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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 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

**Listing of chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention:
report of the Bureau on the preliminary review of notifications
and proposed priorities for chemicals scheduled for review by
the Chemical Review Committee**

**Report of the Bureau on the preliminary review of notifications
of final regulatory action for chemicals scheduled for
consideration by the Chemical Review Committee at its fifth
meeting**

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its second meeting, the Chemical Review Committee established a procedure for dealing with notifications of final regulatory action to ban or severely restrict a chemical. The procedure has been posted on the Convention website and will be available at the fifth meeting of the Committee in a compilation of policy guidance and working procedures (document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.5/INF/3).
2. Accordingly, the Secretariat and the Bureau undertook a preliminary review of the notifications of final regulatory action and supporting documentation submitted for the chemicals scheduled for review by the Committee at its fifth meeting. The annex to the present note contains a report from the Bureau on the results of that review. The report includes recommendations on priorities for the work of the Committee, in particular, the creation of intersessional task groups. The report has not been formally edited by the Secretariat.

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

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Annex

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF THE CHEMICALS SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE CHEMICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (CRC.5)

In line with the procedure for the prioritisation of its intersessional work, and in accordance with the information requirements of Annex I and the criteria set out in Annex II, the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau has undertaken a preliminary review of the notifications of final regulatory actions and associated supporting documentation for the eight chemicals scheduled for review by the fifth meeting of the CRC.

For those notifications where it appears that the requirements of the Convention have been met, intersessional Task Groups are to be established prior to the session of the Committee, in line with the agreed process for drafting decision-guidance documents. The goal of this preliminary review and priority setting is to help ensure that those notifications that were the subject of preliminary work in Task Groups are those where it appeared that sufficient information was available to determine that the criteria of Annex II had been met. The Committee is obliged to review all of the notifications and supporting documentation.

A tabular summary of the proposed priorities for the evaluation of these chemicals by the CRC may be found in Table.1. The leads among members of the Committee are also listed in this table.

a) Priority setting among candidate chemicals

GROUP 1: includes those chemicals for which there are notifications from two or more PIC regions that appear to meet the requirements of the Convention.

- For these chemicals the Bureau recommends that intersessional Task Groups be established
- Members of the Committee will lead the intersessional Task Groups, prepare an initial review and rationale as to how the notifications and supporting documentation meet the criteria of the Convention.
- The Task Group coordinators will present the findings of the Task Groups to the Committee and lead the discussion on the individual chemicals during the meeting

GROUP 2: includes chemicals for which there are notification(s) from only one PIC region that appears to meet the requirements of the Convention.

- For these chemicals the Bureau recommends that intersessional Task Groups be established
- The Bureau also recommends that
 - i) for those notifications that appear to meet the requirements of the Convention a rationale be drafted,
 - ii) for the other notifications conclude that they do not appear to meet the requirements of the Convention
- Members of the Committee will lead the intersessional Task Groups, prepare an initial review and rationale as to how the individual notifications and supporting documentation meet the criteria of the Convention.
- The Task Group coordinators will present the findings of the Task Groups to the Committee and lead the discussion on the individual chemicals during the meeting

GROUP 3: includes chemicals for which there are no notifications that appear to meet the requirements of the Convention.

- For the fifth meeting of the CRC it is not envisaged that any of the candidate chemicals would fall into this group, based on the data provided.

Table 1 Summary of the outcome of the preliminary review

CHEMICAL NAME	NOTIFICATIONS	CRITERIA OF ANNEX II	LEAD EXPERTS
Group 1			
Endosulfan	European Community	All criteria met*	Bartels Nichelatti Sow Moudachirou Manuweera Jayasekara
	Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal	All criteria met	
Group 2			
Aziphos-methyl	Canada	All criteria met	Berend Choi Goji Yarto Al-Hasani
	Thailand	Not criterion b) iii)	
Phorate	Canada	All criteria met	Yarto Tang Shan Nystrom Kamatari Manuweera
	Thailand	Not criterion b) iii)	
Methyl parathion	European Community	All criteria met **	Nudelman Hajjar Goji Jayasekara Binga
	Uruguay	Not criteria b) i) ii) and iii)	
Mirex	Canada	All criteria met *	Cornejo Jayasekara Gwayi Pandey Kundiev
	Uruguay	Not criteria b) i) ii) and iii)	
	Cuba***	Not criteria b) i) ii) and iii)	
Paraquat	Sweden	All criteria met	Randall Berend Sow Bartels
	Uruguay	Not criteria b) i) ii) and iii)	
	Sri Lanka	Not criterion d)	
Hexachlorobenzene	Canada	All criteria met	Choi Ikeda Tang Liptakova Khashashneh
	Japan	Not criterion b) iii)	
Hexachlorobutadiene	Panama	Not criterion b) iii)	
	Canada	All criteria met	Nvstrom Ikeda Mashimba Ramsay Khalifa
Japan	Not criterion b) iii)		

* evaluated by CRC.2 and rationale prepared

** evaluated by CRC.1 and rationale prepared

*** notification states that the reported final regulatory action was **NOT** based on a risk or hazard evaluation and as such cannot meet criteria (b) of Annex II. This notification will be assigned low priority and given little or no detailed consideration by the Committee.