



Mouvement pour le Droit et le Respect des Générations Futures



Lidl
Mr. W. Pötter / Head of purchasing department
Stiftsbergstraße 1

D-74167 Neckarsulm
Germany

31. Oct. 2006

FAX: +49(0)712942236

Open Letter of 18 non governmental environmental and consumer organisations from 14 European countries and EU level

Dear Mr. Pötter,

You are certainly aware, pesticide residues are a top concern of European consumers regarding food risks^[1]. Earlier this year your company started to introduce measures in order to reduce pesticide residues in fresh food sold by Lidl in Germany. According to our information, Lidl installed an extended quality control system and a new standard that limits pesticides residues in fresh produce to 1/3 of the current maximum residue limits in Germany. Lidl also started to sell organic food and fair trade products in all German shops. In addition Lidl announced to sell QS^[2] certified food from the QS program which is monitoring pesticides residues as well. A further step undertaken by Lidl in Germany early October this year was the (preliminary) phase out of conventionally grown table grapes due to high pesticide residues consistently found in this product.

Unfortunately, it is our understanding that this program is limited to Lidl in Germany at the time being, while pesticides residues in food are found above the legal thresholds in all European countries and for many different commodities of plant origin^[3].



Mouvement pour le Droit et le Respect des Générations Futures



That is the reason why we ask you for measures and standards in all countries where Lidl is selling food in order to reduce pesticides residues in food.

We ask your company to sell food free of pesticide residues as soon as possible and to implement at least the same standards and measures to reduce pesticide residues already implemented in Germany and to offer organic and Fair Trade food products all over Europe immediately.

In response to growing consumers concerns about pesticide residues in food and the hazards posed by pesticides to consumers, farmers and the environment, several supermarket chains all over Europe are implementing policies to reduce residues and increase the range of organic and Fair Trade products in their shelves already. We believe this is a good way forward and sincerely hope that Lidl does not miss this opportunity to promote pesticide use reduction.

We are looking forward to your response and are totally available to meet you and exchange ideas for cooperation.

With kind regards,

Manfred Krautter,
Contact person at Greenpeace Germany



Mouvement pour le Droit et le Respect des Générations Futures



18 Organisations from 14 European countries and EU level are signing/supporting this letter:

	NGO + Contact Person	e-mail	Address
1	ANCN - QUERCUS Paula Silva	paulasilva@quercusancn.org	ANCN Centro Associativo do Calhau Parque Florestal de Monsanto 1500-045 Lisboa Portugal
2	BBL Esmeralda Borgo	esmeralda.borgo@bbly.be 02/2821737	beleidsmedewerker BBL Tweekerkenstraat 47 1000 Brussel Belgique
3	CEPTA - Centre for Sustainable Alternatives Daniel Lesinsky	lesinsky@changenet.sk	CEPTA Nogradyho 39 96001 Zvolen Slovakia
4	Global 2000 Helmut Burtscher	helmut@global2000.at +43-1-8125730	GLOBAL 2000 Neustiftgasse 36 1070 Wien Austria
5	Greenpeace Germany Manfred Krautter	Manfred.krautter@greenpeace.de +49 40 30618357	Greenpeace e.V. Große Elbstrasse 39 22767 Hamburg Germany
6	Health and Environment Alliance Monica Guarinoni	monica@env-health.org +32 2 234 3640	Health and Environment Alliance Boulevard Charlemagne 1000 Brussels Belgium



Mouvement pour le Droit et le Respect des Générations Futures



7	Inter-Environnement Wallonie Frédéric Boutry	f.boutry@iewonline.be tel 081/25 52 80	Inter-Environnement Wallonie Boulevard du Nord, 6 5000 Namur Belgium
8	Legambiente Davide Sabbadin	d.sabbadin@legambienteagricoltura.it +39 (0)49 856 1220	Legambiente Via Salaria 403 00199 Roma Italy
9	MDRGF Francois Veillerette	mdrgf@wanadoo.fr 01 45 79 07 59	MDRGF 40 rue de Malte 75011 Paris France
10	ECHo Mojca Zgec	mojca.zgec@ech-o.org	ECHo Dornava 50 2252 Dornava Slovenia
11	PAN UK Clare Butler Ellis	ClareButlerEllis@pan-uk.org +44 (0)20 7065 0905	PAN UK Development House 56-64 Leonard Street London EC2A 4JX United Kingdom
12	PAN Europe Sofia Parente	Sofia-paneurope@pan-uk.org +44 7065 0920	PAN Europe Development House 56-64 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4JX United Kingdom
13	PAN Germany Susanne Smolka	susanne.smolka@pan-germany.org +49 40 39919100	PAN Germany Nernstweg 32 22765 Hamburg Germany



Mouvement pour le Droit et le Respect des Générations Futures



LEGAMBIENTE



14	PIN for Health (Partnership-Information- Networking) Nataša Janev Holcer	njanev@pinforhealth.hr +385 1 46 37 424	PIN Sjevernjak 2 10000 Zagreb Hungary
15	Polish Ecological Club Maria Staniszevska	biuro@pkegliwice.pl +48 12 4232047	Polish Ecological Club Ul. Slawkowska 26A 31-014 Kraków Poland
16	SSL (Society for sustainable living) Mirek Suta	miroslav.suta@centrum.cz +420 608775754	SSL Kratka 26 10000 Praha 10 Czech Republic
17	Clean up Greece Environmental Organisation Carla Baer Manolopoulou	desk@cleanupgreece.org.gr Tel: +30 210 8812440 Fax: +30 210 8213525	Clean up Greece Troias 30 112 57 Athens
18	WECF (Women in Europe for a Common Future) Daniela Rosche	daniela.rosche@wecf.org	WECF Biltstraat 445 3572 AW Utrecht The Netherlands

[1] The latest Eurobarometer about EU citizens' general fears about food shows that pesticide residues are the top concern. 63% of all enquired are concerned about pesticide residues in fruit and vegetables. European Commission 2006, *Special Eurobarometer Risk Issues*, February 2006.

[2] <http://www.q-s.info/>

[3] The latest European monitoring of pesticide residues in food found more than 5% of all samples exceeded the legal threshold of pesticide residues in food and almost half of all samples had detectable levels of pesticide residues. European Commission 2005, *Monitoring of pesticide residues in products of plant origin in the EU, Norway, Iceland and Lichtenstein – 2003 results*.