

UN 2023 Water Conference Side Event

Pesticides and Water: the contribution of international pesticides standards for life quality and water security

March 23, 2023 at 12:30 PM, Blue Gallery – 222 East 46th Street, New York City

Organized by: International Centre on Water and Transdisciplinarity — CIRAT, Ministério Publico Federal, Ministério Publico do Trabalho, Ministério Publico do Distrito Federal e Territórios — MPDFT, Conexão Água Project, Associação Brasileira dos Membros do Ministério Publico de Meio Ambiente — ABRAMPA, Justice Pesticide, Universidade Paulista — UNIP, International Panel on Water Structure — IPWS, Pesticides Action Network (PAN-Asia Pacific), Greenpeace, Brasilia University — CDS, AcquaMater, Associação Alternativa Terrazul, Water Management Observatory — OGA, Caesb, Peace University -UNIPAZ, Friends of the Earth, Kosmoz, International Panel on Water Structure — IPWS, Forum Nacional de Combate ao Uso Indiscriminado de Agrotóxicos e Transgêncios.

Background on the event

This side event gathered the most influential researchers and institutions worldwide on the theme of pesticides and its impacts on the water and public health, and discussed the creation of an International Pesticides Standards Alliance (IPSA). During this side-event occurred the protocol signature of IPSA, whose alliance gathers institutions that research and do policy work to create international standards to ban pesticides that deteriorate water, environment, and public health, especially those classified as HHP (Highly Hazardous Pesticides).

Water Action Agenda

The "Pesticides and Water: the contribution of international pesticides standards for life quality and water security" has a commitment to some Sustainable Development Goals, which are: (2)

Zero hunger, (3) Good health and well-being, (6) Clean water and sanitation, (12) Responsible consumption and production, and (17) Partnerships for the goals.

Key Issues discussed

- International Pesticide Standard Alliance IPSA;
- Public health and studies on the connection between pesticides use and suicides worldwide;
- Water quality and the influence of HHP (Highly Hazardous Pesticides) in Global South;
- South-South Cooperation.

Key recommendations for action

- Create public awareness about the International Pesticide Standard Alliance IPSA;
- Stimulate the debate on pesticide standards in water resources management instances;
- Influence the UN System to create a convention specific for pesticides and agrochemicals to ban pesticides that deteriorate water, environment and public health based on the best science research available.
- Promote South-South Cooperation to define common limits for pesticide residues in drinking water and resist the importation of harmful pesticides in the Global South.