

## ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

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2 June 2017

**Subject: Call for information and follow-up to the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its eighth meeting (Geneva, Switzerland from 24 April to 5 May 2017)**

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

At its eighth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention adopted a number of decisions that invited Parties and others to provide information. The full set of decisions adopted at the meeting are contained in Annex I to the meeting report, which will be made available on the Rotterdam Convention website: [www.pic.int](http://www.pic.int). To facilitate your response to the various invitations for information, please find enclosed a summary of the individual decisions.

This letter and relevant forms for submitting the solicited information are also available on the Convention website in the section "[Call for information and follow-up to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention](#)".

In decisions RC-8/2, RC-8/3, RC-8/4 and RC-8/5, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention agreed to list trichlorfon, carbofuran, short-chain chlorinated paraffins and tributyltin compounds in Annex III to the Convention. A separate letter will be sent to solicit your import responses for those chemicals, once the amendments to list them in Annex III to the Convention enter into force on 15 September 2017.

Please note that similar letters have also been sent to Parties and observers for the decisions adopted by the conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions. The invitations for information contained in three of the joint decisions adopted by the three conferences of the Parties have been included in each of the individual letters.

To: Rotterdam Convention Official Contact Points  
Rotterdam Convention Designated National Authorities  
Members of the Bureau of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention  
Observers admitted to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention

cc: 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

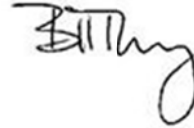
Should you have any queries, please contact Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (E-mail: [kei.ohno-woodall@brsmeas.org](mailto:kei.ohno-woodall@brsmeas.org); Tel: +41 22 917 82 01, Fax: +41 22 917 80 98).

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Yours sincerely,



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



William Murray  
Executive Secretary of  
the Rotterdam Convention

Enc: Follow-up to the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its eighth meeting

## **Follow-up to the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention at its eighth meeting**

### **Rotterdam Convention specific decisions**

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## **1. Definitions of term “pesticides”**

**Mandate:** UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/27, section III. A. 1., general issues on matters related to the implementation of the Convention

**Background:**

At the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, 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.

At the eighth meeting, the Conference of the Parties in further considering the matter, agreed that the work on the survey on different definitions and the preparation of a comprehensive analysis of the replies and a description of the potential implications of the use of different definitions including options for how to address them should continue.

**Follow-up:**

<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines 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. 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. Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention

Decision: RC-8/8: Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention

Background:

In decision RC-8/8, the Conference of the Parties, among other things, requested the Secretariat to develop an online survey to gather information on priority actions to enhance the effectiveness of the Convention and key information gaps related to those actions, to be sent out to Parties by 30 June 2017 with an invitation to complete the survey by 31 October 2017. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Secretariat to compile the results of the survey and to prepare by 15 January 2018 a report analysing the legal and operational implications of the priority actions identified by the survey, and to make the report available to Parties and others for comments by 31 March 2018.

The Conference of the Parties further decided to establish a working group with membership composed of representatives from Parties to identify, on the basis of the abovementioned report and the comments received, a set of prioritized recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of the Convention and to develop a report identifying further steps for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting. The Conference of the Parties decided that the working group shall operate by electronic means, be open to participation by non-Party States and hold physical meetings, subject to the availability of resources. Parties are invited to nominate representatives to participate in the working group by 30 September 2017.

Follow-up:

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(a)	Parties are invited to complete the survey on enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention developed by the Secretariat and to be sent to Parties by 30 June 2017.	Parties	An online survey will be made available and sent out to enable responses to this request.	<b>31 October 2017</b>
(b)	Parties and others are invited to comment on the report prepared by the Secretariat on the legal and operational implications of the priority actions for enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention, to be sent to Parties and others by 15 January 2018.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parties</li> <li>• Others</li> </ul>	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>31 March 2018</b>
(c)	Parties are invited to nominate representatives to participate in the working group on enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention.	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>30 September 2017</b>
(d)	Non-Party States are invited to consider participating in the working group.	Non-Party States	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>No deadline, but preferably by 30 September 2017</b>

Contact point:

Ms. Susan Wingfield (Email: [susan.wingfield@brsmeas.org](mailto:susan.wingfield@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 22 917 84 06, Fax: +41 22 917 8098) and Ms. Christine Fuell (Email: [christine.fuell@fao.org](mailto:christine.fuell@fao.org), Tel: +39 06 5705 3765, Fax: +39 06 5705 3224).

### **3. Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions<sup>1</sup>**

**Decision:** RC-8/11: Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

**Background:**

In decision RC-8/11, the Conference of the Parties, among other things, welcomed the report on the further review of the synergies arrangements,<sup>2</sup> the report on the review of the matrix-based management approach and organization,<sup>3</sup> and the report on the review of the proposals set out in the note by the Secretariat on the organization and operation of the part of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat hosted by the FAO to enhance synergies arrangements.<sup>4</sup> The Conference of the Parties also invited Parties to submit to the Secretariat suggestions for possible further actions to enhance cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

**Follow-up:**

<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
Parties are invited to submit suggestions for possible further actions to enhance cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>30 June 2018</b>

**Contact point:**

Ms. Susan Wingfield (Email: [susan.wingfield@brsmeas.org](mailto:susan.wingfield@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 22 917 84 06, Fax: +41 22 917 8098).

<sup>1</sup> The conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions adopted similar decisions, as contained in BC-13/18 and SC-8/21, which have been included in the follow-up letters relating to those conventions.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/43-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/46, annex.

<sup>3</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/44-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/30-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/47, annex.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/45-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/31-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/48, annex.

#### **4. Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes<sup>1</sup>**

**Decision:** RC-8/14: Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes

**Background:** In paragraph 6 of decision RC-8/14, the Conference of the Parties emphasized the importance of information provided under each convention by Parties to the Secretariat on the measures that they have adopted in order to implement the conventions and requested the Secretariat to make the information relevant to illegal traffic and trade, if not identified as confidential by Parties involved, available on the website of the conventions without duplication of related requests under each convention.

In paragraph 7 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties, encouraged Parties to two or more of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions: (a) To establish, where they do not yet exist, coordinating mechanisms at the national level with a view to facilitating the exchange of information among relevant authorities responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the conventions aimed at controlling the export and import of the chemicals and wastes covered under the conventions, other relevant institutions and the private sector; (b) To review, through those coordinating mechanisms, the lessons learned under each convention that could benefit the implementation and enforcement of the others, and, as appropriate, to adjust their legal and institutional frameworks accordingly.

In paragraph 8 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to share, through the Secretariat, their experiences pursuant to paragraph 7 and information on cases of illegal trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes. In paragraph 10 (a) of the decision, the Secretariat was requested to seek comments from Parties and others on further areas, including areas common to two or three conventions in which legal clarity could be improved as a means of preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, and, based on those comments, to prepare a report, including recommendations, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.

**Follow-up:**

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(a)	Parties are invited to provide information under each convention to the Secretariat on the measures relevant to illegal traffic and trade that they have adopted in order to implement the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by <b>31 August 2018</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
(b)	Parties are invited to share with other Parties, through the Secretariat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their experiences pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision BC-13/21,</li> <li>• Information on cases of illegal trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes.</li> </ul>	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by <b>31 August 2018</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
(c)	Parties and others are invited to provide comments on further areas, including areas common to two or three conventions in which legal clarity could be improved as a means of preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parties</li> <li>• Others</li> </ul>	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision, please submit information by <b>31 August 2018</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Contact point:**

Ms. Juliette Voinov Kohler (Email: juliette.kohler@brsmeas.org, Tel: +41 22 917 82 19, Fax: +41 22 917 8098).

<sup>1</sup> The conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions adopted similar decisions, as contained in BC-13/22 and SC-8/24, which have been included in the follow-up letters relating to those conventions.

## 5. From science to action<sup>1</sup>

Decision: RC-8/15: From science to action

Background:

In decision RC-8/15, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to revise the draft road map for further engaging Parties and other stakeholders in informed dialogue for enhanced science-based action in the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions,<sup>2</sup> and prepare a final draft roadmap with the assistance of up to four experts nominated per United Nations region, working through electronic means, for consideration by the conferences of the parties at their next meetings.

Follow-up:

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(a)	Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions are invited to nominate through their Bureau representatives up to four experts per United Nations region to assist in further revising the draft road map.	Parties through Bureau representatives	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>30 June 2017</b>
(a)	Parties and others are invited to submit comments on the revised draft road map to be made available by 30 September 2017.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parties</li> <li>• Others</li> </ul>	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>28 February 2018</b>

Contact point:

Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall (Email: [kei.ohno-woodall@brsmeas.org](mailto:kei.ohno-woodall@brsmeas.org), Tel: +41 22 917 82 01, Fax: +41 22 917 8098).

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<sup>1</sup> The conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions adopted similar decisions, as contained in BC-13/22 and SC-8/25, which have been included in the follow-up letter relating to those conventions.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/50-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/35-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/52, annex I.