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INTERIM CHEMICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Third session

Geneva, 17-21 February 2002

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Annotated provisional agenda

Item 1. Opening of the session

1. The third session of the Interim Chemical Review Committee, to be held at the Varembe Conference Centre, at the address: 9, rue de Varembe, Geneva, will be opened at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 17 February 2002
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered by the following:
 - (a) Mr. James B. Willis, Executive Secretary; and
 - (b) Mr. Niek Van der Graaff, Executive Secretary.

Item 2. Organizational matters

- (a) Adoption of the agenda
3. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda as contained in document UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/1.
 - (b) Organization of work
4. The Committee may wish to decide to meet from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., subject to adjustments as appropriate.

* UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/1.

5. The secretariat will provide participants with information regarding logistic and hospitality arrangements for the meeting. An informal reception is expected to be held on Sunday, 17 February 2002.

Item 3. Review of the outcome of the eighth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee

6. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat that provides a review of the outcome of the eighth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee relevant to the work of the Interim Chemical Review Committee (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/3).

7. The purpose of this note is to provide the Interim Chemical Review Committee with an overview of the action items and decisions relevant to its work that resulted from the deliberations of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its eighth session in Rome, 8-12 October 2001. It describes issues for which the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee have requested follow-up action from the Committee and reports on other decisions taken by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee that are of relevance to the Committee's work. Finally, it reports on the decisions taken by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, based on the recommendations made by the Committee at its second session.

Item 4. Status of implementation of the interim prior informed consent procedure as it relates to the work of the Interim Chemical Review Committee

8. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat that provides a report on the status of implementation of the interim Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure, as of 31 October 2001 (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/4). The report is based on the information contained in the most recent PIC Circular (Circular XIV), which was circulated to all designated national authorities and members of the Committee on 12 December 2001.

9. As agreed at its second session, the Committee will also have before it a note from the secretariat containing brief summaries of the experience of designated national authorities in the implementation of the interim PIC procedure (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/INF.5). These summaries have been prepared by members of the Committee based on their experience in the workshops and/or their review of the reports of the workshops held in Thailand, Kenya and Colombia.

10. This agenda item provides an opportunity for members of the Committee to better understand the key role of the PIC Circular in the implementation of the interim PIC procedure and to strengthen the link between the work of the Committee and the needs of designated national authorities.

Item 5. Operational procedures for the Interim Chemical Review Committee

(a) Status of the work of the individual task groups established at the second session of the Committee

(i) Task group 1: Pilot testing – severely hazardous pesticide formulation report form

11. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat, containing the report of the work of task group 1 (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/5). Task group 1 was charged with pilot testing and preparing a revision of the draft "severely hazardous pesticide formulation report form" and guidance.

12. The report provides brief background information on the objectives and composition of the task group and information on how it organized its work. Appended to the report is a revised format for submission of a proposal for inclusion of a severely hazardous pesticide formulation. It consists of two parts, Part A: a transmittal form to be completed by the designated national authority and Part B: a pesticide poisoning incident report form. The report also identifies issues for consideration by the Committee and provides specific recommendations on how the work could further progress.

(ii) Task group 2: Development of a format for decision guidance documents for severely hazardous pesticide formulations

13. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat, containing the report of the work of task group 2 (FAO/UNEP/PIC/ICRC.3/6). Task group 2 was charged with the preparation of an outline for a decision guidance document for severely hazardous pesticide formulations, with the goal of facilitating the process for developing a decision guidance document based on the information expected to be available to the Committee.

14. The report provides brief background information on the objectives and composition of the task group and information on how it organized its work. A draft outline of a decision guidance document for a severely hazardous pesticide formulation, together with a draft working paper that may serve as the basis for guidance to future drafting groups, are appended to the task group report. The report also identifies issues for consideration by the Committee and provides specific recommendations on how this work could further progress.

(iii) Task group 3: Development of an environmental incident report form for severely hazardous pesticide formulations.

15. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat, containing the report of the work of task group 3 (FAO/UNEP/PIC/ICRC.3/7). Task group 3 was charged with developing a draft of an environmental incident report form and guidance on severely hazardous pesticide formulations, in line with article 6 of the Convention.

16. The report provides brief background information on the objectives and composition of the task group and information on how it organized its work. The report includes a draft format for a decision guidance document for severely hazardous pesticide formulations, as well as a working paper, which captures the experience gained in developing the format for the document that could be used as guidance by future drafting groups established by the Committee. The report also identifies issues for consideration by the Committee and provides specific recommendations on how this work could further progress.

(iv) Task group 4: Prioritization of work on old notifications of final regulatory actions to ban or severely restrict a chemical.

17. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat, containing the report of the work of task group 4 (FAO/UNEP/PIC/ICRC.3/8). Task group 4 was charged with developing a process to prioritize work on "old" notifications, identifying an initial list of "priority chemicals" and drafting an issue paper on the compatibility of current regulatory practices with the notification requirements of the interim PIC procedure.

18. The report provides brief background information on the objectives and composition of the task group and information on how it organized its work. A set of criteria for prioritizing old notifications has been developed however a list of priority chemicals has not been identified. The report also identifies issues for consideration by the Committee and provides recommendations on how this work could further progress.

19. An initial draft of the issue paper on the compatibility of current regulatory practices with the notification requirements of the interim PIC procedure is available as a separate document (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/9) to be considered under agenda item 5 b) (v).

(b) Issues associated with implementation of the operational procedures

20. There were a number of issues identified in the course of the second session of the Committee, based on experience in the implementation of the current operational procedures that would benefit from further consideration. In order to facilitate this discussion, papers on the individual issues have been prepared.

(i) Consideration of the development and use of focused summaries

21. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat outlining issues it may wish to consider prior to requesting designated national authorities to submit focused summaries of the information used in support of their notifications of final regulatory action (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/10).

22. The Committee may wish to consider the issues identified in the paper and determine if they represent a basis for further work.

(ii) Draft working paper on preparing internal proposals and decision guidance documents

23. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the Secretariat that contains the report of the drafting group on monocrotophos (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/11). The report provides brief background information on the objectives and composition of the drafting group and information on how its work was organized. Appended to the report is a draft a working paper developed by the drafting group based on “lessons learnt”.

24. The Committee may wish to consider adopting the working paper as the basis for guidance on the development of internal proposals and decision guidance documents for future drafting groups.

(iii) Determination of the ongoing trade in chemicals

25. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat which contains a proposal for a process to determine if there is evidence of ongoing international trade in those chemicals proposed for inclusion in the interim PIC procedure (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/12).

26. The Committee may wish to consider adopting the proposed process as a means of determining if there is evidence of ongoing trade in chemicals proposed for inclusion in the interim PIC procedure.

(iv) Common and recognized patterns of use of severely hazardous pesticide formulations

27. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat identifying issues for consideration by the Committee when reviewing information on common and recognized patterns of use relevant to proposals for severely hazardous pesticide formulations submitted in accordance with article 6 of the Convention (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/13).

28. The Committee may wish to consider the issues identified in the paper and determine if they represent a basis for further work.

(v) Compatibility of current regulatory practices with the notification requirements of the interim prior informed consent procedure.

29. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing the issue paper on the compatibility of current regulatory practices with the notification requirements of the interim PIC procedure developed by task group 4 (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/9).

30. The Committee may wish to consider the paper and determine if it represents a suitable basis for a report to the next session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on their progress on this issue.

Item 6. Inclusion of chemicals in the interim prior informed consent procedure(a) Review of notifications of final regulatory actions to ban or severely restrict a chemical

31. In line with the requirements of article 5 of the Convention and the process for developing decision guidance documents adopted at the seventh session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (decision INC7/6, excerpted in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/INF.3), the Committee will have before it verified notifications of final regulatory actions for three chemicals.

32. The Committee may wish to review the notifications and supporting documentation against the criteria in annex II and decide whether to make a recommendation to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to include the chemical in the PIC procedure and develop an internal proposal for a decision guidance document.

Asbestos

33. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing three verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to asbestos (Southwest Pacific- Australia (amphibole forms); Europe – European Commission and Czech Republic) (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/14).

34. The relevant documentation provided by Australia and the European Commission, in conjunction with their respective notifications, is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/14/Add.1 and UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/14/Add.2, respectively.

35. After the distribution of document UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/14 the Secretariat has received a new notification from Chile on asbestos. This notification and its supporting documentation is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/14/Add.3.

Dinoterb

36. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to dinoterb (Asia – Thailand and Europe – European Commission) (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/15).

37. The relevant documentation provided by Thailand and the European Commission, in conjunction with their respective notifications is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/15/Add.1. Additional supporting information received from Thailand is in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/15/Add.2

DNOC

38. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing four verified notifications from three PIC regions relating to DNOC (Asia – Thailand; Europe – Cyprus and the European Commission and Latin America – Peru) (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/16).

39. The relevant documentation provided by Peru, Thailand and the European Commission in conjunction with their respective notifications, is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/16/Add.1 and UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/16/Add.2, respectively. Additional supporting information received from Thailand is in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/16/Add.3.

(b) Review of proposals for severely hazardous pesticide formulations

40. In line with the requirements of article 6 of the Convention and the process for developing decision guidance documents adopted at the seventh session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (decision INC7/6, excerpted in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/INF.3) the Committee will have before it a note

prepared by the secretariat containing two verified proposals relating to GRANOX TBC and SPINOX T submitted by Senegal (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/17).

41. The relevant documentation collected by the secretariat in accordance with part 2 of annex IV is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/17/Add.1. Comments and information received by the Secretariat from 7-14 January is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/17/Add.2. Comments and information received by the Secretariat from 14-18 January, or which had previously not been available in English is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/17/Add.3.

42. The Committee may wish to review the proposals and documentation collected by the secretariat against the criteria in part 3 of annex IV, and decide whether to make a recommendation to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to include the pesticide formulations in the interim PIC procedure and develop an internal proposal for a decision guidance document

(c) Consideration of draft decision guidance documents

43. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on monocrotophos prepared by the drafting group established at the second session of the Committee (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/18). In accordance with decision INC-6/2, the draft decision guidance document is also available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish.

44. The decision guidance document was developed in line with the process adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its seventh session (decision INC7/6). The work of the task group in preparing the draft before the Committee is detailed in the report of the drafting group available to the Committee. (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/11)

45. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document for monocrotophos and prepare a recommendation to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, including a summary of its deliberations, a rationale based on the criteria listed in annex II and the tabular summary of comments received under step 4 of the process for developing decision guidance documents and how they were addressed.

Item 7. Other Matters

46. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat containing information prepared by the Chair of the Committee on the subject of Chemical Abstracts (CAS) numbers and their role in precisely identifying chemicals subject to the interim PIC procedure (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/INF.4).

47. The Committee will have before it two progress reports prepared by the secretariat for their consideration. The reports concern:

- (a) The status of implementation of the maleic hydrazide decision as modified at the eighth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in decision INC-8/3 (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/INF.2).
- (b) The status of implementation of the Conflict of Interest Procedure adopted in decision INC-8/1 (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/INF.1).

Item 8. Adoption of the report

48. At the final meeting of this session, the Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the draft report on the work of its third session, as prepared by the Rapporteur.

49. The final report of the work of this session, as adopted by the Committee, will subsequently be circulated as document UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/19

Item 9. Closure of the meeting

50. It is expected that the meeting will be closed by the Chair no later than 6 p.m. on 21 February 2002.
