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**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

**Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Third meeting**

Dakar, 30 April–4 May 2007

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: organization of work

**Scenario note for the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of
the Stockholm Convention**

Note by the Secretariat

The annex to the present note contains a scenario note prepared by the Secretariat to assist participants in preparing for the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

* UNEP/POPS/COP.3/1.

Annex

Scenario note for the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention

1. The present scenario note is intended to assist delegates in preparing for the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants by communicating initial planning activity and expectations for the meeting. Pre-session meeting documents will be available on the Stockholm Convention website (www.pops.int) by mid-March 2007. The timely availability of those documents should provide delegates with sufficient time to review them, conduct consultations and make other preparations to help ensure a productive meeting.

I. Objectives and possible outcomes of the meeting

2. As set out in more detail in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 below, the objectives of the meeting comprise three sets of decisions:

(a) Decisions which, according to the terms of the Convention, must be taken by the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting;

(b) Decisions which, according to the terms of the Convention, are required to be taken by the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting to establish processes to commence between the third and fourth meetings of the Conference;

(c) Decisions which are required to enable the Conference of the Parties to ensure the timely implementation of the Convention and the successful operation of the Conference of the Parties in future years.

3. According to the Convention, at its third meeting, the Conference of the Parties shall:

(a) Evaluate the continued need for the procedure contained in paragraph 2 (b) of Article 3, regarding the export of chemicals listed in Annex A for which a production or specific use exemption is in effect, including consideration of its effectiveness (Article 19, paragraph 7);

(b) Evaluate, in consultation with the World Health Organization, the continued need for DDT for disease vector control (Annex B, part II, paragraph 6).

4. The Conference of the Parties at its third meeting must establish arrangements that will enable it to begin evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention before 17 May 2008 and to complete this first evaluation at its fourth meeting (Article 16, paragraph 1).

5. In order to ensure the timely implementation of the Convention and the successful operation of the Conference of the Parties in future years, at its third meeting the Conference will need:

(a) To consider the possible adoption, with any amendments, of paragraphs 4 and 5 of the review process for entries in the register of specific exemptions set out in the annex to decision SC-1/24;

(b) To adopt with any amendments the guidelines on best available techniques and best environmental practices relevant to Article 5 of the Convention;

(c) To adopt, with any amendments, the process for the continuing review and updating of the standardized toolkit for identification and quantification of dioxin and furan releases;

(d) To consider the guidelines on the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants wastes adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention at its eighth meeting;

(e) To consider guidance on social and economic assessment of measures by Parties to implement the Convention and on the calculation of the cost of developing and implementing the action plans required by the Convention;

(f) To consider matters referred to it by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;

(g) To agree on a strategic plan for the establishment of the clearing house mechanism to be provided by the Secretariat;

(h) To agree on terms of reference for the process of selecting regional and subregional centres for capacity-building and transfer of technology pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 12 of the Convention;

(i) To consider terms of reference for work on modalities for the assessment of the needs of Parties which are developing countries or countries with economies in transition to implement the provisions of the Convention for the period 2006–2010;

(j) To consider the first reports transmitted by Parties pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention;

(k) To consider the report of the open-ended ad hoc working group on non-compliance, including possible draft procedures and institutional mechanisms for determining non-compliance with the provisions of the Convention and for the treatment of Parties found to be in non-compliance;

(l) To adopt its budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

(m) To consider the report of the first meeting of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and to consider funding a second meeting.

II. Meeting agenda

6. The annotated provisional agenda for the meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.3/1/Add.1) identifies issues for discussion and the documents that pertain to each agenda item. Most of the documents prepared for the third meeting identify the provisions of the Convention or decisions of the Conference of the Parties that provide mandates for the activities discussed therein. Meeting documents also identify possible actions to be taken by the Conference.

7. Delegations are invited to inform the Secretariat prior to the meeting or, at the latest, during the consideration of the provisional agenda, of any matters that they feel should have been included in the provisional agenda that do not appear to be covered.

8. The meeting will comprise five days of sessions from 30 April to 4 May 2006 (Monday to Friday), with provision for regional meetings on 29 April (Sunday).

9. From Monday to Friday, the proposed daily schedule for plenary sessions will be two three-hour sessions per day (10 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3 p.m.–6 p.m.). There are no plans to hold evening plenary sessions.

10. Monday morning will begin with opening formalities and then proceed to organizational matters (item 2 of the provisional agenda). The Conference of the Parties will elect officers and, in accordance with the rules of procedure, the newly elected President will begin his or her term of office immediately following the election of officers. The nine newly elected Vice-Presidents will begin their terms of office immediately after the closure of the meeting.

11. Following the election of officers, the Conference of the Parties will adopt the agenda for the meeting, amended as appropriate, and agree on the organization of work.

12. The Conference of the Parties will consider its rules of procedure (item 3 on the provisional agenda). The rules of procedure were adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting except for the text in square brackets in paragraph 1 of rule 45. The Conference may wish to discuss the text with the aim of resolving its status.

13. The Conference of the Parties will consider the credentials of representatives (item 4 of the provisional agenda). The Secretariat will introduce the matter to the Conference of the Parties and, in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, the bureau will examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference of the Parties later in the week.

14. Before turning to discussion of matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (item 5 of the provisional agenda), the Conference may wish to take up the item on the activities of the Secretariat and adoption of the budget (item 6 of the provisional agenda). By so doing, it would provide an opportunity for the Secretariat to make an initial presentation and for a budget contact group

to be established to prepare a draft decision on financing and budget for consideration and adoption by the Conference meeting in plenary later in the week.

15. The Conference may wish to establish a committee of the whole to address substantive issues relating primarily to item 5 of the provisional agenda.

16. Following the establishment of the committee of the whole, it is expected that the plenary session would be adjourned until Friday morning and that the committee of the whole would carry out its work until the end of the day on Thursday. The budget contact group would meet as necessary during the week.

17. Given the large number of issues and the short period of time available, it is expected that the committee of the whole would need to start by addressing the issues set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 above. The committee could then turn to the issues outlined in paragraph 5.

18. The committee of the whole may need to establish contact or drafting groups to address specific issues. To ensure that all meeting participants are kept abreast of the activities of any such groups, the morning sessions of the committee on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will begin with reports from the various groups. It is anticipated that on Friday morning, reports will be made to the Conference meeting in plenary on the work of the committee of the whole and the budget group.

19. The plenary sessions on Friday will provide an opportunity for the Conference of the Parties to adopt the report of the committee of the whole and to take decisions on the basis of draft decisions submitted by the committee of the whole, the budget group and any other subsidiary groups that may have been established by the Conference.

20. It is expected that the report of the meeting will be considered on Friday afternoon. The report of the meeting up until the end of the day on Thursday will be approved with any amendments that are agreed by the Conference at its plenary sessions on Friday. Consistent with the practice followed at the previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention and at meetings of the conferences of parties to other multilateral environmental agreements, the Parties may agree that the section of the report pertaining to the results of the Friday plenary sessions will be prepared by the rapporteur, in cooperation with the Secretariat, and incorporated in the meeting report under the authority of the president.
