

**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

**Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention
on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain
Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade**
Eighth meeting
Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017
Agenda item 9

Other matters

**Draft decision RC-8/[]: Draft memorandum of understanding
between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme
and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention
on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain
Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade**

**Submission by the joint contact group on review of synergies arrangements
and other joint issues**

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting the legal autonomy of the Conference of the Parties, and noting that the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the conferences of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants have equal decision-making authority within their respective mandates,

1. *Recalls* its requests in decision RC-7/14 for draft memorandums of understanding, and notes with concern that no draft has been submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties in 2017;
2. *Reiterates* its request, as contained in decision RC-7/14, for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties of a draft memorandum of understanding at its next meeting;
3. *Takes note* of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/18 on the relationship between UNEP and multilateral environmental agreements and of the progress report prepared by the Executive Director of UNEP;¹
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to engage actively in the work of the Executive Director, in consultation with the secretariats of other UNEP-administered multilateral environmental agreements, towards the development of a flexible draft template of options for the provision of secretariat services in an appropriate form, taking into account the UNEP delegation of authority policy and framework for the management and administration of multilateral environmental agreement secretariats and the draft memorandums of

¹ UNEP/CHW.13/INF/56-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/46-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/59.

understanding between the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Executive Director;²

5. *Decides* that if the work of UNEP under paragraph 4 above is not finalized in time for the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, this should not delay consideration of the draft memorandum of understanding;

6. *Acknowledges* the continued application of the memorandum of understanding between the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Executive Director concerning arrangements for performing jointly the secretariat functions for the Rotterdam Convention, which was approved by the Conference of the Parties in its decision RC-2/5 and entered into force on 28 November 2005, which is different from the draft memorandum of understanding requested in RC-7/14 that should be submitted for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting;

7. *Decides* to include the draft memorandum of understanding as an item on the provisional agenda of the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with rule 10 (b) of the rules of procedure.

² UNEP/CHW.12/25, annex; UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/19, annex; UNEP/POPS/COP.7/9, annex.