

RC-9/6: Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the report of the working group on enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade on the work of its first meeting, including the priority actions and further steps to enhance the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention,¹

Recalling the objective of the Rotterdam Convention as stated in its Article 1,

Recalling also the discussions during the seventh and eighth meetings of the Conference of the Parties and decisions RC-7/5 and RC-8/8, and welcoming the intersessional work undertaken to enhance the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention, including the process of listing chemicals in Annex III to the Convention,

Recalling further that the initial objective of the intersessional process was to address concerns regarding the effectiveness of the process of listing chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention,

1. *Invites* Parties to further analyse and develop proposals, including in cooperation with other Parties, to enhance the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention, in particular to improve the listing process;
2. *Takes note* of the Secretariat's analyses of the operational implications of the proposals to amend the Rotterdam Convention,² the information compiled by the Secretariat on effectiveness evaluation practices under other chemicals and wastes conventions and options for a framework on the assessment of the Convention,³ and the background information provided by the Secretariat on possible ways of increasing cooperation with other forums engaged in chemicals management to address issues with a view to supporting implementation of the Convention;⁴
3. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to implement proposals as outlined in the proposal by the Secretariat on new and innovative ways of improving information exchange under the Rotterdam Convention,⁵ emphasizing the importance of improving the exchange of information among Parties;
4. *Also requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to develop, with the objective of increasing the understanding and usefulness of tools and guidance to effectively address obligations and procedures relevant to the Rotterdam Convention, a dissemination strategy for obtaining and using information that is based on the elements contained in section III of the note by the Secretariat on ways to facilitate effective and useful dissemination of information, tools and guidance and use in capacity-building and technical assistance activities⁶ for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting;
5. *Further requests* the Secretariat to identify, in consultation with the World Customs Organization, chemicals listed under the Rotterdam Convention that are not assigned exclusive Harmonized System customs codes, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting for further action, as necessary;
6. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to continue sharing collected information on the measurable impacts of listing and not listing chemicals in Annex III, including at the regional preparatory meetings.

¹ UNEP/FAO/RC/EFF.1/4.

² UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/17.

³ UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/22.

⁴ UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/23.

⁵ UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/19/Rev.1.

⁶ UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/20.