



STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs)



Effectiveness Evaluation
Provisional Ad Hoc Technical Working Group (TWG)
First meeting, Brno, 9-12 October 2006

Document GMP/TWG-1/1

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE PROVISIONAL AD HOC TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP AND ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRST MEETING

Mandate and Terms of Reference of the TWG

1. The provisional ad hoc technical working group referred to as TWG consisting of 15 representatives of Parties of the five United Nations regions has been established at the request of the second session of the Stockholm Convention Conference of the Parties (COP2) with the **mandate** to coordinate and oversee implementation of the global monitoring plan (GMP).
2. The TWG is to report on progress on the implementation of the GMP at the third meeting of the COP, and the COP3 will decide on the directions for continuing the implementation of decision SC-2/13 and on whether or not the group should continue.
3. In the annex to decision SC-2/13, the COP has identified the tasks to be assumed by the TWG. These tasks constitute the **terms of reference** (TOR) of the group. The TOR is an integral part of COP decision and should not be elaborated upon by the TWG. They are as follows:
 - (a) To develop criteria for evaluating programmes;
 - (b) To identify monitoring programmes that fulfil the criteria for contributing to the baseline data production, taking into account the updating of the information contained in the note by the Secretariat on existing human health and environment monitoring programmes (UNEP/POPS/COP.2/INF/10);
 - (c) To prepare a report on such programmes and others that may make useful contributions, subject to enhancement of their capacities;
 - (d) To outline the global monitoring plan along the lines of the principles and requirements contained in the present annex;
 - (e) To develop guidance for data comparability, taking into account the available guidance document produced by UNEP Chemicals;
 - (f) To develop an implementation plan to fulfil the minimum requirements for the first evaluation, including the following measures:
 - (i) Using data from regional monitoring programmes and data provided by Parties;
 - (ii) Ensuring that data are comparable, namely, by applying quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) standards;
 - (iii) Summarizing and presenting the data on a regional basis, to be used as a baseline;
 - (g) To coordinate and oversee implementation of the plan in accordance with the elements described;
 - (h) To report on progress to the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting.

Membership of the group

The meeting participants are the 15 nominated regional representatives. They are responsible for delivering the tasks requested from the TWG and are the only participants with decision capacity at the meeting.

Other participants in the first meeting of the TWG

As requested by Article 16 and further emphasized by the COP decisions, the implementation of the GMP must include as much as possible existing monitoring programmes and efforts. To provide for adequate consideration of such programmes and ensure early exchange and coordination with them, the major IGOs involved in environmental or human health monitoring have been invited. In addition, the secretariat has also invited independent experts to provide additional technical support to the deliberations and to provide insight into the initial work implemented in the context of Article 16. Other countries had the possibility to send observers to the meeting but no special invitation was sent to them. The participants in these categories have a consultative role.

Organization of the first meeting of the TWG

The group will operate under the rules and procedures of the COP as the decision establishing it has not specified otherwise. The TWG may consider to elect a chairman, a co-chair and a rapporteur for the duration of its work. This bureau will officiate during the plenary sessions.

Work sessions

The meeting will be organized in plenary sessions and break-out discussion groups. The plenary session will be chaired by the elected chair or vice-chair of the TWG and will be supported by the elected rapporteur.

After the plenary review of the tasks and presentation of documents in front of the meeting, it will be proposed that the tasks be grouped into logical bundles that can then be addressed in depth by two sub-groups. The sub-groups will designate their own chairman and rapporteur for the duration of the meeting. The outcome of the sub-group discussions will be presented later and plenary discussion will be held to reach agreement on their proposals and conclusions.

Documents in front of the meeting

1. SC-2/13: Effectiveness evaluation provides the fundamental directives for the TWG. A copy is included in document **Document GMP/TWG-1/5** as annex 2
2. Meeting Agenda **Document GMP/TWG-1/0**
3. Terms of reference for the Provisional Ad Hoc Technical Working Group and organization of the first meeting **Document GMP/TWG-1/1**
4. The overall objective of the meeting is to discuss and review the tasks identified by the COP, and to agree upon the modalities and timeframes. Therefore draft TWG work plan has been prepared for the meeting that lists these tasks and suggests modalities and timeframes for them to be addressed. **Document GMP/TWG-1/2**
5. The Secretariat will report on its work to identify monitoring programmes that may update the information provided in the note COP.2/INF/10 on existing human health and environment monitoring programmes , including other programmes that can contribute to a global monitoring plan (GMP) **Document GMP/TWG-1/3**
6. Draft criteria for evaluating programmes are provided to the TWG to support its deliberation on the selection process of monitoring programmes and other programmes that may contribute to the GMP. **Document GMP/TWG-1/4**

7. The TWG has to coordinate and oversee implementation of the GMP and decision SC-2/13 indicates some of the expected contents. To support discussion, the Secretariat will present draft outline for the GMP and an implementation plan **Document GMP/TWG-1/5**
8. The COP has requested the TWG to develop guidance for data comparability, taking into account the available guidance document produced and made available by UNEP Chemicals in 2004. The 2004 document was produced for a different model for a GMP than the model now favoured by the COP. Much of the original guidance remains relevant but revision is required to ensure compatibility with the emerging GMP and implementation plan. The intent of the revision will be to provide technical guidance on all aspects of implementation of the GMP, including issues related to statistics, sampling, sample preparation, analytical methodology, and data management. The meeting should make decisions as to how revisions should be undertaken. Copies of the previous guidance document are available on UNEP Chemicals web site and can be downloaded from <http://www.chem.unep.ch/gmn/GuidanceGPM.pdf>
9. **Document GMP/TWG-1/3**, copies of presentations and guidance for the sub-group discussions will be provided in session.