



Strasbourg, 23.10.2007

EP vote a milestone in consumer and environmental protection from toxic pesticides

Pesticides legislation

The European Parliament today voted on proposed EU legislation on pesticides. Speaking after the vote, German Green draftswoman **Hiltrud Breyer** said:

"Today's vote in the EP on pesticides legislation is an important milestone in consumer and environmental protection. MEPs were not convinced by the scaremongering tactics of the chemical industry and agricultural lobbies and voted instead to give greater protection from toxic pesticides.

"MEPs voted to ban the use of substances that are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction, with substances for which neurotoxic and immunotoxic effects have been demonstrated to be given the red card as well. This would represent major progress for ensuring less dangerous pesticides and, consequently, that the food we eat is safer.

"Pesticides contain toxic substances and are manufactured with the intention of killing, yet they end up on our plates and, ultimately, in our bodies. We therefore welcome the adoption of provisions for the substitution of harmful substances with less dangerous ones. This can create a win-win situation: reducing risk for consumers, users and the environment, while at the same time stimulating innovation in the chemical industry.

"The EP also approved proposals for a 'pesticide passport', which is a step forward for transparency about pesticides. This innovation would ensure retailers are better informed about the pesticides used on produce and strengthen control of products on the market.

"One cloud over today's vote, however, was the failure of the EP to call for general reduction targets for pesticides. MEPs unfortunately only voted to for reduction targets for most dangerous substances."

Editors notes:

The European Parliament today adopted reports (Breyer and Klass) on the placing on

Further information:

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Press release

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