



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

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**Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm  
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants  
Third meeting  
Dakar, 30 April–4 May 2007  
Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*  
Activities of the Secretariat and adoption of the budget**

**Concerns about the scale of contributions<sup>\*\*</sup>**

**Note by the Secretariat**

1. As noted in paragraph 17 of document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/27, entitled “Activities of the Secretariat and budget for 2008 and 2009”, the annex to the present note contains:

(a) A letter dated 23 June 2005 to Mr. Jean Ping, President of the fifty-ninth session of the United Nation General Assembly, from Mr. Mariano Arana, the then President of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention;

(b) A letter dated 29 January 2007 to Mr. Maged Younes, acting Executive Secretary of the Stockholm Convention, from Ms. Mya Than, acting Secretary, United Nations Committee on Contributions.

2. The letter to Mr. Younes refers to a response by the Committee on Contributions to a similar query made by the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention. That response is contained in annex I to the Rotterdam Convention document UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.3/INF/7, which is available at [www.pic.int](http://www.pic.int).

\* UNEP/POPS/COP.3/1.

\*\* Report on the work of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants at its first meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.1/31), annex I, decision SC-1/4 and at its second meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.2/30) annex I, decision SC-2/1.

## Annex



# United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة · 联合国环境规划署  
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT · PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE  
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

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Geneva, 23 June 2005

Excellency,

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

The Conference of the Parties, at its first meeting (held from 2 to 6 May 2005 in Punta del Este, Uruguay), adopted financial rules for the Conference of the Parties, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention Secretariat. Rule 5, paragraph 1 (a) of the financial rules states that the resources of the Conference of the Parties shall comprise among other things:

Contributions made each year by Parties on the basis of an indicative scale adopted by consensus by the Conference of the Parties, and based on such a scale of assessments of the United Nations as may be adopted from time to time by the General Assembly, adjusted so as to ensure that no Party contributes less than 0.01 per cent of the total, that no one contribution exceeds 22 per cent of the total and that no contribution from a least developed country Party exceeds 0.01 per cent of the total.

Following adoption of the budget and an indicative scale of assessments for the apportionment of contributions, the following statement on the scale of contributions was made which is recorded in the report of the meeting:

The countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region consider that the scale of contributions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting does not take into account either the economic and social realities or the capacity to pay of the States Party to the Stockholm Convention. This contradicts the well-known commitment of the international community to assist those States, and especially developing States and States with economies in transition, in the protection of human health and the environment.

H.E. Mr. Jean PING  
President of the 59<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly  
United Nations  
New York, NY 10017

The Conference of the Parties is a sovereign body that can establish its own scale of contributions. Nevertheless, it has chosen a scale based on the scale established by the United Nations.

The group of Latin American and Caribbean countries believes that this will require those of our countries that are already Parties to sacrifice the implementation of important projects so that they can make the above-mentioned contributions, and at the same time will discourage those countries not yet Parties from ratifying the Convention. Likewise, it is important to point out that the contributions will mean that developing countries face an insupportable burden in terms of their ability to pay.

The indicative scale adopted causes grave distortions and does not reflect economic reality or the capacity to pay of some developing countries, due, among other things, to the fact that important United Nations contributors are not Party to the Convention.

We ask that the present declaration be included in the final report of this meeting, that its concepts be utilized in the note to be sent to the General Assembly of the United Nations in accordance with the request of the working group on legal and organizational issues, and that it be taken into account in future discussions on the establishment of contributions to multilateral agreements.

As the Committee on Contributions is the competent United Nations body dealing with the scale of assessment, this is to request that you convey the above statement to that body.

Attached is the report of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention for your information. Please let me or the Secretariat of the Convention know if you have any questions or need further information.

Yours sincerely,



Mariano ARANA  
Minister of Environment of Uruguay  
and President of the Conference of the  
Parties of the Stockholm Convention

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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REFERENCE:

29 January 2007

Dear Mr. Younes,

With reference to your query to Mr. Botnaru concerning a letter from the then President of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention, Minister Mariano Arana, to H.E. Mr. Jean Ping, President of the fifty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, dated 23 June 2005, please be advised that the letter was received by the Committee on Contributions after the end of the 2005 session. Hence, it had not been taken up by the Committee.

Please find attached for your reference a response by the Committee on Contributions to a similar query by the Rotterdam Convention.

If you still require a direct response from the Committee, we would be pleased to submit it for the Committee's attention at its forthcoming session in June 2007.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mya Than".

Mya Than  
Acting Secretary  
Committee on Contributions

Mr. Maged Younes  
Acting Executive Secretary  
Stockholm Convention  
International Environment House  
11-13, chemin des Anémones  
CH - 1219 Châtelaine  
Geneva, Switzerland

cc : Mr. Botnaru