



The biocontrol industry

Key player for future agriculture

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ABIM

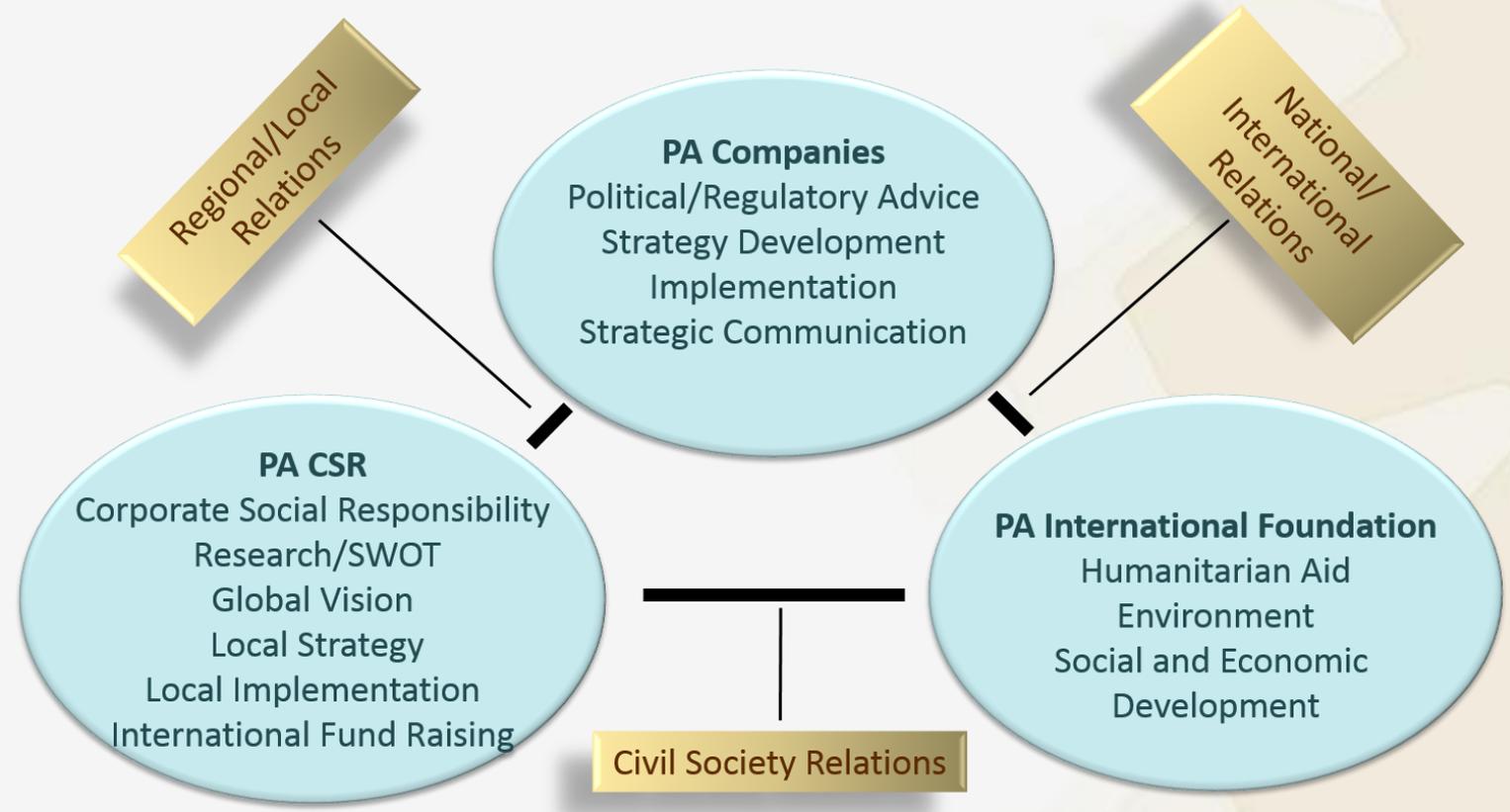
Basel, 20 October 2015





Who is PA

PA Organisational Chart





Biopesticides (vs. High-Risk Pesticides)

- **Biopesticides** are certain types of pesticides derived from such natural materials as animals, plants, bacteria, and certain minerals (United States Environmental Protection Agency - EPA)

- **Advantages** (EPA)

Inherently less toxic than conventional pesticides.

Affect only the target pest and closely related organisms (conventional pesticides may affect organisms as different as birds, insects ,etc.)

Effective in very small quantities and decompose quickly, resulting in lower exposures and largely avoiding the pollution problems caused by conventional pesticides.

When used as a component of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), biopesticides can greatly reduce the use of conventional pesticides, while crop yields remain high.



Pesticides Use in China



- **16.1%** of China's soil and **19.4%** of farmland is contaminated (China Ministry of Environmental Protection); this is assumed to be a 'conservative' estimation
- **83%** of contamination from inorganic sources such as heavy metals, partly caused by application of fertilisers and pesticides (China Ministry of Environmental Protection)
- As of 2013, nearly **60%** of monitored areas of China have 'very poor' or 'relatively poor' underground water quality (China Ministry of Land and Resources)
- Total clean-up costs of China's soil are **USD 1.6 trillion** (2013, Zhuang Guotai, Head of the Ministry of Environmental Protection's Department of Nature and Ecology Conservation)
- Direct losses for agricultural producers: e.g. heavy metal pollution of grain costs China **20 billion yuan** (2.9 billion euros, exchange rate dated 27 May 2015) annually (2011, Luo Xiwen, Member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering)



Statements of stakeholders



- **BEUC**

“Given the challenges that are involved in the use of pesticides in general and the risk perception by consumers in particular it is all-important that pesticides must be used at levels “as low as reasonably achievable”

- **Jim Jones** (Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention)

“the Environmental Protection Agency is encouraging development of biopesticides because they have very favorable human health and environmental profiles”

- **Pekka Pesonen** (Secretary-General of Copa-Cogeca)

“Europe’s farmers need innovative solutions [referring to crop protection] in today’s changing global market, and we need a regulatory framework that encourages this innovation”



Gap in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009



- Preambles of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009: *priority regarding the authorisation non-chemical and natural alternatives should be given wherever possible*
- Article 14 of Directive 2009/128/EC: *The Prioritization of authorisation of low-risk pesticide*; Yet no fast-track approval procedure and empty farmers' toolbox
- European Parliament: ENVI Committee requests EC to fill this void
- European Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis told IBMA that he will consider this as soon as possible.



PA Elite Opinion Poll

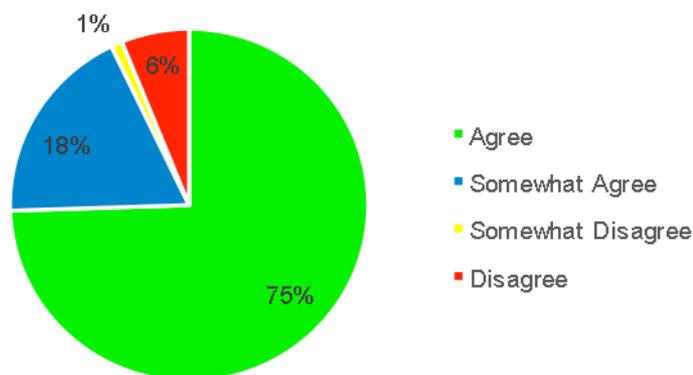


- At the request of IBMA, PA International Foundation executed an 'Elite Opinion Poll' on Low-Risk Pesticides
- Focus at experts from all relevant stakeholder groups (Governments, academia, industry, NGOs, consumer organisations, patient associations, etc.)
- Identify options for consensus on way forward

Key Results Poll

- **93%** of the respondents want the European Commission to facilitate and accelerate the approval procedures of low-risk biopesticides in comparison with high-risk pesticides, to promote their use in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) systems

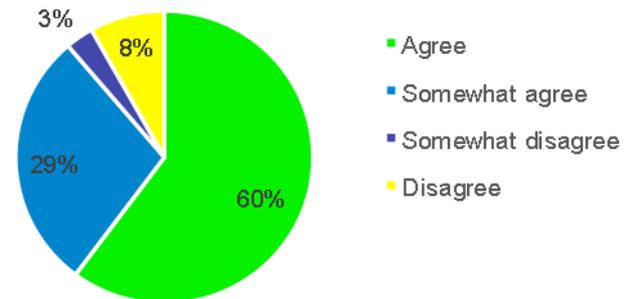
14. Do you agree/ somewhat agree/ somewhat disagree/ disagree that the European Commission should facilitate and accelerate the approval procedures of low-risk biopesticides in comparison with high-risk pesticides to promote their use in IPM?



Key Results Poll

- **89%** of the respondents agree that the use of low-risk pesticides could help achieve the lowest possible residue levels of pesticides in food products

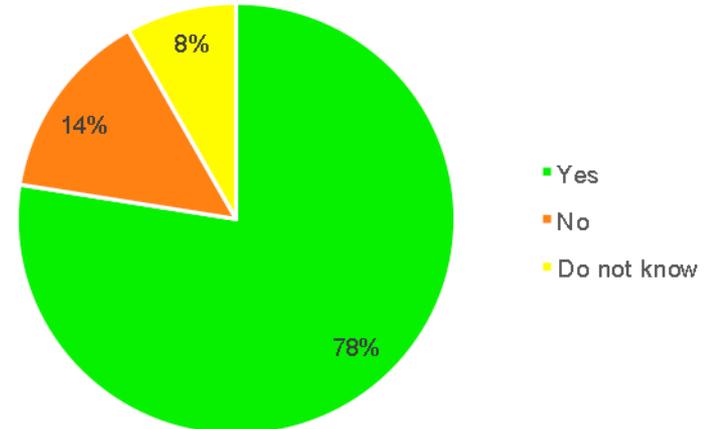
3. Do you agree or disagree that the use of low-risk biopesticides for crop cultivation helps achieve the lowest possible residue-levels of pesticides in food products?



Key Results Poll

- A strong majority of the respondents **(78%)** wants the Commission to play a role in informing European consumers about the lowest-possible residue levels in food products

16. Would you like the European Commission to play any role in informing European consumers about low-residue levels of pesticides in food products, e.g. through food labelling?





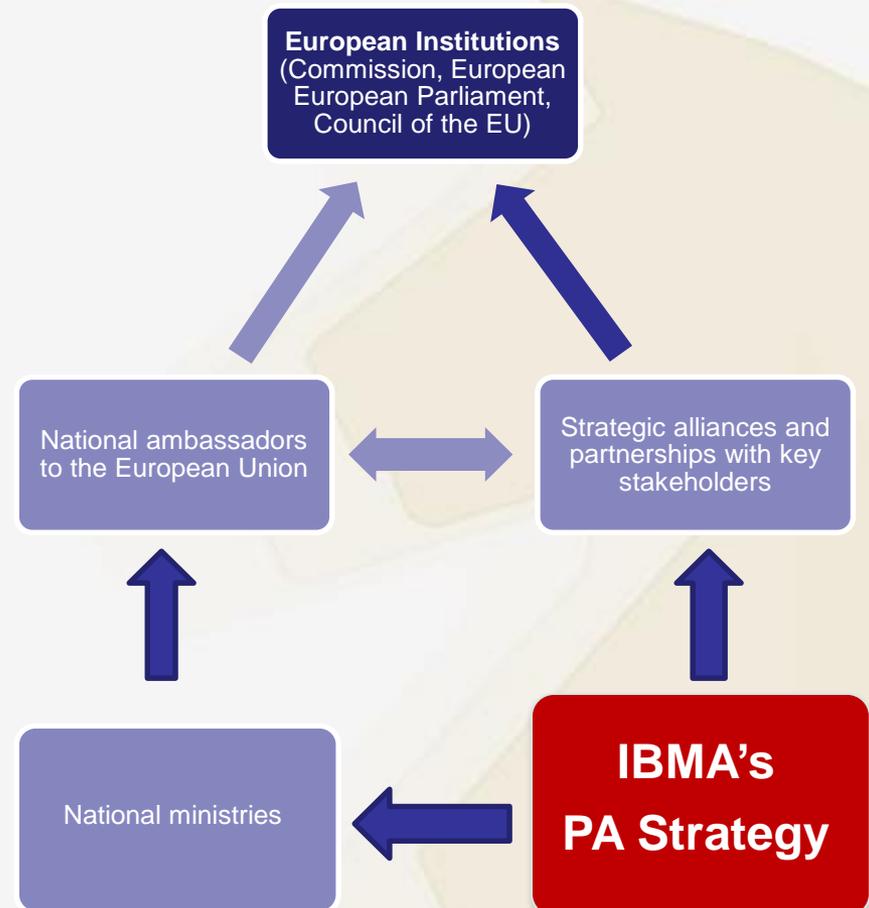
Key Statements from the Poll

- **Mr José Graziano da Silva, Director-General of the FAO:** “The questionnaire is very timely in relation to FAO’s work, as well as that for the European Union.”
- **Ms Evelyn Underwood, Policy Analyst at the Institute for European Environmental Policy:**
“I support a simple screening process of low-risk substances for a simplified risk assessment and approval procedure. This is already possible under Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.” A simple Communication can lead to implementation.
- **Dr Philippe Nicot, President of IOBC-WPRS (International Organisation for Biological and Integrated Control, West Palaearctic Regional Section):**
“Developing new biopesticides should be a key research priority in the EU, as low-risk biopesticides are far from being available for all the key pest problems of the major crops.”

Consequence

Elite Opinion Poll

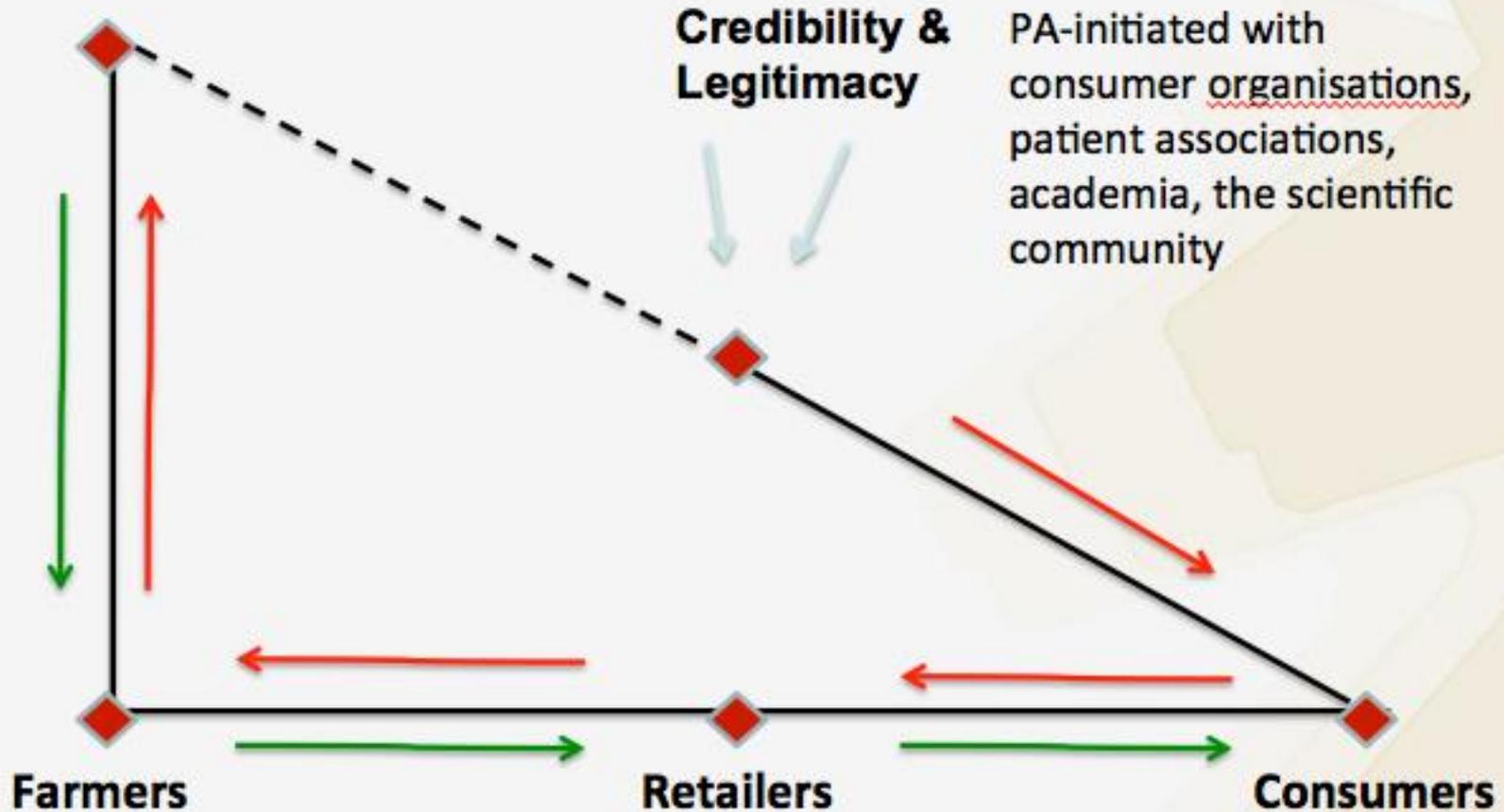
- Creation of a strategic alliance and demonstrated broad **multi-stakeholder support** for a faster approval procedures for low-risk pesticides under Regulation 1107/2009
- Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs: supportive of an initiative on low-risk pesticides during EU Presidency
- Multi-stakeholder consensus driving virtually unanimously supported actions in EU institutions





PA Market Pull Model IBMA

IBMA Members





EP Luncheon - Conclusions



1. Link between the use of pesticides and diseases
2. European farmers demand more low-risk active substances and plant protection products in their toolbox
3. All meeting participants agreed to call on the EC to develop a proposal on faster approval procedure to be put in law during the Dutch EU Presidency (first half of 2016)
4. Transparency and Choice for European consumers and farmers should be increased through labeling of low-risk plant protection products
5. ENVI- Committee Chair, Mr La Via, and Vice-Chair, Mr Poc, wrote to the European Commission to take urgent and immediate action



Letter to Commissioner Andriukaitis


European Parliament

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
The Chair

Strasbourg, 6th October 2015

Mr Vytenis Andriukaitis
Commissioner,
Health and Food Safety
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
BE - 1049 Brussels

Dear Commissioner Andriukaitis,

We are writing, with reference to your statement on optimized pesticide management during your confirmation hearing in the European Parliament and mindful of our subsequent discussions on the subject, to ask you to develop faster approval procedures for low-risk active substances.

The European consumer demands safe food through the greening of EU agriculture. The introduction of new low-risk pesticides will enable European farmers to expand their sustainable toolbox with safe alternatives to protect their crops.

Currently, Article 12 of Directive 2009/128/EC stipulates for EU Member States that in specific areas "the use of low-risk plant protection products as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and biological control measures shall be considered in the first place".

Moreover, Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 states that "in order to favour the inclusion of such a (low-risk) substance in plant protection products, it is appropriate to identify such substances and to facilitate the placing on the market of plant protection products containing them. Incentives should be given for the placing on the market of low-risk plant protection products".


European Parliament

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
The Chair

We believe that it is now time for the European Commission to act. This will increase European competitiveness, ensure a better application of Integrated Pest Management principles and improve the sustainability of European agriculture. Through a Motion for a Resolution we call on the European Commission to amend Articles 22, 30, 47 and 66 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 while simultaneously producing a Commission Communication highlighting the purpose and ways and means of this regulatory adaptation.

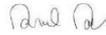
We look forward to work with you on the realization of this project.

We thank you very much in advance for your cooperation and dedication to this important purpose.

Yours sincerely,

Giovanni La Via
Chair of the ENVI Committee

Pavel Poč
Vice-Chair of the ENVI Committee



Motion for a Resolution



- Potentially voted in the EP before Christmas 2015
- Action during the Dutch Presidency of the EU in the first half of 2016



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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