

**BAN ON THE REGISTRATION AND IMPORTATION
OF HIGH-RISK INSECTICIDES**

Communication from Paraguay

The following communication, received on 30 March 2006, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Paraguay.

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1. The WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures sets forth the responsibility and sovereign right of the Member countries to establish rules to protect human, animal and plant life and the environment. Paraguay is a signatory to the Rotterdam Convention, ratified under Law No. 2135/03, and recognizes Codex Alimentarius standards, guidelines and recommendations as a basis for food safety control in international trade.
 2. On this basis, a number of resolutions have been enacted to ensure that the possible presence of pesticide residues in agricultural products exported by Paraguay does not cause any difficulties in international trade.
 3. The registration, prior authorization and importation of monocrotophos- and phosphamidon-based insecticides has thus been prohibited; however, in the case of insecticides containing paraquat, the measure will apply to those which do not contain a safety agent.
 4. With regard to methamidophos, the measure prohibiting registration, prior authorization and importation is temporary and will remain in effect until the toxicological risks have been reassessed and the definitive annulment of the measure examined.
 5. Although this communication provides advance notice of the measures, the relevant notifications are being sent to the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
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