



## Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

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### Compliance Committee for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade Second meeting

Rome, 19–21 March 2024

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

#### Specific submissions regarding Party implementation and compliance: submission regarding Barbados

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#### Submission regarding Barbados<sup>1</sup>

#### Note by the Secretariat

## I. Introduction

1. In accordance with paragraph 13 of Annex VII to the Rotterdam Convention, the Committee, in order to assess possible difficulties faced by Parties in fulfilling their obligations under Articles 4(1), 5(1), 5(2) and 10 of the Convention, upon receipt of information from the Secretariat provided by such Parties pursuant to those provisions, shall notify the Party in writing regarding the matter of concern. If the matter has not been resolved within 90 days by consultation through the Secretariat with the Party concerned and the Committee considers the matter further, it does so in accordance with paragraphs 16 to 24 of Annex VII.

2. At its first meeting (16–18 November 2022, Geneva), the Committee agreed to initiate its work in relation to specific submissions pursuant to paragraph 13 of Annex VII to the Rotterdam Convention. By decision CC-1/1, the Committee requested the Secretariat to contact by means of a letter on behalf of the Committee the five Parties, including Barbados, that had not designated any national authorities pursuant to Article 4(a) of the Convention, communicating with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including through the Permanent Representations of those Parties to the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome and the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva and New York.

## II. Implementation

3. On 20 February 2023, the Secretariat notified Barbados of the matter of concern, pursuant to paragraph 13 of Annex VII, on behalf of the Committee, thereby initiating consultations with Barbados and inviting it to designate forthwith a national authority in accordance with Article 4(1) of the Convention and notify this designation to the Secretariat. The form for notification of designation of contacts, text of decision CC-1/1 and information leaflets on the Convention were attached to the Secretariat's communication.

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\* UNEP/FAO/RC/CC.2/1/Rev.1.

<sup>1</sup> This document has not been formally edited.

4. Subsequently, the Secretariat continued to follow up with Barbados by email on 18 March, 29 April, 19 and 24 July 2023. These subsequent communications reiterated the invitation to Barbados to designate its national authority and that should Barbados be facing any difficulties in fulfilling its obligation under the Rotterdam Convention, further information in that respect would be welcomed for onward transition to the Committee.
5. On 10 October 2023, the Secretariat communicated to Barbados, through the Permanent Representation to the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome and the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva and New York, that it would appear that this Party had yet to inform of the designation of its national authority pursuant to Article 4 of the Convention. The communication served to inform the Party that it appeared that the possible difficulties in the designation of a national authority in accordance with Article 4(1) of the Convention had not been resolved within 90 days by consultation through the Secretariat with Barbados and that, as set out in paragraph 13 of Annex VII to the Convention, the Committee would need to consider the matter further in accordance with paragraphs 16 to 24 of Annex VII.
6. Follow up with Barbados also took place in-person during a bilateral meeting with the Deputy Executive Secretary on the margins of the twenty-third Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Programme (20–23 November 2023, Barbados).
7. Barbados acknowledged receipt of the abovementioned communications, however to date has yet to transmit any notification of designation of contacts in response to the requests nor has information been transmitted by Barbados to the Secretariat regarding any difficulties being faced in fulfilling the obligation under Article 4(1) of the Convention.

### **III. Proposed action**

8. The Committee is invited to consider the information contained in document UNEP/FAO/RC/CC.2/2 and the present note with a view to establishing the facts and root causes of the matter of concern and to assisting in its resolution, in accordance with paragraph 19 of Annex VII.

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