

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention

United Nations Environment Programme

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15 December 2022

Subject: Rotterdam Convention - Questionnaire requesting information on exports, export notifications and information exchange - Year 2021

Dear Designated National Authority,

At its seventh meeting held in 2015, by decision RC-7/2, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade requested the Secretariat to facilitate the exchange of information and report to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of Articles 11 (paragraph 2), 12 and 14 of the Convention.

At its ninth meeting held in 2019, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention by decision RC-9/1 encouraged Parties to provide the Secretariat with information that may 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; as well as texts of national legislation and other measures adopted by the Parties to implement and enforce the Convention.

Additionally, through decision RC-9/1, the Conference of the Parties urged Parties to:

- i) Ensure the effective implementation of Article 11, which is an important contribution to the fight against the illegal trade in chemicals that are subject to the Convention;
- ii) Ensure proper implementation of Article 13, in particular the stipulation that a safety data sheet that follows an internationally recognized format be sent to each importer of both chemicals listed in Annex III and chemicals banned or severely restricted in the exporting country's territory that are to be used for occupational purposes, in one or more of the official languages of the importing Party, as far as practicable;
- iii) Ensure that the shipping document for an individual chemical or group of chemicals listed in Annex III bears the respective Harmonized System customs code when exported whenever a code has been assigned.

Further, the Conference of the Parties also invited, through the same decision, Parties, non-Parties, industry, civil society and other stakeholders to provide to the Secretariat data on the international trade in chemicals listed or recommended for listing in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention, as well as information on the measurable impact of listing chemicals in Annex III to the Convention.

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To: Rotterdam Convention Designated National Authorities

cc: Rotterdam Convention Official Contact Points

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

Following decisions RC-7/2 and RC-9/1, the Secretariat has developed a questionnaire to collect the information relevant to year 2021, including the relevant items of these decisions. The questionnaire is available online on the Convention website at the last section of webpage “Call for information and follow-up to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention” at www.pic.int/tabid/8044/Default.aspx.

Designated National Authorities (DNAs) of Parties to the Convention are invited to collaborate with other DNAs, Official Contact Points (OCPs) and any other relevant stakeholders in order to provide a coordinated response to the questionnaire and to respond to the online questionnaire with information corresponding to the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 by 31 March 2023.

The responses to the questionnaire for the year 2016 received from Parties were reported to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting in document UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/8. The responses to the questionnaires for the years 2017 and 2018 were reported to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting in document UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/7. If your country has submitted a response for any of those years, you may wish to refer to the above documents for information to facilitate completing some relevant sections of the current questionnaire. The responses to the questionnaires for the years 2019 and 2020 will be reported to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting. The responses to the Year 2021 questionnaire will be reported to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting.

Should you need further clarification in responding to this questionnaire, related to industrial chemicals or technical support on using the online questionnaire, please contact Mr. Suman Sharma, by e-mail: suman.sharma@un.org. For questions on pesticides, please contact Mr. Aleksandar Mihajlovski, by email: aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org.

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Yours sincerely,

Rémi Nono Womdim - FAO
Executive Secretary

Rolph Payet - UNEP
Executive Secretary