

A REVIEW OF MALAYSIAN PESTICIDE LAWS AND REGULATIONS



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
MALAYSIA

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A REVIEW OF MALAYSIAN PESTICIDE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents a critical analysis of the legal and policy issues brought about by the use, management and control of pesticides in Malaysia through a review of the relevant laws and regulations. The use, manufacture, import, sale and storage of pesticides in Malaysia are mainly governed by the Pesticides Act 1974 which objective is to ensure that pesticides sold in the market comply with the standards and specifications at registration. While this main legislation lays down the basic general principles applicable to the use of pesticides, there are still issues and areas for improvement in certain aspects of pesticide regulation and management. The report identifies the following issues and areas for consideration:

1. Piecemeal regulation of pesticides. There is no comprehensive legislation in place to regulate environmental management of chemical substances in different areas.
2. Compliance with international standards. The challenge is to implement an effective regulatory framework at the national level which meets the international trade and environment obligations.
3. The need for a comprehensive statutory legislation that covers not only aspects of registration, labelling, and disposal but all activities throughout a pesticide's life cycle.
4. Inadequacy of the sanctions imposed for breach of the rules and regulations.
5. Inadequacy of personnel and facilities for the implementation and enforcement of pesticides regulation.
6. The need to facilitate easy reporting of pesticide poisoning incidents and complaints, and easy access to information.

This report, thus advances a number of recommendations: