



## **Southern African Pesticide Regulators Forum (SAPReF) Annual General Meeting and Technical Training**

### **Meeting Report**



September 04th - 08th, 2023

Tsogo Southern Sun OR Tambo International Airport Hotel,  
Johannesburg, South Africa

## PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document provides a summary of the presentations, discussions, conclusions, and recommendations of the annual meeting and technical training held on September 04th - 08th, 2023. Delegates did not formally adopt this report.

This report was prepared by the SAPReF Secretary Mr Kenneth Chipere (Zimbabwe) with the assistance of the SAPReF Administrator and Consultant, Miss Nanziwe K Khumalo of the University of Cape Town's Environmental Health Division (UCT-EHD). Valuable written and verbal inputs were received from meeting delegates and facilitators.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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We would also like to acknowledge the technical assistance that the following supporting organisations provided: the University of Cape Town's Environmental Health Division (UCT-EHD), the Southern Africa Development Community Secretariat's Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate (SADC/FANR), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, University of Cape Town (ICGEB-UCT), the Centre of Environmental Justice and Development (CEJAD) and the Centre for Pesticide Suicide Prevention (CPSP-University of Edinburgh).

We are grateful to the following individuals who served as resource persons from the above-mentioned supporting organisations for the meeting: Jenny Rönngren of KemI for informing the meeting on the work their organisation is undertaking on GHS and HHPs in Africa; Ivy Saunyama from the FAO AGPM/Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa – SFS, who provided technical guidance and training on the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit; Roma Gwynn the consultant provided by FAO who introduced the WHO/FAO GD on microbials, botanical and semi-chemicals and then microbial toolkit (2017) as well as vital elements for biopesticide registration; Dennis Ndolo of ICGEB-UCT sharing information on the development of the SADC



Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents; Professor Hanna-Andrea Rother and Fredrick Otieno from UCT-EHD on the implementation of the of SADC Pesticide Guidelines and the status on the regional HHP Strategy development; Jeanne Eberling from UCT-EHD for the introduction of the developing SAPReF website; Nanziwe K Khumalo (UCT-EHD) for various types of assistance during the organisation, planning and management of the meeting, as well as updating everyone on the information shared by member States; Steve Lazaro of FAO for logistical support for the meeting; Sanda Molenkamp of UNITAR for providing information on GHS and the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) Toolbox; Richard Brown of WHO for highlighting how the implementation of SADC pesticide guidelines (2019) can be supported by the WHO Chemical's Roadmap; Buyang Hadi from FAO for covering the role of biological controls in the sustainable management of invasive pests; and lastly Esaiiah Tjelele of the Southern Africa Development Community Secretariat's Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate (SADC/FANR) who provided valuable comments and inputs on the elements for consideration on the draft regional HHP Strategy and the regional Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents.

Lastly but not least, we thank all the member States for availing delegates to attend this meeting and the delegates who took the time to participate and actively engage in this SAPReF meeting.



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## ACRONYMS

AGPM	
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CAN	Comunidad Andina - Andean Community
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CEJAD	Centre for Environmental Justice and Development
CILSS	Comité permanent inter-État de lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel - The Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CPSP	Centre for Pesticide Suicide Prevention, University of Edinburgh
EHD	Environmental Health Division
EXCO	Executive Committee
FANR	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FAW	Fall Armyworm
GHS	Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
HHPs	Highly Hazardous Pesticides
ICGEB	International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology
IOMC	Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
JMPM	Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management
KemI	Swedish Chemical Agency
LMIC	Low-to-middle-income countries
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPCA	Microbial Pest Control Agent
MPCP	Microbial Pest Control Product
NBA	National Biotechnology Authority of Zimbabwe
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PIPs	Plant incorporated products
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAPReF	Southern African Pesticide Regulators Forum
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SFS	Subregional Office for Southern Africa
SPPTC	SADC Plant Protection Technical Committee





STDF	Standards & Trade Development Facility
TCP	Technical Cooperative Programme
TWG	Technical working group
UCT	University of Cape Town
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNITAR	United Nations Institute of Training and Research



## 1.0. BACKGROUND

The pesticide regulators of Southern African Development Community (SADC) member States met in July 2011 to discuss the possibility of creating a regional group collaborating on relevant pesticide issues. The group established at this meeting was named the Southern African Pesticide Regulators Forum (SAPReF). The regional grouping was later approved as a SADC technical subcommittee under the Plant Protection Technical Committee (SPPTC). It was mandated to oversee all the pesticide management technical issues within the SADC regional bloc and promote collaboration for Sound Pesticide Management. Current members are from Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Malawi, Mauritius, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. SAPReF is actively seeking the participation of Comoros.

SAPReF is led by an Executive Committee (EXCO) comprising six members selected by the membership. The EXCO meets virtually regularly and aims at having physical meetings annually. The EXCO, with assistance of an administrator (sponsored by Kemi through UCT provides oversight of SAPReF activities and implementation of its agreed action plan. The current Chair of SAPReF is Botswana who will be handing over to Angola, the Vice Chair are Zambia and Lesotho, and the Secretary is Zimbabwe.

SAPReF members and its steering committee meet regularly and hold virtual meetings to maintain the momentum of their action plan. They also meet physically once a year, resources permitting. The SADC members sitting on SAPReF are pesticide regulators and/or officers dealing with pesticide management from each respective country and representing the relevant ministries within those countries. SAPReF is addressing pesticides used in agriculture, public health, domestic and natural environments. Its members also address policies and practices for sustainable pest management practices that aim to reduce reliance on chemical pesticides. The reason for establishing SAPReF was the identification of common issues in managing and reducing pesticide risks, as well as the fact that all countries have a general lack of human and financial resources to address these individually. SAPReF members believe that by working together as a regional group they will be



able to address these issues more effectively to protect human health and the environment ,while also safeguarding and promoting food safety and trade.

## **2.0. INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPANTS**

The Southern African Pesticide Regulators Forum (SAPReF) General Meeting and Technical Training was held in, Johannesburg, South Africa at the Tsogo Southern Sun OR Tambo from September 04th – 08th 2023. The meeting was attended by 40 participants that included 15 SADC Member States and collaborating partners such as University of Cape Town (UCT), the Swedish Chemical Agency (Kemi), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Centre for Environmental Justice and Development (CEJAD), United Nations Institute of Training and Research (UNITAR) and International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB). The full list of participants is in Annex I.

## **3.0. OBJECTIVES AND DELIVERABLES**

The purpose of this regional meeting was to build regional collaboration in sound pesticide management whilst highlighting the need for risk reduction of highly hazardous pesticides and provide technical assistance training on the FAO pesticide registration toolkit for countries in Southern Africa through the Southern African Pesticide Regulators' Forum (SAPReF); Review the progress of SAPReF in the achievement of activities as set out in the strategic action plan and foster the harmonisation of pesticide regulation by providing regional regulators with the technical skills and knowledge to develop protocols for the identification and risk management of pesticides. Annex II details the meeting agenda.

### **The objectives of the meeting were to:**

- provide training to the participating countries in the protocol for the identification of HHPs;
- risk management and better management of pesticides to protect human health and the environment;



- assist the participating countries in developing specific preparations for implementing the HHP strategy; and
- provide refresher training on the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit.

#### 4.0. OPENING REMARKS

The Director of Ceremonies for the Opening Session facilitated self-introductions by all the participants.

##### **Welcoming Remarks: Mr. Loitseng Sebetwane (Outgoing SAPReF Chairperson)**

The SAPReF Chairman, Mr. Loitseng Sebetwane welcomed all the member States and supporting organisations and thanked them for their attendance. He also requested if there were any apologies, and an apology was received from the SADC secretariat representative Mr. Tjelele. The Chair indicated that after the meeting he would give feedback to the SADC secretariat deliberations that would have taken place. The Chair requested from the house any additions to the agenda, and none was received, and the agenda was adopted as is.

The Chair indicated his extreme disappointment with the low attendance from member States as all the invitations were sent in due time and he could not understand the reason for this low attendance. He also questioned the commitment from member States and their understanding of the importance of attending meetings whether virtual or in-person. The Chair also indicated his concern with lack of Quorum and or/the no shows on scheduled virtual meetings by the EXCO and some SAPReF general members. Failure to attend these meeting may be taken to indicate the lack of understanding by member States on the importance of these meeting in championing sustainable pesticide management in the region. He also highlighted that this poor attendance can be interpreted as lack of seriousness of member States by the SADC PPC to which SAPReF reports to as a technical sub-committee. He urged member States to attend these meetings and found it disappointing that only supporting institutions attend these meetings. The Chair acknowledged supporting institutions for availing themselves for this meeting, their commitment and providing the technical and financial support that made this and other meetings possible.

The Chair highlighted that the aim of this meeting was to reflect on achievements and failures of SAPReF and to determine whether SAPReF was making an impact as



mandated by SADC. The Chair indicated that there were some areas in which they performed well such as capacity building and gave the examples of the review of the SADC guidelines on risk reduction and pesticide management, the Draft HHP Risk Reduction Strategy and the Draft SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents.

The Chair informed the house of the need to adopt the SADC Chairperson rotational system as SAPReF as has been previously advised by SADC Secretariat and emphasized as he came for this meeting. The current chair of SADC is Angola and that should also be the same scenario in SAPReF. The chair indicated that in accordance with SADC protocols any institution that is doing a project with SAPReF must be formally introduced to the SADC Secretariat unless it has an memorandum of understanding (MOU) with SADC. He mentioned as an example the project with ICGEB in which five member States were involved in the developing of the Draft SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents. The project may not be considered as a regional project, but discussions can still be done as this work is an integral part of the SADC Draft Highly Hazardous Pesticides Risk Reduction Strategy.

The chair thanked the house and wished the forum fruitful deliberations over the next couple of days.

### **Opening Remarks – FAO Representative: Ivy SAUNYAMA**

Ms. Ivy Saunyama gave the opening remarks on behalf of Dr. Babagana Ahmadu, FAO Representative, Republic of South Africa.

She highlighted the key role that sustainable agriculture and natural resources management has on ensuring that the SADC Region is food secure. They also support a vibrant economy based on intra- and inter-regional trade. Ms. Saunyama also pointed out that globally farmers in low- and middle-income countries must double food production to meet their needs, a challenge made even more daunting by the combined effects of climate change and growing competition for land, water, and energy. This is further exacerbated by the challenge of the incessant onslaught by transboundary plant and animal diseases and pests compounding the matter. Ms. Saunyama pointed out the fact that agricultural intensification and efforts to combat pests and diseases could lead to



increased reliance on external inputs such pesticides as well as exploitation of natural resources. She indicated that global efforts should therefore be directed towards increasing food production whilst conserving and enhancing natural resources on which that production depends. Sound pesticide management is a key tenet to sustainable agriculture. She also highlighted the key initiatives that SADC member States need to apply to strengthen systems for pesticide regulation as well as control and support to farmers on best practices in sustainable pest management and pesticide use. In her speech she lamented the ease of availability of Highly Hazardous Pesticides and counterfeit products on the SADC pesticide market. She emphasized the need to further develop an efficient, competitive, and sustainable agricultural sector in Southern Africa, through minimizing possible adverse effects of pesticide use. This is because agriculture depends on maintaining strict standards (and a good image) concerning pesticide use, food safety, food quality and sustainability of production.

She applauded SAPReF and the supporting institutions for the sustained efforts and momentum to advance pesticide risk reduction as region and collectively address the current pesticide management problems. This regional approach builds on similar experiences in West Africa (CILSS Countries), the Andean Region (CAN), the Caribbean (CARICOM), Southeast Asia (ASEAN) and elsewhere. Regional collaboration, work sharing, information exchange and harmonization are the recommended approaches for sustainable pest and pesticide management.

She also appreciated the collaborative work alongside the SADC Secretariat, with partners such as the UCT-EHD, Kemi, FAO-SFS, CPSP and CEJAD. These collaborators and institutions have been working with pesticide regulators in Southern Africa for a long time, even from when the idea of SAPReF was being crafted. The full appreciation and support of the objectives behind the founding of SAPReF, the achievements to date, as well the appreciation for SAPReF's lack of resources to drive key activities prompted FAO to commit some funding towards SAPReF activities including this workshop.

In conclusion she reminded SAPReF members that FAO and other supporting institutions will not readily avail financial, technical, and administrative support unless SAPReF members clearly demonstrate commitment to meet the aspirations of the forum and are actively engaged in the various activities aimed at reducing pesticide risks, both at regional and national level.



### **Opening Remarks – Kemi representative: Jenny RÖNNGREN**

SAPReF can contribute enormously to saving people's lives and the environment by the decisions they take and should use the following two days funded by KEMI to learn as much as possible.

### **Opening Remarks – UCT-EHD representative: Professor Andrea-Hanna ROTHER**

Professor Andrea Rother highlighted that UCT have supported regions and countries to develop their own systems for sound pesticide management and will continue to do so if there is financial support. She took the forum back to when SAPReF was first established and reminded the forum of how important SAPReF is in making their own independent, informed decisions as SAPReF is a technical committee and not run by industry or dictated to by industry.

UCT's Environmental Health Division's focus is on capacity building because SADC countries have an average of five people regulating pesticides compared to the US and EU which have more 100 people. Thus, it's key to build capacity of regulators in the region. This capacity building has been made possible through the support UCT receives from various institutions, namely, KEMI, UNEP, UNITAR, and FAO. This is achieved through the various short courses and academic programs UCT conducts notably the Post Graduate Diploma in Pesticide Risk Management and the Professional Masters in Chemicals Management.

Prof Rother then indicated that all their information materials are available in French on the Vula platform but not in Portuguese yet, but UCT are endeavouring to translate all the documents into Portuguese too.

### **Group Photo**

Finally, a group photo was taken outside the hotel in the afternoon during the tea break (see Cover Page for the group photo and Annex III for additional meeting photos).



## 5.0. MEETING SESSIONS

### 5.1 Member State implementation status of SADC Guidelines: Fredrick Otieno (UCT consultant)

- A questionnaire was developed and was shared with UCT, SAPReF EXCO and SADC Secretariat for review before deployment on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.
- It was deployed on the google platform, shared through emails and SAPReF WhatsApp groups.
- The questionnaire was focused on member States level of awareness on the guidelines, status of domestication, status of implementation (national workshop, action plans, budgetary allocation etc.), status of implementation of SADC Guidelines accompanying documents (registration and import/export approval forms) and challenges in implementation.
- Only six countries, had responded to the questionnaire as at 04<sup>th</sup> of September 2023, four of them reporting to have domesticated the guidelines with only one member state giving details of the domestication.

### 5.2 Update on SAPReF spreadsheets and documents (country HHP lists, current legislation) and how to find them: Nanziwe Khumalo (SAPReF Administrator) and Jeanne Eberling (UCT consultant)

- All member States have provided information on registered and banned pesticides, HHP databases and info on policy and legislation.
- SAPReF spreadsheets, documents, and projects on Vula will migrate onto another Website being developed by UCT for UCT Environmental Health projects on a section dedicated to all SAPReF activities.
- The Platform will have two tiers of information access,
  - Open Access available to the public, will include the following;
    - SAPReF history, member States, institutions, and activities
    - SADC list of banned pesticides
    - GHS guidelines
    - List of all banned and registered pesticides
    - SADC HHPs database and their alternatives (once approved)





- Link HHP's database to ICGEB biopesticides database
  - Recommended documents under Private;
    - Toxicity and ecotoxicity data
- Kemi project financing the SAPReF administrator/secretariat closing 31 December 2023 and so there is need for funding.

### 5.3 GHS from a global, policy and introductory perspective and UNITAR's activities (GHS in Africa) and the IOMC Toolbox: Sanda Molenkamp, UNITAR

- GHS is often regarded as a fundamental component of the sound management of chemicals, applicable to all sectors, health, labour, agriculture, environment, transport, trade, and more.
- Global political backing of GHS
  - Plan of Implementation, adopted by WSSD (2002), encouraged **countries to implement the GHS as soon as possible.**
  - The High Ambition Alliance stated at IP3 (Bangkok, 2019): “...**essential that the [GHS] be implemented by all countries.**”
  - The Global Chemicals Outlook-II (UNEP, 2019), under Action 1 on developing effective management systems calls for “**full implementation of the GHS**”.
  - FAO, in their 2022 update to the Guidance on good labelling practice for pesticides notes that: “the GHS has become the international standard for classification and labelling of chemicals, including pesticides... This guidance recommends use only of the GHS for pesticide labelling”.
- However, despite this, the GHS is still not operational in more than 120 countries, mostly developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
- UNITAR is involved in activities for training and awareness raising, developing implementation strategies, and supporting the drafting and review of legislation on GHS. These include:



- In the last 10–15 years, supported multiple countries in developing national implementation strategies (typically funded by the Quick Start Programme)
- Work in multiple regions, such as ASEAN, to develop regional GHS implementation approaches and coordination.
- Worked with UNEP and the Gulf Cooperation Council to update the 2002 guidelines for the management of chemicals: GHS and chemical accidents.
- Have successfully run an GHS e-Learning course over the past 10 years which provides technical understanding of the GHS. English and Spanish available, run twice a year, each March/April and September/October (<https://www.unitar.org/event/event-pillars/planet>).
- IOMC Toolbox for Decision Making in Chemicals Management
- Toolbox has the following guidance documents and toolkits.
  - Developing a National GHS Implementation Strategy,
  - Understanding the GHS: A Companion Guide to the Purple Book
  - Key elements of an implementation roadmap (UNITAR)
  - Lessons-learned (UNITAR)
  - Legislation guidance (UNITAR)
  - The GHS and trade (UNITAR)
  - The GHS in the world of work (ILO)
  - FAO pesticides and decision-making toolkit.
  - OECD environmental risk assessment toolkit
  - UNIDO approaches chemicals and chemical waste.
  - UNIDO chemical cleansing toolkit
  - WHO human health risk assessment toolkit
  - UNIDO green chemistry toolkit
- The toolkits are not yet available on app but will be in the future.

#### 5.4 Kemi's GHS and HHP work in Africa: Jenny Rönngren, Kemi

- On-going cooperation with FAO (project support and technical support)



- Toolkit trainings, development of an HHPs e-learning course, support to countries in the identification and management of HHPs, Development of a HHP global action plan.
- Support to UCT through the Pesticide Discussion Forum.
- Support to SAPReF for the Development of the SADC HHP strategy among other trainings and capacity building initiatives.
- Support to HHPs Risk Reduction in Zambia and Tanzania.
- Work related to GHS;
  - Supporting the development of a GHS module in the FAO pesticide registration toolkit Support to UNITAR.
  - Supporting UNITAR in the development of a GHS training module for policy makers.
  - Support UCT through the Community of Practice (discussions on GHS).
  - Support to Zambia (ZEMA) and South Africa (Department of Employment and Labour) in the Capacity building for inspectors from concerned institutions on application of the GHS criteria and enforcement of legislation on GHS
  - Support to Uganda (NEMA) in the development of chemicals legislation, including requirements for classification and labelling according to GHS.

## 5.5 WHO Chemical's Roadmap for supporting SADC guideline implementation:

Richard Brown, WHO

- WHO, a key player in provisions of tools for Pesticide Management
  - WHO classification by Hazard (2019) available in French and Spanish
  - Colour bands on labels originally recommended by FAO.
- WHO Chemicals Road map to enhance health sector engagement in the SAICM process.
- Road Map has 4 action areas.
  - Risk reduction – engagement with MEAs



- Report adverse human health incidents.
- Document and share risk reduction actions and prevention strategies.
- Knowledge and evidence
  - Identify indicators showing burden of disease of pesticides.
  - Participate in discussion forums for specific issues.
- Institutional capacity building
- Leadership & coordination
  - Engagement with other sectors participate in coordination networks.
- Chemicals road map workbook is available for all member States to use.

## **5.6 Update on development of SAPReF/SADC HHP Strategy/ Core elements of the regional HHP strategy : Frederick Otieno (UCT Consultant)**

- Development of the strategy began in 2021 by the TWG with support from UCT, FAO and Kemi.
- In 2022 further support came CEJAD/CPSP with a consultant assisting the TWG in the drafting of the HHP Risk Reduction Strategy.
- Identification of HHPs using the WHO/FAO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPM) eight-point criteria
- Ten-year timeline according to SADC principles on strategy life cycle.
- Estimated budget of 10 million (USD)
- Milestone targets
  - Preliminary regional HHPs list by 2024,
  - Mechanisms for coordination established in all countries by 2023.
  - National HHPs risk reduction plan developed in all countries by 2028,
  - Legislation and guidelines on the registration of biopesticides in all SADC member States by 2028



- The document is now on draft four, which has been approved by SAPReF and now awaits approval at SADC Secretariat.
- The Strategy will be submitted to the Plant Protection Technical Committee, if approved it will then go for Legal verting once approved it will then proceed to the Council of Ministers once approved it will now be ready for translating into other major SADC member States languages for implementation.
- The HHP Risk reduction strategy will be submitted together with the Guidelines for Biopesticides registration, which is one of the strategies for the promotion of sustainable non-toxic alternatives to HHPs.

### 5.7 Update on future SAPReF activities: Loitseng Sebetwane (Chair) and Nanziwe Khumalo

The meeting went through the SAPReF strategic action plan which had been previously updated in 2021 by EXCO. During the meeting the action plan was updated by the member States with the assistance of the supporting organisation. See Annex 3 for the updated plan.

### 5.8 Update on SAPReF UNEP SP Proposal : Frederick Otieno (UCT Consultant)

- UNEP under the Special Projects Program made a call funding proposals.
- SAPReF submitted a proposal as a block but through Zambia as a member state in accordance with the proposal requirements.
- Only seven countries managed to submit support letters for proposal instead of the 15 SADC member States due time constraints. However, the project will be regional.
- The proposal is for USD 500,000.00 with an additional USD 230,000.00 as in-kind support.
- The project will focus on management of pesticide waste, packaging, containers, and GHS implementation.



### 5.9 Introduction to the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit: Ivy Saunyama

- Pesticides play a pivotal role in food security and economic development but pose unacceptable risks to human health and the environment, especially when not used appropriately.
- Pesticides registration authorities are gate keeper's key to sustainable registration, import and use of pesticides.
- The Pesticide Registration Toolkit is a web-based decision support system providing technical resources that help pesticide regulators in their gate keeping roles by providing information at one place, which helps them to make informed decisions during the registration process.
- Its very import in the pesticide reduction process especially to low-to-middle-income countries (LMIC) who have technical and financial limitations in pesticide regulations.
- Its elements consist of registration tools, information sources and special topics.
- Registration tools shows processes, procedures, and advice on possible registration strategy to use.
- Information sources has links to various scientific database, reference websites with information related to pesticides properties.
- Special topics information such as HHPs and Biological Pest Control Agents.
- Biological Pest Control Agents section provides guidance on their registration and is partially functional with totally functionality targeted for 2024.

### 5.10 Introduce WHO/FAO GD on Microbials, Botanical and Semiochemicals (2017): Roma Gwynn (FAO Consultant)

- Biopesticides pose a lower and at times no risk to human health and environment during their use in crop protection, lower risk products -simpler operator and worker personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements.
- These fit well in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) due to target specificity, unlikely to develop resistance and easily manageable pre-harvest intervals.



- They have a different mode of operation/action from chemical pesticides and so pose a challenge to their registration by LMIC due to lack of technical and financial capacities.

### 5.11 Introduction to the CABI BioProtection Portal: *Dennis Ndolo*

- The Portal is for promoting awareness and uptake of bio protection internationally. [www.bioprotectionportal.com](http://www.bioprotectionportal.com)
- An open access web-based tool that enables users to correctly identify, source and apply registered biocontrol and biopesticides products against agricultural pests.
- Provides general knowledge on biological control and IPM, which is useful to growers and advisors, national authorities related for regulators, biocontrol manufacturers.
- Has a global directory of registered BioProtection products available in English, French, other local languages and is also available offline on an app you can use on your phone.
- The information is obtained from national and regional government lists.

### 5.12 Fall Armyworm (FAW) – overview of the history and current management practices

- A lot of HHPs are being used by farmers especially in the advent of FAW management this is even though farmers do not protect themselves using the appropriate PPE.
- Global action on FAW control initiated by FAO, global steering committee, technical committee, and regional steering committee.
- Training and knowledge products are some of the outcomes of the initiative with biological control as a key component in sustainable FAW management.
- Push-pulls as a habitat management technique, mass rearing and mass release of parasitoids were also developed in addition to other biopesticides being registered against the FAW.
- Some of the outcomes of the initiative include better FAW management, and human health protection.



### 5.13 Status and challenges of registration of bio pesticides: Presentations from Member States

- *Angola*: registration of biopesticides is like that of chemical pesticides so do not have regulations for biopesticides. The challenges are the lack of legislation and capacity to conduct any confirmatory tests but rely on the product dossiers to carry out the registration.
- *Botswana*: registration of biopesticides is like that of chemical/synthetic pesticides. However, their legislation is under review to include proper Biopesticide registration.
- *DRC*: Only has two registered biopesticides, and they are used at a small scale. Smallholder farmers use botanicals with no scientific data available.
- *Eswatini*: The member state has some biopesticides in circulation in the markets and are currently in the process of developing their pesticide legislation.
- *Lesotho*: Farmers normally use botanical mixtures which are not registered. The smallholder farmers and commercial farmers prefer chemical control over biological control because they perceive it's slow. The country does not have legislation for biopesticide.
- *Madagascar*: Legislation for biopesticides is similar to that of synthetic chemicals. They want biopesticides to be manufactured locally.
- *Malawi*: The member state has registered some biopesticides following the same registration process as the synthetic pesticides. However, the fees for registration for biological pesticides is a bit lower than for synthetic.
- *Mauritius*: All biopesticides are registered except pheromones. The registration process is the same for synthetic pesticides. The challenge is that the dossiers of products imported from India lack eco-toxicological data.
- *Mozambique*: Biopesticides are being registered using the same legislation for synthetic pesticides and a lot of products have been approved for use. Training for small holder farmers to prepare botanical pesticides is being done to promote their use as an alternative to synthetic pesticides.





- *South Africa*: The country has a well-developed legislation for biopesticides, which was published in 2015. However, the challenge is in the regulation of Plant incorporated products (PIPs).
- *Seychelles*: Legislation covers all pesticides whether synthetic or biological and use the same process for assessment. The country is currently revising legislation yet to decide whether to regulate biopesticides with a different legislation.
- *Tanzania*: Several biopesticides have been registered but use the general pesticide legislation.
- *Zambia*: The member state has no specific legislation for biopesticides but monitor efficacy trials which is costly. Legislation for registration of pesticides promulgated recently.
- *Zimbabwe*: National Biotechnology Authority of Zimbabwe (NBA) is responsibility for the quality of the biopesticides for human and environmental protection. Once the product approved by NBA, the Ministry of Agriculture does the efficacy trials and registration for full use. The Ministry of Agriculture uses the same legislation as for synthetic pesticides, but plans are underway to review it to accommodate biopesticides appropriately. The country has registered a variety biopesticides which include pheromones.

#### **5.14 Registration of Biopesticides – regional priorities:** Discussion facilitated by FAO/ICGEB

- There are different regulatory requirements for biopesticides in the member States.
- Some member States have biopesticides and chemical pesticides incorporated under one regulatory framework, and this hamper the registration of biopesticides as they have a different “chemistry”.
- There is need to harmonise the Biopesticides regulatory framework for the SADC region as this will provide the necessary tool for the prioritization and advancement of biopesticides in the SADC region.
- There is need to build capacity and train regulators with regards to biopesticides and the regulation thereof and proper support levered.



- The ICGEB also requested that all member States send through permissions and their biopesticides for addition onto the bio-pesticide portal.

### 5.15 Development process of the SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents: Discussion facilitated by FAO/ICGEB

- The ever-decreasing MRLs for pesticide residues on agricultural has a potential for introducing technical barriers to trade, especially for LMIC such as those in Africa.
- Continual exceedance of MRLs by a given country will result in the imports from that country being banned for export.
- Use of biopesticides for agricultural production can mitigate them this challenge of pesticide residues.
- In 2018 ICGEB approached Standards & Trade Development Facility (STDF) for a project preparation grant for a regional project that could focus on, inter alia exploiting the potential of pesticides to minimise residue problems.
- The project *“Enhancing trade through regulatory harmonisation and biopesticide-based residue mitigation in the SADC Region”* was a result of this initiative.
- The is being implemented by the International Centre for Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology (ICGEB) and financed by the STDF.
- The three-year project from March '21 – February '24) has the following deliverables:
  - Develop guidelines for harmonisation of biopesticide regulations across participating countries.
  - Conduct residue mitigation studies to support the use of non-residue producing biopesticides for late season pests.
  - Provision of information so that growers know what biopesticide options are available on the market.



- A technical working group (TWG) of regulatory officials from project countries developed the SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents.
- Draft reviewed by several project partners & advisory board members (FAO, AATF, SABO, COMESA, ECOWAS, EAC)
- Review comments incorporated & draft finalised.
- Presentation to SAPReF at general meeting (4-8 September 2023)
- A 6-month post- doctoral fellowship has been offered to a regulator from TZA to assist with the next steps in this process.
- Presented to SADC alongside the draft HHP strategy for approval.
- Project countries are being supported to organise in-country workshops to further share key aspects of the guidelines with key stakeholders.

### 5.16 Core elements of the SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents: *Discussion facilitated by FAO/ICGEB*

- The SADC harmonised guidelines for registration for biopesticide products aims to:
  - Provide farmers in the SADC Member States with safer and efficacious biopesticide products and biological control agents for pest control.
  - Provide SADC Member States with a harmonized framework for expediting the registration of biopesticide products and biological control agents.
  - Facilitate the mutual recognition and data sharing for the registration of biopesticide products and biological control agents amongst the SADC Member States.
  - Promote the implementation of best agricultural and regulatory management practices for agricultural pest control.
  - Promote the registration of safer pest control tools (biopesticides) with minimum data requirements.
- **The Guidelines covers the following classes of Biopesticides.**



- Microbial biopesticides - (FAO and EPA) Fungi, bacteria, virus & bacteriophages
- Biochemical/Botanicals - (EPA and FAO)
- Biochemical/Semiochemicals - (FAO)
- Macrobiols - (Nematodes, parasitoids & predators)
- Plant incorporated Protectants (PIPs) e.g., Bt cotton, Bt corn, etc.
- They have four registration Categories.
  - **Experimental Use/Research Permit** – granted for experimental or research use prior to submitting a full registration application.
  - **Temporary/Emergency Use Registration**- granted on a limited time basis in the event of a phytosanitary, public health, or a zoosanitary pest emergency.
  - **Transit Permit** – granted in advance of arrival for the unloading, landing or other movement of biopesticides through SADC member States and not intended for domestic distribution or trade.
  - **Full Registration** – granted when all registration requirements are met.

### 5.17 Data requirements for Biopesticide Registration: *Roma Gwynn (FAO Consultant)*

As many of the common microbial species have already been evaluated in other countries, these completed assessments can be a useful source of information on the approach used and decisions taken.

#### **For these common species of microbial pest control agent (MPCA)/microbial pest control product (MPCP) to be considered for reduced data requirements:**

1. Full and unequivocal taxonomic identification to species with strain designation, deposition of the strain in an internationally recognised culture collection and given an accession number.
2. Confirmation of the MPCA production process including quality control steps, to clearly demonstrate that the active substance contains cfu only and therefore an absence of secondary compounds (metabolites).



3. The active substance is formulated only with inert (non-toxic) co-formulants in the product.
4. Confirmation of cfu viability/potency as appropriate, in the final product following storage.
5. Confirmation of formulated product relevant physical/chemical and technical properties.
6. Confirmation that human pathogen contaminants are below accepted levels in the product.
7. Sufficient efficacy data to confirm label claims but there can be extrapolation of uses between crops.

#### 5.18 Biopesticide Registration Process: Roma Gwynn (FAO Consultant)

- WHO/FAO Guideline for the registration of microbial, botanical and Semiochemicals pest control agents for plant protection and public health uses.
- This guideline provides a framework and practical guidance to national authorities on how to address registration issues for biological pest control agents that are used in in plant protection and/or public health.
- It addresses aspects where biological pest control agents are different from conventional chemical pesticides and indicates where the authorities should pay particular attention.
- Maintaining a high level of protection of human health and the environment but ensuring there are no additional registration barriers for microbials, botanicals and semiochemicals, is a priority.
- Global harmonisation through various guidance documents in addition to the WHO/FAO.
  - OECD – EGBP, USA & Canada
  - CILSS West Africa, East Africa Community
  - ASEAN



## 5.19 Biopesticide Registration process: *Roma Gwyn FAO Consultant*

*& Dennis Ndolo, (ICGEB)*

### **Discussion - Do we need regulatory changes to make biopesticides a mainstream solution?** *Facilitated*

*Angola:* Will begin the process of making regulatory changes, will utilise the guidelines to assist.

*Botswana:* Already in the process of making regulatory changes, will utilise the guidelines to assist.

*DRC:* Already have regulations, so need to update them using the guidelines.

*Eswatini:* They have no pesticide legislation and so utilise guidelines as they are.

*Lesotho:* They in the process of drafting their pesticide legislation and so will utilise the guidelines in the process.

*Madagascar:* The guidelines need to be adopted at SADC level and then they can be domesticated at national level.

*Malawi:* Have just amended their statutory instrument, which was approved and may not implement the guidelines now.

*Mauritius:* Already in the process of making regulatory changes, will utilise the guidelines to assist.

*Mozambique:* Will begin the process of making regulatory changes, will utilise the guidelines to assist.

*RSA:* there is need to make regulatory changes to make biopesticides a mainstream solution.

*Seychelles:* Already in the process of making regulatory changes, will utilise the guidelines to assist.

*Tanzania:* The guidelines need to be adopted at SADC level and then they can be domesticated at national level.

*Zambia:* Yes, and revision of the regulation is in process to make this possible



## 6.0. KEY OUTPUTS OF THE MEETING

- Challenges faced by member States regarding implementation of the SADC Pesticide Guideline:
  - Limited financial resources for the implementation process
  - Inadequate technical capacity and training on the guidelines , including GHS.
  - Low awareness of the guidelines by the relevant competent authorities in member States
    - Because of inadequate dissemination of information by participants who attend meetings
    - changes in government office bearers
  - The guidelines are in English and so non-Anglophone member States cannot use them.
- The continuous absence of SADC Secretariat at SAPReF meetings, which should be at the forefront promoting the guidelines top-bottom approach.
- Identifying and shortlisting HHPs in a member state is the responsibility of member States and not FAO or any other Intergovernmental body.
- SADC Member States are at different stages of HHPs risk mitigation activities and there is still a great need for technical and financial capacity building so as to move at the same speed.
- Sharing information on HHPs and Alternatives is key to Regional Pesticide Risk Management
- Although a section for dealing with this has been inserted in the strategy, it's not exhaustive.
- RSA has an approved pesticide disposal facility that can be used to destroy sustainably obsolete pesticides.
- Member States are at different stages of HHPs risk reduction activities, so there is need for technical and financial assistance, so that the region moves at the same speed.
- FAO has plans for training on HHPs Risk Reduction for 2024, DRC and Madagascar will be part of the participants.



- The majority of SADC member States do not have a legislation specifically for the registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents, they use the legislation for synthetic pesticides.
- SADC member States have limited capacity to regulate Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents in a manner in tandem with international best practices.
- There will be a link on the SAPReF HHP database to a list of possible alternatives on the ICGEB portal/CABI portal.
- Bio pesticides challenges in the region:
  - Limited human capacity and infrastructure for regulation, testing and research.
  - Difficulty to describe active ingredients and their concentration.
  - Difficulty in determining the biological activity of the active ingredient which is often a complex of organic compounds.
  - Absence of toxicological data according to WHO classification for bio pesticides
  - Absence of Eco toxicological data on the environment, especially that of aquatic organisms
  - Lack of harmonised registration framework to control licencing, sale, or disposal of the technology.
  - Lack of awareness and incentives to promote adoption of the technology.

## 7.0. COMMITMENT AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

- Member States should make effort to attend all SAPReF meetings online for the benefit of the region and the individual member States.
- As countries review legislation, they should take advantage of the SADC guidelines and domesticate them.
- A separate strategy to deal with safe disposal of obsolete pesticides needs to be developed separately from the HHP strategy.
- Individual country should take the initiative to request for technical and financial resources from development partners such as FAO, UNDP, ICGEB and industry whilst the region is also doing the same at SAPReF level:
  - FAO Technical Cooperative Programme (TCP) assistance





- ICGEB call for proposals already put on their website.
- WHO chemicals roadmap
- SAPReF should have a Proposal writing TWG to assist in resource mobilisation for its activities and SADC members States where applicable.
- Member States should proceed with HHPs risk reduction activities as the parallel process on approval of the SADC Draft Highly Hazardous Pesticides Risk Reduction Strategy is taking place.
- Member States should also utilise the Draft SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents in developing and or updating their legislation, whilst a parallel process of approval by SADC Secretariat is taking place.
- Vula has a lot of resources available for use by member States of sound pesticide management.
- Biopesticides promotion regional priorities
  - Built capacity through training at regional and member country focused.
  - Mobilise resources for testing facilities improvement and human resources.
  - Awareness creation to various stakeholders, such as farmers, researchers, policy makers and regulators.
  - Regional collaboration, research & technical capacity development
  - Encourage and promote research in field work of microorganisms & botanical research.
  - Create awareness of biopesticides to regulators & users
  - Mobilise resources for testing facilities improvement and human resources.
  - Resource mobilization, technical & financial through partners public private partnerships and development partners partnerships.
  - Create awareness of biopesticides to regulators & users – print media, flyers, meetings.
  - FAO to conduct training on biopesticides registration toolkit & develop capacity building in regulators.



Follow-up Action	Responsibility	Deadline
Angola to take on the position of the Chairperson of SAPReF	Outgoing Chairperson (Botswana) to assist the Incoming Chairperson (Angola)	With immediate effect
Submit the SADC Draft Highly Hazardous Pesticides Risk Reduction Strategy together with SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents for approval to be used as official documents by all SADC member States.	SAPReF Chairperson	Next IPPC committee meeting May 2024
Complete the questionnaire on the implementation status of SADC Guidelines on Pesticide Management and Risk Reduction	All member States that have not yet done so	Submit to Fredrick by the 5 <sup>th</sup> of September
Continue providing updated database list of identified HHPs, their alternatives, banned pesticides and updated legislation.	All members States	Continuously
Make comments on the version four of the SADC Draft Highly Hazardous Pesticides Risk Reduction Strategy	All members States who have not done so	09 October 2023
Put in Place Proposal Writing TWG	SAPReF EXCO	TBA



## ANNEX I: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS SAPREF GENERAL MEETING AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

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## ANNEX II: MEETING AGENDA

### Southern African Pesticide Regulators Forum (SAPReF) Annual General Meeting and Technical Training

#### AGENDA

**Dates:** 04<sup>th</sup> – 08<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Place:** Tsogo Southern Sun OR Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg, South Africa

**Main topics:** SADC Pesticide Management and Risk Reduction Guidelines, Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), SAPReF issues, Fall Armyworm Management, FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit Recap, and Biopesticide Registration and Building Regional Collaboration for Sound Pesticide Management in SADC Member States

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE
<b>Sunday 03 September, 2023</b>		
08:00 – 19:00	Delegates arrival	
<b>Meeting Day 1: Monday, 04 September, 2023</b>		
08:00 – 08:30	Registration	UCT
08:30 – 08:45	Welcome, review of programme and opening remarks	SAPReF Chair
08:45 – 09:10	Introductions of meeting participants	All
09:10 – 09:15	Opening remarks	Southern African Development Community (SADC) Representative
09:20 – 09:25	Opening remarks	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Representative





09:30 – 09:35	Opening remarks	Swedish Chemical Agency (Kemi) Representative
09:40 – 09:45	Opening remarks	University of Cape Town (UCT) Representative
<i>SADC/SAPReF Regional Guidelines on Pesticides Management and Risk Reduction</i>		
09:45 – 10:00	Update on status of SADC Guideline (official doc, minister's approval, website access)	Esaiah Tjelele (SADC)
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Health Break and Group Photograph</b>	<b>All</b>
10:35 – 11:35	Member State implementation status of SADC Guidelines	Fredrick Otieno (UCT consultant)
11:40 – 12:40	Challenges faced by member States regarding implementation of SADC Pesticide Guideline (interactive session)	Facilitated by Andrea Rother (UCT) and Frederick Otieno (UCT consultant)
12:45 – 13:00	Update on SAPReF spreadsheets and documents (country HHP lists, current legislation) and how to find them; new website through UCT and elements to include	Nanzi Khumalo (UCT consultant) Jeanne Eberling (UCT consultant), via Zoom
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>All</b>
<i>Support for Implementing the SADC Guideline</i>		
14:05 – 14:45	GHS from a global, policy and introductory perspective and UNITAR's activities (GHS in Africa) and the IOMC Toolbox	Sanda Molenkamp, UNITAR
14:50 – 15:30	Kemi's GHS and HHP work in Africa	Jenny Rönngren, Kemi
15:35 – 16:20	WHO Chemical's Roadmap for supporting SADC guideline implementation	Richard Brown, WHO (online presentation)
16:25 – 16:30	Closure of Day 1	
<b>Meeting Day 2: Tuesday, 05 September, 2023</b>		
<b>08:00 – 08:30</b>	<b>Registration</b>	<b>UCT</b>



<i>SADC Regional HHP Strategy and its Links to the SADC Pesticide Guideline</i>		
08:30 – 10:00	Update on development of SAPReF/SADC HHP Strategy	Bianca Dlamini (Chair HHP TWG) and Frederick Otieno (UCT Consultant)
10:00 – 10:30	Open discussion on HHP identification in countries and implementing the SADC HHP strategy	Facilitated by Andrea Rother (UCT) and Frederick Otieno (UCT consultant)
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Health Break</b>	<b>All</b>
11:30 – 12:00	Core elements of the regional HHP strategy	Bianca Dlamini (Chair HHP TWG) and Frederick Otieno (UCT Consultant)
12:00 – 12:40	Common HHPs in the Region, HHPs and their alternatives, including Biopesticides	Bianca Dlamini (Chair HHP TWG) and Frederick Otieno (UCT Consultant) and country input
12:45 – 13:00	Next steps for HHP strategy becoming a SADC document	Esaiah Tjelele (SADC)
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>All</b>
14:00 – 14:45	Domesticating SAPReF guidelines/strategies – what support is needed – open discussion	Facilitated by Andrea Rother (UCT) and Frederick Otieno (UCT consultant)
14:50 – 15:20	Update on future SAPReF activities	Loitseng Sebetwane (Chair)
15:25 – 15:55	Update on SAPReF UNEP SP Proposal	Frederick and David/Chris
16:00 – 16:25	SAPReF EXCO and three chair rotation	Esaiah Tjelele (SADC)
16:25 – 16:30	Closure of Day 2	Loitseng Sebetwane (Chair)
<b>Meeting Day 3: Wednesday, 06 September, 2023</b>		
08:00 – 08:30	<b>Registration</b>	<b>FAO</b>
<i>Biopesticides and the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit</i>		
08:30 – 08:45	Session objectives and practical organization	All



08:45 – 09:30	Introduction to the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit	Ivy Saunyama -FAO
09:30 – 10:30	Toolkit –Decision Making	Ivy Saunyama - FAO
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Health Break</b>	<b>All</b>
11:00 – 13:00	Toolkit – Decision making -exercise	Ivy Saunyama - FAO
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>All</b>
14:00 – 15:00	Toolkit – Introduce WHO/FAO GD on microbials, botanical and semi-chemicals and then microbial toolkit (2017)	Roma Gwynn - Consultant
15:00 – 16:30	Mitigation measures	Ivy Saunyama - FAO
16:30 – 16:35	Closure of Day 3	<b>All</b>
<b>Meeting Day 4: Thursday, 07 September, 2023</b>		
<i>Fall Army Worm Management and Biopesticides</i>		
8:30 –9:30	Fall Armyworm (FAW) – overview of the history and current management practices – <i>to include some national presentations</i>	FAO (tba)
9:30-10:00	Overview and importance of Biopesticides for FAW	Roma Gwynn - Consultant
10:00-11:00	Status and challenges of registration of biopesticides – <i>presentations from Member States</i>	Participants and FAO
11:00-11:30	<b>Health Break</b>	<b>All</b>
11:30-12:00	Status and challenges of registration of biopesticides – <i>presentations from Member States</i>	Participants and FAO
12:00-12:30	Registration of Biopesticides – regional priorities	Discussion facilitated by FAO/ICGEB
12:30-13:00	Development process of the SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents	ICGEB/SAPReF TWG



13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>All</b>
14:00-15:00	Core elements of the SADC Harmonized Guidelines for the Registration of Biopesticides and Biocontrol Agents	ICGEB/SAPReF TWG
15:00-16:25	Data requirements for Biopesticide Registration	Roma Gwynn - Consultant
16:25 – 16:30	Closure of Day 4	
<b>Meeting Day 5: Friday, 08 September, 2023</b>		
08:30 – 10:00	Biopesticide Registration Process	Roma Gwynn - Consultant
10:00-11:00	Biopesticide Registration process - discussion	Participants; facilitated by Roma Gwynn
11:00-11:30	<b>Health Break</b>	<b>All</b>
11:30-12:30	Discussion - Do we need regulatory changes to make biopesticides a mainstream solution? - Discussion	Participants; facilitated by FAO/ICGEB
12:30-13:00	Conclusion and way forward	FAO
13:00-13:15	Closing remarks	SAPReF and supporting institutions
<b>Saturday, 09 September, 2023</b>		
08:00 – 19:00	<b>Delegates departure</b>	



## ANNEX III: ADDITIONAL MEETING PHOTO'S



# ANNEX IV: SAPREF STRATEGIC PLAN



## SOUTHERN AFRICAN PESTICIDE REGULATORS FORUM (SAPReF)



### SAPReF STRATEGIC ACTION WORK PLAN

REVIEWED September 2023

TASK(S)	RESPONSIBLE LEAD	DUE	STATUS	PARTNERS	NOTES
<b>STRATEGIC AREA #1:</b> General SAPReF Activities					
<b>RATIONALE:</b> To strengthen and consolidate SAPReF as a regional body and ensure smooth running of regular activities as continuity					
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #1.1:</b> Establishment of sub or working groups under SAPReF					
Identify priority working areas for the sub or working groups.	Bianca Dlamini & Nanzi	2021	COMPLETE	-	HHP group was formed TORs yet to be developed Meetings to be convened
Develop Terms of Reference (TORs) for the sub or working groups.	Nanzi	2021	COMPLETE	-	
Identifying experts and members to serve in the working Group.	Rorisang & Nanzi	2021	COMPLETE	-	
Organise meetings for sub-committees	Bianca	2021	COMPLETE	-	
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #1.2:</b> Information Sharing					
Develop website/identify partner webpages to host	Nanzi	Monthly	In-progress to be completed end of 2023	SADC Secretariat/Kemi/UCT	There is a SAPReF page on the SADC <a href="#">website</a>
Quarterly online meetings for general member	Bianca	Quarterly	COMPLETE	Kemi/UCT	Member states need to supply information to update the <a href="#">webpage</a>
Monthly Exco online meetings	Loitseng	Monthly	ON-GOING	Kemi/UCT	

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Annual Physical Member States meetings	Nanzi	By September	<b>COMPLETE</b>	Kemi/UCT	Improve the attendance of EXCO monthly meetings and have SAPReF commit to quarterly meetings
Members report on problematic pesticides and relevant pesticide management activities going on in countries	Nanzi	2021	<b>COMPLETE</b>	-	Member States to provide status
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #1.5:</b> Develop project proposals					
Sub-regional project: • Elimination of HHPs and Capacity Building	Similo & Nanzi	2021	<b>In-progress</b> to be completed end of 2023	-	-
Development of project proposals for sound life cycle <del>managt</del> of pesticides (that includes environmental sound disposal of obsolete pesticides and related waste)	SAPReF All	Long-term	<b>In-progress</b> activity newly proposed by member States during the General meeting in Sept 2023	-	-
Identify potential funders and funding calls by responding to calls for proposals	Nanzi	2021	<b>COMPLETE</b>	-	Develop concept <a href="#">note</a>
Prepare concept notes and project proposals	Ndoda, Bianca and Nanzi	2021	<b>ON-GOING</b>	-	Revisit the sub-group on project proposals
<b>STRATEGIC AREA #2: Legislation, policies and pesticide registration</b>					
<b>RATIONALE:</b> Harmonization among the countries will permit closer collaboration and hence more effective control of pesticides. Application of similar laws, regulations and policies across Southern Africa will strengthen their application and enforcement.					
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #2.1:</b> Harmonization of legislation and procedures					
Review and update of domestic	Rorisang & Nanzi	2021	<b>ON-GOING</b>	SADC Secretariat	Draft guidelines are

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pesticide regulations and incorporate bio-pesticides					available. This will pave a way for the countries to update their legislation
Amendment of Regulations to cover Public Health Pesticides	Similo and Nanzi	2021	<b>ON-GOING</b>	World Health Organization (WHO)/SADC Secretariat	Countries to provide information regarding whether public health pesticides are <u>regulated</u>  <i>If possible a virtual meeting with WHO to be initiated by SAPReF Deputy Chair (Zambia – Christopher)</i>
Harmonization of domestic regulations to include all plant, public health and animal health products in the definition of Pesticide	Lesten and Delfina	2021	<b>ON-GOING</b>	SADC Secretariat	
Establishment of a regional working group (drawn from SAPReF to spearhead harmonization work)	Bianca & Kenneth	2021	<b>COMPLETE</b>	SADC Secretariat	Establish the working group
Review/Harmonize pesticide registration application form	Rorisang & Nanzi	2021	<b>COMPLETE</b>	SADC Secretariat	Need to finalise the import permit and send to SADC secretariat
Share registers of approved pesticides in member states	Bianca & Nanzi	2021	<b>COMPLETE</b>	-	Update the list and request members that have not submitted to do so
Develop harmonized pesticide registration procedures	Similo, Rorisang & Nanzi	2021 (long term)	<b>ON-GOING</b>	SADC Secretariat	Procedures should be developed nationally based on the regional guidelines

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Introduce harmonized pesticide importation permit	Misheck & Nanzi	2021 (long term)	<b>COMPLETE</b>	SADC Secretariat	Procedures should be developed nationally based on the regional guidelines
Implementation of the Globally Harmonized System for classification and labelling (GHS) of pesticides	Kenneth & Nanzi	2021 (long term)	<b>ON-GOING</b>	SADC Secretariat	DRC, Mauritius, Seychelles, Zambia is implementing GHS. Other countries are working on it
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #2.2:</b> Review regional guidelines on pesticide management (SADC)					
Domestication of the guidelines in each country	Lesten & Nanzi	2021 (long term)	<b>ON-GOING</b>	SADC Secretariat	Implementation will be detailed in workplan
Develop harmonized import/export procedures	Misheck & Nanzi	2021 (long term)	<b>COMPLETE</b>	SADC Secretariat	
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #2.3:</b> Extended producer/manufacturer responsibility – To be a topic of one of the Virtual meeting					
Engage key stakeholders; agrochemical industry	David & Nanzi	2021 (long term)	<b>ON-GOING</b>	-	Request information from member states. Develop a table for countries to fill
Develop and incorporate regulations (with levies on disposal) within legislation that cater for extending responsibility of producers/manufacturers	Rakeshwar & Nanzi	2021 (long term)	<b>in-progress</b>	-	Request information from member states. Develop a table for countries to fill
Development of supervised training programs on less risky handling and use of pesticides	Collen & Bianca	2021	<b>COMPLETE</b>	-	Member states to provide <a href="#">information</a>  Include training programmes in the revised strategic plan
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #2.6:</b> Phase out Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs)					
Initiate work to identify, restrict and ban HHPs	Bianca & Nanzi	2021	<b>ON-GOING</b>	Member States	Member states to provide status

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Awareness raising and training on phasing out HHPs	Nanzi & Similo	2021	ON-GOING	Member States	Member states to provide status
<b>STRATEGIC AREA #3: Post-registration Management of Pesticides</b>					
<b>RATIONALE:</b> To strengthen the capacity of countries to enforce legislation and regulations after registration.					
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #3.1:</b> Quality control of pesticides imported, manufactured and traded;					
Share information on national laboratory capacities for quality testing of pesticides and MRLs	Samuel & Bianca	2021	COMPLETE	-	
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #3.2:</b> Regional laboratories for pesticide testing (pesticide quality and MRLs)					
Initiate negotiations with one or more regional laboratories interested in pesticide quality testing and for MRLs	Misheck & David	2021	ON-GOING	SADC Secretariat	Initiate negotiations with one or more regional laboratories interested in pesticide quality testing and for MRLs
<b>STRATEGIC AREA #5: Awareness raising, education and public information</b>					
<b>RATIONALE:</b> To inform stakeholders and different audiences (policy makers, traders, users and the general public)					
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #5.1:</b> Raise public awareness of SAPReF activities and goals					
Collect awareness-raising information and materials (pamphlets, booklets, posters) from member states and put in repository	Nanzi	2021	ON-GOING		Collect awareness-raising information and materials (pamphlets, booklets, posters) from member states and put in repository
Create regional database of awareness-raising materials	Nanzi	2021	ON-GOING	SADC Secretariat	Create regional database of awareness raising materials
Meetings - SAPReF members attending SPS meetings at national level - SAPReF attending SADC SPS regional meetings	Loitseng & Nanzi	2021	COMPLETE FOR 2022 & 2023	SADC Secretariat/FAO (ASTF)	Member states to provide status on national SPS meetings with SAPReF  SAPReF provide status on

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(FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit)					management has been conducted at regional <a href="#">level</a>  Members states to provide status on training in pesticides <a href="#">management</a>  Encourage member states to conduct training on pesticides management
Postgraduate programs on Pesticides Life Cycle management	Nanzi	2021 -2023 (ongoing)	<b>COMPLETE</b>	UCT/FAO	Most member states have participated in the <a href="#">program</a>  There is need to encourage more participants
<b>PROPOSED ACTION #7.2: Training of operators, farmers and other pesticide users</b>					
Training in judicious use of pesticide	Bianca & Nanzi	August 2020 – July 2023	<b>COMPLETE</b>	FAO	Training in judicious use of pesticide to be conducted at national level – Train the trainer. Train SAPReF members to be able to train operators
Contribute to regional database of training materials	Bianca, David & Nanzi	August 2020 – July 2023	<b>In-progress</b>	SADC Secretariat	Member states to provide information for the regional database for training materials

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## ANNEX V: REGIONAL PRIORITIES ON BIO PESTICIDES REGISTRATION

### QUESTION 1: BARRIERS

#### Group 1

1. Appropriate qualified staff – with the required technical capacity
2. Limited knowledge expert – introduce new knowledge.
3. How long tackle results often application – Efficacy? Verify appropriately.
4. Lack of host specific testing facilities

#### French group

1. Related to barriers.
2. Process of registration of products produced locally – no security of data.
3. Difficulty to describe active ingredient – organic components.
4. Scientific way – determine concentration of active ingredient.
5. Absence of toxicological data according to WHO classification, no knowledge on the LD50 of Biopesticide to be registered.
6. Absence of ecotoxicological data on the environment, especially aquatic organisms
7. Difficulty in determining the biological activity of the active ingredient which is often a complex of organic compounds.
8. Companies look for loops in registration processes.

#### Group 2

1. No harmonised guidelines for step-by-step process for registration
2. Lack of registration framework to control licencing, sale, or disposal of the technology.
3. Issues of facilities – no quarantine laboratories in place to test or screen or quarantine.
4. Lack of awareness – no interest in biopesticides shown
5. Complex and costly registration processes require efficacy etc.



6. No incentives to promote adoption of the technology.

## Portuguese group

1. Lack of specific biopesticide regulatory guidelines – limits decision makers to accurate decisions regarding registrations
2. Difficult to create awareness for biopesticides.
3. Scenario – debate with importing companies – pesticides companies argue as some countries do not have regulations, and some do – good to have a harmonised framework.
4. Inequality of process – chemical pesticides are cheaper.
5. Capacity of the framework
6. Recruitment of new employees
7. Lack of Specific Legislation on Biopesticides.
8. Lack of awareness campaigns about pesticides (Importers, biopesticide Civil Society & consumers)
9. Appropriate form model to register the biopesticides.
10. Capacity building
11. Reinforcing technical capacity

## QUESTION 2: SOLUTIONS

### Group 1

1. Inadequate legal framework in region – solve – revise legal frame – adopt harmonise framework.
2. Technical skills in adequate – microbials – capacity building required – Risk Assessment needed.
3. Inadequate testing facilities – mobilise resources for testing facilities & technical skills.
4. Capacity building of staff involved in the registration process to increase skills.
5. Revise existing pesticide management legislation & adoption of SADC harmonised guidelines for registration of biopesticides.
6. Awareness creation to various stakeholders



- a. Farmers
- b. Registrants
- c. Researchers
- d. Policy makers
- e. regulators

## French group

1. Regional collaboration, research & technical capacity.
2. Adapted solution regarding specific issues in regions.
3. Encourage research in field of microorganisms & botanical research.
4. Botanical diversity research in the DRC amazon forests.
5. Consider regional collaboration with biotechnology laboratories & research institutions.
6. Find local solutions adapted to specific problems.
7. Encourage research in the areas of microbiology and pesticidal botanical natural resources.

## Group 2

1. Adopt and domesticate biopesticides guidelines developed by ICGEB and TWG and registration of biopesticides.
2. Create awareness of biopesticides to regulators & users – print media, flyers, meetings.
3. Need to develop specific regulation of registration of biopesticides.
4. Standardized tools for testing of biopesticides is needed.
5. Regionalise in SADC region.
6. Create custom made templates for registration – all institutions involved in registrations.
7. Custom-made capacity building of all institutions

## Portuguese group

1. Adaptation & implementation of guidelines in countries to align to SADC guidelines.



2. Approve registration process based on guidelines.
3. New meeting for regulation & discussions
4. Register in country – ministers of Agriculture need support and capacity building.
5. Technical capacity building
6. Approval, adaptation, and implementation of the SAPREF Guidelines
7. To elaborate and approve the registration form for biopesticides.
8. Meeting to disseminate the regulations
9. Registering Biopesticides in the country a priority

### **QUESTION 3: WAY FORWARD**

#### **Group 1**

1. SAPReF to mobilise resources to assist SADC member states on
  - a. Legal aspects
  - b. Adoption of SADC guidelines
  - c. Capacity building
  - d. Infrastructure enhancement
2. Legal framework etc
3. Capacity building aspects
4. Awareness creation to various stakeholders on biopesticides as integral component of IPM.

#### **French group**

Identify resources locally & regional level – natural, human, financial, logistics.

#### **Group 2**

Each member state – ID stakeholder and hold meetings to create awareness.

FAO to conduct training on biopesticides registration toolkit & develop capacity building in regulators.



Each Member State have functional National Designated Authority for pesticides – some Member States do not have.

Each Member State needs to advocate for biopesticides.

ICGEB request permission to have information put onto portal.

### **Portuguese group**

1. Mobilization of resources
2. Partnership at local and global level to create capacity.
3. Resource mobilization (Technical & Financial);
4. Identifying partners at local & regional level.

