

# **Letter to European Environmental Authorities**

## **Addressing the Export of Banned and Toxic Substances to South Africa**

**From:**

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## Dear Respected Leaders,

I write to you on behalf of the Dika-Moka Youth Development Forum, a South African organization dedicated to youth empowerment, community health, and environmental justice.

We are deeply concerned about the continued export of banned and highly toxic pesticides, industrial chemicals, and harmful personal-care products from your countries to South Africa—substances that are prohibited within your own borders to protect your citizens.

We must ask: *Is it your intention to profit from both the cause and treatment of health issues in South Africa, while ensuring your own populations are protected?*

## Key Issues

- Pesticides such as Paraquat, Chlorpyrifos, Atrazine, and Imidacloprid are banned in the EU and UK due to severe health risks but are still exported to South African farms and communities.
- Industrial toxins like nonylphenol ethoxylates and formaldehyde-containing hair products continue to be sold in South Africa, despite bans in your own countries.
- These substances contribute to rising cases of cancer, infertility, neurological illnesses, and environmental degradation in South Africa.

## Overview of Concerning Products

South Africans deserve the same rights to health, environmental safety, and dignity that your citizens enjoy.

## Our Demands

We call for the immediate cessation of:

- The export of any chemical or product banned or restricted in your own country.
- The practice of using Africa as a dumping ground for hazardous substances.
- The promotion of products harmful to vulnerable populations.

We urge you to:

- Support the development and distribution of safe alternatives.
- Invest in ethical and sustainable practices.
- Align your export policies with your domestic safety standards.

## **Global Responsibility**

Your nations have committed to responsible trade and environmental justice through agreements like the EU Green Deal and international conventions. We urge you to honor these commitments.

We will continue to mobilize and build coalitions to advocate for these changes.

## **Closing**

Yours sincerely,  
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Company (Headquarters)	Product(s) & Sector	Notes & Citations
Bayer (Germany)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antracol 70 WP (Propineb, fungicide) – Agriculture</li> <li>Confidor / Gaucho (Imidacloprid, insecticide) – Agriculture</li> <li>Biscaya 240 OD (Thiacloprid, insecticide) – Agriculture</li> </ul>	
BASF (Germany)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BASTA SL 200.60 (Glufosinate, herbicide) – Agriculture</li> <li>Nonylphenol ethoxylates – Industrial &amp; Personal-care surfactants</li> </ul>	Glufosinate used on citrus farms in WCape ( <a href="http://mg.co.za">mg.co.za</a> ); 539 t NP-ethoxylates exported in 2020
Syngenta (Switzerland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gramoxone (Paraquat, herbicide) – Agriculture</li> <li>Actara (Thiamethoxam, insecticide) – Agriculture</li> <li>Ametryn, Diafenthiuron – Agriculture</li> </ul>	Ametryn and diafenthiuron among top banned pesticides exported to SA
Corteva (UK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acetochlor (herbicide) – Agriculture</li> <li>Atrazine (herbicide) – Agriculture</li> </ul>	Banned in EU due to groundwater & endocrine-toxicity risks ( <a href="http://publiceye.ch">publiceye.ch</a> )
Ascenza Agro SA (Portugal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chlorpyrifos (insecticide) – Agriculture</li> </ul>	Exported despite EU ban over neurotoxicity
Alzchem AG (Germany)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cyanamide – Fertilizer precursor</li> </ul>	Banned in EU for acute toxicity
Ineos (UK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,3-Dichloropropene (fumigant) – Agriculture/Industrial</li> </ul>	Banned in EU as carcinogen