



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT (THIRD SESSION)
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

PUBLIC PETITION

(No. 70 of 2019)

**PUBLIC PETITION REGARDING WITHDRAWAL OF
HARMFUL CHEMICAL PESTICIDES IN THE KENYA'S
MARKET**

I THE UNDERSIGNED on behalf of the representatives of Biodiversity and Biosafety Association of Kenya (BIBA-K), Kenya Organic Agriculture Network (KOAN), Resources Oriented Development Initiatives (RODI Kenya) and Route to Food Initiative (RTFI),

DRAW the attention of the House to the following:

- 1) **THAT**, there has been an increase in the prevalence of chemical pesticides in Kenya, which poses a risk to human health and harmful effects to the environment;
- 2) **THAT**, the volume of imported insecticides, herbicides and fungicides has more than doubled within four years from 6400 tons in 2015 to 15600 tons in 2018 with a growth rate of 144%;
- 3) **THAT**, despite this, there is no data available concerning the use of pesticides, concentration of pesticides in water, soil and food and their related impacts;
- 4) **THAT**, there are products on the Kenyan market, which are certainly classified as carcinogenic (24 products), mutagenic (24 products), endocrine disrupter (35 products), neurotoxic (140 products) and many which show clear effects on reproduction toxicity (262 products); many of which have been banned in Europe, United Kingdom and USA;
- 5) **THAT**, this is worrying because the increase in pesticide use has not been accompanied by the necessary safe guards to control how they are applied;

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- 6) **THAT**, during the pesticides registration process in Kenya, mainly the purity and the efficacy of the product is tested. Data on human and environmental health under local conditions are scarcely taken into consideration. The Pest Control Product Act Cap 346 Laws of Kenya does not state environmental and/or human health as a possible concern during the registration process;
- 7) **THAT**, the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), has been contravening Section 15 of the Pest Control Product Act, by failing to publish available information on the actual levels of pesticides in food samples collected and putting in place regular monitoring system;
- 8) **THAT**, there are no epidemiological health studies related to pesticide exposure on our health and their impact to the environment;
- 9) **THAT**, the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) has not been following the World Health Organization (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management; and
- 10) **THAT**, the matters in respect of which this petition is raised are not pending before any court of law, constitutional or legal body.

THEREFORE, your humble petitioners prays that the National Assembly through the Departmental Committee on Health:-

- (i) Recommends for an immediate ban of all products on the Kenyan market, classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, endocrine disrupters, neurotoxic and many which show clear effects on reproduction toxicity;
- (ii) Causes the Government to withdraw all harmful and toxic pesticides in Kenya's market based on the active ingredients used, that pose serious health risks to Kenyans and develops and implements a strategy to remove such harmful pesticides from the market, recognizing that it can take several years for products to be completely unavailable through local shops and dealers;

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- (iii) Recommends that the Government establishes and strengthens monitoring system on the use of pesticides through increased data collection on food samples in the market and the level of pesticides contained;
- (iv) Recommends an amendment to the Pest Control Products Act to include a list of pesticides that have been withdrawn from the market based on the serious health risks posed to Kenyans, and to make it mandatory for the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) to assess data on environmental and human health impacts during the registration and re-registration process of products; and
- (v) Makes any other order that it deems fit in the circumstances of this petition.

And your **PETITIONERS** will ever pray.

PRESENTED BY



GLADYS BOSS SHOLLEI, CBS MP
UASIN GISHU COUNTY

DATE:.....

5th September 2019