

Regional Training of Facilitators of FAO Code Monitoring & PIC Incident Reporting

From the 14th to 18th September, 2011, Mr. Keam Makarady and Mr. Chhoun Monorum, CEDAC staff members of the Health and Environment Program, participated in a Regional Training of Facilitators of FAO Code Monitoring & PIC Incident Report at Copthorne Orchid Hotel, Penang, Malaysia. This training was organized by the Pesticide Action Network Asia & the Pacific (PAN AP). Thirty-two participants (including 19 women) represented NGOs from 11 countries in Asia including Cambodia, Vietnam, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippine, Indonesia, China, India, Pakistan, Japan and Sri Lanka, attended the training.

This course aimed to provide knowledge to participants in the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides and the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC), including the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and other international instruments.

This training of facilitators on the FAO Code module will serve as preparation for planned monitoring surveys of government's and industries' implementations, or their lack of it, and survey about their obligation outlined in specific provisions of the FAO Code. The results of this monitoring survey will be published in a report that will prove useful in advocacy and campaign work. It will be used to encourage governments and industry to improve adherence to the Code as well as support advocacies in the Committee of Agriculture, the FAO Expert Panel on Pesticides, SAICM and other international bodies.

The proper documentation of poisoning and environmental incidents is important in advancing the enlistment of target pesticides in the Rotterdam Convention, and in supporting campaigns to eliminate or reduce the production/use of highly hazardous pesticides by providing data.

