

Civil society activities



The murky relationship between FAO and the pesticide industry. Letter to the Director of FAO

Following the [announcement](#) in October 2020 that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Pesticide Producers' Organization, CropLife International, will strengthen their collaboration to find new ways to transform agri-food systems and promote rural development through innovation and investment on the ground, more than 350 civil society groups from around the world, including Justice Pesticides, have written to FAO Director, Mr. Qu Dongyu, to express their concern about the organization's official links that would be strengthened with CropLife International, "a trade association representing the interests of companies that produce and promote hazardous pesticides". The letter recalls the principles that should guide FAO, as spelled out in the organization's Code of Conduct, including its opposition to the promotion of hazardous pesticides under the aegis of its main principles such as the right to adequate food and health. The letter was delivered to Mr. Qu Dongyu on November 19, 2020, by the Director of PAN-Asia Pacific, Sarojeni Rengam, who is also a board member of Justice Pesticides.