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

**Third meeting**

Rome, 20–23 March 2007

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters:  
adoption of the agenda**

## **Annotated provisional agenda**

### **Item 1. Opening of the meeting**

1. The third meeting of the Chemical Review Committee, to be held from 20 to 23 March 2007 at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome, will be opened at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 20 March 2007.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered by Mr. Shivaji Pandey, Director, Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO.

### **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 contained in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/1.

#### **(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 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., subject to adjustments as appropriate.

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\* UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/1.

### **Item 3. Review of the outcome of the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

#### **Outcome of the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

5. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat that provides a review of the outcome of the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties relevant to the work of the Chemical Review Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/3).

### **Item 4. Policy guidance and working procedures related to the work of the Chemical Review Committee**

#### **(a) Working paper on the preparation of internal proposals and decision guidance documents for banned or severely restricted chemicals**

6. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/5) regarding the further development of the working paper on the preparation of internal proposals and decision guidance documents for banned or severely restricted chemicals adopted at its first session.

7. The Committee may wish to consider the working paper, revised to reflect the experience of the drafting groups convened to prepare the decision guidance documents on endosulfan and tributyltin compounds, and recommend the working paper as guidance to any drafting groups that may be established in future.

#### **(b) Criteria for accepting information under subparagraphs b (i), b (ii) and b (iii) of Annex II of the Rotterdam Convention**

8. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat regarding the further development of the working paper on application of criteria b (i), b (ii) and b (iii) of Annex II of the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/6).

9. The Committee may wish to consider the working paper, revised to reflect the outcome of the second session of the Committee and the deliberations of the Conference of the Parties at its third session, and continue to develop the paper in the light of future notifications of final regulatory action submitted for its consideration.

#### **(c) Bridging information**

10. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat regarding the further development of the working paper on bridging information (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/4), adopted at its first session.

11. In the light of the outcome of the deliberations of the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting on the subject of risk evaluations under other multilateral environment agreements and of the experience gained at the meeting, the Committee may wish to consider the further development of the working paper specifically with respect to global risk evaluations.

### **Item 5. Listing of chemicals in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention**

#### **(a) Report of the Bureau on the preliminary review of notifications and proposed priorities for chemicals scheduled for review by the Chemical Review Committee**

12. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat that sets out the results of the preliminary review of notifications undertaken by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau and the proposed priorities for intersessional work on the chemicals scheduled for review by the Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/7). The Committee may wish to consider the notifications before it in line with the priorities suggested in the note.

#### **(b) Review of notifications of final regulatory actions to ban or severely restrict a chemical**

##### **(i) Benzidine and its salts**

13. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing one verified notification from each of two PIC regions relating to benzidine and its salts (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/8). One

notification comes from North America and was submitted by Canada; the other comes from Europe and was submitted by Switzerland.

14. The documentation provided by Canada in support of its final regulatory action on benzidine and its salts was circulated for consideration by the Chemical Review Committee at its first meeting in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.1/23/Add.6. The rationale for the Chemical Review Committee's decision at its first meeting that the notification from Canada had met the criteria of Annex I and Annex II of the Rotterdam Convention is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/8/Add.1.

15. The supporting information provided by Switzerland is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/8/Add.2.

**(ii) Endrin**

16. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing one verified notification from each of two PIC regions relating to endrin (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/9). One notification comes from North America and was submitted by Canada; the other comes from Europe and was submitted by Bulgaria.

17. The supporting information provided by Canada and Bulgaria is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/9/Add.1 and UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/9/Add.2 respectively.

**(iii) Endosulfan**

18. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing one verified notification from one PIC region relating to endosulfan (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/10). The notification was provided by the European Community. The basis for the final regulatory action included concerns related to adverse effects on human health and the environment.

19. The supporting information provided by the European Community is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/10/Add.1.

20. The second meeting of the Chemical Review Committee reviewed two notifications of final regulatory action submitted by the Netherlands and by Thailand. The basis for both final regulatory actions was related to environmental concerns only. These notifications were found to meet the requirements of the Convention and the supporting rationale was attached to the report of the meeting in an annex. A draft decision guidance document for endosulfan, based on these two notifications is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/13 and will be considered under agenda item 5 (c).

**(iv) Methamidophos**

21. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing one verified notification from each of two PIC regions relating to methamidophos (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/11). One notification comes from Africa, and was submitted by Nigeria; the other comes from Europe, and was submitted by Bulgaria.

22. Methamidophos is presently listed in Annex III in the category of severely hazardous pesticide formulation (methamidophos – soluble liquid formulations of the substance that exceed 600 g active ingredient/l).

23. The supporting information provided by Bulgaria and Nigeria is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/11/Add.1 and UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/11/Add.2, respectively.

**(v) Mirex**

24. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing verified notifications from each of three PIC regions relating to mirex (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/12). One notification from North America was submitted by Canada and has been considered previously; two notifications from Asia were submitted by Thailand and Japan; and one from Europe was submitted by Switzerland.

25. The Committee, at its second session, considered the notification for mirex from Canada. It agreed that the notification from Canada met all the criteria set out in Annex I and Annex II to the Convention. The supporting documentation provided by Canada in support of its final regulatory action on mirex was circulated for consideration by the Chemical Review Committee at its first meeting in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.2/16/Add.1. The rationale for the Committee's conclusion that the notification met the criteria of Annex I and Annex II will be made available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/12/Add.1.

26. The supporting information provided by Switzerland, Thailand and Japan is available in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/12/Add.2, UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/12/Add.3, UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/12/Add.4, respectively.

**(c) Consideration of the draft decision guidance documents for endosulfan and tributyltin compounds**

**(i) Endosulfan**

27. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on endosulfan, prepared by the drafting group established by the Committee at its second meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/13). 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. A tabular summary of the comments received under step 4 of the procedure for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/INF/5.

28. The Committee may wish to take into consideration the results of its review of the notification provided by the European Commission for endosulfan in finalizing the draft decision guidance document. An amended decision guidance document that reflects the information in the three notifications based on human health and environmental concerns could be finalized by the Committee at its fourth meeting in February or March 2008 and subsequently forwarded to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in October 2008.

**(ii) Tributyltin compounds**

29. The Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on tributyltin compounds prepared by the drafting group established by the Committee at its second meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/14). 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. A tabular summary of the comments received under step 4 of the procedure for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed is available in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.3/INF/6.

30. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document for tributyltin compounds and forward its recommendation and the draft decision guidance document to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in October 2008 for adoption. 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 Chemical Review Committee's deliberations, including a rationale based on the criteria listed in Annex II of the Convention and a tabular summary of comments received under step 4 of the process for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed.

**Item 6. Other matters**

31. In line with decision RC-1/6 on establishment of the Chemical Review Committee, the term of office for those members nominated for a two year term will expire following this meeting. This includes two members of the present Bureau, Ms. Bettina Hitzfeld (Switzerland), representative of the Western European and Others Group (WEOG) region, and Ms. Oluronke Ajibike Soyombo (Nigeria), representative of the Africa region. As a result, the WEOG and Africa regional groups will each need to identify a new member for the Bureau. In order to help ensure the smooth operation of the Committee in preparing for its fourth session, the Committee may wish to elect a new chair from among the members of the Bureau.

**Item 7. Adoption of the report**

32. The Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the draft report on the work of its third meeting, as prepared by the Rapporteur.

**Item 8. Closure of the meeting**

33. It is expected that the meeting will be closed by the Chair no later than 5 p.m. on 23 March 2007.