



**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior  
Informed Consent Procedure for  
Certain Hazardous Chemicals and  
Pesticides in International Trade**

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**Chemical Review Committee**

**Eighth meeting**

Geneva, 19–23 March 2012

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters: organization of work**

**Scenario note for the eighth meeting of the Chemical Review  
Committee**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The annex to the present note contains a scenario note developed by the Chair of the Chemical Review Committee, Ms. Hala Sultan Saif Al-Easa (Qatar), to assist participants in preparing for the Committee's eighth meeting.

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\* UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.8/1.

## Annex

### Scenario note for the eighth meeting of the Chemical Review Committee

1. The present scenario note is intended to assist participants in preparing for the eighth meeting of the Chemical Review Committee.
2. The documents for the meeting were posted on the website of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade ([www.pic.int](http://www.pic.int)) in January and February 2012 and made available to the Committee.

#### A. Objective and tasks

3. The general objective of the meeting is to complete the work assigned to the Committee by the Convention and the Conference of the Parties. To that end, the tasks of the Committee are:
  - (a) To finalize the draft decision guidance documents for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and its precursor perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride, pentabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures and octabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties with a view to their adoption at its sixth meeting together with the recommendations by the Committee to list these groups of chemicals in Annex III to the Convention;
  - (b) To finalize the draft decision guidance document for liquid formulations (emulsifiable concentrate and soluble concentrate) containing paraquat dichloride at or above 276 g/L, corresponding to paraquat ion at or above 200 g/L, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting with a view to its adoption together with the recommendation to list the pesticide formulation in Annex III to the Convention;
  - (c) To determine whether the criteria set out in Annex II to the Convention have been satisfied by each of the notifications of final regulatory action for dicofol and trichlorfon and, if that is the case, to prepare a rationale for the conclusions of the Committee for each of those notifications;
  - (d) If the chemicals identified in subparagraph (c) above are recommended for listing in Annex III, to prepare such recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, establish intersessional drafting groups and draw up workplans for the preparation of decision guidance documents;
  - (e) To review and amend, as necessary, the Committee's policy guidance and working procedures;
  - (f) To review the draft guideline to assist parties in preparing notifications of final regulatory actions.

#### B. Meeting agenda

4. The provisional agenda for the meeting lists the matters before the Committee. Committee members are invited to notify the Secretariat before the meeting of any other matter that should be included. The annotations to the provisional agenda provide details pertaining to each issue on the agenda and include information on the documents available to the Committee.

#### C. Organization of work

5. The meeting will begin with opening remarks by the Chair of the Committee and the Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. The Committee will then consider item 2, "Organizational matters". Under that item, the Committee will adopt its agenda with any amendments and agree upon the organization of work for the week.
6. Under item 3 of the agenda, the Committee will review the outcomes of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties relevant to the Committee's work.
7. The Committee will then proceed to item 4, "Operational issues". A representative of the secretariat will provide information on the rotation of the membership that took place in October 2011. A brief presentation will be given on activities undertaken in support of the effective participation of members in the Committee's work.
8. The Committee will then review the policy guidance and working procedures developed to facilitate its work, including, in particular, the working paper on the application of the criteria in

paragraph (b) of Annex II to the Convention and the working paper on preparing internal proposals and decision guidance documents for severely hazardous pesticide formulations arising from the deliberations of the Committee at its seventh meeting.

9. Turning to its work on chemicals, the Committee will take up agenda item 5 (c) and consider the four draft decision guidance documents with a view to finalizing them.
  10. The Committee will then consider the report of the Bureau on the preliminary review of notifications under agenda item 5 (a) and, under agenda item 5 (b), review the notifications of final regulatory action for the two candidate chemicals before the Committee.
  11. For the two candidate chemicals, following consultations between the Bureau and the Secretariat, intersessional task groups have been established to work from 30 January to 18 March 2012. Each group is responsible for undertaking a preliminary assessment of one of the two candidate chemicals to be reviewed at the meeting. On the basis of the criteria set forth in Annex II to the Convention, each task group will prepare a report that includes a review of the notification and the supporting documentation for the candidate chemical assigned to it. The draft task group reports will be posted on the Convention website two weeks before the meeting. Task groups will have an opportunity to meet on Sunday, 18 March, before the meeting begins. The task groups will present the results of their preliminary assessments to the Committee for its consideration.
  12. On the basis of its review, the Committee will decide whether to recommend that the Conference of the Parties list one or both of the candidate chemicals in Annex III to the Convention and thereafter establish drafting groups to prepare decision guidance documents for the recommended chemicals.
  13. Under agenda item 5 (d), the Committee will consider and comment on the draft guidelines to assist parties in preparing notifications of final regulatory actions, which have been prepared by the Secretariat.
  14. With regard to agenda item 6, "Other matters", a proposal on possible cooperation between the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention, prepared jointly by the Chairs of the two committees, will be presented for consideration by the Committee.
  15. The Committee will then decide on the dates and venue of its ninth meeting.
  16. The draft report of the meeting will then be reviewed and adopted with changes where necessary.
  17. Upon the conclusion of the matters before the Committee, the Chair will close the meeting.
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