



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

## International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management

# Guidance on pesticide legislation (Second edition)





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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
World Health Organization  
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## Abbreviations

AMR	Antimicrobial Resistance
CAC	Codex Alimentarius Commission
CCPR	Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues
CILSS	Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CWC	Chemical Weapons Convention
DNA	Designated National Authority (Rotterdam Convention)
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GHS	Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of
Chemicals HHP	Highly Hazardous Pesticide
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOMC	Inter-Organisation Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IPRs	Intellectual Property Rights
IVM	Integrated Vector Management
JMPM	FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management
JMPS	FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Specifications
MRL	Maximum Residue Limit
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PCO	Pest Control Operator
PIC	Prior Informed Consent
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

## Explanation of key legal terms

**Regulatory framework for the control of pesticides** encompasses all types of legislation governing the management of pesticides. In addition to specific pesticide legislation (see below), the regulatory framework for the control of pesticides may include legislation on environmental protection, public health, occupational health, water, food safety, wildlife, marine protection, plant protection and general chemicals management. The regulatory framework also includes obligations under international instruments.

**Pesticide legislation** refers to legal instruments specifically designed to control pesticides. The term pesticide legislation may refer to a primary instrument, often a law, act or ordinance, to secondary or subsidiary legal instruments, such as regulations, decrees, rules or notices or to both.

The **pesticide law**, or similar primary instrument, is the core of pesticide legislation. It establishes principles, mandates and responsibilities, and its adoption generally involves parliamentary approval.

**Pesticide regulations** or other types of secondary legislation (also referred to as subsidiary or implementing legislation) regulate, in further detail, specific issues mentioned in the pesticide law. Generally, pesticide regulations can be issued at ministerial level. Further details are provided in section 4.15.4.

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