

**MEETING WITH
THE EUROPEAN CROP PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
(ECPA)**

3 September 2020, 17:45-18:30

Via video link

**MEETING OF CLAIRE BURY, SANTE DDG WITH EUROPEAN CROP
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION - GERALDINE KUTAS, DG
3 SEPTEMBER 2020 (BY WEBEX)**

Attendees

ECPA: [REDACTED] (Chair and Board member), [REDACTED] (Director General)

SANTE: Claire Bury, [REDACTED] (E4), [REDACTED] (E4) [REDACTED] (D1) [REDACTED] (F3)

Following introductions of those present, ECPA indicated that the main reason for the meeting was to announce new steps that had been taken by ECPA, and accelerated because of the Green Deal and F2F. These would be announced publicly on Monday as three major commitments

A paper summarising them would be sent to Commission today (4 September) ahead of the official announcement Monday via a media round table. In rapid summary

1. INNOVATION. Between now and 2030 ECPA companies will invest 10 Billion in technology and precision agriculture and 4 billion in increasing bio pesticides uptake (this is a global commitment). The aim is to increase the IPM toolbox for farmers and to reduce risk if pesticides are applied.
2. CIRCULAR ECONOMY. An increased commitment for all packaging to be recyclable and for every EU country to have a waste collection scheme, with a target to have 75% collection in EU by 2025 (from the current 60% as average and the non-existence of such schemes in some MS)
3. PROTECTIING PEOPLE: this consists of 2 aspects
 - a) TRAINING. Enhanced training of users, advisors and retailers, to cover technology application and IPM as well as use of PPE. 1million extra trainees by 2030. Partly by increased ECPA activity, partially by increased member companies activity in MS.
 - b) Investment and deployment in closed transfer technology – by 2030 all packaging bottles should be compatible and equipped with CTT. 1st step would be to agree and develop a common standard of CTT.

These measures are seen as in line with the aims of the F2F and could contribute to the target of pesticide risk and use reduction. ECPA then answered a number of questions.

ECPA called on the Commission to accompany innovations with appropriate regulatory frameworks (e.g. drone application, satellite database, broadband internet in rural areas, risk assessment and risk management, biopesticides).

Commission thanked ECPA for the initiative and the pre-information.

It was agreed that ongoing dialogue was needed as more details were decided.