



# Introductory Workshop on Industrial Chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention for the Caribbean sub-Region



08<sup>TH</sup> TO 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014

THE HILTON HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.



## BACKGROUND

The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean Region (BCRC-Caribbean) in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (SRC) hosted a three-day regional introductory workshop on Industrial Chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention for the Caribbean sub-region. The workshop was held at the Scarlet Ibis conference room at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago from 08<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

The dramatic growth in the production and trade of chemicals globally has raised both public and official concerns about human and environmental vulnerability to potential risks posed by hazardous chemicals and pesticides, especially in developing countries where resources are inadequate and unavailable in order to monitor the import and use of these chemicals.

In response to these concerns the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) jointly introduced the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure under the Rotterdam Convention. This procedure was intended to ensure that governments have the information that they need about hazardous chemicals to assess risks and take informed decisions on chemical imports, while the Convention possessed the overarching objective of protecting human health and the environment against the effects of hazardous chemicals.

The SRC-funded Sub-regional Programme on the Sound Management of Industrial Chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention, which is being jointly implemented by the SRC and the BCRC-Caribbean, is expected to achieve the following objectives:

1. To facilitate capacity-development of developing country Parties to assess and manage risks, prepare and communicate import responses, and take decisions on final regulatory actions for hazardous industrial chemicals listed under the Rotterdam Convention in accordance with the PIC procedure;
2. To provide an opportunity for the promotion and coordination of integrated implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions;
3. To generate on-the-ground results and experiences that will also be fed as case studies into the electronic toolbox of the Inter-Organisation Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) that assists countries at differing levels of economic, technical and institutional development to manage industrial chemicals.

In order to achieve these objectives, the Programme consists of three (3) core activities:

- Holding of the 'Introductory Workshop on Industrial Chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention for the Caribbean Sub-Region' for key stakeholders involved in industrial chemicals management at the national level for the Caribbean Parties and Signatories to the Rotterdam Convention;

- Facilitation of an update of National Chemicals Profiles in three (3) pilot countries in the region; and
- Facilitation of National Follow-Up Seminars in these pilot countries to refine the national frameworks for the management of industrial chemicals.

The workshop component of the Programme will target the following thirteen (13) countries of the Caribbean sub-region:

- Antigua and Barbuda;
- Barbados;
- Belize;
- Cuba;
- Dominica;
- Dominican Republic;
- Guyana;
- Jamaica;
- St. Kitts and Nevis;
- St. Lucia;
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines;
- Suriname; and
- Trinidad and Tobago.

In the case of the final two national-level activities of the Programme, these will be performed in three pilot countries only.

Upon its completion, the entire Programme is expected to result in enhanced awareness of the importance of the Rotterdam Convention among the decision-makers at the national institutions involved in industrial chemicals management in the Caribbean. It is also expected to improve the processes and tools used in the development and strengthening of national infrastructure for industrial chemicals management and its outputs.

In the pilot countries, the Programme will build upon the initial work to be performed by the Sub-regional workshop participants and develop updated National Chemicals Profiles containing information on industrial chemicals. The national frameworks for the management of Industrial Chemicals initially developed during the Sub-regional Workshop will be refined during the national Follow-Up Seminars by the Designated National Authorities (DNAs) for the Rotterdam Convention in these countries along with relevant stakeholders involved in the general management of chemicals. Finally, the outcomes of the national Follow-Up Seminars may be used to inform the preparation of proposals for funding in order to close the identified gaps that exist in the management of industrial chemicals nationally.

## WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

The workshop was divided into two (2) sessions per day, beginning with several technical presentations in the morning followed by simulation exercises in the afternoon to demonstrate the application of the techniques discussed in the morning period. All the presentations made during the workshop are available online at the link [https://app.sugarsync.com/wf/D7142258\\_70884723\\_985283](https://app.sugarsync.com/wf/D7142258_70884723_985283) and the photographs are available at <https://plus.google.com/photos/103414637282203322577/albums/5903487799233597217?banner=pwa>.

Throughout the workshop, participants were engaged in a series of practical exercises aimed at developing hands-on experience on how to put into place national cooperation and coordination mechanisms for the implementation of the Rotterdam convention.

Four (4) groups were set up during the workshop (Table 1), in order to carry out the working group discussions and simulation exercises. The simulation exercises included the following:

- Stakeholder identification and Import Responses for industrial chemicals
- Risk assessment
- Development of a country strategy for the management of a specific chemical using the Rotterdam Convention toolkit

Table 1: Organisational Structure of working groups by country

Group	Members by Country
Table 1	Dominica, Antigua, St Kitts and Nevis
Table 2	Cuba, Belize and Dominican Republic
Table 3	Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Jamaica, St. Lucia
Table 4	Trinidad and OECS representative

Participants from Suriname and Guyana were not present at the workshop.

The final agenda for the workshop is contained in Annex I and the official participant list can be found in Annex II to this document.

## DAY 1 PROCEEDING

### Opening Session

The participants were welcomed by Dr. Khan, the director of the Basel Convention Regional Centre for training and technology transfer (BCRC-Caribbean). This was followed by a safety briefing explaining the evacuation procedure for the Hilton Hotel and Conference centre by their HSSE sergeant. Dr Khan explained the purpose and responsibilities of the BCRC-Caribbean, speaking briefly on the mobile phone initiative under the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE) guidelines and the need for further funding for continued works to be conducted for Minimata and Stockholm Convention.

Mr. Alex Mangwiro, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions spoke to the participants on the purpose of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) explaining that since 2010 the UNEP has been around to assist developing nations meet their obligations under the Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention and Basel Convention. He also spoke of new materials such as toolkits to aid countries and explained that over the next three (3) days the toolkit would be tested to determine its efficiency and effectiveness. The three (3) day workshop schedule was summarized and the participants were asked to give feedback and recommendations that would assist the region as well as other developing regions.

The Chairman of the BCRC-Caribbean, Mr. Keshan Kumarsingh then addressed the participants. He gave an overview on chemicals use and disposal and the importance of chemicals management from a cradle to grave perspective. He addressed the challenges involved in chemicals management such as human and financial resources as well as technological capacities within the Caribbean and the need for regional integration for the sound management of chemicals. Mr. Kumarsingh then recognized the staff at the BCRC-Caribbean for their impressive work on pioneering projects such as PACE and international recognition gained over the past four (4) years.

All the participants had the opportunity to introduce themselves as well as state what they expected to gain out of the workshop. The general consensus of the participants was to better understand and increase their knowledge on their obligations under the Rotterdam Convention and to ensure compliance. The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) representative, Dr. Asha Singh expressed her interest to understand the challenges faced by the member states and her intentions to support their cause.

A brief video presentation was aired by Mr. Mangwiro giving an overview on the process for listing chemicals into Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention.

### **Session 1: Overview of the Rotterdam Convention**

Presentation I “The Rotterdam Convention and its Prior Informed Consent Procedure (PIC)” by Mr. Mangwiro (UNEP).

This presentation started with an overview on the importance of placing chemicals on the Rotterdam Convention, explaining the need to protect human health and the environment as well as the importance of information sharing. The potential negative impacts of chemicals were discussed giving dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) as an example, and the PIC was introduced as a decision guidance document to be used to ban, restrict or allow the trade of certain chemicals. It was emphasized that the Rotterdam Convention focuses on information sharing, explaining what other countries are experiencing so informed decisions can be made for chemical import and use. Mention was made of export notification under the Rotterdam Convention as well as the development of Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). The benefits of the Rotterdam Convention were discussed including the facilitation of knowledge exchange to protect human health and the environment, increased public awareness at a national level hence countries are

better equipped to make decisions on the sound management of chemicals and as a strategic planning tool for the future.

### **Comments and Questions**

- Mr. Glasgow (Trinidad) asked how a situation should be handled if the response from different agencies for the import of a chemical is different. In response, Mr. Mangwiro (UNEP) mentioned that the Stockholm Convention states that you eliminate hazardous chemicals with a phase out period whilst the Rotterdam Convention states the use of the hazardous chemicals once notifications for use are agreed upon. He then explained that chemical management should take a multi-stakeholder approach and a cumulative decision should be made on a decision for import/use of a chemical.
- Dr. Singh (OECS) asked if there was a database to ascertain the use of chemicals. Mr. Mangwiro (UNEP) stated that this is done on a country to county basis and there is no overall database for the Caribbean. Dr.Singh then stated that there is a need for developing and implementing a chemicals database for the Caribbean to enhance capacity building. Dr' Khan (BCRC-Caribbean) indicated that under the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) a project was conducted to create a database for obsolete pesticides to be disposed. However, no other chemicals were included. He also stated that there is the initiative for BCRC-Caribbean to be the coordinating body and repository for chemical data within the next two (2) years under the FAO and Stockholm Convention.

Presentation II “National Coordination and Cooperation under the Rotterdam Convention” by Ms. Jonelle Jones (BCRC-Caribbean).

This presentation summarized the steps required for an effective national coordination system under the Rotterdam Convention. It details information on the legal entity responsible to implement conventions obligations and their required Ministries/Agencies. Further information was provided on the development of workplans and budgets and the requirements for a successful and sustainable project. The presentation discussed the need for the involvement of diverse stakeholders and the benefits of the national coordination system.

### **Comments and Questions**

- Mr. Wilson (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) stated that some working examples of coordinating committees are the Regional Coordinating Committee on the Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM) as well as the steering committee set up for the National Implementation Plan (NIP) for Stockholm Convention.
- Mr. Cansino (Belize) gave an overview of their National steering committee formed under the Stockholm Convention. He stated that the committee involved a cross section of stakeholders and after implementation under Stockholm the committee went on to SAICM and embraced more stakeholders from the private sector, academia and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The private sector was able to influence the buyers of change (ministries) to work on the management of chemicals. A National Implementation Plan (NIP) was created. Belize is



currently working on national legislation for chemicals management. They completed an institutional assessment on chemicals management looking at pesticides and pharmaceuticals in particular. No regulations on industrial chemicals to date. Ms. Jones (BCRC-Caribbean) asked what mechanisms were used in forming the steering committee in Belize. Mr. Cansino responded by stating that there were very regular meetings and correspondence via emails with stakeholders to discuss chemical life cycle, point of entry and chemical safety. They also hold quarterly meeting with the Coordinating Committee.

- Ms. Lavine (Barbados) indicated that their Coordinating Committee was formed due to the NIP under the Stockholm Convention and for GHS implementation. The structure for an Advisory Committee was approved by Cabinet for pesticides. No structure in place for industrial chemicals and there is a need to integrate with Customs to share information on industrial chemicals.
- Mr. Cansino (Belize) stated that 'buying in' relevant stakeholders in forming a committee are extremely important for the country's initiative to be successful. There is a need to work together to ensure proper handling of chemicals, to recognize long term impacts of chemicals and to streamline activities within the chemical industry.
- Mr. Mangwiro (UNEP) mentioned that when the NIP was implemented most countries hired consultants to do the work hence no structural committee in place. He asked Belize and Barbados to explain how they sustained their committee, to which the response from Belize was to establish an Authority Commission via legislation as well as develop a business plan to manage chemicals. Barbados stated that their coordination was informal and their coordination was on a 'need to' basis. However, this becomes an issue when representatives from different Ministries were moved or replaced by new staff.
- Dr. Singh (OECS) questioned the inclusion of end users as part of the stakeholders for the coordinating committee and spoke of the importance of having their 'buy in'. She was assured that the end users are included under the trade associations, informal sectors and NGOs.

### **Simulation Exercise**

This exercise involved two (2) activities:

Exercise 1: Identification of relevant stakeholders to participate in the national coordination mechanism (working groups)

Exercise 2: How to put into place mechanisms to coordinate decision-making and national actions to meet the obligations of the Rotterdam Convention; Establishing a national coordination mechanism: key elements, characteristics and steps.

Exercise 1 allowed the participants to identify Ministries/Agencies within the government who have mandates directly related to chemicals and wastes management as well as relevant stakeholders outside of government who would be involved with the particular chemical, establish a multi-stakeholder committee and to carry out a stakeholder analysis in order to determine who should possibly be



involved or might want to be involved in managing the chemical. Exercise 2 involved the completing of the import response form for Tris under the Rotterdam Convention.

Each of the four (4) groups presented their findings on Exercise 1. The overall response by Mr. Mangwiro was that the groups understood the basic concept of the exercise, with Table 4 having an exceptional understanding of the stakeholder identification process. Table 3 was asked to have further discussions to strengthen their stakeholder identification process.

## **DAY 2 PROCEEDING**

The workshop began with a review of Exercise 1 by Table 3 followed immediately by the presentation on Exercise 2 from all groups. The general consensus with the exception of Table 3 was that the task of filling out the Import Response form for Exercise 2 was very simple. Table 3 expressed concerns on the clarity of information required to fill out the form since there are multiple actors on the National Committee. Mr. Mangwiro suggested the use of the interactive training on the operation of the Rotterdam Convention CD package provided. He also stated that any decision made on the import and use of a hazardous chemical must be binding with any country that trade the said chemical. He said that there is a need to acquire information on chemicals and this can provide an opportunity for networking between countries.

### **Session 2: Hazard, Risk Assessment and Management**

Presentation I: “Introduction to Risk Assessment” by Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt (WHO)

The presentation focused on the different stages of a chemical life cycle and the environmental health paradigm in relation to the chemical’s source-exposure-effect pathway. The risk assessment framework for chemicals was explained, involving hazard characterisation, exposure assessment and risk characterisation. The WHO Toolkit for risk assessment was introduced, explaining its purpose and content and the potential for risk assessment distance learning was discussed.

### **Comments and Questions**

- Dr. Khan (BCRC-Caribbean) asked how would the risk assessment model work when there are uncertainties or more so a lack of data especially in developing countries? Dr. Khan mentioned that the risk assessment should be conducted on a conservative measure rather than an absolute result. Dr. Gutschmidt responded by stating that it is important to distinguish between a model and a toolkit. It was mentioned that a model guides from one step to the next requiring the data input whilst a toolkit structures thinking and guides the user through the risk assessment process.
- Dr. Singh (OECS) questioned the involvement of WHO to help develop risk assessment tool for developing nations as she stated that data from developed countries would be different based on a variety of criteria. Dr. Gutschmidt stated that data from developing countries will be appreciated but WHO would need to evaluate the data before use. He explained that WHO

don't develop standards but can provide No Observed Effect Limits (NOEL) to be used in legislation.

- Mr. Glasgow (Trinidad) mentioned the need for testing an entire chemical mixture and tweaking the registration process to include the full breakdown of the mixture since the inactive ingredients or carrier within the mixtures may pose health and/or environmental hazards. He gave the example of temephos used for vector control, which contains toluene but it is not the active ingredient. Dr. Gutschmidt (WHO) stated that from a public health point of view it is important to look at the entire formulation to determine its components and potential adverse effects.
- The issue on the disposal of obsolete chemicals was then mentioned by Mr. Glasgow (Trinidad), where companies import and store chemicals without use and on expiration the chemicals become the problem of the Ministry in terms of disposal. Dr. Gutschmidt (WHO) mentioned that firstly hazardous waste issues should be regulated, but the problem in the Caribbean is the fragmentation of legislation and lack of coordination. He reiterated that there is a need for proper legislation to manage the issues involved with toxic waste/chemicals. Dr. Khan (BCRC-Caribbean) explained that an option for dealing with the obsolete chemicals can be to ensure that supplier of the chemicals post a bond. The bond can be used to compensate for any cost associated with disposal of the chemicals. The bond can be enforced under the 'Polluter's Pay' principle under the Environmental Management Act 2000 within Trinidad and Tobago.

Presentation II: "Public Health Management of Chemical Accidents" and Presentation IIIA: "Chemical Incidents: International Health Regulations" by Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt (WHO)

Presentation II raised awareness about chemical incidents and their impact on public health, described public health functions in the management of chemical incidents and promoted the WHO Manual for the Public Health Management of Chemical Incidents. The presentation gave examples of mass poisoning incidents throughout the world. These included poisoning due to diethylene glycol in cough syrup in Panama 2006, bromide poisoning in Angola 2007 and toxic waste dumping in Cote d'Ivoire, 2006. The role of the public health system in terms of detection and alertness, response, prevention and preparedness were discussed followed by an introduction to the WHO Manual on chemical incidents and the WHO website for further information.

Presentation IIIA followed directly afterwards. This presentation touched on the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005), its importance and focal point, key party obligations with WHO and their criteria for notification of a chemical event.

### **Comments and Questions**

No comments or questions.

Presentation IIIB: "Chemical Incidents: International Health Regulations: Poison Centres" by Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt (WHO)

Dr. Gutschmidt then spoke on the beneficial role of Poison Centers (PCs) in chemical safety. He mentioned the services offered by the PCs, the benefits of establishing a poison centre within a country and the requirements for setting up the establishment.

### **Comments and Questions**

- Mr. Mangwiro (UNEP) added that poison centres provide an important source of information with respect to the Rotterdam Convention as the national exposure data which can be used to assess the national impact of chemicals to human health and/or the environment.
- Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt (WHO) stated that poison center have both information and expertise that can be used to inform the risk assessment process.

Presentation IV: “Introduction to the WHO Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit” by Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt (WHO)

This brief presentation illustrated the use of the risk assessment toolkit using roadmaps for each stage of the risk assessment process. Links to a resource base for risk assessment and web links to the toolkit were shared with the participants.

### **Toolkit Demonstrations**

The toolkit exercise demonstrated how the principles and roadmaps that comprise the Toolkit can be used by a public health or related professional in the immediate response to an acute chemical incident that involves the general public. A case study on the ‘Accidental release of Chlorine Gas’ was provided. Participants were asked to assess the health risks and to provide recommendations concerning evacuation, sheltering in place as well as other response measures. The case study required the use of the ALOHA model for exposure assessment and risk characterization. The model is available for download at <http://www2.epa.gov/cameo/cameo-downloading-installing-and-running-aloha>.

The groups presented their findings using the risk assessment toolkit. The overall consensus was that the risk assessment toolkit was very useful. However, practice is needed with the toolkit to maximise the tool’s potential.

Presentation V: “Demonstration of the IOMC Toolbox for Decision Making in Chemicals management” by Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt (WHO)

This presentation focused on a toolbox for decision making developed by the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC). The IOMC was introduced as an institution to strengthen international cooperation in the field of chemicals and to increase the effectiveness of the organisations’ international chemicals programmes. The work carried out under the IOMC with other participating organisations was highlighted. The decision making toolbox was introduced as a one stop shopping on the web for countries who wish to set up or improve their chemicals management system. The Toolbox is aimed at countries who wish to address specific national issues regarding chemicals management. The IOMC Toolbox is a problem-solving tool that enables countries to identify the most appropriate and efficient national actions to address specific national problems related to chemicals

management. A proof-of-concept version of the IOMC Toolbox was discussed focusing on a national management scheme for pesticides, an occupational health and safety system and chemical accidents prevention, preparedness and response system for major hazards.

Mr. Mangwiro (UNEP) then introduced the Rotterdam Convention Toolkit on Industrial Chemicals. The risk assessment toolkit under the Rotterdam Convention can be accessed at [www.mockmonster.com/toolkit/](http://www.mockmonster.com/toolkit/). He stated that the toolkit is still a work in progress but it's an attempt under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) conventions to assist developing countries get the protection they warrant from being party to the conventions and to assist them with meeting their obligations. Mr. Mangwiro demonstrated how the toolkit can be used and stressed on the importance of GHS to help with collecting data and developing national resources for the sound management of chemicals.

### **DAY 3 PROCEEDING**

#### **Session 3: Framework Development for the Sound Management of Industrial Chemicals**

Presentation 1: "Chemicals Management Tool for a National Framework for Sound Management of Chemicals: Globally Harmonised System of the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)" by Dr. Danelle Dhaniram (BCRC-Caribbean)

The presentation entailed an overview of the GHS and its implementation. The need for sound chemical management was reviewed with GHS being the foundation for countries to develop a framework for chemicals management within the Caribbean. GHS was discussed in the context of international chemical agreements and an overview including the benefits of the GHS was analysed. The presentation then detailed the structure for a National Implementation Strategy (NIS) for the GHS including information on forming a Coordinating Committee, capacity assessment, stakeholder engagement, strategy development and action plan.

#### **Comments and Questions**

- Dr. Dhaniram asked the countries who have started the GHS process, namely Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad to discuss and share their experiences on implementing the GHS with the other countries. Ms. Lavine (Barbados) mentioned that Barbados has gone through the draft NIS for implementing the GHS. She said that Barbados already has 'buy in' from their stakeholders and all the necessary documentation has been submitted for Cabinet approval. They are currently awaiting approval. Miss Clarke (Jamaica) recalled a working group being held a couple years ago on GHS. However, Jamaica is still at the point of raising awareness but nothing is currently being done with respect to their NIS. Mr. Glasgow (Trinidad) acknowledged the fact that the Bureau of Standards in Trinidad is already in the process of using GHS to develop their standards. However, it is not compulsory but viewed as a voluntary standard. The Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Inspectorate was already enforcing GHS but their legal department objected as GHS is not mentioned in the Pesticide Regulation. Trinidad is currently asking for an amendment of the regulation.

- Dr. Gutschmidt (WHO) asked what does a National Implementation Plan under the Rotterdam Convention means for the Caribbean, since the region is largely an importer of chemicals and the chemical labels should already be at the GHS standard. Miss Clarke (Jamaica) stated that the GHS is used as an informal guide for decision making to determine which chemicals should or should not be imported. Ms. Lavine (Barbados) mentioned that the GHS is not only to be used for chemical importation reference, but is also used to ensure the actors along the supply chain has the same understanding of the labels placed on chemicals so hazards can be easily identified and mitigation implemented.
- Dr. Gutschmidt (WHO) suggested that the GHS process is a very simple one and understanding the labels is straightforward. Contrary to this, Barbados stated that they conducted a survey which determined that chemical users are not aware of the communication labels on chemicals and education and awareness is necessary. Mr. Mangwiro (UNEP) supported this view and said that non-technical people, in particular end users of the chemicals have difficulties in understanding the symbols on the labels. Ms. Jones (BCRC-Caribbean) and Mr. Glasgow (Trinidad) also supported this view giving examples of instances where end users were unaware of the hazards of chemicals and specified that training for ground staff is a necessity. Mr. Wilson (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) went on to further discuss a GHS workshop held in Jamaica a couple years ago where a study conducted illustrated that the skull and bone symbol had a variety of meaning by people from different cultures.

Presentation II: “Notification of Final Regulatory Actions under the Rotterdam Convention- Bridging Information” by Mr. Alex Mangwiro (UNEP)

A short presentation on the bridging principles used under Rotterdam Convention then followed. The concept of bridging was explained and it was stated that for bridging to be effective there are specific conditions that must be met and approved by the Chemical Review Committee. Mr. Mangwiro spoke about the need for sustainability and the need to be aware of hazardous chemicals in trades and the notification of chemicals.

### **Comments and Questions**

- Mr. Bailey (Antigua and Barbuda) asked if there is capacity for a country with low resources to collaborate and move towards the NIP for the Rotterdam Convention. Mr. Mangwiro stated that the concept of bridging can be used by countries that do not have information to ensure their obligations under the Convention are met. Bridging creates an avenue for all countries to participate in the PIC procedure.
- Dr. Gutschmidt (WHO) agreed that the bridging technique is very useful and should be applied where needed. He mentioned that the process of bridging is a technique to act without the need for data but still requires capacities in terms of technical expertise such as a risk assessor.

## Simulation Exercise

Exercise 3: Establishment of a process for managing ammonium hydrogen sulphide (used in stink bombs, sneezing powder) which is used in hoaxes during carnival time; hazard and risk assessing, action plan of who to involve and who does what.

Exercise 3 allowed participants to enumerate the steps they would follow to manage ammonium hydrogen sulphide using the electronic tool for industrial chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention. This involved analysing the country situation and diagnosing the main industrial chemical problems, identifying stakeholders, hazard/risk assessment and notification of the final regulatory action for ammonium hydrogen sulphide.

This exercise was conducted per group and the findings were presented. A participant from Antigua presented the outcomes of the exercise for Table 1, Cuba and Belize presented for Table2, whilst St. Lucia represented Table 3 and the OECS representative presented for Table 4. Mr. Mangwiro then expressed his congratulations on a job well done to the participants. He mentioned the good use of all the available material for the exercise and emphasized the fact that what works in terms of chemical management in one country may differ in another. He also spoke about the importance of having legal backing to tackle industry and get them on board for chemicals management.

Evaluation forms were given to each participant asking for specific review of the WHO toolkit.

## Closing Remarks

Mr. Mangwiro summarized the three (3) day workshop by stating that the purpose of the workshop was achieved as the participants were taught a different method of thinking and was hopeful that the representative from each county would go back to their respective countries and start the process for the sound management of chemicals to protect human health and the environment. Mr. Mangwiro mentioned his pleasure to work in Trinidad and stated that the introductory workshop sets the bench mark for future works in other developing countries.

Dr. Gutschmidt expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to work in Trinidad and stated that chemical safety issues seem to be a problem in the developing world. He offered to be contacted for further information on risk assessment and the use of the risk assessment toolkit if needed.

Dr.Khan (BCRC-Caribbean) officially closed the workshop indicating that the workshop would have developed a resource network in the Caribbean with the Basel Convention Resource Centre being the focal point to assist countries where possible. He then discussed the next step forward including the need to update the national Chemical profile for three (3) selected countries.

Dr. Singh (OECS) then thanked the facilitators on behalf of the participants.

## **Next Step Forward**

BCRC-Caribbean will now embark on facilitating the 'Update of the National Chemicals Profile' in three pilot countries within the Caribbean Sub-region, adding information on Industrial Chemicals Management. The three countries are Trinidad and Tobago, Belize and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Data on the status of industrial chemicals management are expected to be collected by way of questionnaires from each of the pilot country via a country representative. Responses will be used to compile a country report that gives the current status of industrial chemicals. The BCRC-Caribbean will be responsible for this task.

Three 'National Follow Up' seminars will be facilitated in each of the three pilot countries to organize National Committees that will address Rotterdam Convention obligations on industrial chemicals and refine the national framework for the management of Industrial Chemicals developed at the introductory sub-regional workshop.



# **ANNEX I:**

## **FINAL WORKSHOP AGENDA**



## Workshop on Industrial Chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention for the Caribbean Sub-Region

08th – 10th October 2014

Scarlet Ibis Room

The Hilton Trinidad Hotel and Conference Centre

Port-of-Spain

Trinidad and Tobago

### FINAL AGENDA

DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY 08 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014		
8:30 – 8:55	Registration of Participants	
9:00 – 9:05	Welcome and Call to Order	Dr. Ahmad A. Khan Director, BCRC-Caribbean
9:05 – 9:10	Safety Briefing	Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre
9:10 – 9:20	Welcome Remarks on behalf of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention (SBRSC)	Mr. Alexander Mangwiro SBRSC
9:20 – 9:30	Opening Remarks	Mr. Kishan Kumarsingh Head, Multilateral Environmental Agreements Unit, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources of Trinidad and Tobago / Chairman, BCRC-Caribbean
9:30 – 9:50	Workshop Background and Introduction of Participants	Participants
9:50 – 10:00	Video Presentation: Process for listing chemicals into Annex III of the Rotterdam convention	

10:00 – 10:30	Group Photo & Coffee Break	
Session 1: Overview of the Rotterdam Convention		
10:30 – 11:15	The Rotterdam Convention and its Prior Informed Consent Procedure (PIC)	Mr. Alexander Mangwiro SBRSC
11:15 – 11:45	National Coordination and Cooperation under the Rotterdam Convention	Ms. Jonelle René Jones BCRC-Caribbean
11:45 – 12:00	Q&A	
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 14:30	Simulation Exercise: Import Responses for Industrial Chemicals [Tris] (Stakeholder analysis, DGD usage, etc.)	Participants
14:30 – 14:45	Coffee Break	
14:45 – 16:30	Plenary Report of Group Discussions	Participants
END OF DAY 1		
18:00 – 20:00	Welcome Reception at the Savannah Terrace of the Hilton Trinidad Hotel	

DAY 2 –THURSDAY 09 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014		
8:30 – 9:00	Registration of Participants	
Session 2: Hazard, Risk Assessment and Management		
9:00 – 9:30	Plenary Report of Group Discussions	Participants
9:30 – 10:15	Introduction to Risk Assessment	Dr.KerstenGutschmidt WHO
10:15 – 10:30	Q&A	
10:30 – 10:40	Coffee Break	
10:40 – 11:25	Public Health Management of Chemical Accidents	Dr.KerstenGutschmidt WHO
11:25 – 11:55	Chemical Incidents: International Health Regulations and Poison Centres	

11:55 – 12:00	Q&A	
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
Session 5: Toolkit Demonstrations		
13:00 – 13:15	Introduction to the WHO Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit	Dr.KerstenGutschmidt WHO
13:15 – 14:45	Hands-on Exercise on Risk Assessment	Participants
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee Break	
15:00 – 15:20	Demonstration of the IOMC Toolbox for Decision-Making in Chemicals Management	Dr.KerstenGutschmidt WHO
15:20 – 16:00	Introduction to the Rotterdam Convention Toolkit on Industrial Chemicals	Mr. Alexander Mangwiro SBRSC
END OF DAY 2		

DAY 3 –FRIDAY 10 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014		
8:00 – 8:30	Registration of Participants	
Session 3: Framework Development for the Sound Management of Industrial Chemicals		
8:30 – 8:55	Chemicals Management Tool for a National Framework for Sound Management of Chemicals: Role of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) for Sound Management of Industrial Chemicals	Dr. Danelle Dhaniram BCRC-Caribbean
8:55 – 9:00	Q&A	
9:00 - 9:25	Notification of Final Regulatory Actions under the Rotterdam Convention – Bridging Information	Mr. Alexander Mangwiro SBRSC
9:25 – 9:30	Q&A	
9:30 – 10:30	Simulation Exercise: Development of Country Strategy for the Management of a Specific Chemical using the Rotterdam Convention Toolkit, GHS Implementation and Final Regulatory Action	Participants
10:30 – 10:40	Coffee Break	
10:40 – 12:00	Simulation Exercise (Continued)	Participants

12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
Session 6: Toolkit Demonstrations		
13:00 – 14:00	Simulation Exercise (Continued)	Participants
14:00 – 16:00	Plenary Presentations of Country Strategies	Participants
16:00 – 16:30	Workshop Evaluation and Closure	Participants
END OF DAY 3 & CLOSE OF WORKSHOP		

## **ANNEX II:**

# **OFFICIAL LIST OF WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS**



**INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP ON INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS UNDER THE ROTTERDAM CONVENTION FOR  
THE CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION**

**OCTOBER 08<sup>TH</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup> 2014**

**PORT-OF-SPAIN**

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT LIST**

Name	Title	Organisation & Address	Contact Information
<b>NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES</b>			
<b>Ms. LaelBertide-Josiah</b>	Scientific Officer	Chemistry & Food Technology Division/Pesticides & Toxic Chemicals Control Board secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs. Hriar's Hill Road, St. John's, Antigua.	Tel: (268) 462-4502/4373/9191  E-mail: lael.bjosiah@gmail.com
<b>Mr. Gregory Bailey</b>	Projects Coordinator	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs, Queen Elizabeth Highway and Independence Avenue, St. John's, Antigua.	Tel: (268) 462-1213 or (268) 764-1262  E-mail: agrObject@yahoo.com



Name	Title	Organisation & Address	Contact Information
Ms. Ingrid Lavine	Deputy Director	Environmental Protection Department, Ministry of Environment and Drainage, Barbados.	Tel: 246- 310-3602  E-mail: <a href="mailto:ilavine@epd.gov.bb">ilavine@epd.gov.bb</a>
Mr. Aldo Cansino	Environmental Officer	Department of the Environment, Ministry of Forestry, fisheries & Sustainable Development, Marker Square, Belmopan City, Belize.	Tel: (501)828-4856 Cell: (501) 671-6712  E-mail: <a href="mailto:doe.projects@ffsd.gov.bz">doe.projects@ffsd.gov.bz</a> <a href="mailto:aldo.cansino@ffsd.gov.bz">aldo.cansino@ffsd.gov.bz</a>
Mr. Glenford Baptist	Special Projects Coordinator	Fabrigas Belize Limited, 21/4 Mls, George Price Highway, Belize City, Belize. P.O. Box 1905	Tel: (501)222-5327/5328/4674 Fax: (501) 222-4189 Cell: (501) 671-8014  E-mail: <a href="mailto:gbaptist@fabrigas.bz">gbaptist@fabrigas.bz</a> Website: <a href="http://fabrigasbelize.com">fabrigasbelize.com</a>
Mr. Michel Fernandez Perez	Legal Adviser	Office of the Environmental Regulation and Nuclear Safety (ORASEN), Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, Cuba.	Tel: 53-72031664 Cell: 53-52367903  E-mail: <a href="mailto:michel.fdez.perez@gmail.com">michel.fdez.perez@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:michel@orasen.co.cu">michel@orasen.co.cu</a>
Mr. Mario Jesus Abo Balanza	Senior Specialist	The Environment Division, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, Cuba.	Tel: 537-831-0286 ext. 131  E-mail: <a href="mailto:mabo@citma.cu">mabo@citma.cu</a>
Mr. Ricky Brumant	Chairman	Pesticides Control Board, Ministry of Agriculture, Botanical gardens, Rouseau, Dominica.	E-mail: <a href="mailto:divisonofagriculture@dominica.gov.dm">divisonofagriculture@dominica.gov.dm</a>

Name	Title	Organisation & Address	Contact Information
<b>Ms. Isabella Miriam John</b>	Environmental health Officer	Environmental Health department, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Physical Planning and Fisheries, 133 Bath Road, Rouseau, Dominica.	Tel:767-266-3468/67/63 Cell: 767-316-8697
<b>Mr. Wilson Tejada</b>	Environmental Analyst	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic.	Tel; 809-567-4300 ext. 6230 Cell: 829-383-3905  E-mail: wilson.tejada@ambieute.gob.do
<b>Mr. Jose Asiatico Rivera</b>	Agricultural Analyst	Ministry of Agriculture, Dominican Republic.	Tel: 809-547-3888 ext. 4102-05 Cell: 53-52367903  E-mail: <a href="mailto:joseasiatico@gmail.com">joseasiatico@gmail.com</a> joseasiatico@yahoo.com
<b>Ms. Angelique Vickers</b>	Scientific Officer	Pesticides Control Authority, Ministry of Health, 2-4 King St, Jamaica.	Tel; 876-862-6623  E-mail: <a href="mailto:vickers@caribpesticides.net">vickers@caribpesticides.net</a> <a href="mailto:pca@cwjamaica.com">pca@cwjamaica.com</a>  Website: caribpesticides.net
<b>Ms. Coral Clarke</b>	Chief Drugs Inspector	Standards and Regulations Division, Ministry of Health, 2-4 King St, Jamaica.	Tel: 876-967-1100 Fax: 876-967-1643  Email: <a href="mailto:coral_clarke@yahoo.com">coral_clarke@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:clarkco@moh.gov.jm">clarkco@moh.gov.jm</a>
	Agricultural Officer	Registrar, Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board/Focal Point Rotterdam Convention,	Tel: 869-465-2335 Fax: 869- 465-2928

Name	Title	Organisation & Address	Contact Information
Ms. Jeanelle Kelly		P.O. Box 39, La Guerite, Basseterre, St Kitts & Nevis.	Email: <a href="mailto:guarantinedoastk@hotmail.com">guarantinedoastk@hotmail.com</a>
Mr. Ernel A. A. Webbe	Principal Environmental Health Officer	Environmental Health Department, Ministry of Health, Administration Building, Charlestown, Nevis	Tel: 869-469-5521 ext. 2022/2052/2054 Cell: 869-664-9362  E-mail: healthy2game@yahoo.com
Mr. Leroy St. Louis	Agricultural Officer	Research and Development Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries, Co-operatives and Rural Development St. Lucia.	Tel: 758-454-6254 Cell: 758-719-9514  Email: <a href="mailto:roylouis99@yahoo.com">roylouis99@yahoo.com</a>
Mr. Lucas Lubin	General Manager	Winward Island Gases Ltd., Corinth Estate, P.O. Box 550, Castries, St. Lucia.	Tel: 758-450-1514/1339 Fax: 758-450-1143  Email: <a href="mailto:wig@candw.lc">wig@candw.lc</a> Website: <a href="http://www.wigases.com">www.wigases.com</a>
Mr. Carlos Wilson	Sr. Environmental Health Officer	Stockholm Convention National Focal Point Environmental Management Department Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment, Environmental Health Complex, Tyrell Street, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.	Tel: 784-456-1991 Fax: 784-457-2684  Email: <a href="mailto:carloswilson@yahoo.com">carloswilson@yahoo.com</a>
Mr. Richard Glasgow	Pesticides & Toxic Chemicals Inspector III	Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Unit, Chemistry, Food and Drug Division, Ministry of Health, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, #92 Frederick St, Port-of-Spain.	Tel: 868-623-7544 Fax: 868-623-2477  E-mail: <a href="mailto:richardjglasgow@yahoo.com">richardjglasgow@yahoo.com</a>
Ms. Keima Gardiner	Environmental Engineering Specialist	Environmental Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources,	Tel: 868-623-3158 ext. 229 Fax: 868-624-2455

Name	Title	Organisation & Address	Contact Information
		Level26, Tower D, International Waterfront Complex, 1A Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain.	Email: keima.gardiner@gov.tt
<b>Ms. Gail Kowlessar-George</b>	Sr. Environmental Officer	Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries, Maska Compound, La Romaine, Trinidad & Tobago.	Tel: 868-697-0948/0546/1283/7521 Fax: 868-697-7013  E-mail: <a href="mailto:ggeorge@energy.gov.tt">ggeorge@energy.gov.tt</a> Website: <a href="http://www.energy.gov.tt">www.energy.gov.tt</a>
<b>Mr. Ronnie Balkaran</b>	Energy Professional Assistant	Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries, Maska Compound, La Romaine, Trinidad & Tobago.	Tel: 868-697-0948/0546/1283/7521 Fax: 868-697-7013  E-mail: <a href="mailto:ggeorge@energy.gov.tt">ggeorge@energy.gov.tt</a> Website: <a href="http://www.energy.gov.tt">www.energy.gov.tt</a>

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND EXPERTS

<b>Mr. Alexander Mangwiro</b>	Programme Officer	Secretariat for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) 11-13 Chemin des Anemones, CH1219 Chatelaine, Geneva, Switzerland.	Tel: +41-229178458 Fax: +41-229178098  E-mail: <a href="mailto:alexander.mangwiro@brsmeas.org">alexander.mangwiro@brsmeas.org</a> <a href="mailto:amangwiro@pic.int">amangwiro@pic.int</a>
<b>Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt</b>	Technical Officer	Department of Public Health and Environment, World Health Organisation (WHO), 20, Avenue Appai, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland	Tel: +41-227913731 Fax: +41-227914848  E-mail: <a href="mailto:gutschmidt@who.int">gutschmidt@who.int</a>
<b>Dr. Asha Singh</b>	Head, Ocean Governance Unit	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Morne Fortune, P.O. Box 1383, Castries, St Lucia.	Tel: 758-455-6327/6317 Fax: 758-453-1628

Name	Title	Organisation & Address	Contact Information
			Email: asingh@oecs.org Website: www.oecs.org
<b>BASEL CONVENTION REGIONAL CENTRE FOR THE CARIBBEAN</b>			
<b>Dr. Ahmad Khan</b>	Director	BCRC-Caribbean, #8 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.	Tel: 868-628 8369 / 9372 Cell: 868-678 7732 Fax: 868-628 2151  Email: ahmadkhan786@msn.com
<b>Dr. Danelle Dhaniram</b>	Research Analyst	BCRC-Caribbean, #8 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.	Tel: 868-628 8369 / 9372 Fax: 868-628 2151  Email: damohammed@gmail.com
<b>Ms. Jonelle Jones</b>	Research Analyst	BCRC-Caribbean, #8 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.	Tel: 868-628 8369 / 9372 Fax: 868-628 2151  Email: jonellerj.bcrc@gmail.com
<b>Ms. Karen Persad</b>	Executive Administrative Assistant	BCRC-Caribbean, #8 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.	Tel: 868-628 8369 / 9372 Fax: 868-628 2151  Email: karenpp.bcrc@gmail.com
<b>Ms. Kamilah Burke</b>	Research Assistant	BCRC-Caribbean, Caribbean Waste Tyre Management System Project, #8 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.	Tel: 868-628 8369 / 9372 Fax: 868-628 2151  Email: kamilahburke@gmail.com

**ANNEX III:**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS**

**WORKSHOP AND SUMMARY OF ACTUAL**

**EXPENDITURE FROM SRC FINANCING)**

FINANCIAL SUMMARY WORKSHOP ON INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS UNDER THE ROTTERDAM CONVENTION				TOTAL (USD)
<b>10</b>	<b>Project Personnel Component</b>			
	1101	Coordination, organisation and reporting	Lump sum - \$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
	<b>1999</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>\$2,500.00</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>Support to Participants</b>			
	3100	Hotel accommodation for 19 regional participants, 1 Resources Person	4 night X181.00	\$14,480.00
	3200	Airfares	2 return airfare for the route ANU/POS/ANU	\$1,262.97
			1 return airfare for the route BGI/POS/BGI	\$428.91
			2 return airfare for the route BZE/POS/BZE	\$2,507.81
			2 return airfare for the route HAV/POS/HAV	\$1,551.86
			2 return airfare for the route DOM/POS/DOM	\$1,058.27
			2 return airfare for the route SQD/POS/SQD	\$2,152.95
			2 return airfare for the route SK/POS/SK	\$1,344.22
			1 return airfare for the route SV/POS/SV	\$367.19
			1 return airfare for the route PBM/POS/PBM	\$453.28



			1 return airfare for the route SL/POS/SL	\$372.50
			1 return airfare for the route GVA/POS/GVA	\$5,691.09
	3300	Daily Subsistence Allowance for regional participants	18 participants x 774.00	\$13,932.00
			2 Belize participants x 1001.16	\$2,002.32
	3500	Coffee breaks and lunch for 26 participants	3 days x \$252.75 x 35	\$26,538.75
	3600	End workshop function	Lump sum \$3,570.00	\$3,570.00
	<b>3999</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>\$77,714.12</b>
<b>40</b>	<b>Logistics</b>			
	4100	Rental and setup of audio-visual equipment	3 days x \$488.75	\$1,466
		Video Recording x 1	1 day x \$1,078.00	\$1,078
		Audio Recording x3	3 days x 162.00	\$485
	4200	Workshop banners, stationery & information packages (estimates for attendees)	Lump sum - \$600.00	\$600.00
	4300	Miscellaneous expenses: Broadband/wireless internet, additional electricals, additional setup costs	Lump sum - \$200	\$200.00
	4400			

	4999	Sub-total		<b>\$3,829.40</b>
50	<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
	5100	Miscellaneous	Lump Sum \$901.45	901.45
		Sub-total		<b>\$901.45</b>
<b><u>TOTAL BUDGET / EXPENDITURE (\$USD)</u></b>				<b><u>\$84,944.57</u></b>

**ANNEX IV:**

**DUTY STATION ALLOWANCE ROSTER FOR FUNDED  
PARTICIPANTS**

INDIVIDUAL	COUNTRY	IN-COUNTRY DSA	IN-TRANSIT DSA*	TOTAL DSA**
Ms. Lael Marguerite J. Bertide	Antigua and Barbuda	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Gregory Emanuel Bailey	Antigua and Barbuda	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Ms. Ingrid Lavine	Barbados	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
N/A	Barbados	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mr. Aldo Cansino	Belize***	\$414.06	\$584.70	\$998.76
Mr. Glenford Baptist	Belize***	\$414.06	\$584.70	\$998.76
Mr. Michel Fernandez Perez	Cuba	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Mario Jesus Abo Balanza	Cuba	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Ricky Drumant	Dominica	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Ms. Isabella Miriam John	Dominica	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Wilson Tejeda	Dominican Republic	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Jose Asiatico	Dominican Republic	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
N/A	Guyana	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
N/A	Guyana	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ms. Angelique Vickers	Jamaica	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Ms. Coral Clarke	Jamaica	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Ms. Jeanelle Kelly	St. Kitts and Nevis	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Emel A. Webbe	St. Kitts and Nevis	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Leroy St. Louis	St. Lucia	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Lucas Lubin	St. Lucia	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr. Carlos Wilson	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Dr. Asha Singh	St. Lucia (OECS Commission)	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
Mr Alexander Mangwiro	Switzerland (Resource Person)	\$517.58	\$463.50	\$981.08
Dr. Kersten Gutschmidt	Switzerland (Resource Person)	\$310.55	\$463.50	\$774.05
		<b>\$6,935.51</b>	<b>\$9,975.90</b>	<b>\$16,911.41</b>

\* BCRC-Caribbean supported participants who are not in Trinidad and Tobago will receive 50% of the UN Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA), which is equivalent to US\$ 154.5. on 7 October 2014. The participants will also receive 33.5% of the DSA (equivalent to US\$ 103.5) for 8-10 October 2014 as the BCRC-Caribbean will be providing accommodation for all participants, inclusive of breakfast and lunch. In addition, participants will receive DSA for one extra day to cover all terminal expenses, such as ground transportation and other expenditures associated with their travel to the workshop. This includes the cost of meals consumed during travel.

\*\* Please round the individual DSA figures up to the nearest dollar value.

\*\*\* With respect to participants travelling from Belize, they arrive on the night of the 6th and an overnight stay in Miami is required enroute to Belize from Trinidad at the end of the workshop. Therefore, these participants will receive 33.5% of the DSA for four days. In addition, the participants from Belize will receive an additional 40% of the DSA at the Miami rate (equivalent to US\$121.2) for the return journey in order to cover expenses such as ground transportation and other expenditures associated with their overnight stay, inclusive of the cost of meals consumed.

## **The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology**

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### **Transfer for the Caribbean Region**

#8 Alexandra Street, St. Clair, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

*Tel.:* +1-868-628-8369 / 628-9372

*Fax:* +1-868-628-2151

*Email:* [brcr.caribbean@gmail.com](mailto:brcr.caribbean@gmail.com)

*Web:* [brcr-caribbean.blogspot.com](http://brcr-caribbean.blogspot.com)

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