



**ISDE - International Society of Doctors for the Environment**



**International POPs Elimination Network**



We believe that lindane should be included in Annex A for the following reasons:

- It is necessary to consider not only the toxicity of lindane throughout all its lifecycle. Large scale, highly toxic byproducts are produced during the synthesis process. These byproducts exceed the toxicity of lindane itself and the cost to safely dispose of them is very high;
- The pharmaceutical uses of lindane mainly address ectoparasitosis in children. Children, young women, and pregnant women are the most vulnerable populations. Uses of lindane at home cannot be controlled. Lindane is cheap, which is why it survives in the market, and the control of prescriptions is weak in developing countries;
- Allowing lindane to continue to be available on the market only for the above-mentioned pharmaceutical use gives a very wrong message to pediatricians and public health decision-makers about the toxicity of this chemical. It contradicts the recommendation of the POPRC; and
- Alternatives are available on the market and are in use in most countries around the world. Keeping this chemical available on the market will only negatively affect and worsen the health situation for children in poorer and less-developed countries.