnosť testu na preskúmanie alternatív a zásady substitúcie pri systematickej povolení pesticídov
- procesy zamerané na inováciu pri problematických bodoch (problematických z hľadiska poľnohospodárstva alebo životného prostredia) a vklady do inovácií systémov (napríklad nové pestovateľské metódy alebo agrobiodiverzita)
- vyriešenie problematických bodov z hľadiska poľnohospodárstva pri povolení pesticídov v pestovateľskej sezóne 2003 a podmienok pri tomto procese (vrátane primeraných právnických nástrojov)
- zavedenie a rozširovanie Dobrej poľnohospodárskej praxe (best practices) u podnikateľov a u podnikov, ktoré zaoštvávajú v danej oblasti
- úloha trhu a pridelenie vlastnej zodpovednosti poľnohospodárom (napríklad certifikovanie a kódex profesionálov)
- transparentný a uzavretý reťazec pri ochrane úrody
- zlepšenie kontroly uplatňovania zákonov a zlepšenie monitoringu
- postup práce a riadenie Cetra pre povolenie pesticídov

Pocas tohto trajektu je este mozne pripojiť ine body.

Pre statne organy je na základe Strategickkej dohody východiskom, ze statne organy budu prihliadat na konkurencnu poziciu poľnohospodárstva a co mozno najviac prispeju k znizovaniu administratívnych vydajov a byrokracie.

V dohode bude zahrnutý aj trajekt realizácie vo forme konventu. Na úrovni vlády budú najneskor v januári 2003 prerokované výsledky tohto trajektu.

Partneri sa dohovorili na nasledujucich pravidlach:

- pocas priebehu horeuvedeného trajektu žiadny z partnerov nebude podavat informacie o tomto procese, iba ak by sa partneri dohodli inak. Po uzavretí trajektu partneri spoločne pripravia verejné vyhlásenie o výsledkoch.
- po uzavretí dohody budú partneri obranovať výsledky dohody
- partneri otvorene prednesu vlastné názory na uvedené hlavné body, aby takýmto spôsobom vyslo najavo ake výsledky tento trajekt môže dosiahnuť
- partneri budú pri ostatných aktivitách v oblasti pesticídov (napríklad parlamentné záležitosti, komunikácia, právnicke procedúry atď.) rešpektovať trajekt dohodnutý v tomto prehlásení
- počas tohto trajektu sa budú partneri vzajomne informovať o verejných vyhláseniach v oblasti pesticídov (napríklad súčasne a eventualne nové právnicke procedúry), pokiaľ sú relevantné v tomto trajekte.

Vzhľadom k tomu, že pri realizovaní trvalo udržateľného využívania pesticídov je viac relevantných strán, štátne orgány budú iniciovať konzultáciu s mnohými inými stranami. V závislosti od dohody a od zodpovednosti jednotlivých partnerov je možné tento vládny výbor rozšíriť o jednu alebo dve strany. Štátne orgány budú v takom prípade so súhlasom Organizácie pre poľnohospodárov a záhradníkov v Holandsku a so súhlasom Výboru pre prírodu a životné prostredie iniciátormi takeho rozšírenia.

Partneri vyjadrujú predsavzatie na prevzatie spoločnej zodpovednosti za trvalo udržateľné využívanie pesticídov.

Den Haag, 2 októbra 2002

Minister poľnohospodárstva, prírody a rybníctva, Dr. C.P.Veerman

Štátny tajomník Ministerstva zdravotníctva, územného plánovania a životného prostredia, Drs. P.L.B.A. van Geel

Pan G. Doornbos (Organizácia pre poľnohospodárov a záhradníkov v Holandsku)

Pan A. van den Biggelaar (Výbor pre prírodu a životné prostredie)

Annex 5 Report of the Second Workshop on the Establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre

Date: 27 June 2007

Location: Water Research Institute (WRI), Bratislava

Report prepared by: Willie Peijnenburg

Introduction

The aim of this workshop was to finalize the preparation of the establishment of the Task Force that is to guide the establishment of the Pesticide Information and Support Centre (PISC). The workshop was organized instead of the final conference that was originally planned as the final project activity. It was decided at the end of the first workshop (11 and 12 June 2007) that, given the progress made during this first workshop, it would be more beneficial to organize a second workshop instead of a final conference. In preparation of this second workshop, the following actions were agreed upon at the end of the 1st workshop:

“1 – The Dutch project partners will make available the documents that jointly make up the Dutch agreement among the actors in pesticides control.

2 – The Dutch project partners will prepare an overview of funding (international) funding programmes that potentially are suited for funding (parts of) the Pesticides Information Platform.

3 – The Dutch project partners will prepare information on costs associated with the set-up of the various parts of the platform, especially the costs associated with the set-up of the website.

4 – The Slovak counterparts will initiate further activities in making the platform known within the various sectors. As an example: in the week starting 18th of June, there will be a meeting of the pesticide commission. Mrs. Pridavkova will announce the steps made during this workshop.

5 – On the 27th of June a workshop is planned in which the results of the activities 1 – 4 will be presented, and in which the various tiers of the Platform will be further established. In addition to the participants of the workshop of 11/12 June, the directors of the organizations active in the non-environmental sectors will also be invited in order to obtain further support for the platform.”

The results of the first two actions were presented by Hans van Duijne of TNO during his presentation, the estimate of the costs for setting up the website were found to be relatively low (in the order of 500 Euro's). However, the main costs are associated with obtaining and maintaining the contents of the website. At this stage, the exact contents of the website in terms of associated databases cannot be foreseen, but it is not beyond imagination to state that the main costs will be a multitude of the costs for establishing the website.

Funding opportunities include:

1. The bilateral EMT programme (Norway) – first proposals of projects are expected to be called for in spring 2008.

2. The bilateral programme with Switzerland – is under preparation, being managed directly by the SK Office of government. The programme shall provide for significant amounts of money. It is not known, when the bilateral agreement shall be signed between Switzerland and Slovakia.

3. The Life Plus programme. One can notice significant changes in comparison with previous the Life programme in aspect of propositions. First call for proposal is expected in autumn 2007. Preparatory activities consist of provision of propagation materials and organising information workshops.

In the second workshop, a stepwise approach towards the establishment of the PISC was the central issue. The discussions focused on the establishment of the Task Group that is to prepare the establishment of the PISC. Financial support will be made available in 2008 by the Ministry of the Environment to actually establish the PISC.

In this workshop report an overview is given of the main discussions during the workshop and the final conclusions that were reached. The main conclusion is that the stage has been reached in which the Task Force that is to prepare the establishment of the PISC can be nominated by means of a formal decision at the Ministerial level. This procedure is similar to the procedures that were followed in the Netherlands in setting up the covenant that is underlying the Dutch agreements on the safe and sustainable use of pesticides.

Workshop programme

09:15 Welcome and introduction

Ministry of Environment of the SR (Ing. Rothová Rudolfa, Director of Department of Environmental Risks Management)

09:30 Summary of results and recommendations of workshop of June 11-12, 2007. RIVM, The Netherlands (Willie Peijnenburg)

10:00 Presentation recommendations for establishment of information center and translated documents concerning management of stakeholder institutions abroad (The Netherlands) in connection with control and use of pesticides. TNO, The Netherlands (Hans van Duijne)

11:45 Discussion session: finalizing proposal of Task Group.

13:00 Proposal of the task group. Provision of operation of information platform including web site design, responsibilities, competences planning, means of funding. TNO, The Netherlands (Hans van Duijne)

13:15 Closing of the workshop

13:30 Lunch

Presentation Mrs. Rothová (Department of Environmental Risks Management of the Ministry of Environment)

Mrs. Rothová covered the following issues in her presentation:

- Need for cooperation between the environmental, agricultural, health and educational Ministries.
- New EU strategies on sustainable use of pesticides resulting in new procedures that affect a broad part of the population as the procedures will result in new measures and in improvement of the environmental quality.
- The Dutch-Slovak project on the establishment of the pesticide information and support centre is considered to be important as it will improve the assessment and modelling of the environmental risks and it will increase awareness.

- The need of establishing the most safe procedures for protection of human health and environmental health

Presentation Dr. Willie Peijnenburg (RIVM, the Netherlands). Summary and recommendations of the first workshop.

The PowerPoint-presentation is added as an annex to this report.

Presentation Dr. Hans van Duijne (TNO, the Netherlands).. Recommendations for establishment of information center and translated documents concerning management of stakeholder institutions abroad (The Netherlands) in connection with control and use of pesticides.

The PowerPoint-presentation is added as an annex to this report. A central place in the presentation was taken by the stepwise approach followed in the Netherlands regarding the Dutch treaty by which in 2003/2003 an agreement was obtained between the most important players in the area of the safe and sustainable use of pesticides.

Before the start of the general discussion on the setup of a Task Force, there was some discussion following the presentations. Discussion issues included:

1 – Did the Dutch treaty actually work, i.e. is there a reduction of the use of pesticides?

2 – Is there a website available in the Netherlands to inform the public at large?

Both questions were answered by means of a PowerPoint-presentation on the activities of the Dutch CML. This presentation includes information on the website and it contains graphs and maps in which pesticide use and monitoring results are given. This presentation is added to this report as an annex.

3 – What is the relationship between the Dutch treaty and EU legislation? It was explained that the treaty is in line with the EU requirements on sustainable use of pesticides and it actually assists in implementing EU legislation like the WFD and the future Soil Directive.

Discussion

The discussion was centred on the setup of the Task Force responsible for establishing the PISC, taking account of the Slovak institutional setting of pesticide regulation and the organization of the International Commitments. The institutional setting is complex, with various Ministries and Institutes involved in different parts of the pesticide assessment chain. Given the current institutional setting, there was consensus reached with regard to the fact that the PISC can only be established following a decision at the Ministerial level, involving the Ministries of Environment, Soil Management and Health. The Ministry of Environment will enforce the establishment of the PISC. The Dutch model of a stepwise approach will be followed in this respect, starting with the Task Force. This will be initiated via the Pesticide Commission of the Ministry of Agriculture that is amongst others dealing with the new EU legislation. Subsequently, the scheme depicted in the report of the Workshop of 11 and 12 June 2007 will be followed. Funding will be made available in 2008.

List of registered participants to the second workshop - June 27, 2007, Bratislava, WRI

Institution	Address	Name of participant	Phone	E-mail
Ministerstvo životného prostredia SR Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic	Nám. L. Štúra 1, 812 35 Bratislava	1 Ing. Pridavková Magdaléna	02/59562162	pridavkova.magda@enviro.gov.sk
		2 Ing. Fratricová Marta	02/59561111	fratricova.marta@enviro.gov.sk
Ministerstvo pôdohospodárstva SR Ministry of Soil Management of the SR	Dobrovičova 12 812 66 Bratislava	3 Ing. Žemlová Jana Štátny radea	02/59266402	jana.zemlova@land.gov.sk
Výskumný ústav vodného hospodárstva Water Research Institute	Nábr. arm. gen. L. Svobodu 5 812 49 Bratislava	4 RNDr. Hornáčková Patschová Anna , PhD. Vedúca oddelenia podzemných vôd	02/59343413	patschova@vuvh.sk
		5 RNDr. Makišová Zuzana Vedecký pracovník	0911662085	makisova@vuvh.sk
		6 Ing. Chalupková Katarína Vedecký pracovník	02/59343420	chalupkova@vuvh.sk
Slovenská agentúra životného prostredia Slovak Environmental Agency	Hanulova 5/D 844 40 Bratislava	7 Ing. Čertíková Daniela Špecialista pre PCB	02/60201614	daniela.certikova@sazp.sk
		8 Ing. Hrabovský Ján, CSc.	02/60201614	jan.hrabovsky@sazp.sk
		9 Ing. Orliková Andrea	02/60201614	andrea.orlikova@sazp.sk
		10 Ing. Jančarík Alexander	02/60201624	alexander.jancarik@sazp.sk
	Tajovského 28 975 90 Banská Bystrica	11 RNDr. Galková Margita Environmentalista	048/4374166	margita.galkova@sazp.sk
		12 Ing. Kňazovická Juliana Environmetalista	048/4374166	juliana.knazovicka@sazp.sk

Institution	Address	Name of participant		Phone	E-mail
Slovenská inšpekcia životného prostredia Slovak Environmental Inspection	Prievozská 30 851 02 Bratislava	13	Ing. Žabková Denisa Vedúca odboru inšpekcie vôd	0903224777	zabkova@sizp.sk
		14	Ing. Hutňanová Katarína Odborný radca - inšpektor	02/58282402	zabkova@sizp.sk
		15	Mgr. Konderla Branislav Odborný radca, inšpektor	02/58282402	zabkova@sizp.sk
Národné lesnícke centrum, LVÚ - Zvolen National Forestry Center, LVU - Zvolen	T.G. Masaryka 22 960 01 Zvolen	16	Ing. Longauerová Valéria Inšpektor Lesníckej ochrannárskej služby	045/5314321	longauerova@nlcsk.org
Štátna ochrana prírody SR Ústredie State Nature Conservancy of the SR Center	Lazovná 10 974 01 Banská Bystrica	17	Ing. Sanitrár Andrej Botanik	048/4713622	andrej.sanitrar@soprs.sk
Štátna veterinárna a potravinová správa SR State Veterinary and Food Administration	Botanická 17 842 13 Bratislava	18	Ing. Matúšová Mária Inšpektor	02/60257421	matusova@svssr.sk
SCPV - Slovenské centrum poľnohospodárskeho výskumu - Ústav včelárstva (ÚVĽ) SCPV - Slovak Center of Agricultural Research - Institute of Apiculture (UvĽ)	Gašperikova 599 038 80 Liptovský Hrádok	19	RNDr. Čermáková Tatiana Výskumná pracovníčka – zástupkyňa riaditeľa UVĽ	044/5221141	cermakova@imafex.sk vcela@imafex.sk
Syngenta Slovakia, s.r.o. Syngenta Slovakia, Ltd. Slovenská asociácia ochrany rastlín Slovak Crop Protection Association	Rešetkova 11 831 03 Bratislava	20	Ing. Kútnik Pavol Registračný manažér	0903711060	pavol.kutnik@syngenta.com
CEPTA - Centrum pre trvalodržateľné aktivity CEPTA – Center for sustainable activities	Nogradyho 39 960 01 Zvolen	21	Ing. Lešínský Daniel, PhD. Riaditeľ	0905581078	lesinsky@changenet.sk

Institution	Address	Name of participant		Phone	E-mail
TNO - Built Environment and Geoscience	Princetonlaan 6 P.O. Box 80015 3508 TA Utrecht The Netherlands	22	Ir. van Duijne J.D.G.	+31653548482 +31302564676	hans.vanduijne@tno.nl
Septa	Julianastraat 9 2282 RK Rijswijk The Netherlands	23	Mr. van Reenen Gert Jan	+31703994609 +31626560922	g.vanreenen@septa.nl
RIVM	A. van Leeuwenhoek- laan 9, Bilthoven The Netherlands	24	Mr. Peijnenburg Willie	+31302743129	wjgm.peijnenburg@rivm.nl
Enviconsulting	Gerlachovská 35 060 01 Kežmarok- Malý Slavkov	25	Ing. Richtarčík Jozef Konzultant	0905478127	jr@enviconsulting.sk

Annexes added to this report:

1. Budget realisation (planned versus actual realisation).
2. Letter of satisfaction of WRI.
3. Letter of satisfaction of SEA.
4. Accountant's statement.