



**United Nations  
Environment Programme**

**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**

Distr.: General  
10 December 2004

English only

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

**First meeting**

Geneva, 11–18 February 2005

Item 6 (b) (iii) of the provisional agenda\*

**Operational procedures for the Chemical Review Committee:  
working procedures and policy guidance forwarded from the  
Conference of the Parties: policy guidance: contaminants**

## **Policy guidance: contaminants**

### **Note by the secretariat**

1. In its review of maleic hydrazide, the interim Chemical Review Committee was requested to consider the overall policy issues related to adding chemicals to Annex III of the Convention on the basis of control actions related to contaminants within the substance rather than the substance itself. At its first session, the interim Chemical Review Committee recommended that the Negotiating Committee should adopt a policy on contaminants (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.1/6, annex I, section E).

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

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2. At its seventh session, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee adopted the recommendation of the interim Chemical Review Committee that a “policy on contaminants would include final regulatory actions to ban a pesticide that had been taken by at least two countries in two PIC regions on the basis of a contamination contained in that substance, where the notifications also met the requirements of Annexes I and II of the Convention”. The Negotiating Committee adopted this recommendation at its seventh session as decision INC-7/4 (FAO/UNEP/PIC/INC.7/15, annex I).
  3. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties agreed to forward this policy to the first meeting of the Chemical Review Committee for its considerations.
  4. The Committee may wish to note this policy and defer detailed discussion of this policy relating to contaminants until the Committee is confronted by such a situation.
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