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Interim Chemical Review Committee

Fourth session

Rome, 3 – 7 March 2003

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Annotated provisional agenda

Item 1. Opening of the session

1. The fourth session of the Interim Chemical Review Committee, to be held at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, Viale delle terme di Caracalla, Rome, will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 3 March 2003.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered by the following:
3. Mr. James B. Willis, Executive Secretary; and
4. Mr. Niek Van der Graaff, Executive Secretary.

Item 2. Organizational matters

- (a) Adoption of the agenda
5. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda as contained in document UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/1.
- (b) Organization of work
6. 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.4/1

7. The secretariat will provide participants with information regarding logistics and hospitality arrangements for the meeting. An informal reception is expected to be held on Monday, 3 March 2003.

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

8. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat that provides a review of the outcome of the ninth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee relevant to the work of the Interim Chemical Review Committee (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/3).
9. 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 ninth session in Bonn, 30 September – 4 October 2002. 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 third session.

Item 4. Operational procedures for the Interim Chemical Review Committee

- (a) Status of the work of the task group, established at the third session of the Committee on development of an environmental incident report form for severely hazardous pesticide formulations – pilot testing
10. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat, containing the report of the work of task group charged with pilot testing and preparing a revision of the draft environmental incident report form and guidance for severely hazardous pesticide formulations (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/4).
11. The report provides brief background information on the 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: an incident report form. The report also identifies issues for consideration by the Committee and provides specific recommendations on how the work could further progress.
- (b) Issues associated with implementation of the operational procedures
12. There were two issues identified in the course of the third 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) Draft working papers on preparing internal proposals and decision guidance documents
13. The Committee will have before it two notes prepared by the Secretariat that contain the working papers on the preparation of internal proposals and decision guidance documents for banned and severely restricted chemicals and severely hazardous pesticide formulations ((UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/6 and (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/7 respectively). Comments provided by the co-chairs and members of the drafting groups have been used to revise the working papers and as the basis for a brief list of issues to consider by the Committee in reviewing the amended documents.

14. The Committee may wish to review the working papers in the light of the experience gained in drafting the decision guidance documents considered at this session in order that they may be used by future drafting groups in the development of internal proposals and decision guidance documents.

(ii) Preparation and use of focused summaries

15. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat introducing a working paper on the preparation and use of focussed summaries. The document briefly describes the purpose of a focused summary, provides an outline of what a focused summary of the information used by a country in support of their notifications of final regulatory action should contain as well as a worked example. (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/5).

16. The Committee may wish to review the working paper on the preparation of focused summaries and consider whether it would assist DNAs in preparing such summaries and whether these summaries would represent an adequate basis for the work of the intersessional task groups and the Committee on candidate chemicals in future.

(iii) Information to be contained in the supporting documentation provided by a notifying country using a risk evaluation from another country in support of its final regulatory action.

17. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its ninth session requested the Interim Chemical Review Committee to develop guidelines, for review by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its tenth session, on the scope of information to be contained in the supporting documentation provided by the notifying country using a risk evaluation from another country in support of its final regulatory action.

18. An initial draft of possible guidance on the scope of such information is available to the Committee in document UNEP/FAO/ICRC.4/8.

(iv) Report on inconsistencies in the listing of chemicals within Annex III and between Annex III and decision guidance documents.

19. In the light of the discussion on individual chemicals at the ninth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, the secretariat was requested to prepare a “housekeeping” paper identifying inconsistencies within Annex III of the Convention and inconsistencies between Annex III and decision guidance documents for consideration and review by the Interim Chemical Review Committee. The results of this review would serve as a basis on which the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee could prepare a recommendation to the first Conference of the Parties and further guidance for the operation of the Interim Chemical Review Committee.

20. An initial draft of the paper is available to the Committee in document UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/9.

Item 5. 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

21. 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.4/INF.5), the Committee will have before it verified notifications of final regulatory actions for four chemicals.

22. For each of these chemicals 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 individual chemicals in the PIC procedure and develop an internal proposal for a decision guidance document.

Parathion

23. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to parathion (Southwest Pacific- Australia; Europe – European Community) (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/10).
24. The relevant documentation provided by Australia and the European Community, in conjunction with their respective notifications, is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/10/Add.1 and UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/10/Add.2, respectively.

Tetraethyl lead

25. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to tetraethyl lead (North America – Canada and Europe – European Community) (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/15).
26. The relevant documentation provided by Canada and the European Community, in conjunction with their respective notifications is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/15/Add.1 and UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.3/15/Add.2 respectively.

Tetramethyl lead

27. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to tetramethyl lead (North America – Canada and Europe – European Community) (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/16).
28. The relevant documentation provided by Canada and the European Community, 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.

Tributyltin compounds

29. The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing two verified notifications from two PIC regions relating to tributyl tin (Aisa – Japan and Europe – European Community) (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/17).
30. The relevant documentation provided by Japan and the European Community, in conjunction with their respective notifications is available in UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/17/Add.1 and UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/17/Add.2 respectively.

(b) Consideration of draft decision guidance documents

Asbestos

31. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on asbestos prepared by the drafting group established at the third session of the Committee (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/11) as well as a tabular summary of the comments received under step 4 of the procedure and how they were addressed (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/INF4). The decision guidance document was developed in line with the process adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its seventh session (decision INC7/6). In accordance with decision INC-6/2, the draft decision guidance document is also available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish.

32. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document for asbestos 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.

DNOC

33. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on DNOC prepared by the drafting group established at the third session of the Committee (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/12) as well as a tabular summary of the comments received under step 4 of the procedure and how they were addressed (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/INF2). The decision guidance document was developed in line with the process adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its seventh session (decision INC7/6). In accordance with decision INC-6/2, the draft decision guidance document is also available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish.
34. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document for DNOC 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.

GranoxTBC/Spinox T

35. The Committee will have before it a note from the secretariat containing the draft decision guidance document on Granox TBC/Spinox T prepared by the drafting group established at the third session of the Committee (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/13) as well as a tabular summary of the comments received under step 4 of the procedure and how they were addressed (UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/INF4). The decision guidance document was developed in line with the process adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its seventh session (decision INC7/6). In accordance with decision INC-6/2, the draft decision guidance document is also available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish.
36. The Committee may wish to finalize the decision guidance document for Granox TBC/Spinox T 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 6. Other Matters

37. At its ninth session the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee requested the Interim Chemical Review Committee to report on the status of implementation of decision INC-8/3 concerning maleic hydrazide to its tenth session. The Committee will have before it a report prepared by the secretariat on the status of implementation of Decision INC8/3 concerning maleic hydrazide for their consideration and follow-up UNEP/FAO/ICRC.4/14.
38. As agreed at the second and third session of the ICRC Committee members who have participated in training workshops over the last year (Latin America and Caribbean (English), Jamaica May 2002; Africa (French), Senegal June 2002; Near East (Arabic), Iran October 2002 and Central and Eastern Europe (Russian), Ukraine November 2002) will be asked to make a brief presentation on their experience.

Item 7. Adoption of the report

39. At the final meeting of this session, the Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the draft report on the work of its fourth session, as prepared by the Rapporteur.
40. The final report of the work of this session, as adopted by the Committee, will subsequently be circulated as document UNEP/FAO/PIC/ICRC.4/??

Item 8. Closure of the meeting

41. It is expected that the session will be closed by the Chair no later than 6 p.m. on 7 March 2003..
