



International Coffee Organization  
Organización Internacional del Café  
Organização Internacional do Café  
Organisation Internationale du Café

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### **Important reminder – EC Regulation on Maximum Residue Levels of pesticides**

1. The Executive Director presents his compliments and wishes to remind Members that the EU is in the process of harmonizing Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin. Commission Regulation No. 396/2005, amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC was published in the Official Journal of the European Union of 16 March 2005. This new legislation will apply to a number of commodities, including coffee, and MRLs will need to be established. Members have previously been requested to send information about the use of pesticides in their countries to the Secretariat (document ED-1970/05). The Chairman of the PSCB in his report to the Executive Board meeting from 30 January to 1 February 2006 stressed that if no information was provided on this matter, the EU might decide not to accept certain pesticides<sup>1</sup>.
2. Members are therefore requested to urgently send the Executive Director information on the use of pesticides on coffee in their countries (including the names of all pesticides used). This should be sent as soon as possible by email to [info@ico.org](mailto:info@ico.org) or by fax to: +44 020 7580 6129, so that it can be conveyed to the EU representative and to the PSCB.
3. Members may also like to consult document EB-3908/06 containing a communication from the Government of Japan about a Revised Japanese Food Sanitation Law which contains a list of MRLs for named pesticides.

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<sup>1</sup> *It is appreciated that pesticide residues do not normally reach the green bean but it is recommended that the information be provided on a precautionary basis.*