

RC-8/16: 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

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 (FAO) and the conferences of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of 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 request in decision RC-7/14 for the preparation of draft memorandums of understanding concerning the provision of secretariat functions for the Convention and notes with concern that no such draft has been submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties in 2017;
2. *Reiterates* its request in decision RC-7/14 for the preparation by the Secretariat of such draft memorandums of understanding for consideration and possible adoption at its next meeting;
3. *Takes note* of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/18 on the relationship between UNEP and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariats 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, to develop 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 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 it 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 FAO and the Executive Director of UNEP 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 and is distinct from the draft memorandum of understanding requested in decision RC-7/14 to 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.

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

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

