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**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed
Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous
Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
Chemical Review Committee
Fifth meeting**

Rome, 23–27 March 2009

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

1. The fifth meeting of the Chemical Review Committee, to be held from 23 to 27 March 2009 at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome, will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 23 March 2009.
2. The Chair of the Committee and the Co-Executive Secretaries of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, Mr. Peter Kenmore and Mr. Donald Cooper, will deliver the opening, welcoming and closing statements, respectively.

Item 2. Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

3. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda contained in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/1.

(b) Organization of work

4. Upon commencement of the meeting, the Committee will need to agree on suitable working hours. The Committee may wish to agree to meet each day from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., subject to adjustments as appropriate.

* UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/1.

5. The Committee may wish to begin by reviewing the draft decision guidance documents for alachlor and aldicarb. It may then wish to consider the eight chemicals that it is to evaluate for possible inclusion in Annex III of the Convention in the order of priority proposed by the Bureau and Secretariat. Drafting groups will be established as necessary to prepare rationales for individual chemicals and work plans for any intersessional work that may be required with a view to concluding the meeting and adopting the report on Friday afternoon.

Item 3. Review of the outcome of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

(a) Outcome of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

6. The Committee will have before it a note from the Secretariat that reviews the outcome of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties relevant to the work of the Chemical Review Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/3).

Item 4. Listing of chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention

(a) Report of the Bureau on the preliminary review of notifications and proposed priorities for chemicals scheduled for review by the Chemical Review Committee

7. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat that sets out the results of the preliminary review of notifications of final regulatory action and supporting documentation undertaken by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau and the proposed priorities for intersessional work on the chemicals scheduled for review by the Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/2). The Committee may wish to consider the notifications and supporting documentation before it in the context of the priorities suggested in the note.

(b) Review of notifications of final regulatory actions to ban or severely restrict chemicals

(i) Azinphos-methyl

8. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing one verified notification of final regulatory action from each of two prior informed consent (PIC) regions relating to azinphos-methyl (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/4). One notification comes from North America and was submitted by Canada; the other comes from Asia and was submitted by Thailand.

9. The supporting documentation provided by Canada and Thailand is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/4/Add.1 and Add.2, respectively.

(ii) Endosulfan

10. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing eight verified notifications of final regulatory action from two PIC regions relating to endosulfan (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/5). One notification comes from Europe and was submitted by the European Community and has been considered previously. The other notifications come from Africa and were submitted by Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.

11. At its third meeting the Committee concluded that the notification of final regulatory action from the European Community met the information requirements of Annex I to the Convention and the criteria set out in Annex II to the Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/15, para. 38). The rationale for that conclusion was set out in annex II to the report of the Committee's third meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/15) and is reproduced in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/5/Add.1.

12. The supporting documentation provided by the European Community is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/10/Add.1 and Add.2. The supporting documentation provided by Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/5/Add.2.

13. At its second meeting the Committee agreed that it should recommend that endosulfan be listed in Annex III to the Convention and accordingly established a drafting group for the development of a decision guidance document for endosulfan based on the notifications from the Netherlands and Thailand. The Committee finalized the text of the draft decision guidance document at its third meeting. The current draft of the decision guidance document accordingly reflects the information provided in

support of the two notifications of final regulatory action from the Netherlands and Thailand and is focused on environmental concerns.

14. Following the fourth meeting of the Committee additional notifications of final regulatory action relating to endosulfan, based on human health concerns in addition to environmental concerns, were submitted by Parties from the Africa region. If the new notifications are found to meet the requirements of the Convention the Committee may wish to consider revising the draft decision guidance document to reflect the human health concerns described in the additional notifications.

(iii) Methyl-parathion

15. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to methyl parathion (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/6). One notification comes from Europe and was submitted by the European Community and has been considered previously; the other comes from Latin America and the Caribbean and was submitted by Uruguay.

16. At its first meeting the Committee considered the notification for methyl parathion from the European Community. It agreed that the notification met the requirements of the Convention. The rationale for the Committee's conclusion that the notification met the criteria of Annex II of the Convention is set out in annex V to the report of the Committee's first meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.1/28, annex V, paras. 8–14) and is reproduced in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/7.Add.1.

17. The supporting documentation provided by Uruguay is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/6.Add.2.

(iv) Mirex

18. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing three verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to mirex (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/7). One notification comes from North America and was submitted by Canada and has been considered previously; the other two come from Latin America and the Caribbean and were submitted by Uruguay and Cuba.

19. At its second meeting the Committee concluded that the notification of final regulatory action submitted by Canada met the information requirements of Annex I to the Convention and the criteria set out in Annex II to the Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.2/20, paras. 82–87). The rationale for the Committee's conclusion that the notification met the criteria of Annex II of the Convention is set out in Annex III to the report of the Committee's second meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.2/20, annex III, section D) and is reproduced in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/7.Add.1.

20. The supporting documentation provided by Uruguay and Cuba is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/7/Add.2 and Add.3 respectively

(v) Paraquat

21. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing three verified notifications from three PIC regions relating to paraquat (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/8). One notification comes from Europe and was submitted by Sweden; one comes from Latin America and the Caribbean and was submitted by Uruguay; the third one comes from Asia and was submitted by Sri Lanka.

22. The supporting documentation provided by Sweden, Uruguay and Sri Lanka is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/8/Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3, respectively.

(vi) Phorate

23. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to phorate (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/9). One notification comes from North America and was submitted by Canada; the other comes from Asia and was submitted by Thailand.

24. The supporting documentation provided by Canada and Thailand is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/9/Add.1 and Add.2, respectively.

(vii) Hexachlorobenzene

25. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing three verified notifications from three PIC regions relating to hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical

(UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/10). One notification comes from North America and was submitted by Canada; the second comes from Asia and was submitted by Japan, and the third comes from Latin America and was submitted by Panama.

26. The supporting documentation provided by Canada, Japan and Panama is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/10/Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3, respectively.

(viii) Hexachlorobutadiene

27. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to hexachlorobutadiene as an industrial chemical (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/11). One notification comes from North America and was submitted by Canada; the other comes from Asia and was submitted by Japan.

28. The supporting documentation provided by Canada and Japan is set out in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/11/Add.1 and Add.2, respectively.

(c) Consideration of draft decision guidance documents

(i) Alachlor

29. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on alachlor prepared by the drafting group established at the fourth meeting of the Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/14), as well as a tabular summary of comments received under step 4 of the procedure for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/INF/5). The decision guidance document was developed in line with the process adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting in decision RC-2/2. In accordance with that decision, the draft decision guidance document is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

30. The Committee may wish to consider the written comments submitted regarding its review of the notifications of final regulatory action submitted by Canada and the European Community along with the additional information provided by those two Parties. The comments and additional information provided are available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/14.

31. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document for alachlor and forward its recommendation to list the chemical in Annex III to the Convention and the draft decision guidance document to the Conference of the Parties for decision. Should the Committee so decide, the draft decision guidance document and recommendation would, in accordance with the process adopted in decision RC-2/2, be accompanied by a summary of the Chemical Review Committee's deliberations, including a rationale based on the criteria listed in Annex II of the Convention and a tabular summary of comments received under step 4 of the process for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed.

(ii) Aldicarb

32. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on aldicarb prepared by the drafting group established at the fourth meeting of the Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/15), as well as a tabular summary of comments received under step 4 of the procedure for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/INF/6). The decision guidance document was developed in line with the process adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting in decision RC-2/2. In accordance with that decision, the draft decision guidance document is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

33. The Committee may wish to consider the additional information concerning the notification of final regulatory action submitted by Jamaica available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/15.

34. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document for aldicarb and forward its recommendation to list the chemical in Annex III to the Convention and the draft decision guidance document to the Conference of the Parties for decision. Should the Committee so decide, the draft decision guidance document and recommendation would, in accordance with the process adopted in decision RC-2/2, be accompanied by a summary of the Chemical Review Committee's deliberations, including a rationale based on the criteria listed in Annex II of the Convention and a tabular summary of

comments received under step 4 of the process for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed.

Item 5. Other matters

35. The Secretariat has received a letter from CropLife international regarding the process for the listing of chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention. A copy of the letter and the response of the Secretariat are made available to the Committee for its consideration in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/INF/7.

36. In line with decision RC-1/6 on establishment of the Chemical Review Committee, the four-year term of office of some members will expire following the Committee's fifth meeting. The members of the Committee whose terms will end include four members of the present Bureau, Ms. Karmen Krajnc (Slovenia), representative of the Eastern Europe region, Mr. Klaus Berend (Netherlands), representative of the West European and others group, Mr. Ernest Mashimba (United Republic of Tanzania), representative of the Africa region, and Mr. Mohammed Oqlah Hussein Khashashneh (Jordan), representative of the Asia and Pacific region. As a result, each of those regional groups will need to identify a new member to represent it on the Bureau. In order to help ensure the smooth operation of the Committee in preparing for its sixth session, the Committee may wish to elect a new chair from among the members of the Bureau.

Item 6. Adoption of the report

37. The Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the draft report of its fifth meeting, as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Item 7. Closure of the meeting

38. It is expected that the meeting will be closed by the Chair no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 27 March 2009.
