



Newsletter about Pesticides

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Civil Society Activities



PAN EU: For environmental justice against dangerous pesticides

Non-governmental organizations may now be able to bring cases before the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) concerning environmental issues. Indeed, the Aarhus Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters was revised on October 6, 2021 by the [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/1767](#) in order to improve access to administrative and judicial review at the Union level [for citizens and environmental NGOs](#).

Our partner [PAN Europe](#) wants to make use of this revision to attack the delays granted to companies during the European marketing authorization procedure of pesticides, which allow the presence on the market of unauthorized pesticides. PAN Europe also attacks the authorization of the insecticide cypermethrin, which raises many health and environmental problems.

It is after a procedure with the European Commission and the Member States that the entry of a pesticide on the European market is approved or not. Too often, manufacturers abuse the system in order to obtain an extension of the use of a pesticide. The delays in the procedure are also due to the organization of the pesticide regulatory system itself. Indeed, the study of a pesticide is rarely carried out within the allotted time, which leads to a necessary extension of the deadline. PAN Europe is fighting to have the illegality of this practice recognized, as it is opposed to public and environmental health.

Concerning cypermethrin, many NGOs support PAN Europe's action, because this pesticide represents important risks for aquatic biodiversity and is extremely toxic for bees. Moreover, it is an endocrine disruptor, in addition to its neurotoxic and embryo-damaging effects. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has even [indicated](#) that this pesticide should be banned from the market, due to its inherent toxicity.

One of the problems with this insecticide is that the manufacturers do not provide complete information proving that it is not harmful. PAN Europe considers that the reauthorization of this pesticide in the absence of this information is illegal and should be sanctioned.

PAN Europe has first referred the matter to the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Stella Kyriakides, in order to examine internally the legality of the decisions taken on these two issues. The European Commission has 12 weeks to respond, otherwise PAN will refer the matter to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) to force the Commission and the member countries to respect the law.

[Read the letter](#) about the delays granted to companies in the marketing authorization process of pesticides.

[Read the letter](#) concerning the marketing authorization of cypermethrin (in French).

If you've made it this far, can you make one more tiny effort?

Justice Pesticides needs your help to continue this work of investigation and information to support victims of pesticides.

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