International trade of illegal pesticides: impacts and means of action

OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

DEFINITIONS

What is an illegal pesticide?

A pesticide that is not legal in the country of destination.

This includes:



Counterfeit pesticide

An illegal copy of a legitimate, branded pesticide with high quality branding and packaging (difficult to distinguish).



Fake pesticide

An illegal copy of a legitimate, branded pesticide with poor quality product and packaging (can be identified with relative ease).



Obsolete pesticide

A pesticide that is no longer authorised.



Unauthorized pesticide

A pesticide that is not authorised for use in the country in which it is being placed on the market.

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

IMPACTS OF INTERNATIONAL ILLEGAL TRADE OF PESTICIDES

Impacts of illegal trade of pesticides

Illegal trade:

- Leads to distortions in pesticide markets
- Has economic impacts:
  - On farmers
  - On pesticide producers
- Endangers human health and the environment/ biodiversity
- Undermines national legislation on pesticide registration and the credibility of regulatory authorities

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

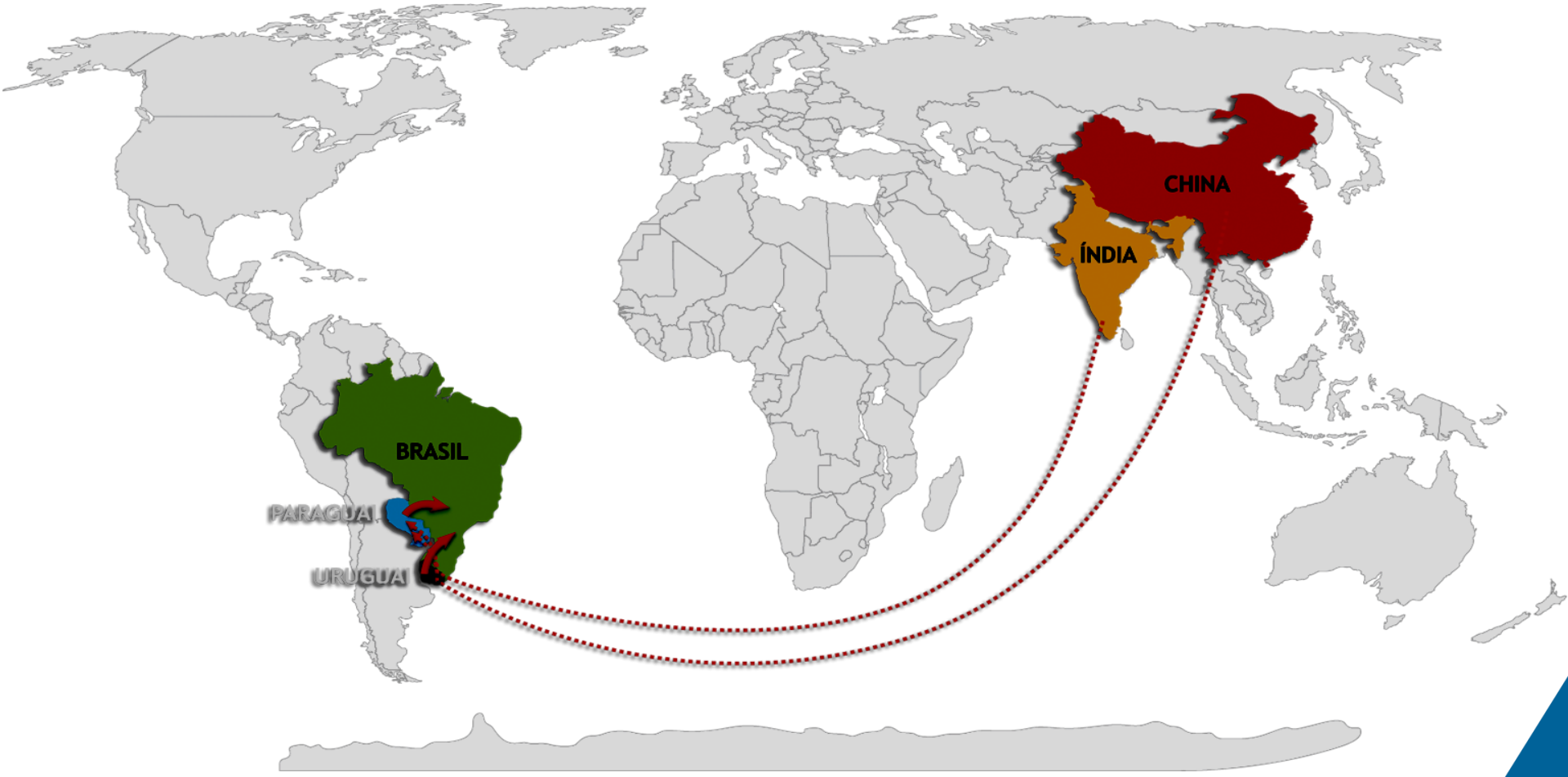
Impacts of illegal pesticides



Restricted Use - À usage restreint

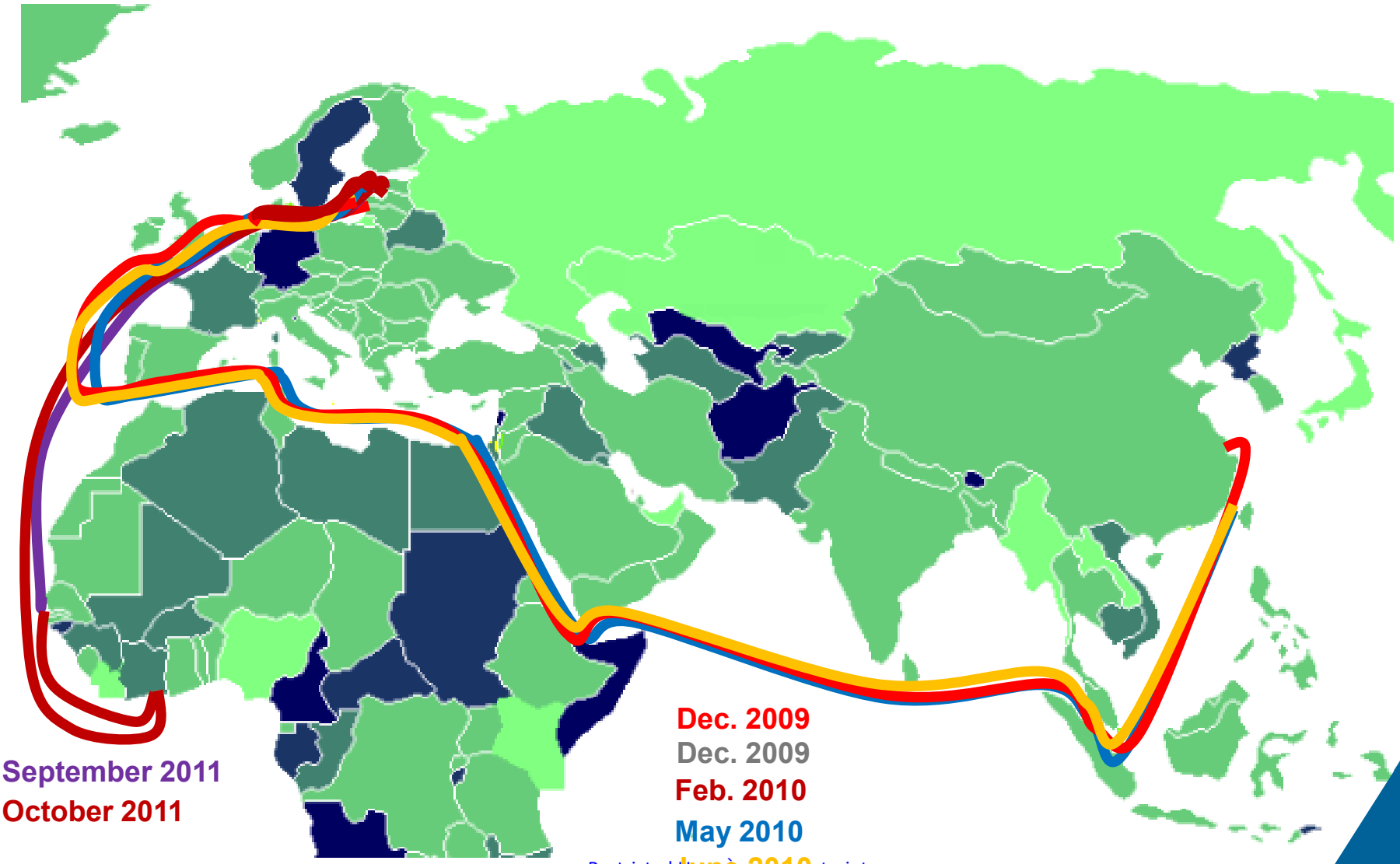
SMUGGLING ROUTES

Smuggling routes



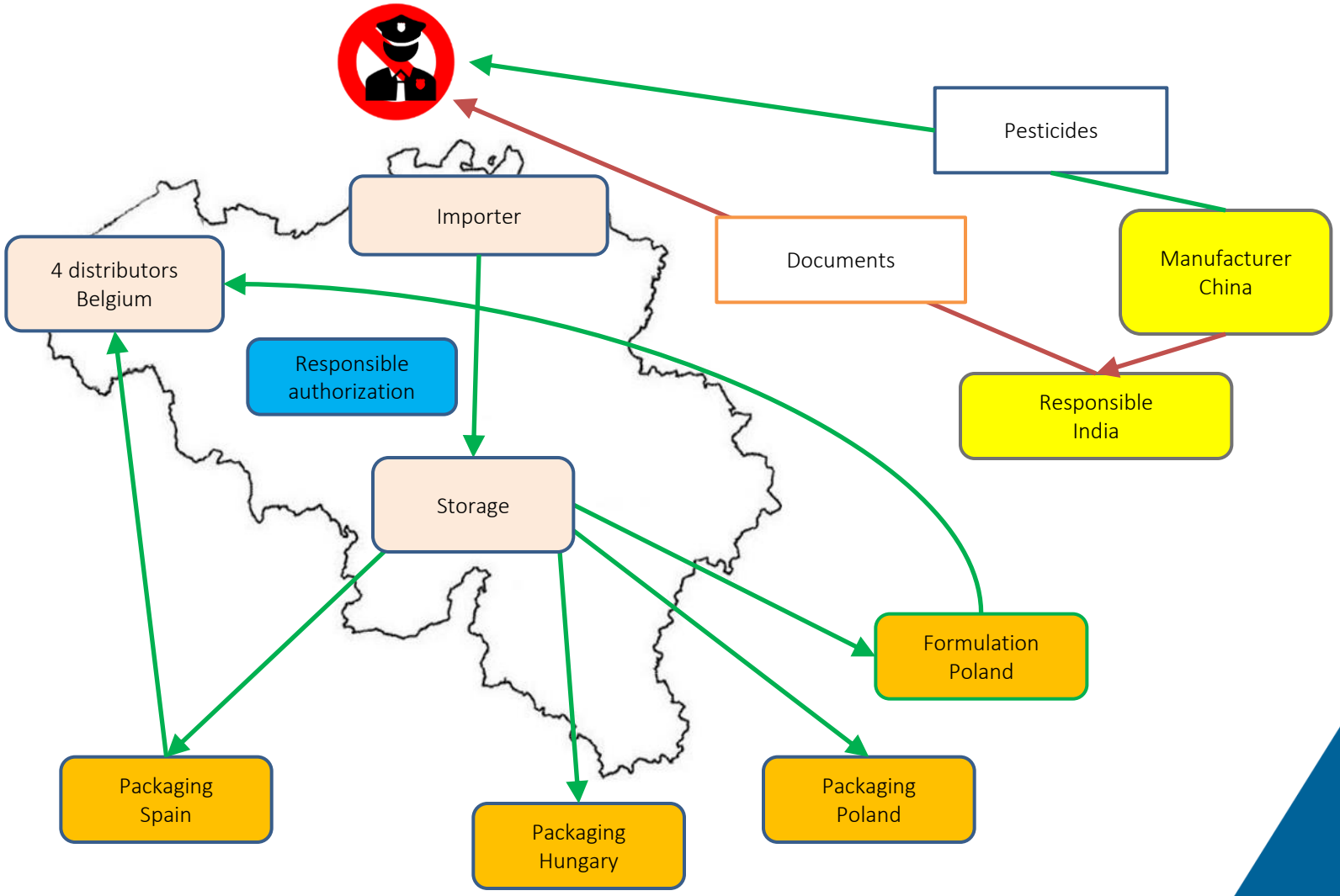
Restricted Use - À usage restreint

Smuggling routes



Restricted Usage / Usage restreint

Complex traceability :
example of illegal pesticides coming to Belgium



Restricted Use - À usage restreint

Illegal pesticides are transported by boat from one continent to another



Restricted Use - À usage restreint

Then generally by road within continents





Restricted Use - À usage restreint

Seizure of illegal pesticides



Conclusion of the current status

- Trans-regional and intercontinental smuggling routes
- Rapid adaptation of illegal traders to control measures

→ Legislation harmonized between countries + Need for cooperation at regional and international levels

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

MEANS OF ACTION

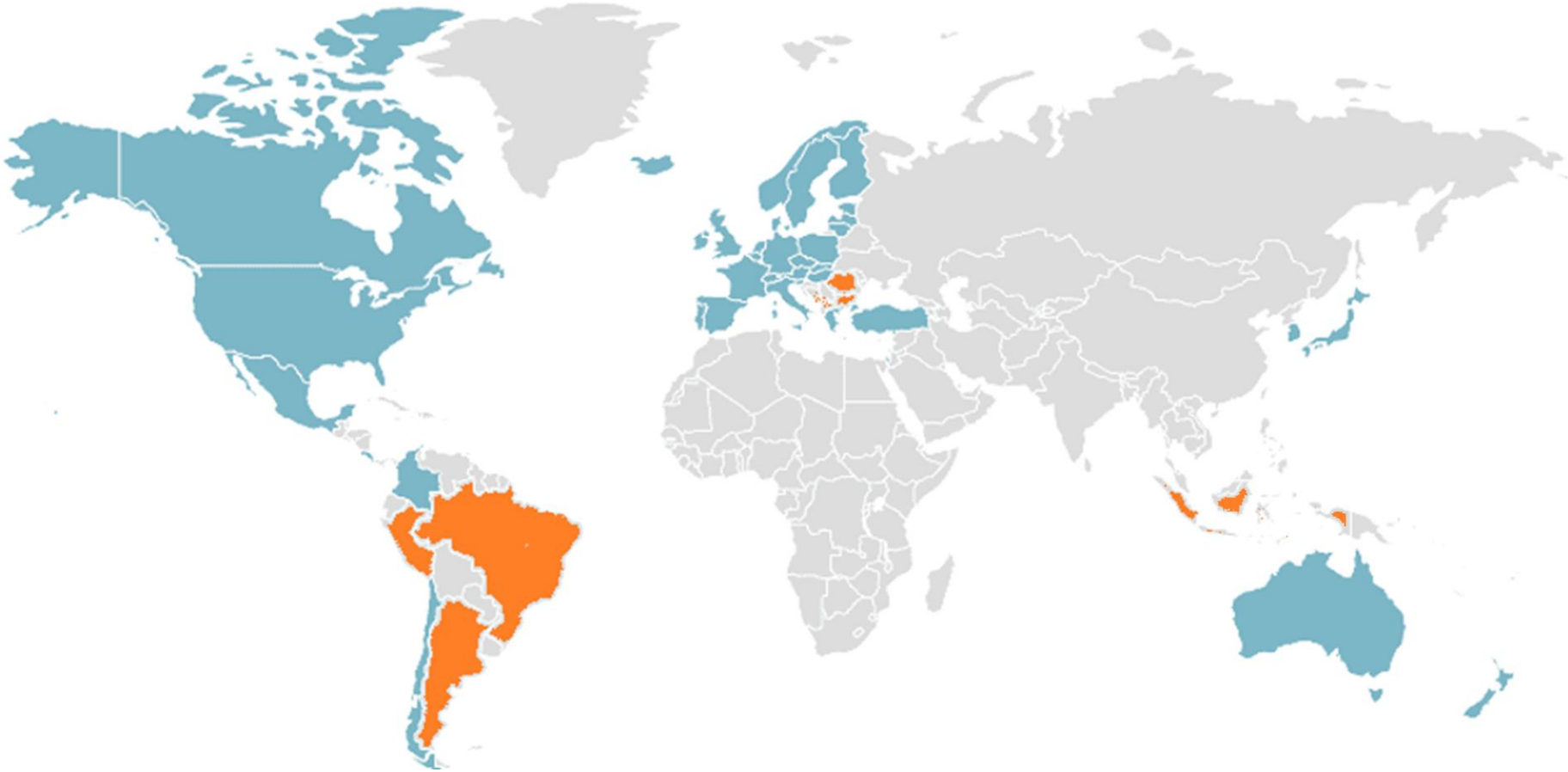
At national level: what can be done?

- **Registration system**
- **Post-registration monitoring**
  - **Legislation: sufficiently dissuasive fines and criminal sanctions**
  - **Inspection service: Trained inspectors with resources (legal, technical)**
  - **Cooperation between the different national services involved (including data exchange): Ministry of Agriculture, Customs, Police, Justice, etc.**
  - **Cooperation with neighboring countries…and other regions**

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

MEANS OF ACTION: OECD's SUPPORT

OECD member countries
Accession process



Restricted Use - À usage restreint

OECD Recommendation on Countering Illegal Trade of Pesticides

The OECD Council recommends that Adherents:

- ensure that there is an appropriate regulatory framework for the management of agricultural pesticides;
- ensure systems are in place to detect and take regulatory action against illegal trade in pesticides;
- cooperate to minimize illegal trade in pesticides;

Recommandation OCDE/LEGAL/0446

Any non-OECD member country can become an Adherent to the Recommendation and benefit from cooperation with OECD member countries

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

OECD Network on Illegal Trade in Pesticides (ONIP)

- Exchange of sensitive information
- Via the Rapid Alert System on suspected or rejected pesticides (RAS)

Rapid Alert System (RAS)

Access restricted to Members participating in ONIP

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

OECD Best Practice Guidance

Best practice guidance to identify and counter illegal pesticides throughout their lifecyle

Developed by the OECD Network on Illegal Trade in Pesticides (ONIP)

Target audience: for regulatory authorities and inspectors

Best Practices Guidance BPG

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

MORE INFORMATION

sylvie.poret@oecd.org

https://www.oecd.org/env/ehs/development-cooperation-sound-management-chemicals.htm

https://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/pesticides-biocides/agriculturalpesticides.htm

OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES