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SIXTH MEETING OF THE POPRC



The sixth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee will be held from 11 to 15 October 2010 at the International Conference Centre in Geneva, Switzerland. It will convene 31 experts, out of which 17 new members will be starting their 4-year term.

The Committee will review three chemicals proposed for listing in Annexes A, B, or C of the Stockholm Convention: endosulfan, which

is at the final stage of the review process (risk management evaluation) and hexabromocyclododecane and short-chained chlorinated paraffins which are at the second stage (risk profile). The Committee will also consider additional information on adverse effects of endosulfan on human health.

Following the entry into force of the amendments to the Convention on 26 August 2010, several technical matters will be examined by the Committee, such as: the technical review of the implications of recycling bromodiphenyl ethers as part of the new POPs work programme, updating the Basel Convention technical guidelines on POPs to include new POPs. Regarding technical assistance, the activities undertaken for the effective participation of Parties in the Committee's work will also be discussed. Further issues such as the implementation of regulatory assessment schemes for new and existing pesticides and industrial chemicals and the joint activities developed under the synergies process between the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions will also be examined.

CONTACTING THE SECRETARIAT

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JOINT MEETING OF THE REGIONAL CENTRES AND REGIONAL OFFICES

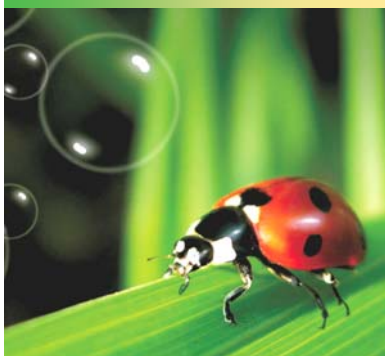


Participants attending the joint consultation in Barcelona, Spain

The first joint consultative meeting bringing together the regional partners mandated to implement the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions was held in Barcelona from 27 September to 1 October 2010. The meeting comprised three major segments, an annual meeting of the regional centres, the joint consultative meetings of the regional centres and offices under all three Conventions and a

segment on train the trainers.

An assessment of the progress made by the centres in implementing their work plans was carried out under third annual meeting of the Stockholm Convention centres. Revising of the work plans to more realistic plans and enhanc



THE SECOND ROUND OF THE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

The Small Grants Programme under the regional centre programme of the Stockholm Convention is an initiative to channel funding received from bilateral donors to eligible Parties through the regional centres that was established in 2009 with the initial support of the Government of Norway. In 2009 two grants of up to 50,000 US dollars were awarded to the nine project proposals received by the Secretariat. The selected project proposals aimed at building the capacities of the Parties they serve, in the areas of hazardous chemical management and the updating of the national implementation plans in light of the inclusion of 9 new POPs to the Convention.

Taking into account the success of the programme the Secretariat decided to continue it, and thus the regional centres under the Convention were invited to submit project proposals under the Programme by 31 July 2010. A total of ten project proposals requesting funding for up to 50,000 US dollars were received by the Secretariat, two joint and eight individual project proposals covering diverse areas of the technical assistance and capacity building.

After a reviewing the proposals on a competitive basis, the following two project proposals have been selected for funding: "Capacity building workshop as a base for development of ambient air monitoring network of POPs including the new 9 POPs in the region of West Asia" a joint submission by KISR, the Stockholm Convention Regional centre in Kuwait and RECE-



Participants attending a training activity organized by the Centre in Algiers

TOX the Stockholm Convention Regional centre in the Czech Republic and "A Latin American and Caribbean POPs contaminated sites training course: Identification, Assessment and management" submitted by CETESB, the Stockholm Regional centre in Brazil.

1. Capacity Building Workshop as a Base for the Development of the Ambient Air Monitoring Network of POPs including the nine New POPs, in the Region of West Asia

It is a joint project proposal between two regional centres from two different regions having expertise on the monitoring of environmental chemicals for decades. The project aims at building capacities of the Parties of the West Asia region in monitoring of the POPs in different media also contributes in the work of global monitoring and the effectiveness evaluation of the Convention.

2. Latin American and Caribbean POPs Contaminated sites Training Course: Identification, Assessment and Management

The selected project is essentially a training course comprising theoretical and practical sessions for thirty participants from different Parties of the region. Identification and management of contaminated site is one of the priority assistance areas identified in the national implementation of the region. Identification and the management of contaminated site is one of the core areas of competence of the applicant institution as well.

CAPACITY ASSISTANCE ON LEGAL ISSUES

The adoption of adequate legal frameworks is particularly essential to implement the Stockholm Convention at the national and regional levels, with Parties obliged to develop and implement appropriate national legislation and regulation.

The recent 'Synergies Decisions' state that actions taken to enhance coordination and cooperation should be aimed at strengthening implementation at national, regional and global levels, promoting coherent policy guidance and enhancing efficiency in providing support to Parties under all three Chemical and Waste Conventions.

Consequently, the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention, together jointly with the Secretariats of the Rotterdam and Basel Conventions, are developing a programme of legal technical assistance and capacity building, which shall be delivered through workshops among others.

The cycle of 'legal workshops' aims to enhance Parties' capacity to adopt and implement national legal frameworks, including legislation, regulating chemicals, hazardous and other wastes, in compliance with, and in synergy between,

the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions.

The workshops will mainly focus on Parties that have not yet adopted, in their view, adequate national legal frameworks, but are also open to Parties seeking assistance in improving drafting of or compliance with existing national legislation.

Aimed at law and policy makers, legislative, administrative and judiciary authorities, the workshops are planned for 2010 / 2011, back-to-back with other activities.

For further information, please contact the Secretariat at: TA@pops.int.

Upcoming synergies workshops are scheduled to be held on:

- 2-4 November 2010 in Bratislava, Slovakia for Central and Eastern Europe;
- 6-8 December 2010 in San Salvador, El Salvador for Central America and the Caribbean.

TRAINING ON RESOURCE MOBILIZATION: A SYNERGIES EXERCISE

Greater Strength in Sync



As part of the series of workshops on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and

Stockholm Conventions, the three Secretariats are partnering with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to enhance resource mobilization for chemicals and waste management.

The first component of the workshops focuses on the process underway to further promote a coordinated implementation of the conventions at the national and regional levels. To this end, a stronger emphasis will be put on creating a more inter-linked and coordinated legal and regulatory environment at the country level. Building on the training expertise of UNITAR, the second element of the workshops aims at building capacities in strategizing efforts for resource mobilization at the national level, e.g. on how to develop sound project proposals and successfully target donors.

JOINT MEETING OF THE REGIONAL CENTRES AND REGIONAL OFFICES

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ing communication on implementation progress among others was agreed. Similarly representatives from the Centres and regional offices exchanged their work plans and expertise among themselves. Promoting regional coordination among all the partners outside the Convention boxes in providing technical assistance to the Parties was highlighted. Similarly facilitation of south-south cooperation, exchange of business plans and work plans, work calendars was deemed to be very useful by participants. Discussions on resource mobilization and illegal trade were also held. In addition participants attended a training session on the Green Customs Initiative. The meeting concluded with various recommendations in the areas of resources mobilization strategies, networking, project development, regional centres/offices and regional focal centres, among others.

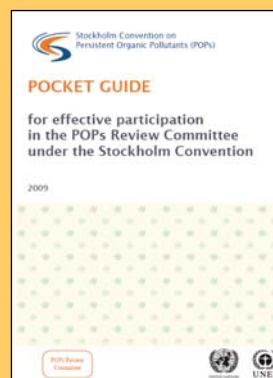


Working group training via video-conference

Other POPRC guidance documents under preparation:

- Guidance document on alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and its derivatives
- Guidance on information collection for the 9 new POPs.

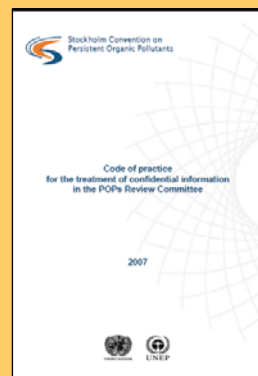
AVAILABLE POPRC PUBLICATIONS



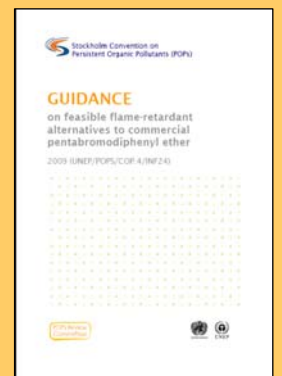
Pocket Guide for effective participation in the POPs Review Committee under the Stockholm Convention (2009)



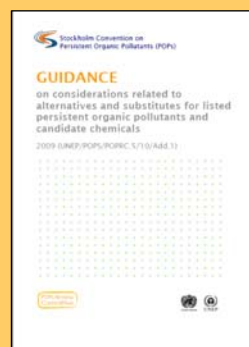
Handbook for effective participation in the Persistent Organic Pollutant Review Committee



Code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the POPRC (2007)



Guidance on feasible flame-retardant alternatives to commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether



Guidance on considerations related to alternatives and substitutes for listed persistent organic pollutants and candidate chemicals (2009)



The 9 new POPs Risk Management Evaluations 2005-2008

CONTINUING SUPPORT IN REGIONS TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION

Following positive feedback received on its recent capacity building activities on new POPs, the Secretariat has planned two new regional workshops to be held for French-speaking Africa on 1-4 November in Dakar, Senegal and for Asia on 23-26 November in Bangkok, Thailand. With the entry into force of the amendments on 26 August 2010, Parties have expressed more pressing needs to assess their national situation with regards to the nine new POPs. By going through new obligations for Parties, e.g. how to register for a specific exemption, the workshops will allow for broad questioning, such as possible control options for new POPs, including substitutions and alternative technologies to perfluorooctane sulfonates (PFOS) and brominated flame retardants (BFRs), and opportunities for accessing financial and technical support to update their national implementation plans.



Three of the eight acceptable purposes for the production and use of PFOS: 1. Photo resist and anti-reflective coatings for semi-conductors, 2. Foam fire extinguishers, 3. Insect baits for control of leaf-cutting ants.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2010

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE	TARGET AUDIENCE
11-13 October	Regional Green Customs Workshop for Eastern and Central Asian Region (ECA)	Ashgabat, Turkmenistan	Customs Authorities
11-15 October	Sixth Meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutant Review Committee (POPRC)	Geneva, Switzerland	Members and observers
17-21 October	Regional awareness-raising workshop on the guidelines on BAT and BEP and the environmentally sound management of PCBs and POPs wastes	Kuwait City, Kuwait	OCPs and FPs from Arabic-speaking Parties
28 October	CIESP/CETESB workshop on plant protection legislation	Sao Paulo, Brasil	For further information : www.cetesb.sp.gov.br
1-4 November	Regional workshop on new POPs, the process for reviewing and updating National Implementation Plans, reporting requirements under Article 15	Dakar, Senegal	OCPs and FPs from French-speaking Africa
1-4 November	Regional synergies workshops on enhancing cooperation and coordination for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	Bratislava, Slovakia	OCPs and FPs from Central and Eastern Europe
1-4 November	Regional workshop on new POPs, the process for reviewing and updating National Implementation Plans, reporting requirements under Article 15	Bangkok, Thailand	OCPs and FPs from Asia
6-8 December	Regional synergies workshops on enhancing cooperation and coordination for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	San Salvador, El Salvador	OCPs, DNAs and FPs from Central America and the Caribbean
15-17 December	The 5 th International Conference on Waste Management and Technology	Beijing, China	For further information : http://sc.bcrc.cn

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FOR WORKSHOPS

Registrations to participate in the workshops organised by the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention must be submitted through the **official contact points** designated by Parties for the performance of administrative functions and formal communication under the Convention or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For further information on the activities organized by the Secretariat and the Stockholm regional centres, please visit us at www.pops.int. To request assistance, please send a message to: TA@pops.int.

