**Survey to gather information on (i) priority actions to enhance the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention, and (ii) key information gaps related to the priority actions identified**

**Background**

The eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, in Decision RC-8/8, requested the Secretariat to develop an online survey to gather information on (i) priority actions to enhance the effectiveness of the Convention, and (ii) key information gaps related to point (i), to be sent to Parties by 30 June 2017 with an invitation to complete the survey by 31 October 2017. Accordingly, the Secretariat developed the present survey, which is available to Parties in English, French and Spanish.

The results of the survey will form the basis for a report analyzing the legal and operational implications of the priority actions identified by Parties. The report will be made available to Parties and others for comments by 31 March 2018. The report and comments received thereon will be considered by a working group, with membership composed of representatives from Parties, which is mandated to (i) identify, on the basis of the abovementioned report and comments received thereon, a set of prioritized recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of the Convention, and (ii) develop a report identifying further steps for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting.

**Instructions for completing and submitting the survey**

Parties are requested to submit their response to the survey, preferably online, no later than **31 October 2017**. One consolidated response per Party should be submitted to the Secretariat through the Rotterdam Convention Official Contact Point.

The Secretariat encourages in particular those Parties intending to nominate representatives to participate in the working group to complete and submit the survey.

If you have any questions pertaining to this questionnaire, or wish to obtain an electronic (MS Word) version of the survey, please contact Ms. Susan Wingfield (susan.wingfield@brsmeas.org) and Ms. Christine Fuell (christine.fuell@fao.org). Any IT questions relating to this questionnaire should be addressed to Mr. Julien Hortoneda (julien.hortoneda@brsmeas.org).

We encourage Parties to render the survey as complete as possible and thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

The Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention

# Submitter information

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**(i) Priority actions to enhance the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention**

In this section, Parties are asked to list a maximum of 5 (five) priority actions that could be undertaken to enhance the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention. Parties may wish to make reference to the relevant decision taken by the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties[[1]](#footnote-1), the subsequent intersessional work undertaken on the process of listing chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention[[2]](#footnote-2) and the documents on this matter submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting[[3]](#footnote-3).

Please be as specific as possible in describing your priority actions to ensure the Secretariat can effectively utilize this information.

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|  | **Priority actions to enhance the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention***(Maximum 100 words per priority action)* |
| **1** | Republic of Albania has approved the Decision of Council of MinistersNo.665 of21.09.**2016**, **“On import and export of hazardous chemicals”** which transpose and brings into national legislation EU Regulation no. 649/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 concerning the export and import of hazardous chemicals. One of the measures foreseen in this DCM is that: *DNA, through the Chemicals office, keeps, further develop and regularly update the import and export hazardous chemicals register, “Export-Import Register”.* In this context, we would request Financial and technical assistance from Secretariat/GEF to develop the above mentioned register, also having examples from other countries that have developed a register like this. |
| **2** | DCM 665/2016, specifies that: *DNA, through the Chemicals office, when is appropriate ensures assistance, scientific and technical guidance’s and instruments for industry, in a way to ensure the effective implementation of the RC and implementation of this decision in place. The DCM 665/2016 will enter into force on March 2016.* Is any such guidance been issued from other countries to exporters on their obligations under RC that Republic of Albania can use as an example? Can we have a copy of it? Do you have any training program on RC that other countries have organized (including customs, industries..etc), that R.A can use as an example, for trainings in her territory? |
| **3** | -Secretariat of RC must take into consideration organizing *Train the Trainers* Programs in frame of RC in one of the countries where RC is best implemented. With a detailed and well-structured program, 4-5 participants from each country can take place (1 from the responsible ministry of Environment, 1 from the agriculture, 1 from customs, 1 from inspectorates, 1 from industry).*(online training webinars have a good purpose in itself but due to technical reasons, or every day work most of the time are not followed from the technical staff).*-Financial and technical assistance is requested to enable R.A to implement the Convention effectively and to manage hazardous pesticides and other chemicals and wastes in an environmentally sound manner(training for customs, industries, inspectorates); |
| **4** | -Secretariat of the Convention must share to other Parties information on training and capacity-building programs/activities that Parties organize in place in frame of RC; -Secretariat must enforce its role and exchange of information on the way how Parties implement exports and import notifications in frame of RC. This will serve, help other countries to learn from Best practices;  |
| **5** | Only Parties members of the European Union have transmitted export notifications to R.A. |

**(ii) Key information gaps related to the priority actions identified**

In this section you are asked to indicate key information gaps with respect to the priority actions identified under point (i) above. This information will be used to assist the preparation of the report analyzing the legal and operational implications of the priority actions identified.

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| **Priority action 1** | **Key information gaps** |
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| **Priority action 2** | **Key information gaps** |
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| **Priority action 3** | **Key information gaps** |
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| **Priority action 4** | **Key information gaps** |
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| **Priority action 5** | **Key information gaps** |
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1. See decision RC-7/5 available at: <http://www.pic.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/Meetings/COP7/Overview/tabid/4252/language/en-US/Default.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Please refer to the Rotterdam Convention website: <http://www.pic.int/Implementation/ProcessforListingChemicals/IntersessionalWorkingGroup/tabid/5253/language/en-US/Default.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Including, but not limited to documents: UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/16, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/16/Add.1, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF 10, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF 20, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF 21, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF 25. Please refer to the Rotterdam Convention website: <http://www.pic.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/Meetings/COP8/Overview/tabid/5311/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)