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CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES ON THE
CONVENTION ON THE PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT
PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN HAZARDOUS
CHEMICALS AND PESTICIDES IN
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
Rotterdam, 10-11 September 1998

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening of the Conference

1. The Conference, to be held at World Trade Centre in Rotterdam, will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, 10 September 1998.
2. The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) or, in their absence, their representatives, will preside in their capacities as the Secretaries-General of the Conference, until the Conference has elected its President.
3. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered by the following:
 - (a) The Executive Director of UNEP;
 - (b) The Director-General of FAO; and
 - (c) The representative of the host Government.

Item 2: Organizational matters

- (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure

4. The Conference has before it the rules of procedure for meetings of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Legally Binding Instrument for the Application of the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (INC/PIC)

as contained in the annex to document UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF/3. The Conference may wish to decide to apply the rules of procedure of the INC/PIC, mutatis mutandis, to its proceedings.

5. With regard to matters related to credentials of the representatives, which are not covered by the rules of procedure of the INC/PIC, it should be noted that the credentials and full powers of the representatives must be issued either by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of the European Community, by the President of the European Commission. The delegates are invited to submit to the Secretariat their credentials and full powers before the opening of the Conference if possible, but not later than 12 noon on Thursday, 10 September 1998. The representatives may participate in the Conference pending a decision of the Conference upon their credentials.

(b) Election of officers

6. Subject to the rules of procedure, the Conference will elect its Bureau consisting of the following officers:

- (a) President;
- (b) Three Vice-Presidents; and
- (c) Rapporteur.

7. Upon his/her election, the President presides in accordance with the rules of procedure.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

8. The Conference may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda as contained in document UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF/1. The items contained in the provisional agenda are the following: item 1 (Opening of the Conference); item 2 (Organizational matters: (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure; (b) Election of officers; (c) Adoption of the agenda; (d) Appointment of the Credentials Committee; (e) Organization of the work of the Conference); item 3 (Report of the Credentials Committee); item 4 (Adoption of the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade); item 5 (Adoption of resolutions); item 6 (Adoption of the Final Act of the Conference); item 7 (Signature of the Final Act and the Convention); and item 8 (Closure of the Conference).

(d) Appointment of the Credentials Committee

9. The Conference may wish to appoint the Credentials Committee that may discharge its function with the assistance of the Secretariat.

(e) Organization of the work of the Conference

10. The Conference may wish to work in its entirety without establishing any subsidiary body, except for the Credentials Committee.

11. If the President finds it necessary to establish drafting groups or contact groups on specific matters, the President may propose to the Conference to establish such groups and subsequently appoint members to form them.

12. The Conference may wish to decide that it meets from 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on 10 September 1998, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on 11 September 1998, subject to adjustment as appropriate.

Item 3: Report of the Credentials Committee

13. The Credentials Committee, with the assistance of the Secretariat, will examine the credentials of the representatives at the Conference and report thereon to the Conference.

Item 4: Adoption of the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

14. The Conference has before it the text of the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, as agreed by the INC/PIC at its fifth session and contained in document UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF/2.

15. The President will invite the Chair of the INC/PIC to formally present the text of the Convention, as agreed by the INC/PIC at its fifth session, to the Conference.

16. On the basis of the text, as agreed by the INC/PIC at its fifth session, the Conference may wish to adopt the Convention. It is expected that the adoption of the Convention takes place on 10 September 1998.

Item 5: Adoption of resolutions

17. The Conference has before it a draft resolution on interim arrangements submitted to it by the INC/PIC as contained in the annex to document UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF/4.

18. The President will invite the Chair of the INC/PIC to formally present the draft resolution to the Conference. On that basis, the Conference may wish to adopt a resolution on interim arrangements.

19. The Conference may wish to adopt also a resolution on a tribute to the host Government.

Item 6: Adoption of the Final Act of the Conference

20. The Conference has before it its draft Final Act as contained in document UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF/5. On that basis, the Conference may wish to adopt the Final Act. It is expected that the adoption of the Final Act takes place on 10 September 1998.

Item 7: Signature of the Final Act and the Convention

21. It is expected that the Final Act and the Convention, having been adopted by the Conference, will be opened for signature at the Conference on 11 September 1998.

22. Immediately after the ceremony for signing those instruments, statements may be made by representatives wishing to do so. For this purpose, a list of speakers will be opened at the secretariat (with the Director, Chemicals, UNEP) on 15 August 1998. In drawing up the list of speakers, precedence will be given to Heads of State, Heads of Government, Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Cabinet Ministers, and others, in that order. The Conference may wish to set a time-limit for each statement at the start of the session on the basis of the number of speakers inscribed on the list of speakers maintained by the secretariat.

Item 8: Closure of the Conference

23. After customary exchange of courtesies, the President may declare the closure of the Conference. It is expected that the Conference will be closed by 6 p.m. on 11 September 1998.
