



UNEP



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**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 7 (e) of the provisional agenda*

**Inclusion of chemicals in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention:
review of notifications of final regulatory actions to ban
or severely restrict a chemical: methyl bromide**

Methyl bromide: supporting documentation from Switzerland

Note by the secretariat

The secretariat has the honour to provide, in the annex to the present note, the supporting document supplied by Switzerland in support of its final regulatory action on methyl bromide.

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

Annex

Methyl Bromide Focused Summary of the Notification of a Final Regulatory Action by Switzerland

I. Introduction

Methyl bromide is regulated in the *Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer* and the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer*.

The entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols in Switzerland took place in 1989 and in 1992, 1996, and 2003, respectively.

Switzerland therefore regulated methyl bromide in 1996 and listed it as an ozone depleting substance in Annex 3.4, Number 1 of the Ordinance relating to Environmentally Hazardous Substances.

The use, production, import and export of ozone depleting substances (as well as simple mixtures and products containing ozone depleting substances if they are in containers used solely to transport or store these substances,) is prohibited.

Exception: recycled ozone depleting substances which are not chemically changed by the process

Exception: manufacture of products or articles which may be supplied or imported in accordance with the provisions of Annexes 4.9 (compressed gas containers), 4.11 (plastics), 4.14 (solvents), 4.15 (refrigerants), and 4.16 (extinguishing agents). This applies only to imports / exports from / to States which adhere to the provisions of the Montreal Protocol of 16 September 1987, and its amendments of 29 June 1990, 25 November 1992, 17 September 1997, and 3 December 1999.

II. Risk Evaluation

The hazard/risk evaluation was based on the Montreal Protocol which Switzerland has ratified and is thus obliged to enforce nationally. A specific national risk evaluation was not performed in 1996, the Ordinance relating to Environmentally Hazardous Substances was amended, and methyl bromide was added directly in Annex 3.4 on *Ozone Depleting Substances*.

III. Risk Reduction and Relevance to other States

The reduction in carbon tetrachloride emission, together with the reduction in emissions of other ozone depleting substances, is expected to reduce the risk of increase UV radiation due to depletion of stratospheric ozone ("ozone hole").