

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

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5 June 2023

Subject: Call for information in follow-up to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (1-12 May 2023)

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

At its eleventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention adopted a number of decisions that invited Parties and others to provide information. The full set of decisions adopted at the meeting are contained in Annex I to the meeting report, which will be made available on the Rotterdam Convention website in due course: www.pic.int. To facilitate responses to the various invitations for information, please find enclosed a summary of the individual decisions that contain such invitations. Please bear in mind that this letter does not reflect the full set of decisions.

The information set out in this letter is also available on the Convention's website under: "[Call for information in follow-up to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention](#)".

Please note that similar letters are being sent to Parties and observers to the Basel and Stockholm conventions as a follow-up to the sixteenth and eleventh meetings of their respective conferences of the Parties. The invitations for information pertaining to joint issues of the three conventions have been included in each of the individual letters.

In decision RC-11/3, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention agreed to list terbufos in Annex III to the Convention. A separate letter will be sent to solicit import responses for this chemical at the time the amendment to list it in Annex III to the Convention enters into force on 22 October 2023.

Should you have any queries, please contact Ms. Andrea Lechner, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (E-mail: andrea.lechner@un.org; Tel: +41 22 917 88 53).

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Yours sincerely,

For



Rolph Payet

Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and
Stockholm Conventions



Christine Fuell

Executive Secretary *ad interim*
of the Rotterdam Convention

Enc: Follow-up to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention

To: Rotterdam Convention Official Contact Points
Rotterdam Convention Designated National Authorities
Members of the Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention
Observers admitted to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention

cc: Representatives of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Representatives of Permanent Missions to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome

Follow-up to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention

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1. Status of implementation

Decision: RC-11/1: Status of implementation

Background:

The Conference of the Parties encouraged Parties, among other things, to adopt, as soon as possible, a national definition for the term “pesticide” and communicate national definitions to the Secretariat; to provide the Secretariat with information that might assist other Parties to prepare and notify final regulatory actions; and to provide information on their implementation of Articles 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the Convention by submitting responses to the periodic questionnaire on the implementation of those articles. Parties, non-Parties, industry, civil society and other stakeholders were invited to provide to the Secretariat data on the international trade in chemicals listed or recommended for listing in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention.

Follow-up:

| | Call for information | Respondents | Deadlines for submission |
|-----|--|---|--|
| (a) | Parties are encouraged to communicate national definitions for the term “pesticide” to the Secretariat. | Parties | No deadline specified; information to be submitted as soon as possible. |
| (b) | Parties are encouraged to provide the Secretariat with information that might assist other Parties to prepare and notify final regulatory actions, including scientific and technical information relevant to risk evaluation and decision-making on hazardous chemicals and pesticides. | Parties | No deadline specified; information to be submitted as soon as possible. |
| (c) | Parties are encouraged to provide information on their implementation of Articles 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the Convention by submitting responses to the periodic questionnaire on the implementation of those articles. | Parties | Deadline to be indicated in the questionnaires to be sent out on this topic. |
| (d) | Parties, non-Parties, industry, civil society and other stakeholders are invited to provide to the Secretariat data on the international trade in chemicals listed or recommended for listing in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention. | Parties, non-Parties, industry, civil society, other stakeholders | No deadline specified; information to be submitted as soon as possible. |

Contact persons:

- (a) Ms. Christine Fuell, email: christine.fuell@fao.org
- (b) Mr. Aleksandar Mihajlovski, email: aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org
- (c) Mr. Suman Sharma, email: suman.sharma@un.org
- (d) Ms. Andrea Lechner, email: andrea.lechner@un.org

2. Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention by addressing impacts regarding the listing of chemicals in Annex III and its implementation

Decision: RC-11/4: Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention by addressing impacts regarding the listing of chemicals in Annex III and its implementation

Background:

The Conference of the Parties urged Parties and observers to provide information to the Secretariat on the potential direct and indirect trade and socio-economic impacts, as well as financial implications, caused or anticipated by the listing of chemicals in Annex III, including the costs of inaction; on the benefits and challenges in introducing alternatives to chemicals recommended for listing in Annex III, and on actions to address such challenges; and on challenges in implementing legislative and administrative measures for the sound management of chemicals recommended for listing in Annex III and their alternatives, including challenges relating to technological and scientific capability.

Follow-up:

| | Call for information | Respondents | Deadlines for submission |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) | Parties and observers are urged to provide information to the Secretariat on the potential direct and indirect trade and socio-economic impacts, as well as the financial implications, caused or anticipated by the listing of chemicals in Annex III, including the costs of inaction. | Parties Observers | 30 June 2024 |
| (b) | Parties and observers are urged to provide information to the Secretariat on the benefits and challenges in introducing alternatives to chemicals recommended for listing in Annex III, and on actions to address such challenges. | Parties Observers | 30 June 2024 |
| (c) | Parties and observers are urged to provide information to the Secretariat on challenges in implementing legislative or administrative measures for the sound management of chemicals recommended for listing in Annex III and their alternatives, including challenges relating to technological and scientific capability. | Parties Observers | 30 June 2024 |

Contact person:

Ms. Andrea Lechner, email: andrea.lechner@un.org

3. Compliance Committee

Decision: RC-11/5: Compliance Committee

Background:

By decision RC-11/15, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties that believe that they are or will be unable to comply with obligations under the Convention to consider making submissions to the Compliance Committee pursuant to paragraph 12 of Annex VII to the Convention. In part V of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties approved the programme of work of the Committee for the biennium 2024–2025 set out in the annex to that decision. The Conference of the Parties also requested Parties to provide the Secretariat with texts of national legislation or other measures to implement and enforce the Convention and encouraged Parties to provide the Compliance Committee with information on issues faced in relation to notifications of final regulatory action.

Follow-up:

| | Call for information | Respondents | Method of submission | Deadlines for submission |
|-----|---|--------------------|---|---|
| | I: Specific submissions | | | |
| (a) | Parties that believe that, despite their best efforts, they are, or will be, unable to comply with certain obligations under the Rotterdam Convention are invited to consider making submissions to the Compliance Committee pursuant to paragraph 12 of Annex VII to the Convention. | Parties | Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact person provided below. | No deadline specified; information to be submitted as soon as possible. |
| | II: Laws, regulations, policies, procedures and other measures to implement the Rotterdam Convention | | | |
| (b) | Parties are requested to provide the Secretariat with the texts of national legislation or other measures that they have adopted to implement and enforce the Convention, specifically those texts related to paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 5 and Article 10 of the Convention. | Parties | Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact person provided below. | No deadline specified; information to be submitted as soon as possible. |
| | III: Notifications of final regulatory action | | | |
| (c) | Parties are encouraged to submit responses to the questionnaire for the identification of issues faced by Parties in relation to notifications of final regulatory action, so as to inform the work of the Compliance Committee. | Parties | Please respond to the online questionnaire on this matter. ¹ | 30 June 2023 |

Contact person:

Ms. Yvonne Ewang-Sanvincenti, email: yvonne.ewang-sanvincent@un.org.

¹ UNEP/FAO/RC/CC.1/4/Rev.1;
<http://www.pic.int/Implementation/Legalmatters/GeneralIssuesActivities/Notificationsoffinalregulatoryactions/tabid/9525/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

4. Technical assistance

Decisions: BC-16/17, RC-11/6 and SC-11/18: Technical assistance

Background:

In decisions BC-16/17, RC-11/6 and SC-11/18, the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions requested the Secretariat to prepare a report on the assessment of the needs of developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition for technical assistance and technology transfer. The reports will be developed on the basis of information to be provided by Parties and others on needs and availability of technical assistance and technology transfer under the conventions and will inform the development of the technical assistance plan of the conventions for the period 2026–2029, for consideration by the conferences of the Parties at their next meetings.

Follow-up:

| | Calls for information | Respondents | Methods of submission | Deadlines for submission |
|-----|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| (a) | Developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition are invited to submit to the Secretariat information on their needs for technical assistance and technology transfer, in accordance with the provisions of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. | Developing-country Parties Parties with economies in transition | An online questionnaire will be made available on the conventions' websites to enable responses to this request. | 31 March 2024 |
| (b) | Developed-country Parties and others with the capacity to do so are invited to submit to the Secretariat information on the technical assistance and technology that they have available to be transferred, in accordance with the provisions of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition. | Developed-country Parties Others | An online questionnaire will be made available on the conventions' websites to enable responses to this request. | 31 March 2024 |

Contact person:

Ms. Lina Fortelius, email: lina.fortelius@un.org

5. Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes

Decisions: BC-16/24, RC-11/11 and SC-11/23: Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes

Background:

In part I of decisions BC-16/24, RC-11/11 and SC-11/23, the conferences of the Parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions reiterated their encouragement to Parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to voluntarily provide information about cases of international trade in hazardous chemicals occurring in contravention of the conventions, using the prescribed forms.

In part II of decisions BC-16/24, RC-11/11 and SC-11/23, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention reminded Parties to the Basel Convention to report cases of illegal traffic to the Secretariat using the prescribed form for confirmed cases of illegal traffic or through table 9 of the format for national reporting.

In part III of decisions BC-16/24, RC-11/11 and SC-11/23, the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions invited Parties to the three conventions to provide best practices for preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes covered by the conventions, including the texts of any measures that have been adopted by them for that purpose.

Follow-up:

| | Calls for information | Respondents | Methods of submission | Deadlines for submission |
|-----|---|--|---|---------------------------------|
| (a) | Parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions are encouraged to voluntarily provide information about cases of international trade in hazardous chemicals occurring in contravention of the conventions | Parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions | Please submit information about cases of illegal traffic using the prescribed form ² | As appropriate |
| (b) | Parties to the Basel Convention are reminded to report cases of illegal traffic | Parties to the Basel Convention | Please submit information about cases of illegal traffic using the prescribed form ³ or table 9 of the format for national reporting | As appropriate |
| (c) | Parties are invited to provide best practices for preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes covered by the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and to voluntarily share information through the Secretariat on action taken to implement and enforce the trade control measures, as well as on challenges Parties may be facing | Parties to the three conventions | Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact person provided below | As appropriate |

Contact person:

Ms. Tatiana Terekhova, email: tatiana.terekhova@un.org.

² <http://www.brsmeas.org/Implementation/Illegaltrafficantrade/Formstoreportillegaltrade/tabid/8886/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

³ <http://basel.int/Procedures/ReportingonIllegalTraffic/tabid/1544/Default.aspx>.

6. Venue and dates of the next meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

Decisions: BC-16/26, RC-11/13 and SC-11/25: Dates and venue of the next meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

Background:

The conferences of the Parties decided to convene the next meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions back to back, from 28 April to 9 May 2025, in Geneva. The conferences of the Parties further decided that the meetings would include a high-level segment of no more than one day's duration. The conferences of the Parties furthermore invited Parties to submit offers to host the 2027 meetings of the conferences of the Parties.

Follow-up:

| Call for information | Respondents | Deadlines for submission |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Parties are invited to submit offers to host the 2027 meetings of the conferences of the Parties for consideration during the meetings of the conferences of the Parties in 2025. | Parties | 28 January 2025 |

Contact person:

Mr. David Ogden, email: david.ogden@un.org.