

Welcome Address by Alemayehu Woldeamanuel ,Pesticide Risk Reduction Programme –Ethiopia

On Environmental Risk Assessment and Definition of Protection Goals

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning

On behalf of our Deputy Head of Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Directorate, Ato Fikere Markos, My colleagues, I say welcome to this workshop. The local and international work package experts of Pesticide Risk reduction Programme-Ethiopia are happy in being able to organize the Environmental Risk Assessment and Definition of Protection Goals training workshop comprising various stakeholders. We hope that this very effort of getting together would be the good cause serving as a platform to start designing a risk assessment methodology for the most important protection goals. It should serve as a spring board and milestone in making all necessary efforts by every stakeholder in his/her capacity to find ways and means to minimize environmental hazards. Working together is one of the basic requirements to save our fragile environment, to protect our people and animals from pesticide hazards. The reasons for environmental hazards are varied and many and we need to look each of them and we need to develop environmental risk assessment methods so that it would allow the use of relatively safe, locally effective and good quality pesticide to minimize the adverse effects of pesticides to humans ,animals, plants and the environment in general. This situation in turn would help to acquire clean environment, safe food and healthy citizens and it would also help to promote agricultural export trade.

Having said this, I like at this point to call upon Ato Bekele Dinku to make an opening speech representing Ato Fikere Marksos, the Deputy Head of Animal and Plant health Regulatory Directorate.

With this I express my sincere thanks