



# ONIP AND IMPLEMENTATION REPORT OF THE RECOMMENDATION ON ILLEGAL TRADE.

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# Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

OECD: Intergovernmental Organisation currently 38 industrialised countries, and 8 accession candidates

<b>EU</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Austria</li><li>• Belgium</li><li>• Czechia</li><li>• Denmark</li><li>• Estonia</li><li>• Finland</li><li>• France</li><li>• Germany</li><li>• Greece</li><li>• Hungary</li><li>• Ireland</li><li>• Italy</li><li>• Latvia</li><li>• Lithuania</li><li>• Luxembourg</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Netherlands</li><li>• Poland</li><li>• Portugal</li><li>• Slovak Republic</li><li>• Slovenia</li><li>• Spain</li><li>• Sweden</li></ul>	<b>AMERICAS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Canada</li><li>• Chile</li><li>• Colombia</li><li>• Costa Rica</li><li>• Mexico</li><li>• United States</li></ul>	<b>Accession candidates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Argentina</li><li>• Brazil</li><li>• Bulgaria</li><li>• Croatia</li><li>• Indonesia</li><li>• Peru</li><li>• Romania</li><li>• Thailand</li></ul>
	<b>EUROPEAN NON-EU</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Iceland</li><li>• Israel</li><li>• Norway</li><li>• Switzerland</li><li>• Türkiye</li><li>• United Kingdom</li></ul>	<b>ASIA - PACIFIC</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Australia</li><li>• Japan</li><li>• New Zealand</li><li>• South Korea</li></ul>	



## Illegal trade in pesticides: Definition

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Illegal trade of agricultural pesticides:

refers to **any form of trade of an agricultural pesticide that leads to a violation of domestic law**, including counterfeiting, fraud and other forms of deception.



## Illegal trade in pesticides: impact

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Problem: Distortion of pesticide markets

- Has **economic impacts**:
  - on farmers
  - on pesticide manufacturers
- Poses a **threat to human health and the environment**
- **Undermines** national legislations on pesticide registration and the **credibility of regulatory authorities**



## Illegal trade in pesticides: ONIP

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OECD Response: 2012 - formation of the OECD Network on Illegal Trade of Pesticides (**ONIP**)

- Raising **awareness**
- Improving collaboration within and between countries, e.g. through the **OECD Council Recommendation** and use of the **Rapid Alert System (RAS)**
- Developing best practices, e.g. as described in the **Best Practice Guidance (BPG)**, develop **training** for inspectors/policy makers, ....



## ONIP meeting - 26 February 2024 -

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72 delegates representing 32 delegations

### Invited organisations:

- The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)
  - Joint Customs Operation (ASEM)
- United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO)
  - Guidance Notes on illegal pesticides trade + online trade
- World Customs Organisation (WCO)
  - IPR infringements, liaising with customs, CEN network
- EUROPOL
  - Operational support and Operation SilverAxe



## ONIP meeting - 26 February 2024 -

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- Case updates from member countries
- ICCM5 adopted Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste – Target A4
  - –By 2030, stakeholders have effectively prevented all illegal trade and traffic of chemicals and waste–
- Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement for Imported Pesticide Products
- Secretariat updates
- Interaction with origin countries, LMICs, NGOs
- Training of inspectors
- Capacity building



## Illegal trade in pesticides: OECD Council Recommendation

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Established a **legal framework to strengthen activities against illegal trade in pesticides**, that would:

- Encourage countries to fight illegal international trade of agricultural pesticides at **national** level
- Encourage countries to facilitate **international** cooperation





## Illegal trade in pesticides: Focus of the OECD Council Recommendation

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Recommends that Adherents establish or strengthen national procedures aimed at countering the illegal trade of agricultural pesticides in line with the Best Practice Guidance, taking into account national priorities, policies and programmes. To that effect, Adherents should:


- i. Ensure there is an appropriate regulatory framework for the management of agricultural pesticides;
- ii. Ensure there are systems in place to detect and take regulatory action against illegal trade of pesticides;
- iii. Co-operate on minimising the illegal trade of pesticides.



# Illegal trade in pesticides: Implementation of the OECD Council Recommendation

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## Recommendation on Countering the Illegal Trade of Pesticides [[OECD/LEGAL/0446](#)]

- Adopted in 2019
- CBC to monitor implementation and to report to the Council five years from the date of its adoption and regularly thereafter  2024



## Illegal trade in pesticides: Rapid Alert System (RAS)

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The **RAS** provides a secure portal to:

- Quickly **provide information**, to select government officials, about shipments that are suspect,
- Thereby **increasing the response time** for receiving ports to thoroughly verify documents,
- Heighten **efficiency** of border controls, and
- **Increase the knowledge base** about illegal traders.



# Illegal trade in pesticides: Best Practice Guidance (BPG)

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The **BPG** describes best practices for identifying, and responding to, illegal trade throughout the **life cycle** of a pesticide.

The **BPG** is included in the Council Recommendation as a **tool to develop national programmes**.

# The lifecycle of pesticides

- The Guidance provides recommendations to identify illegal pesticides throughout the complete lifecycle of a pesticide.
- Regulatory authorities and inspectors can then take more effective action at different parts of the pesticides supply chain.





## Council Recommendation and Best Practice Guidance are available online

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The Recommendation of the Council is available on the Compendium of OECD Legal Instruments:

- <https://legalinstruments.oecd.org/en/instruments/OECD-LEGAL-0446> (in English)
- <https://legalinstruments.oecd.org/fr/instruments/OECD-LEGAL-0446> (in French)

The Best Practice Guidance to identify Illegal Trade of Pesticides is available on the OECD public site:

- Series on Pesticides, no 99: [Best Practice Guidance to Identify Illegal Trade of Pesticides](#)



# Implementation of the OECD Council Recommendation

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- Survey launched in August 2023 with the OECD Secretariat gathering additional information
  - Responses represent 87% of OECD
  - Additional responses from Accession Candidate Countries
- Implementation report by Council declassified in June 2024 [[C\(2024\)96](#)]



## Implementation of the OECD Council Recommendation - High level overview

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- Overall approval by CBC, i.e.
  - “the Recommendation remains effective, up-to-date and relevant. The Recommendation does not, therefore, require any revision in the short-to-medium term.”
- Respondents suggested strengthening a variety of activities, which could be achieved through the activities of ONIP, an update of the Best Practice Guidance, but without the need to update the Recommendation itself.





# Implementation of the OECD Council Recommendation - High level overview

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- Suggested items for inclusion in the BPG resonate well with ONIP discussions, e.g.
- illegal online trade;
- international cooperation,
  - by strengthening co-operation with other international organisations, in particular with the other Participating Organisations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC);
  - strengthen the support of OECD for developing countries.
- Investigate the use of AI to aid in the risk assessment of illegal goods.
- Further dissemination within, between and beyond governments remains necessary to raise awareness about the Recommendation.



## Take away messages

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- **Coordinated action is key.** Make use of existing expertise and networks to the maximum extent. Cooperate!
- Any Non-OECD Countries can adhere to the OECD Recommendation on Countering the Illegal trade of Pesticides.
- **Use and disseminate the Best Practice Guidance** to increase a **common understanding** of Illegal Pesticides and their Trade.
- Stay **vigilant, adapt**, and consider the use of **new technologies**.



## Illegal pesticides trade

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Thank you very much!

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