



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

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Chemical Review Committee

Seventh meeting

Rome, 28 March–1 April 2011

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda

Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

1. The seventh meeting of the Chemical Review Committee, to be held from 28 March to 1 April 2011 at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome, will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 28 March 2011.
2. Ms. Marit Randall, Chair of the Committee, and Mr. Peter Kenmore, Co-Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, will each deliver an opening statement.

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 set out in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/1.

(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.
5. A scenario note for the meeting is provided in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/INF/2.

Item 3. Operational issues

(a) Rotation of the membership in October 2011

6. A representative of the Secretariat will introduce information on the change of membership that will take place in October 2011. The Committee may wish to take note of and experts may wish to inform their Governments about this change to ensure a smooth transition.

(b) Report on activities undertaken or planned for the effective participation of members and parties in the Committee's work

7. A representative of the Secretariat will provide a brief report on the three regional workshops organized jointly with the secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, in Cairo, Mexico City and Colombo in November 2009, June 2010 and January 2011 respectively, to bring together the members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and those of the

* UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/1.

Chemical Review Committee. The Committee may wish to take note of these activities and participating experts to share their experiences.

(c) **Working procedures and policy guidance developed to facilitate the Committee's work**

8. A compilation of the working procedures and policy guidance developed by the Committee to facilitate its work is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/INF/4.

9. The Committee has before it guidance to intersessional task groups on reviewing notifications of final regulatory action and supporting documentation for chemicals scheduled for consideration by the Committee, which was revised by an intersessional drafting group to reflect the experience gained at the Committee's sixth meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/13). The Committee also has before it a revised working paper on the application of criteria (b) of Annex II to the Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/14).

10. The Committee may wish to consider the guidance document and the revised working paper and continue to develop them further.

Item 4. Technical work

(a) **Report of the Bureau on the preliminary review of notifications and the proposal for a severely hazardous pesticide formulation, and proposed priorities for chemicals scheduled for review by the Committee**

11. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat that sets out the results of the preliminary reviews of notifications of final regulatory action, of a proposal for a severely hazardous pesticide formulation and of supporting documentation that were undertaken by the Bureau in consultation with the Secretariat and the proposed priorities for intersessional work on the chemicals scheduled for review by the Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/3). The Committee may wish to consider the notifications, the proposal and the supporting documentation before it in the context of the priorities suggested in the note.

(b) **Consideration of the draft decision guidance document for azinphos-methyl**

12. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat containing a draft decision guidance document on azinphos-methyl, based on the notifications from Canada and Norway, prepared by the drafting group established at the Committee's sixth meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/12). 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. Accordingly, a tabular summary of comments received under step 4 of the procedure for developing decision guidance documents and how these were addressed is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/INF/6. The draft decision guidance document and the tabular summary of comments are available in the six official languages of the United Nations.

13. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document and forward it and its recommendation for listing azinphos-methyl in Annex III to the Convention to the Conference of the Parties for its 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 Committee's deliberations, including a rationale based on the criteria listed in Annex II to the Convention and a tabular summary of the comments received under step 4 of the process for developing decision guidance documents and how these were addressed.

(c) **Review of notifications of final regulatory action**

(i) **Amitraz**

14. The Committee has 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 amitraz (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/4). One notification was submitted by the European Community¹ (Europe region and the other by the Syrian Arab Republic (Near East region).

1 As indicated by the Depositary of the Convention in a notification dated 31 March 2010 (reference: C.N.182.2010.TREATIES-2), which was in turn based on a communication from the Council of the European Union dated 8 March 2010, following the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community, with effect from 1 December 2009 the European Union replaced the European Community (Article 1, third paragraph, of the Treaty of Lisbon) and took over all rights and obligations of the European Community. The former European Community has accordingly been replaced by the European Union in respect of all conventions or agreements for which the Secretary-General

15. At its sixth meeting, the Committee considered the notification for amitraz from the European Community and agreed that it met the requirements of the Convention. The rationale for that conclusion is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/4/Add.1.

16. The supporting documentation submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic is provided in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/4/Add.2.

(ii) Carbaryl

17. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat containing one verified notification of final regulatory action from each of two PIC regions relating to carbaryl (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/5). One notification was submitted by the European Community (Europe region) and other by the Syrian Arab Republic (Near East region).

18. At its fourth meeting, the Committee considered the notification for carbaryl from the European Community and agreed that it met the requirements of the Convention. The rationale for that conclusion is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/5/Add.1.

19. The supporting documentation submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic is provided in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/5/Add.2.

(iii) Endosulfan

20. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat containing one verified notification of final regulatory action from each of two PIC regions relating to endosulfan (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/6). One notification was submitted by Benin (Africa region) and the other by New Zealand (Southwest Pacific region). The latter notification was considered by the Committee at its sixth meeting, at which time the Committee agreed to defer further consideration until the current meeting.

21. The supporting documentation submitted by New Zealand is provided in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/6/Add.1 and the supporting documentation submitted by Benin in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/6/Add.2 and Add.3.

(iv) Perfluorooctane sulfonate, its salts and its precursors

22. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat containing three verified notifications of final regulatory action from three PIC regions relating to perfluorooctane sulfonate its salts and its precursors (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/7). The first notification was submitted by Canada (North America region). The second was submitted by the European Union (Europe region) and the third by Japan (Asia region).

23. The Secretariat has also received a notification for perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride from Japan. This notification has been included for the Committee's consideration since perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride is a precursor of perfluorooctane sulfonate.

24. The supporting documentation provided by Canada, the European Union and Japan are available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/7/Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3, respectively.

25. As Japan has stated that it used information produced by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support its decision to take final regulatory action for perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride, the Secretariat has made available the relevant information from the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support the Committee's work (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/INF/8).

(v) Pentabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures

26. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing four verified notifications of final regulatory action from three PIC regions relating to pentabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures and a notification on tetrabromodiphenyl ether (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/8). The first notification was submitted by Canada (North America region). The second and third were submitted by the European Community and Norway, respectively (Europe region). The fourth was submitted by Japan (Asia region).

27. The Secretariat has also received a notification for tetrabromodiphenyl ether from Japan. This notification has been included for the Committee's consideration as tetrabromodiphenyl ether is a component of pentabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures based on the definition established for the chemical in paragraph (b) of part III of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention.

28. The supporting documentation provided by Canada, the European Community, Japan and Norway are available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/8/Add.1, Add.2, Add.3 and Add.4, respectively.

29. As Japan has stated that it used information prepared by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support its decision to take final regulatory action for tetrabromodiphenyl ether, the Secretariat has made available the relevant information from the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support the Committee's work (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/INF/9).

(vi) Pentachlorobenzene

30. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat containing two verified notifications of final regulatory action from two PIC regions relating to pentachlorobenzene (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/9). One notification was submitted by Canada (North America region) and the other by Japan (Asia region).

31. The supporting documentation provided by Canada and Japan are available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/9/Add.1 and Add.2, respectively.

32. As Japan has stated that it used information prepared by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support its decision to take final regulatory action for pentachlorobenzene, the Secretariat has made available the relevant information from the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support the Committee's work (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/INF/10).

(vii) Octabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures

33. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat containing three verified notifications of final regulatory action from three PIC regions relating to octabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/10). The first notification was submitted by Canada (North America region) and the second and third by the European Community and Norway, respectively (Europe region).

34. The supporting documentation provided by Canada, the European Community and Norway are available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/10/Add.1, Add.2 and Add.4, respectively.

35. The Secretariat has also received notifications for hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether from Japan. These notifications have been included for the Committee's consideration as these chemicals are components of octabromodiphenyl ether mixtures based on the definitions established for these chemicals in paragraph (a) of part III of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention. The supporting documentation provided by Japan is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/10/Add.3.

36. As Japan has stated that it used information prepared by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support its decision to take final regulatory action for hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, the Secretariat has made available the relevant information from the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to support the Committee's work (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/INF/11).

(d) Review of the proposal for Gramoxone Super as a severely hazardous pesticide formulation

37. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat containing a proposal for a severely hazardous pesticide formulation submitted by Burkina Faso (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/11 and Corr.1).

38. Supporting documentation provided by Burkina Faso is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/11/Add.1. Relevant information relating to the formulation that was collected by the Secretariat as set out in part 2 of Annex IV to the Rotterdam Convention is provided in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.7/11/Add.2-5.

Item 5. Other matters

39. The Committee may wish to discuss any other matters.

Item 6. Date and venue of the Committee's eighth meeting

40. The Committee's eighth meeting will take place in Geneva at the Varembe Conference Centre from 18 to 23 March 2012. The Committee may wish to take note of this date and the location.

Item 7. Adoption of the report

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

Item 8. Closure of the meeting

42. Mr. Donald Cooper, Co-Executive Secretary of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, will deliver a closing statement. It is expected that the meeting will be closed by the Chair no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, 1 April 2011.
