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Unidas  
para la  
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## COUNCIL

**Hundred and Twenty-third Session**

**Rome, 28 October-2 November 2002**

**REVISION OF THE TEXT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF  
CONDUCT ON THE DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF PESTICIDES**

**RESOLUTION CL 123/.. FOR ADOPTION BY THE FAO COUNCIL AT ITS 123rd  
SESSION**

**Of the Revised Version of the International Code of Conduct on  
the Distribution and Use of Pesticides**

**THE COUNCIL**, based on the authority given by the Thirty-first Session of the FAO Conference,

**Recalling** the adoption of the voluntary International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides by the FAO Conference at its Twenty-third Session in 1985 by way of Resolution 10/85,

**Recalling** the adoption of the amendments to the Code by the FAO Conference at its Twenty-fifth Session in 1989 to include the Prior Informed Consent in Article 9 by way of Resolution 6/89,

**Recalling** the adoption of the "Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade" by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries in Rotterdam in September 1998, covering the provisions of Article 9,

**Acknowledging** that pesticides can be hazardous to humans and the environment, and that immediate action must be taken by all concerned, including governments, the pesticide industry, the pesticide application equipment industry, traders and users, to eliminate as far as possible, and within the scope of their responsibilities, any unacceptable risks to human health and the environment posed by the distribution and use of pesticides,

**Recognizing** that a periodically revised and updated Code of Conduct supported by technical guidelines and reflecting international policy instruments in the field of chemicals management

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provides a practical, globally acceptable standard for pesticides management, especially for countries that have weak pesticide legislation and/or inadequate control capabilities,

**Noting** the need to include or update in the Code of Conduct a wide range of issues including risk reduction initiatives, Integrated Pest Management, obsolete pesticides and sustainable agriculture, consumer and environmental safety and reference to new international agreements such as the Montreal Protocol, the Rotterdam Convention and the Stockholm Convention,

**Recognizing** that although progress has been made in the implementation of the Code and that pesticide legislation has improved in many countries, particularly in developing countries, shortfalls remain in many aspects of pesticide management,

**Noting** the requirements for current approaches of pest and pesticide management and wishing to reflect those in the Code of Conduct, in particular in the provisions concerning the "life-cycle" concept, risk reduction and the promotion of integrated pest management strategies,

1. **Hereby approves** the amendments to the "International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides" contained in Appendix xxx;
2. **Recommends** that all FAO Members promote the use of this Code in the interests of an improved use of pesticides with reduced risks to human health and to the environment and of sustainable agricultural development;
3. **Calls** on all public and private entities engaged in, or affecting the distribution and use of pesticides, to promote and implement the Code.
4. **Requests** governments, in collaboration with FAO, to monitor the observance of the Code.
5. **Invites** the pesticide industry and NGOs to report on and monitor activities related to the implementation of the Code, as well as other United Nations agencies and other international organizations to collaborate in this endeavour within their respective spheres of competence.
6. **Calls** on countries with more advanced programmes for regulating pesticides to provide technical assistance, including training, to other countries in developing infrastructures and capacity to implement the provisions of the Code of Conduct.