



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

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Geneva, 6 July 2015

**Subject: Information requests in follow-up to the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its seventh meeting**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that at its seventh meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 4 to 15 May 2015, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention agreed on the decisions contained in annex I to the meeting report (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21). The report will be made available on the Rotterdam Convention website: [www.pic.int](http://www.pic.int). Some of the decisions include invitations to parties and others to provide information.

This letter is to solicit information sought in the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its seventh meeting. To facilitate your response, attached are the individual requests organized according to the decision references. Information regarding each decision can be submitted separately, particularly since the deadlines for submission vary.

The letters and requests contained therein are made available in the section “[Call for information and follow-up to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties](#)” of the Convention’s website. Relevant forms for the purpose of communicating information to the Secretariat will also be made available on the Convention’s website at the link provided.

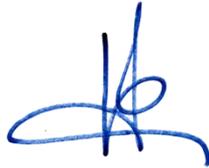
Similar letters have also been prepared to solicit information sought in all of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention at its twelfth meeting and by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its seventh meeting. These letters are available in the “Call for Information” sections on the respective conventions’ websites: [www.basel.int](http://www.basel.int) and [www.pops.int](http://www.pops.int).

In addition to the requests for submitting information set out in this letter, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention adopted decision RC-7/4, by which it listed methamidophos in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention. A separate letter will be sent to you to seek your import response for this chemical, once the amendment to list methamidophos in Annex III to the Convention enters into force on 15 September 2015.

Should you have any queries, please contact Ms. Andrea Lechner, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (E-mail: [andrea.lechner@brsmeas.org](mailto:andrea.lechner@brsmeas.org); Tel: +41 22 917 88 53, Fax: +41 22 917 80 98).

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Yours sincerely,



Rolph Payet  
Executive Secretary of the Basel,  
Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



Clayton Campanhola  
Executive Secretary of the Rotterdam  
Convention

**Enc.:** Follow-up to the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its seventh meeting

**To:** Rotterdam Convention Official Contact Points  
Rotterdam Convention Designated National Authorities  
Observers admitted to meetings of the Conference of the Parties

**Cc:** Representatives of 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 decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its seventh meeting

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## **1. Request for definitions of term “pesticides”**

**Mandate:** UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21, section VI. A. 1., general issues on matters related to the implementation of the Convention

**Background:**

At the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, within their consideration of general issues on matters related to the implementation of the Convention, parties called on the Secretariat to address problems in submission of import responses stemming from parties employing different definitions of pesticides. In order to address these problems, further information is sought from parties as to the existence of such definitions and the implications stemming from the use of those definitions by parties with regard to implementation of the Convention.

**Request:**

<b>Request</b>	<b>Respondent(s)</b>	<b>Method of submission</b>	<b>Deadline for submission</b>
Respond to the survey by the Secretariat on the existence of various definitions of the term "pesticides" and the implications resulting from the use of those definitions by parties with regard to the implementation of the Convention.	Parties	An online questionnaire will be made available on the Convention website to enable responses to this request.	No deadline specified in the decision. Please submit information by the deadline to be indicated in a further communication on this matter.

**Contact point:**

Ms. Christine Fuell (Email: [christine.fuell@fao.org](mailto:christine.fuell@fao.org), Tel: +39 06 5705 3765, Fax +39 06 5705 3224).

## **2. Request for notifications of final regulatory action for banned or severely restricted chemicals and texts of national legislation and other measures adopted**

**Decision:** RC-7/1: Proposal for activities to increase notifications of final regulatory action

**Background:** At the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, parties expressed concern that the number of notifications of final regulatory action and in particular the number of countries notifying them, remains low. Notification of such actions is an obligation under Article 5 of the Convention. Many parties have expressed that they may have difficulties meeting the information requirements of Annex I and the criteria of Annex II of the convention, as often found in notifications submitted by developing country parties or parties with economies in transition. Notification of final regulatory actions adopted by parties is however important to ensure exchange of information regarding banned or severely restricted chemicals.

Decision RC-7/1 urged parties to submit notifications of final regulatory action for banned or severely restricted chemicals. Furthermore it encouraged parties to provide the Secretariat with texts of national legislation and other measures adopted by them to implement the Convention; requested the Secretariat to collect certain information that may assist parties in preparing notifications of final regulatory action; and requested the Secretariat to carry out a survey on the final regulatory actions adopted by parties.

**Requests:**

	<b>Request</b>	<b>Respondent(s)</b>	<b>Method of submission</b>	<b>Deadline for submission</b>
(a)	Send notifications of final regulatory actions if a party has taken any action to ban or severely restrict any chemical.	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact points provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information as soon as possible.
(b)	Provide the Secretariat with texts of national legislation and other measures adopted by them to implement the Convention.	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information as soon as possible.
(c)	Respond to the questionnaire by the Secretariat on any action taken to ban or severely restrict a chemical and on main constraints faced by parties when implementing Article 5 of the Rotterdam Convention.	Parties	An online questionnaire will be made available on the Convention website to enable responses to this request.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by the deadline to be indicated in a further communication on this matter.

Contact points:

For final regulatory actions, request 2(a):

Mr. Aleksandar Mihajlovski (Email: [aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org](mailto:aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org);

Tel: +39 06 5705 2801, Fax +39 06 5705 3224);

Mr. Gamini Manuweera (Email: [gamini.manuweera@brsmeas.org](mailto:gamini.manuweera@brsmeas.org);

Tel: +41 22 917 78604, Fax +41 22 917 80 98).

For national legislation and other measures, national definitions adopted by parties to implement the Convention, request 2(b):

Ms. Yvonne Ewang-Sanvincenti (Email: [yvonne.ewang@brsmeas.org](mailto:yvonne.ewang@brsmeas.org);

Tel: + 41 22 917 81 12, Fax +41 22 917 80 98).

For the questionnaire on action taken to ban or severely restrict a chemical and on main constraints faced when implementing Article 5 of the Rotterdam Convention, request 2(c):

Ms. Cherryl André de la Porte (Email: [Cherryl.AndredelaPorte@brsmeas.org](mailto:Cherryl.AndredelaPorte@brsmeas.org);

[TA@brsmeas.org](mailto:TA@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 22 917 8305, Fax +41 22 917 80 98).

Mr. Aleksandar Mihajlovski (Email: [aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org](mailto:aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org);

Tel: +39 06 5705 2801, Fax +39 06 5705 3224);

### **3. Request on information exchange related to export and export notifications**

**Decision:** RC-7/2: Proposal on ways of exchanging information on exports and export notifications

**Background:** The Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its seventh meeting considered a proposal on ways of exchanging information on exports and export notifications and the implementation of paragraph 2 (c) of Article 11 and Article 12 of the Convention set out in a note by the Secretariat (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/5). The Conference of the Parties took note of the report prepared by the Secretariat and urged parties to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention, including obligations under paragraph 2 (c) of Article 11 and under Article 12 of the Convention. It also requested the Secretariat to report to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of paragraph 2 of Article 11 and Articles 12 and 14. The Secretariat will be seeking information from parties in order to prepare the report.

**Request:**

<b>Request</b>	<b>Respondent(s)</b>	<b>Method of submission</b>	<b>Deadline for submission</b>
Information on implementation of Articles 11(paragraph 2(c)), 12 and 14 related to exports and export notifications.	Parties	An online questionnaire will be made available on the Convention website to enable responses to this request.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by the deadline to be indicated in a further communication on this matter.

**Contact points:**

Mr. Gamini Manuweera (Email: [gamini.manuweera@brsmeas.org](mailto:gamini.manuweera@brsmeas.org),  
Tel.: +41(0) 22 917 8604, Fax +41 22 917 80 98);

Mr. Aleksandar Mihajlovski (Email: [aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org](mailto:aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org),  
Tel: +39 06 5705 2801, Fax +39 06 5705 3224).

#### **4. Request to nominate experts to participate in the small intersessional working group on the process of listing chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention**

**Decision:** RC-7/5: Intersessional work on the process of listing chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention

**Background:** The Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its seventh meeting decided to establish an intersessional working group to review the cases in which the Conference of the Parties was unable to reach consensus on the listing of a chemical by identifying the reasons for and against listing and, based on that and other information such as the information set out in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.4/12 and UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.4/13, to develop options for improving the effectiveness of the process. Additionally, the intersessional group was requested to develop proposals for enabling improved information flows that support the prior informed consent procedure for those chemicals and to report to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Requests:**

	<b>Request</b>	<b>Respondent(s)</b>	<b>Method of submission</b>	<b>Deadline for submission</b>
(a)	Parties and others are invited to nominate experts to participate in the intersessional working group.	Parties Others	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact points provided below.	<b>31 July 2015</b>
(b)	Parties are invited to consider serving as lead country for undertaking the work of the intersessional working group.	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact points provided below.	<b>31 July 2015</b>

**Contact points:**

Ms. Susan Wingfield (Email: [susan.wingfield@brsmeas.org](mailto:susan.wingfield@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 22 917 8406, Fax +41 22 917 80 98);

Ms. Yun Zhou (Email: [yun.zhou@fao.org](mailto:yun.zhou@fao.org), Tel: +39 06 5705 4160, Fax +39 06 5705 3224).

## **5. Request for information on technical assistance**

**Decision:** RC-7/7: Technical assistance

**Background:** At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention adopted decision RC-7/7 on technical assistance in which it invited parties and others to provide information to the Secretariat on needs and availability of technical assistance, according to the provisions of the Convention, as well as their difficulties and any other views in that regard.

**Requests:**

	<b>Request</b>	<b>Respondent(s)</b>	<b>Method of submission</b>	<b>Deadline for submission</b>
(a)	Developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition are invited to provide information to the Secretariat on their needs in terms of technical assistance, according to the provisions of the Convention, their difficulties in implementing the Convention and any other views in this regard.	Developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition	An online questionnaire will be made available on the Convention website to enable responses to this request.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by <b>31 May 2016</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
(b)	Developed-country parties and others with the capacity to do so, are invited to continue to provide information to the Secretariat, according to the provisions of the Convention, on technical assistance that they have available to be transferred to developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition.	Developed-country parties and others	An online questionnaire will be made available on the Convention website to enable responses to this request.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by <b>31 May 2016</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Contact point:**

Ms. Cheryl André de la Porte (Email: [Cheryl.AndredelaPorte@brsmeas.org](mailto:Cheryl.AndredelaPorte@brsmeas.org); [TA@brsmeas.org](mailto:TA@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 22 917 8305, Fax +41 22 917 80 98).

## **6. Request for comments on the joint clearing-house mechanism strategy**

**Decision:** RC-7/11: Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange

**Background:** At the meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in May 2015, the Secretariat submitted for consideration by the parties a progress report on the implementation of the joint clearing-house mechanism and a draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy for the years 2016–2019.

By decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29 on the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange, the conferences of the parties provided further guidance to the Secretariat on priority areas for 2016-2017. Furthermore, parties and others were invited to provide comments on the strategy, in particular on the scope, national and regional priorities and needs, and goals described in section IV of the strategy to the Secretariat by 31 October 2015.

**Request:**

<b>Request</b>	<b>Respondent(s)</b>	<b>Method of submission</b>	<b>Deadline for submission</b>
Parties and others are invited to provide comments on the strategy, in particular on the scope, national and regional priorities and needs, and goals described in section IV thereon to the Secretariat by 31 October 2015.	Parties Others	An online questionnaire will be made available on the Convention website to enable responses to this request.	<b>31 October 2015</b>

***NB:* This request is included in the follow-up letters under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, as it pertains to the joint clearing-house mechanism under the three conventions. Please reply to this request only once under the three conventions.**

**Contact point:**

Mr. Osmany Pereira Gonzalez (Email: [osmany.pereira@brsmeas.org](mailto:osmany.pereira@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 22 9178194, Fax: +41 22 917 80 98).

## **7. Request on official contact points and designated national authorities**

**Mandate:** UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21, section IX. C., official communications

**Background:** Pursuant to article 4 and relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties, parties are required to designate national authorities and official contact points. The request to nominate official contact points and designated national authorities builds on previous decisions by the Conference of the Parties, including decision RC-6/21 which adopted a revised form for notifications of contacts to the Secretariat, including modifications or additions as they occur.

The Secretariat maintains and updates a list of contacts previously notified by parties, which is made available on the Rotterdam Convention website at:

<http://www.pic.int/Countries/CountryContacts/tabid/3282/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

**Request:**

<b>Request</b>	<b>Respondent(s)</b>	<b>Method of submission</b>	<b>Deadline for submission</b>
Parties are urged to nominate their official contact points and designated national authorities, as well as to provide updated information to the Secretariat when necessary on a timely basis.	Parties	Please use the form, available on the Convention website at: <a href="http://www.pic.int/Procedures/OfficialContactPoints/tabid/3285/language/en-US/Default.aspx">http://www.pic.int/Procedures/OfficialContactPoints/tabid/3285/language/en-US/Default.aspx</a> and <a href="http://www.pic.int/Procedures/DesignatedNationalAuthorities/tabid/1366/language/en-US/Default.aspx">http://www.pic.int/Procedures/DesignatedNationalAuthorities/tabid/1366/language/en-US/Default.aspx</a>	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information as soon as possible to facilitate and expedite transmission of information to, from and between parties as well as other stakeholders.

**Contact point:**

Ms. Yvonne Ewang-Sanvincenti (Email: [yvonne.ewang@brsmeas.org](mailto:yvonne.ewang@brsmeas.org) / [contacts@brsmeas.org](mailto:contacts@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 917 8112, Fax +41 22 917 80 98).