



## Newsletter about Pesticides

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### Legislative and regulatory news



#### **Mexico: Reform on the use of the most dangerous pesticides**

On February 17, 2022, the Chamber of Deputies unanimously approved a [draft decree](#) reforming and adding various provisions of the General Law on Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection, which aims, among other things, to regulate the use of pesticides that are very dangerous for the environment.

First, the draft establishes the precautionary principle as a principle to be applied in the formulation and conduct of federal environmental policy, as well as in the establishment of official standards and legal instruments.

It also provides for the prohibition of the use of highly hazardous pesticides or substances prohibited in international treaties to which Mexico is party. Highly hazardous pesticides are defined as those which, due to their intrinsic or specific characteristics, represent risks or generate serious, acute, subchronic, chronic or irreversible effects, especially for health or the environment. The reform provides for a period of four years to phase out the use and marketing of this type of pesticide with less polluting substances.

In addition, authorizations for pesticides cannot be granted if an international treaty to which Mexico is a party prohibits them.

This is an important reform, after the [decision to ban glyphosate](#) and GMOs from 2024. Indeed, 180 dangerous pesticides are used in the country, according to current health records, 140 of which are banned in other countries because they can seriously harm human health. It is now the Senate that must examine the draft decree and the NGOs will remain vigilant so that this innovative text, despite ambiguities in its definition of the precautionary principle, is not weakened.

*If you have made it this far, can you make one more small effort to allow us to continue this work of investigation and information to help the victims of pesticides?*

*Justice Pesticides needs you.*

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