## Bayer CropScience



Christian Schliemann
Business and Human Rights
European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)
Zossener Str. 55 - 58, Aufgang D

10961 Berlin

## **Bayer CropScience Response to Ad Hoc Monitoring Report**

Dear Mr. Schliemann,

We refer to the "Ad Hoc Monitoring Report" covering the State of Punjab, India and submitted by your organization to the FAO on 12 October 2015. Bayer CropScience would like to provide some further information in response to the findings.

Bayer CropScience has operations in India for over 100 years. We have been actively engaged in the Indian agricultural Industry through providing solutions and services to the Indian farming community.

Bayer CropScience India continues to adhere to national and international best practices in the area of crop protection product management. This includes nationally approved label and leaflet requirements and conditions mentioned on the registration certificates of pesticides issued by the Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee constituted under Insecticides Act (1968) & Rules 1971 of India. In addition, the company also complies with the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management set forth by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Bayer is committed to stringent standards and the responsible use of its crop protection products and continuously promotes the highest stewardship standards in agriculture across the country. Regular farmer trainings and awareness programs are put in place to help farmers identify and purchase authentic crop protection products, safe transportation, responsible use as well as

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Dr. Arnd Nenstiel

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secure storage of crop protection products, proper use of personal protection equipment, and first aid practices.

During 2014, Bayer CropScience India has trained more than four million farmers in these critically important areas. In Punjab alone, the company has trained more than eighty thousand farmers.

Bayer CropScience, as a responsible company, reiterates its continuous commitment towards working with the farmers and the farming community as well as the Government of India to promote agriculture as a safe, environmentally compatible and responsible sector.

While we are carefully reviewing the contents of your Ad Hoc Monitoring Report, we would like to express our strong interest to propose a consultative, face to face dialogue with you to further understand and learn about your findings. We would also like to share with you the activities we have undertaken in Punjab and in the wider part of India.

As one of the ways forward, we are convinced that through a multi stakeholder dialogue involving the relevant authorities in India as well as the FAO, we can jointly derive a perspective on the way forward that recognizes the need and reality of the farming community in the State of Punjab and India as whole.

We do look forward to hearing back from you and establish a constructive dialogue.

Best regards

Dr. Arnd Nenstiel

Head of Global Public and Governmental Affairs

Bayer CropScience AG