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**Basel Convention on the Control of
Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal**

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**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior
Informed Consent Procedure for
Certain Hazardous Chemicals and
Pesticides in International Trade**



**Stockholm Convention on
Persistent Organic Pollutants**

**Ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and
coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**
Third meeting
Rome, 25–28 March 2008
Item 2(b) of the provisional agenda*
Organizational matters: organization of work

Scenario note for the third meeting of the ad hoc joint working group

Note by the secretariats

The annex to the present note contains a scenario note prepared by the co-chairs of the ad hoc joint working group to assist participants in preparing for its third meeting.

* UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.3/1.

Annex

Scenario note for the third meeting of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancing synergies among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

1. The present scenario note is intended to assist representatives in preparing for the third meeting of the ad hoc joint working group by communicating initial planning activity and expectations for the meeting. Pre-session meeting documents, including a list of these documents, are available on the ad hoc joint working group website (<http://ahjwg.chem.unep.ch/>).
2. The second meeting the ad hoc working group prepared a set of elements and rationales as the basis for joint recommendations on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. It was agreed that in preparation for the third and final meeting of the group the co-chairs would draft the text of these recommendations taking into account any amendments to the elements and rationales and any written comments submitted by members of the group and others. The second meeting of the ad hoc working group also identified specific areas where additional information could help inform their discussions at their third meeting. The elements and rationales for the joint recommendations and the requests for further information were circulated with the report of the second meeting (annexes I and II respectively of UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.2/18).
3. The joint recommendations developed at this third meeting of the working group are to be submitted to the conference of the Parties of the Basel and Rotterdam Conventions in June and October 2008 and the conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention in May 2009.

I. Objectives of the meeting

4. In order for the ad hoc joint working group to complete its mandate to prepare joint recommendations on enhanced cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention it will need to:
 - consider the intersessional work undertaken by the members of the ad hoc joint working group and by the Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention;
 - finalize the text of the joint recommendations on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions drafted by the co-chairs;
 - review the process for submission of the joint recommendations to the Conferences of the Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

II. Meeting agenda and organization of work

5. The annotated provisional agenda for the meeting (UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.3/1/Add.1) identifies issues for discussion and the documents that pertain to each agenda item. Representatives 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.
6. The meeting will comprise four days from 25 to 28 March 2008 (Tuesday to Friday). The proposed daily schedule for plenary is 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
7. Tuesday morning will begin with opening formalities and then proceed to organizational matters (item 2 of the provisional agenda). The ad hoc joint working group will adopt the agenda for the meeting, amended as appropriate, and agree on the organization of work.

8. For the rest of Tuesday and until mid morning on Thursday, the ad hoc joint working group could review the draft recommendations including any comments received from members of the working group and others with a view to identifying any outstanding issues that need to be taken into consideration in finalizing the recommendations on areas of cooperation and collaboration. It is proposed to structure this discussion along the four overarching themes: i) organizational issues in the field; ii) technical/substantive issues; iii) information management and public awareness issues; and iv) administrative issues.

9. For each area, the draft recommendations could be briefly introduced with a view to demonstrating how the elements identified at the second meeting of the working group and any additional comments have been considered. This initial review could provide an opportunity to determine the acceptability of the draft recommendations, highlight areas where negotiation is needed and identify any additional points or issues not covered. It could also provide an opportunity to consider the additional information that may have been made available in response to the request of the second meeting. The ad hoc joint working group may wish to establish, contact or drafting groups if necessary to draft elements or options of possible additional recommendations or to propose amendments, to the draft recommendations for consideration by the ad hoc joint working group in plenary later in the week.

10. By Thursday afternoon, the plenary could review the overall set of recommendations including the additional text prepared by the contact groups, amend them as appropriate and agree to annex the finalized recommendations to the report of the meeting.

11. Friday morning, the plenary could continue to finalize the text of the recommendations and review next steps in forwarding them to the conference of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. It could consider any other matters and proceed to adoption of its report. 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 ad hoc working group. Consistent with the practice followed at the previous meetings of the ad hoc joint working the Parties may agree that the section of the report pertaining to the results of the Friday plenary sessions will be prepared by the co-chairs, in cooperation with the Secretariat, and incorporated in the meeting report under the authority of the co-chairs. The meeting is expected to be closed by 6 p.m.
