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INTERIM CHEMICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Second session

Rome, 19 – 23 March 2001

DESIRED OUTCOMES OF THE
SECOND SESSION OF THE INTERIM CHEMICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Note from the Chair

1. I would like to share with you my thoughts on how I see our work over the next few days, what in my view are the objectives of this second session of the Interim Chemical Review Committee and what I hope that we will be able to accomplish.
2. The process for developing decision guidance documents developed at our first meeting was adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in November of last year. We now need to implement the process. If we are to accomplish this important task it is essential that there is a clear understanding of each step of this process by the Committee and the role that individual Committee members are expected to play. Specifically:
 - (i) a clear understanding by all members of the Committee of the relationship between the information contained in notifications of final regulatory action and the criteria found in Annex II of the Convention and agreement/recommendations on how to improve the current notification of final regulatory action form;
 - (ii) a decision on how to handle notifications of final regulatory action that are not based on a hazard or risk evaluation;
 - (iii) a clear understanding and agreement on the part of all the experts of the Committee on the format of a decision guidance document developed based on the information on regulatory actions submitted by notifying States and information that may be available from international sources;

- (iv) a clear understanding of the role of the Committee on the process for seeking comments on draft decision guidance documents and their incorporation in revisions to the document;
- (v) an agreement on how to ensure that precise chemical descriptions and relevant CAS-numbers are incorporated into future recommendations from the Committee to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee regarding inclusion of chemicals in the interim PIC procedure.

3. Related to this first point is ensuring that we continue to make progress towards having a mechanism in place for obtaining information on severely hazardous pesticide formulations, as a further step in this direction I will be looking for:

- (i) an approved, provisional version of an incident report form, that can be circulated for limited pilot field testing in the field, with the goal of having a final version for approval by this Committee at its third session.

4. There are two specific chemicals that are on the agenda for which decisions are required from the Committee as the basis for making recommendations to the INC:

- (i) a decision and recommendation to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee regarding whether or not the draft decision guidance document for maleic hydrazide should be approved, with the effect that the chemical would become subject to the interim PIC procedure;
- (ii) a decision from the Committee regarding whether or not to recommend monocrotophos for inclusion and develop an internal proposal in line with the adopted process for drafting decision guidance documents. If the Committee does decide to initiate work on the chemical, a Task Group should be established during this meeting and encouraged to agree on how to approach their inter-sessional work and the time line for preparing an internal proposal;
- (iii) a clear understanding of how regional, sub regional and national workshops could be used to assist the work of the Committee.