

Strengthening capacity for life cycle management of
chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention



ROTTERDAM
CONVENTION

Overview of the Rotterdam Convention

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ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

ON THE PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT PROCEDURE
FOR CERTAIN HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS
AND PESTICIDES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

TEXT AND ANNEXES

REVISED IN 2019

CONVENTION OVERVIEW

- **Objective:** Promote shared responsibility and cooperative efforts among Parties in international trade of certain hazardous chemicals; protect human health and the environment; contribute to environmentally sound use, by facilitating information exchange, by providing for national decision making process on import and export; by disseminating decisions to Parties



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Key governance bodies and stakeholders

- International
 - Parties (DNAs, OCPs)
 - Conference of the Parties
 - Chemical Review Committee
 - Compliance Committee
 - Secretariat
- National level
 - DNAs, OCPs
 - Ministries
 - Industry
 - Civil Society
 - Academia



Annex III: 53 chemicals

Pesticides and **industrial chemicals** that have been banned or severely restricted for health or environmental reasons

- 35 pesticides
- 16 industrial chemicals
- 1 industrial/pesticide

SHPF that have caused severe adverse effects under the conditions of use

- Benomyl ($\geq 7\%$) + Carbofuran ($\geq 10\%$) + Thiram ($\geq 15\%$) – dustable powder
- Phosphamidon (SL $> 1,000$ g/l)
- Methyl-parathion (EC ($\geq 19.5\%$ and Dust $> 1.5\%$))

Candidate chemicals

Chemicals scheduled for review by the Chemical Review Committee

- **At least one notification** for the same **chemical** from two different PIC regions have been verified to meet requirements of Annex I, this chemical becomes a "candidate chemical" (Article 5) **OR**
- A **proposal** for a **severely hazardous pesticide formulation (SHPF)** from a developing country or a country with an economy in transition experiencing problems under conditions of use in its territory is verified to contain information in part 1 of Annex IV, this formulation becomes a "candidate formulation" (Article 6)

Chemical	CAS No.	Category (as per notification submitted)
Amitrole	61-82-5	Pesticide
Atrazine	1912-24-9	Pesticide
Azinphos-ethyl	2642-71-9	Pesticide
Benzidine and its salts	92-87-5	Industrial
Carbaryl	63-25-2	Pesticide
Carbon tetrachloride	56-23-5	Pesticide & Industrial
Chlorfenvinphos	470-90-6	Pesticide
Cyhexatin	13121-70-5	Pesticide
Dicofol	115-32-2	Pesticide
Endrin	72-20-8	Pesticide
Mercury	7439-97-6	Pesticide & Industrial
Methidathion	950-37-8	Pesticide
Methyl bromide	74-83-9	Pesticide
Methyl parathion	298-00-0	Pesticide
Mirex	2385-85-5	Pesticide & Industrial
Paraquat	4685-14-7	Pesticide
Thiodicarb	59669-26-0	Pesticide
Zineb	12122-67-7	Pesticide

Candidate chemicals

Chemical	CAS No.	Category	Notifying Parties	CRC decisions	Draft DGD development
Iprodione	36734-19-7	Pesticide	European Union Mozambique	CRC-17/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composition of the drafting group• Workplan
Terbufos	13071-79-9	Pesticide	Canada Mozambique	CRC-17/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composition of the drafting group• Workplan

Chemicals for which Decision Guidance Documents (DGDs) are under development

Procedures for Listing Chemicals

THE PROCEDURES UNDER THE CONVENTION THAT LEAD TO THE LISTING OF A CHEMICAL ALL BEGIN AND CULMINATE WITH DECISIONS TAKEN BY INDIVIDUAL PARTIES.



REMEMBER:

Listing a chemical in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention is NOT a ban:

- It triggers a process that provides all Parties with information on certain hazardous chemicals whose use has been banned or severely restricted by some Parties; and
- It triggers a process for Parties to decide how they wish to manage imports of listed chemicals.

- Removal of chemicals from Annex III is possible but never used to date (Article 9)

Chemicals recommended for listing

- [Carbosulfan](#)
- [Chrysotile asbestos](#)
- [Fenthion \(ultra low volume \(ULV\) formulations at or above 640 g active ingredient/L\)](#)
- [Liquid formulations \(emulsifiable concentrate and soluble concentrate\) containing paraquat dichloride at or above 276 g/L, corresponding to paraquat ion at or above 200 g/L](#)
- [Acetochlor](#)
- Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds
- Iprodione
- Terbufos

(For consideration by COP-10)

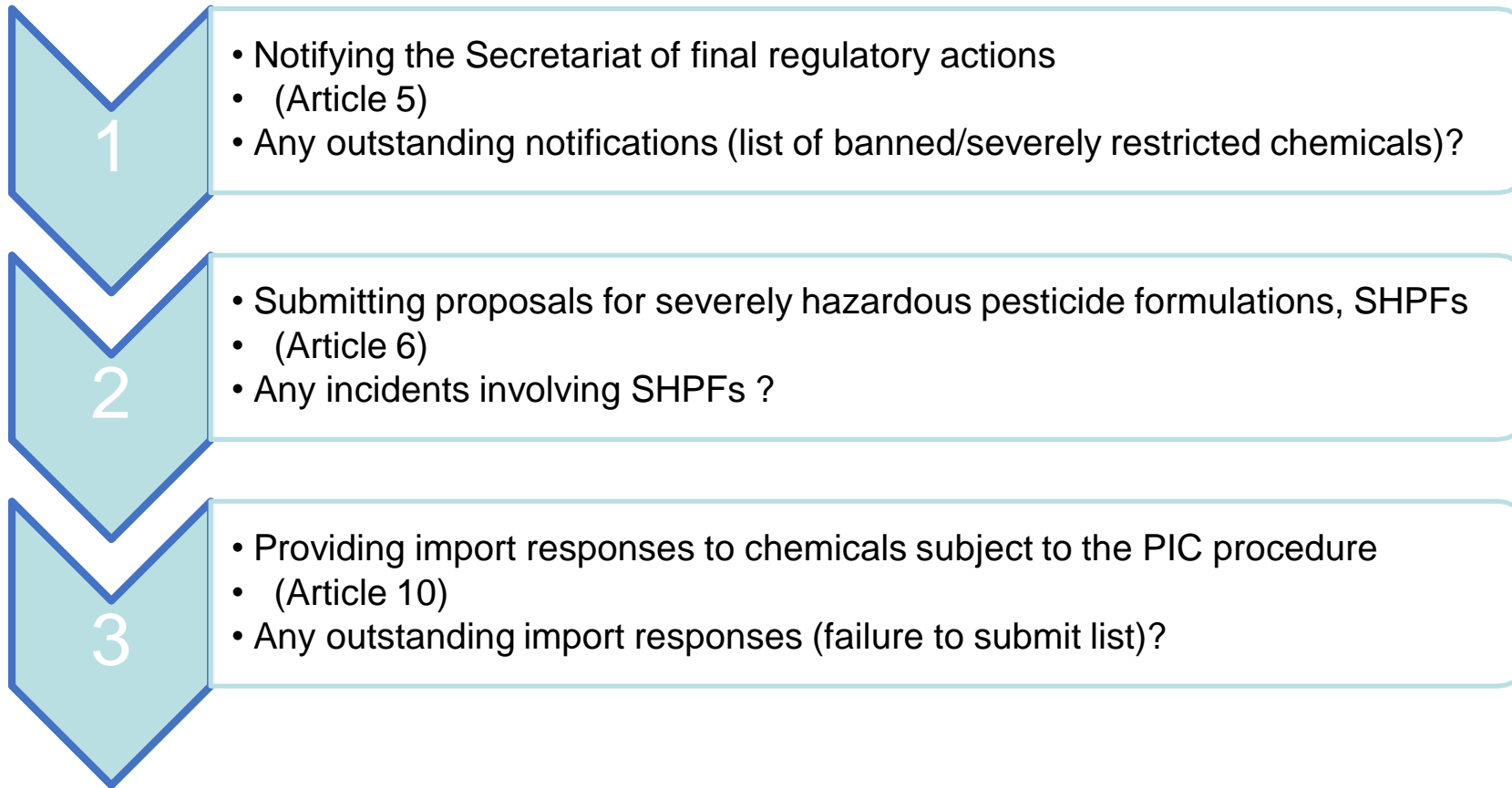


How it Works? Mechanisms

- Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure
 - Decision Guidance Documents
 - Import responses
- Information exchange
 - Final regulatory actions
 - SHPF proposals for listing
 - Export notifications



Key Responsibilities of Parties



Key Responsibilities of Parties

5

- Provide export notification including Annex V information if exporting a chemical that is banned or severely restricted but not listed in Annex III (Article 12)

6

- Export notifications prior to first export; then before first export in calendar year

7

- Importing Party must acknowledge receipt of first export notification
- Exporting Party to submit second notification if no acknowledgement within 30 days

Tools to assist Parties – Legal Frameworks

The image displays a screenshot of the Rotterdam Convention website, specifically the 'Implementation/ResourceKit' page. The browser address bar shows the URL: pic.int/Implementation/ResourceKit/tabid/1064/language/en-US/Default.aspx. The website header includes navigation tabs for 'Basel Convention', 'Rotterdam Convention', 'Stockholm Convention', and 'Synergies'. The main content area features a navigation menu with 'PROCEDURES', 'IMPLEMENTATION', 'COUNTRIES', 'SECRETARIAT', and 'PARTNERS'. A prominent section titled 'Comprehensive source of information on the Rotterdam Convention' is visible. Below this, there are buttons for 'Toolkits', 'Cases studies', 'E-learning', and 'References'. A featured article titled 'Detoxifying agriculture and health from highly hazardous pesticides: A call for action' is displayed, with a brief description of its content. The page also includes a language selector (English, Español, Français) and a search bar.

Legal Case Study - JAMAICA
The implementation of the Rotterdam Convention
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
December 2011

LEGAL CASE STUDY - ETHIOPIA
The implementation of the Rotterdam Convention
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
December 2011

LEGAL CASE STUDY - GHANA
The implementation of the Rotterdam Convention
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
December 2011

Comprehensive source of information on the Rotterdam Convention intended to assist Parties in the process and in the implementation of the Convention. It has been designed to meet the needs of a broad range of end users.

Toolkits Cases studies E-learning References

Detoxifying agriculture and health from highly hazardous pesticides: A call for action

Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) are of particular concern due to the adverse health effects they can cause to human health and the environment. This brochure, developed by WHO has the objective to increase awareness on the availability of sustainable alternatives to HHPs, including biological products, low risk chemical pesticides and agroecological practices.

English

Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention
September 2004
Guide on the Development of National Laws to Implement the Rotterdam Convention

Possible elements of national laws

- Goals, priorities and desired level of protection
 - Pesticides vs industrial chemicals
 - Regulatory and other tools
 - Institutions responsible for chemicals management
 - Enabling participation by all stakeholders
-

Implementing specific RC obligations

- Definitions and scope
 - Obligations relevant to administration of the convention (DNA)
 - Notifying FRAs
 - Proposals to list SHPFs
 - Obligations in relation to imports – exports
 - Export notification and information to accompany exports
 - Information exchange and implementation (scientific, technical, economic and legal)
-
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Promote observance of national implementing laws



CLEAR AND SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

- Mandate; authority; resources appropriate to roles and responsibilities of each stakeholders
 - Clarity and raise awareness of provisions
 - How to share information to increase compliance e.g. with decisions in import responses
-
-

Synergies in combating illegal traffic and trade

- Decisions on synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes BC-13/21, RC-8/14, SC-8/24.
- Draft form and explanatory document to enable Parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to voluntarily provide information about cases of trade occurring in contravention of those conventions, for comments by Parties and subsequent consideration by the COPs in 2022





How to identify chemicals and hazardous wastes

- **Chemicals:**
- HS codes
- Trade names
- Origin and identity of exporter/importer
- CAS number
- Sample analysis

HS codes for chemicals

- HS codes for pure substances under the **Rotterdam** Convention generally start by 29, 28 or 25 (ex. Aldrin 2903.52);
- HS codes for mixtures, preparations and substances under the **Rotterdam** Convention start by 38 or 68 (ex. Lindane 3808.50);
- A list of HS codes for chemicals under the **Rotterdam** Convention can be obtained at:
<http://www.pic.int/Implementation/Customs/DocumentsLinks/tabid/1614/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Definition of hazards

- National legislation/regulation define chemicals hazards; GHS provides an international approach.
- The [Rotterdam Convention](#) establishes that exporting countries should provide clear hazardous indications for dangerous chemicals.
- Examples of United Nations Packaging Symbols:

Danger, Very toxic to aquatic life



Danger, toxic



Warning, gaz under pressure



Danger, flammable



Danger, may cause fire or explosion



Danger, explosive

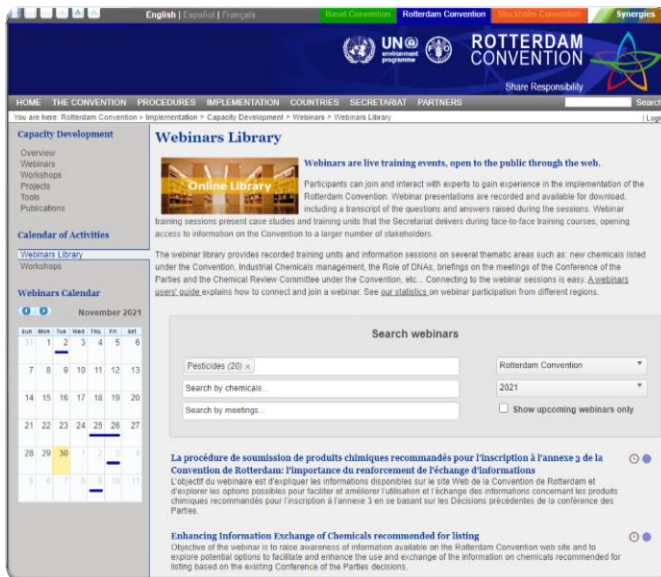


Technical Assistance – Secretariat

- Article 19, paragraph (2) of the Rotterdam Convention is providing the mandate for the technical assistance under the Convention.
- **GOAL:** strengthen Parties' capacities in promoting shared responsibility and cooperative efforts among Parties in the international trade of certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides by:
 - facilitating information exchange about their characteristics;
 - providing for a national decision-making process on their import and export and by disseminating these decisions to Parties.
- Supported by UNEP and FAO's regional, subregional and country offices as well as various partners, it is delivered through face-to-face and online training on a national or regional level.



Rotterdam specific technical assistance



- Delivery of TA incl. targeted capacity building addressing specific needs
 - to ca. 2500 participants (47% male, 53% female)
 - on 10 topics
 - in 4 UN languages (EN, FR, SP, AR)
 - reaching out to 5 PIC regions and 147 parties
- successful series of webinars in cooperation with other FAO teams and entities outside FAO on alternatives to HHPs, opened by Director Xia

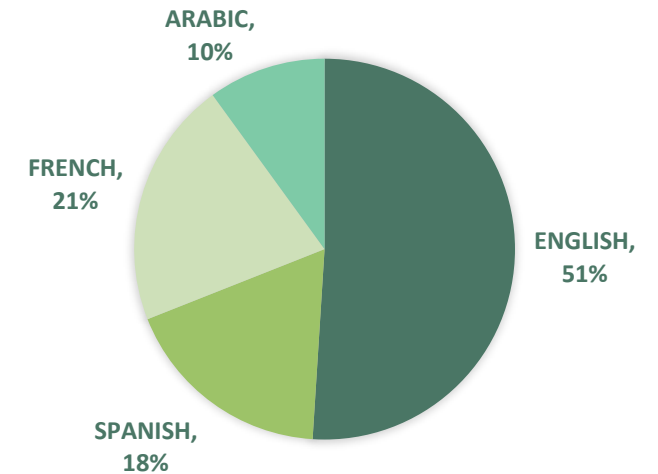
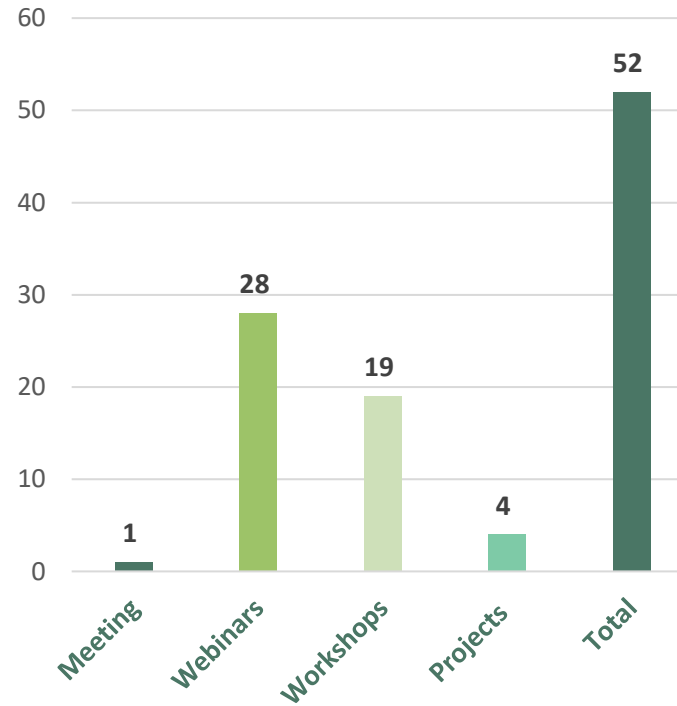


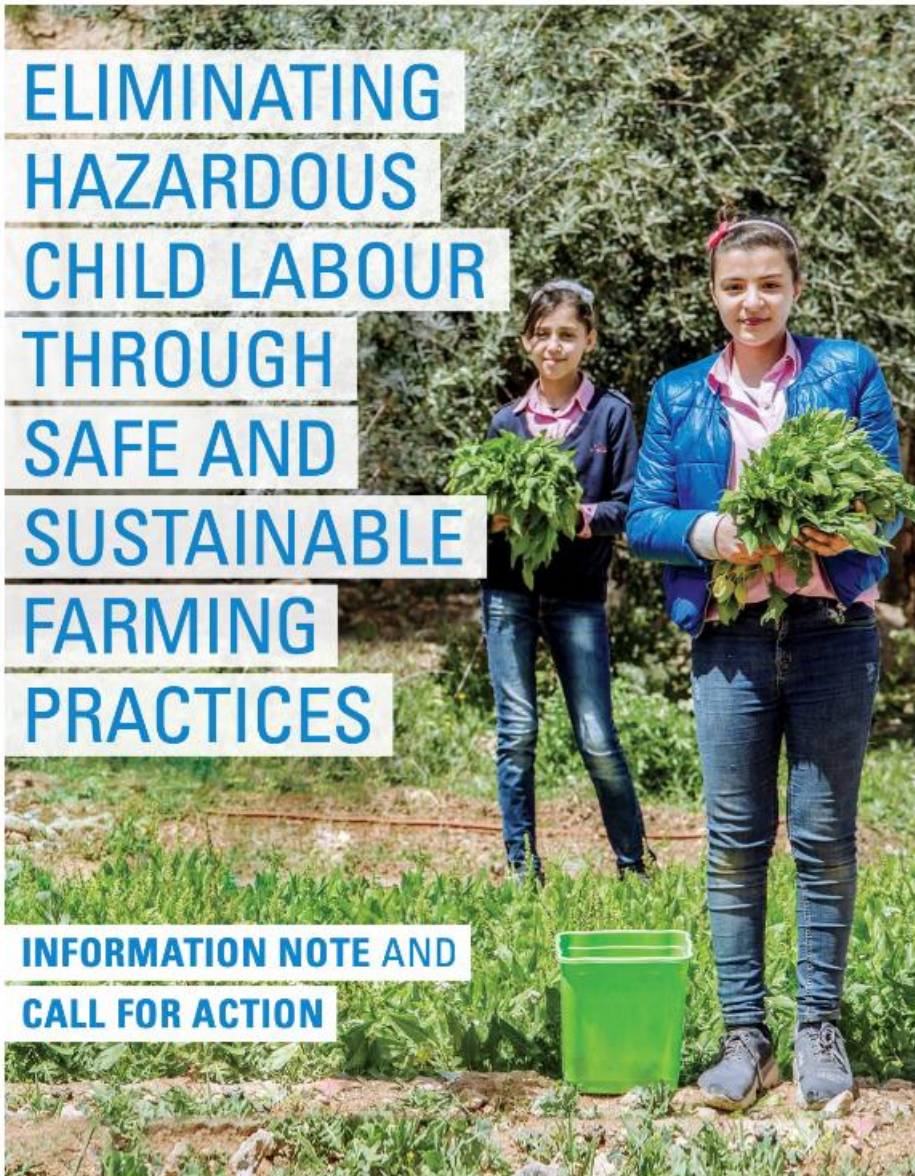
Webinar on Registration of Biopesticides: challenges and opportunities, 13 December 2021, opening by Director Xia Jingyuan

Rotterdam specific technical assistance Impact:

Submission of:

- **190** Import responses
- **172** notifications of FRA
- **5** proposals for SHPFs





Information exchange & awareness raising

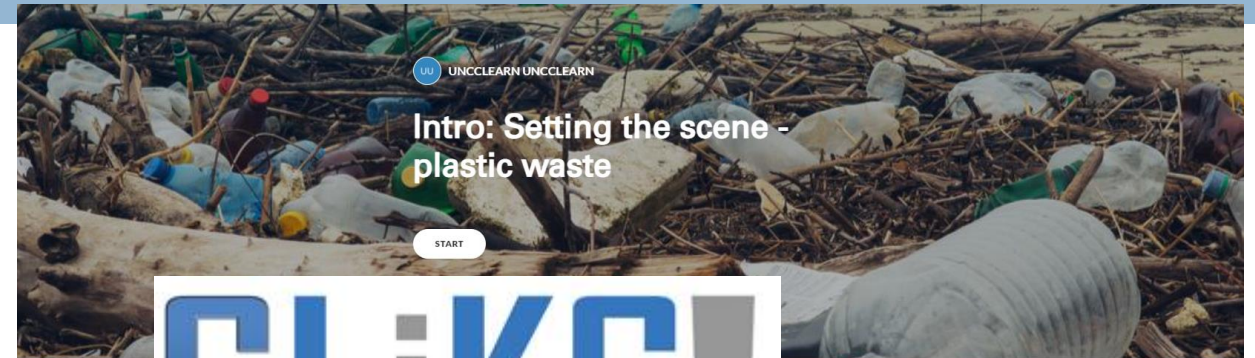
- Two PIC circulars prepared, published on time and distributed to > 250 DNAs as wafer card;
- Two new brochures on Child Labour and Pesticides;
- Video on Quelea bird control;
- Technical input to video produced in Pakistan on children's exposure to pesticide and child labour in agriculture.

BRS-specific technical assistance

Regional training for Central Asia and Eastern Europe on legal frameworks and illegal traffic and trade (19-20 October 2021), national projects in Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan (*funding provided by the EU*)

E-learning courses (under development/updating)

- E-learning course on enforcement for customs for WCO CLiCK platform
- E-learning course on enforcement for police
- Interactive Training on the Operation of the Rotterdam Convention



Meetings(COP, CRC)

- Online segment of COP-10 was successfully held from 26 to 30 July 2021, attended by over 160 Parties and 1,300 participants, and adopted a set of prioritized decisions to ensure continuation of the work of the conventions in 2022;
- 17th Meeting of the Chemical Review Committee conducted online (20-24 Sept 2021) reviewed numerous notifications of FRA and recommended to COP the listing of the pesticides **iprodione** and **terbufos** in Annex III;
- Major intersessional work for CRC-18 kicked off.

Thank you



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



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www.pic.int