



## INVITATION

### Meeting of the OPERA Informal Expert Group on SUD

Dear Colleagues,

As you know the Sustainable Use Directive has entered into force and across Europe the Member States are now committed to implementing strategies to transpose and fulfill its objectives. Although the approval of the directive is recent we need to establish a platform to exchange information in order to achieve a sufficient level of harmonization.

**OPERA has commenced its activity on the implementation of the Sustainable Use Directive** and we would like to share with you the results on possible mitigation measures, possible indicators and on the interpretation of the legal framework.

Also, as you already know OPERA has as one of its objectives to support the stakeholders in their political and technical decisions concerning agriculture, and particularly the management of agricultural risks relating to pesticides and the environment.

OPERA has decided to step in and **give the opportunity to all the stakeholders** involved in the discussions on SUD implementation from MS, The European Commission, Plant protection products industry, NGO' s, International organisations, scientific research institutes **to exchange information on the already started process of implementation**. We seek to share good practice, hear opinions and also to identify areas where further guidance is needed to ensure successful implementation of the Directive and to avoid scientific and technical inconsistencies.

We are inviting **one representative of the competent authorities per MS** and other relevant stakeholders to participate to the meeting of the **Informal Expert Group on SUD**, which will take place on the **14<sup>th</sup> of June 2010**, at the premises of our Brussels Office which is located in **Place du Champs de Mars, N.2, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 1050, Brussels**.

The AGENDA of the meeting includes the following topics:

1. Transposition into national legislation of the SUD – process and difficulties
2. Status of development the NAP in member states
3. Implementation of the provisions of the SUD
  - a. Impact studies
  - b. Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
  - c. Field margins
  - d. Possible mitigation measures to reduce the risks associated with pesticide use
  - e. Indicators to monitor the progress and impact of the SUD implementation
4. Public consultation of national stakeholders – organization of the process and summary of opinions expressed
5. Research Projects as support for the policy
6. Relationship between SUD and CAP Reform

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Hoping that you recognize the relevance and utility of this initiative **we invite the participants to manifest their interest to provide contributions and presentations** on the above topics. We are kindly asking the **potential speakers in this event to communicate their intention to present, together with a short description of the content by 15 May 2010** at e-mail : [ettore.capri@unicatt.it](mailto:ettore.capri@unicatt.it)

The final agenda of the Informal Expert Group on SUD will be provided together with the supporting documents in due time prior to the meeting.

Due to the limitations in the number of places available in the room and for reasons of access on the premises where the meeting will take place, **please be sure to confirm in due time your participation.** Confirmations will be received no later than 1 June 2010 by e-mail at: [SUDmeeting\\_June2010@opera-indicators.eu](mailto:SUDmeeting_June2010@opera-indicators.eu).

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Ettore Capri

Director of the OPERA Research Centre