

Appendix E: Stockholm Convention Information and Documents

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Appendix Contents:

[1.\) Stockholm Convention](#)

[2.\) Stockholm Convention Bodies](#)

[3.\) Stockholm Convention Code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the POPs Review Committee](#)

See <http://chm.pops.int/Convention/Media/Publications/tabid/506/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

[4.\) Stockholm Convention Rules on Conflicts of Interest \(2 documents\)](#)

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STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

The Parties to this Convention,

Recognizing that persistent organic pollutants possess toxic properties, resist degradation, bioaccumulate and are transported, through air, water and migratory species, across international boundaries and deposited far from their place of release, where they accumulate in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems,

Aware of the health concerns, especially in developing countries, resulting from local exposure to persistent organic pollutants, in particular impacts upon women and, through them, upon future generations,

Acknowledging that the Arctic ecosystems and indigenous communities are particularly at risk because of the biomagnification of persistent organic pollutants and that contamination of their traditional foods is a public health issue,

Conscious of the need for global action on persistent organic pollutants,

Mindful of decision 19/13 C of 7 February 1997 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to initiate international action to protect human health and the environment through measures which will reduce and/or eliminate emissions and discharges of persistent organic pollutants,

Recalling the pertinent provisions of the relevant international environmental conventions, especially the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal including the regional agreements developed within the framework of its Article 11,

Recalling also the pertinent provisions of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21,

Acknowledging that precaution underlies the concerns of all the Parties and is embedded within this Convention,

Recognizing that this Convention and other international agreements in the field of trade and the environment are mutually supportive,

Reaffirming that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Taking into account the circumstances and particular requirements of developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, and countries with economies in transition, especially the need to strengthen their national capabilities for the management of chemicals, including through the transfer of technology, the provision of financial and technical assistance and the promotion of cooperation among the Parties,

Taking full account of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted in Barbados on 6 May 1994,

Noting the respective capabilities of developed and developing countries, as well as the common but differentiated responsibilities of States as set forth in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,

Recognizing the important contribution that the private sector and non-governmental organizations can make to achieving the reduction and/or elimination of emissions and discharges of persistent organic pollutants,

Underlining the importance of manufacturers of persistent organic pollutants taking responsibility for reducing adverse effects caused by their products and for providing information to users, Governments and the public on the hazardous properties of those chemicals,

Conscious of the need to take measures to prevent adverse effects caused by persistent organic pollutants at all stages of their life cycle,

Reaffirming Principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development which states that national authorities should endeavour to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment,

Encouraging Parties not having regulatory and assessment schemes for pesticides and industrial chemicals to develop such schemes,

Recognizing the importance of developing and using environmentally sound alternative processes and chemicals,

Determined to protect human health and the environment from the harmful impacts of persistent organic pollutants,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Objective

Mindful of the precautionary approach as set forth in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the objective of this Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention:

(a) “Party” means a State or regional economic integration organization that has consented to be bound by this Convention and for which the Convention is in force;

(b) “Regional economic integration organization” means an organization constituted by sovereign States of a given region to which its member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by this Convention and which has been duly authorized, in accordance with its internal procedures, to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to this Convention;

(c) “Parties present and voting” means Parties present and casting an affirmative or negative vote.

Article 3

Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use

1. Each Party shall:

- (a) Prohibit and/or take the legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - (i) Its production and use of the chemicals listed in Annex A subject to the provisions of that Annex; and
 - (ii) Its import and export of the chemicals listed in Annex A in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2; and

(b) Restrict its production and use of the chemicals listed in Annex B in accordance with the provisions of that Annex.

2. Each Party shall take measures to ensure:

- (a) That a chemical listed in Annex A or Annex B is imported only:
 - (i) For the purpose of environmentally sound disposal as set forth in paragraph 1 (d) of Article 6; or
 - (ii) For a use or purpose which is permitted for that Party under Annex A or Annex B;
- (b) That a chemical listed in Annex A for which any production or use specific exemption is in effect or a chemical listed in Annex B for which any production or use specific exemption or acceptable purpose is in effect, taking into account any relevant provisions in existing international prior informed consent instruments, is exported only:
 - (i) For the purpose of environmentally sound disposal as set forth in paragraph 1 (d) of Article 6;
 - (ii) To a Party which is permitted to use that chemical under Annex A or Annex B; or
 - (iii) To a State not Party to this Convention which has provided an annual certification to the exporting Party. Such certification shall specify the intended use of the chemical and include a statement that, with respect to that chemical, the importing State is committed to:

- a. Protect human health and the environment by taking the necessary measures to minimize or prevent releases;
- b. Comply with the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 6; and
- c. Comply, where appropriate, with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Part II of Annex B.

The certification shall also include any appropriate supporting documentation, such as legislation, regulatory instruments, or administrative or policy guidelines. The exporting Party shall transmit the certification to the Secretariat within sixty days of receipt.

(c) That a chemical listed in Annex A, for which production and use specific exemptions are no longer in effect for any Party, is not exported from it except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal as set forth in paragraph 1 (d) of Article 6;

(d) For the purposes of this paragraph, the term “State not Party to this Convention” shall include, with respect to a particular chemical, a State or regional economic integration organization that has not agreed to be bound by the Convention with respect to that chemical.

3. Each Party that has one or more regulatory and assessment schemes for new pesticides or new industrial chemicals shall take measures to regulate with the aim of preventing the production and use of new pesticides or new industrial chemicals which, taking into consideration the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D, exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants.

4. Each Party that has one or more regulatory and assessment schemes for pesticides or industrial chemicals shall, where appropriate, take into consideration within these schemes the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D when conducting assessments of pesticides or industrial chemicals currently in use.

5. Except as otherwise provided in this Convention, paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to quantities of a chemical to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

6. Any Party that has a specific exemption in accordance with Annex A or a specific exemption or an acceptable purpose in accordance with Annex B shall take appropriate measures to ensure that any production or use under such exemption or purpose is carried out in a manner that prevents or minimizes human exposure and release into the environment. For exempted uses or acceptable purposes that involve intentional release into the environment under conditions of normal use, such release shall be to the minimum extent necessary, taking into account any applicable standards and guidelines.

Article 4

Register of specific exemptions

1. A Register is hereby established for the purpose of identifying the Parties that have specific exemptions listed in Annex A or Annex B. It shall not identify Parties that make use of the provisions in Annex A or Annex B that may be exercised by all Parties. The Register shall be maintained by the Secretariat and shall be available to the public.

2. The Register shall include:
 - (a) A list of the types of specific exemptions reproduced from Annex A and Annex B;
 - (b) A list of the Parties that have a specific exemption listed under Annex A or Annex B; and
 - (c) A list of the expiry dates for each registered specific exemption.
3. Any State may, on becoming a Party, by means of a notification in writing to the Secretariat, register for one or more types of specific exemptions listed in Annex A or Annex B.
4. Unless an earlier date is indicated in the Register by a Party, or an extension is granted pursuant to paragraph 7, all registrations of specific exemptions shall expire five years after the date of entry into force of this Convention with respect to a particular chemical.
5. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties shall decide upon its review process for the entries in the Register.
6. Prior to a review of an entry in the Register, the Party concerned shall submit a report to the Secretariat justifying its continuing need for registration of that exemption. The report shall be circulated by the Secretariat to all Parties. The review of a registration shall be carried out on the basis of all available information. Thereupon, the Conference of the Parties may make such recommendations to the Party concerned as it deems appropriate.
7. The Conference of the Parties may, upon request from the Party concerned, decide to extend the expiry date of a specific exemption for a period of up to five years. In making its decision, the Conference of the Parties shall take due account of the special circumstances of the developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition.
8. A Party may, at any time, withdraw an entry from the Register for a specific exemption upon written notification to the Secretariat. The withdrawal shall take effect on the date specified in the notification.
9. When there are no longer any Parties registered for a particular type of specific exemption, no new registrations may be made with respect to it.

Article 5

Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production

Each Party shall at a minimum take the following measures to reduce the total releases derived from anthropogenic sources of each of the chemicals listed in Annex C, with the goal of their continuing minimization and, where feasible, ultimate elimination:

- (a) Develop an action plan or, where appropriate, a regional or subregional action plan within two years of the date of entry into force of this Convention for it, and subsequently implement it as part of its implementation plan specified in Article 7, designed to identify, characterize and address the release of the chemicals listed in Annex C and to

facilitate implementation of subparagraphs (b) to (e). The action plan shall include the following elements:

- (i) An evaluation of current and projected releases, including the development and maintenance of source inventories and release estimates, taking into consideration the source categories identified in Annex C;
- (ii) An evaluation of the efficacy of the laws and policies of the Party relating to the management of such releases;
- (iii) Strategies to meet the obligations of this paragraph, taking into account the evaluations in (i) and (ii);
- (iv) Steps to promote education and training with regard to, and awareness of, those strategies;
- (v) A review every five years of those strategies and of their success in meeting the obligations of this paragraph; such reviews shall be included in reports submitted pursuant to Article 15;
- (vi) A schedule for implementation of the action plan, including for the strategies and measures identified therein;

(b) Promote the application of available, feasible and practical measures that can expeditiously achieve a realistic and meaningful level of release reduction or source elimination;

(c) Promote the development and, where it deems appropriate, require the use of substitute or modified materials, products and processes to prevent the formation and release of the chemicals listed in Annex C, taking into consideration the general guidance on prevention and release reduction measures in Annex C and guidelines to be adopted by decision of the Conference of the Parties;

(d) Promote and, in accordance with the implementation schedule of its action plan, require the use of best available techniques for new sources within source categories which a Party has identified as warranting such action in its action plan, with a particular initial focus on source categories identified in Part II of Annex C. In any case, the requirement to use best available techniques for new sources in the categories listed in Part II of that Annex shall be phased in as soon as practicable but no later than four years after the entry into force of the Convention for that Party. For the identified categories, Parties shall promote the use of best environmental practices. When applying best available techniques and best environmental practices, Parties should take into consideration the general guidance on prevention and release reduction measures in that Annex and guidelines on best available techniques and best environmental practices to be adopted by decision of the Conference of the Parties;

(e) Promote, in accordance with its action plan, the use of best available techniques and best environmental practices:

- (i) For existing sources, within the source categories listed in Part II of Annex C and within source categories such as those in Part III of that Annex; and

- (ii) For new sources, within source categories such as those listed in Part III of Annex C which a Party has not addressed under subparagraph (d).

When applying best available techniques and best environmental practices, Parties should take into consideration the general guidance on prevention and release reduction measures in Annex C and guidelines on best available techniques and best environmental practices to be adopted by decision of the Conference of the Parties;

- (f) For the purposes of this paragraph and Annex C:
 - (i) “Best available techniques” means the most effective and advanced stage in the development of activities and their methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of particular techniques for providing in principle the basis for release limitations designed to prevent and, where that is not practicable, generally to reduce releases of chemicals listed in Part I of Annex C and their impact on the environment as a whole. In this regard:
 - (ii) “Techniques” includes both the technology used and the way in which the installation is designed, built, maintained, operated and decommissioned;
 - (iii) “Available” techniques means those techniques that are accessible to the operator and that are developed on a scale that allows implementation in the relevant industrial sector, under economically and technically viable conditions, taking into consideration the costs and advantages; and
 - (iv) “Best” means most effective in achieving a high general level of protection of the environment as a whole;
 - (v) “Best environmental practices” means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies;
 - (vi) “New source” means any source of which the construction or substantial modification is commenced at least one year after the date of:
 - a. Entry into force of this Convention for the Party concerned; or
 - b. Entry into force for the Party concerned of an amendment to Annex C where the source becomes subject to the provisions of this Convention only by virtue of that amendment.
- (g) Release limit values or performance standards may be used by a Party to fulfill its commitments for best available techniques under this paragraph.

Article 6

Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes

1. In order to ensure that stockpiles consisting of or containing chemicals listed either in Annex A or Annex B and wastes, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, consisting of, containing or contaminated with a chemical listed in Annex A, B or C, are managed in a manner protective of human health and the environment, each Party shall:

- (a) Develop appropriate strategies for identifying:
 - (i) Stockpiles consisting of or containing chemicals listed either in Annex A or Annex B; and
 - (ii) Products and articles in use and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with a chemical listed in Annex A, B or C;
- (b) Identify, to the extent practicable, stockpiles consisting of or containing chemicals listed either in Annex A or Annex B on the basis of the strategies referred to in subparagraph (a);
- (c) Manage stockpiles, as appropriate, in a safe, efficient and environmentally sound manner. Stockpiles of chemicals listed either in Annex A or Annex B, after they are no longer allowed to be used according to any specific exemption specified in Annex A or any specific exemption or acceptable purpose specified in Annex B, except stockpiles which are allowed to be exported according to paragraph 2 of Article 3, shall be deemed to be waste and shall be managed in accordance with subparagraph (d);
- (d) Take appropriate measures so that such wastes, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
 - (i) Handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (ii) Disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, including those that may be developed pursuant to paragraph 2, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;
 - (iii) Not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (iv) Not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines;
- (e) Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies for identifying sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C; if remediation of those sites is undertaken it shall be performed in an environmentally sound manner.

2. The Conference of the Parties shall cooperate closely with the appropriate bodies of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal to, inter alia:

(a) Establish levels of destruction and irreversible transformation necessary to ensure that the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants as specified in paragraph 1 of Annex D are not exhibited;

(b) Determine what they consider to be the methods that constitute environmentally sound disposal referred to above; and

(c) Work to establish, as appropriate, the concentration levels of the chemicals listed in Annexes A, B and C in order to define the low persistent organic pollutant content referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii).

Article 7

Implementation plans

1. Each Party shall:

(a) Develop and endeavour to implement a plan for the implementation of its obligations under this Convention;

(b) Transmit its implementation plan to the Conference of the Parties within two years of the date on which this Convention enters into force for it; and

(c) Review and update, as appropriate, its implementation plan on a periodic basis and in a manner to be specified by a decision of the Conference of the Parties.

2. The Parties shall, where appropriate, cooperate directly or through global, regional and subregional organizations, and consult their national stakeholders, including women's groups and groups involved in the health of children, in order to facilitate the development, implementation and updating of their implementation plans.

3. The Parties shall endeavour to utilize and, where necessary, establish the means to integrate national implementation plans for persistent organic pollutants in their sustainable development strategies where appropriate.

Article 8

Listing of chemicals in Annexes A, B and C

1. A Party may submit a proposal to the Secretariat for listing a chemical in Annexes A, B and/or C. The proposal shall contain the information specified in Annex D. In developing a proposal, a Party may be assisted by other Parties and/or by the Secretariat.

2. The Secretariat shall verify whether the proposal contains the information specified in Annex D. If the Secretariat is satisfied that the proposal contains the information so specified, it shall forward the proposal to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.

3. The Committee shall examine the proposal and apply the screening criteria specified in Annex D in a flexible and transparent way, taking all information provided into account in an integrative and balanced manner.

4. If the Committee decides that:

(a) It is satisfied that the screening criteria have been fulfilled, it shall, through the Secretariat, make the proposal and the evaluation of the Committee available to all Parties and observers and invite them to submit the information specified in Annex E; or

(b) It is not satisfied that the screening criteria have been fulfilled, it shall, through the Secretariat, inform all Parties and observers and make the proposal and the evaluation of the Committee available to all Parties and the proposal shall be set aside.

5. Any Party may resubmit a proposal to the Committee that has been set aside by the Committee pursuant to paragraph 4. The resubmission may include any concerns of the Party as well as a justification for additional consideration by the Committee. If, following this procedure, the Committee again sets the proposal aside, the Party may challenge the decision of the Committee and the Conference of the Parties shall consider the matter at its next session. The Conference of the Parties may decide, based on the screening criteria in Annex D and taking into account the evaluation of the Committee and any additional information provided by any Party or observer, that the proposal should proceed.

6. Where the Committee has decided that the screening criteria have been fulfilled, or the Conference of the Parties has decided that the proposal should proceed, the Committee shall further review the proposal, taking into account any relevant additional information received, and shall prepare a draft risk profile in accordance with Annex E. It shall, through the Secretariat, make that draft available to all Parties and observers, collect technical comments from them and, taking those comments into account, complete the risk profile.

7. If, on the basis of the risk profile conducted in accordance with Annex E, the Committee decides:

(a) That the chemical is likely as a result of its long-range environmental transport to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects such that global action is warranted, the proposal shall proceed. Lack of full scientific certainty shall not prevent the proposal from proceeding. The Committee shall, through the Secretariat, invite information from all Parties and observers relating to the considerations specified in Annex F. It shall then prepare a risk management evaluation that includes an analysis of possible control measures for the chemical in accordance with that Annex; or

(b) That the proposal should not proceed, it shall, through the Secretariat, make the risk profile available to all Parties and observers and set the proposal aside.

8. For any proposal set aside pursuant to paragraph 7 (b), a Party may request the Conference of the Parties to consider instructing the Committee to invite additional information from the proposing Party and other Parties during a period not to exceed one year. After that period and on the basis of any information received, the Committee shall reconsider the proposal pursuant to paragraph 6 with a priority to be decided by the Conference of the Parties. If, following this procedure, the Committee again sets the proposal aside, the Party may challenge the decision of the Committee and the Conference of the Parties shall consider the matter at its next session. The Conference of the Parties may

decide, based on the risk profile prepared in accordance with Annex E and taking into account the evaluation of the Committee and any additional information provided by any Party or observer, that the proposal should proceed. If the Conference of the Parties decides that the proposal shall proceed, the Committee shall then prepare the risk management evaluation.

9. The Committee shall, based on the risk profile referred to in paragraph 6 and the risk management evaluation referred to in paragraph 7 (a) or paragraph 8, recommend whether the chemical should be considered by the Conference of the Parties for listing in Annexes A, B and/or C. The Conference of the Parties, taking due account of the recommendations of the Committee, including any scientific uncertainty, shall decide, in a precautionary manner, whether to list the chemical, and specify its related control measures, in Annexes A, B and/or C.

Article 9

Information exchange

1. Each Party shall facilitate or undertake the exchange of information relevant to:
 - (a) The reduction or elimination of the production, use and release of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (b) Alternatives to persistent organic pollutants, including information relating to their risks as well as to their economic and social costs.
2. The Parties shall exchange the information referred to in paragraph 1 directly or through the Secretariat.
3. Each Party shall designate a national focal point for the exchange of such information.
4. The Secretariat shall serve as a clearing-house mechanism for information on persistent organic pollutants, including information provided by Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.
5. For the purposes of this Convention, information on health and safety of humans and the environment shall not be regarded as confidential. Parties that exchange other information pursuant to this Convention shall protect any confidential information as mutually agreed.

Article 10

Public information, awareness and education

1. Each Party shall, within its capabilities, promote and facilitate:
 - (a) Awareness among its policy and decision makers with regard to persistent organic pollutants;
 - (b) Provision to the public of all available information on persistent organic pollutants, taking into account paragraph 5 of Article 9;

(c) Development and implementation, especially for women, children and the least educated, of educational and public awareness programmes on persistent organic pollutants, as well as on their health and environmental effects and on their alternatives;

(d) Public participation in addressing persistent organic pollutants and their health and environmental effects and in developing adequate responses, including opportunities for providing input at the national level regarding implementation of this Convention;

(e) Training of workers, scientists, educators and technical and managerial personnel;

(f) Development and exchange of educational and public awareness materials at the national and international levels; and

(g) Development and implementation of education and training programmes at the national and international levels.

2. Each Party shall, within its capabilities, ensure that the public has access to the public information referred to in paragraph 1 and that the information is kept up-to-date.

3. Each Party shall, within its capabilities, encourage industry and professional users to promote and facilitate the provision of the information referred to in paragraph 1 at the national level and, as appropriate, subregional, regional and global levels.

4. In providing information on persistent organic pollutants and their alternatives, Parties may use safety data sheets, reports, mass media and other means of communication, and may establish information centres at national and regional levels.

5. Each Party shall give sympathetic consideration to developing mechanisms, such as pollutant release and transfer registers, for the collection and dissemination of information on estimates of the annual quantities of the chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C that are released or disposed of.

Article 11

Research, development and monitoring

1. The Parties shall, within their capabilities, at the national and international levels, encourage and/or undertake appropriate research, development, monitoring and cooperation pertaining to persistent organic pollutants and, where relevant, to their alternatives and to candidate persistent organic pollutants, including on their:

(a) Sources and releases into the environment;

(b) Presence, levels and trends in humans and the environment;

(c) Environmental transport, fate and transformation;

(d) Effects on human health and the environment;

(e) Socio-economic and cultural impacts;

(f) Release reduction and/or elimination; and

(g) Harmonized methodologies for making inventories of generating sources and analytical techniques for the measurement of releases.

2. In undertaking action under paragraph 1, the Parties shall, within their capabilities:

(a) Support and further develop, as appropriate, international programmes, networks and organizations aimed at defining, conducting, assessing and financing research, data collection and monitoring, taking into account the need to minimize duplication of effort;

(b) Support national and international efforts to strengthen national scientific and technical research capabilities, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and to promote access to, and the exchange of, data and analyses;

(c) Take into account the concerns and needs, particularly in the field of financial and technical resources, of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and cooperate in improving their capability to participate in the efforts referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b);

(d) Undertake research work geared towards alleviating the effects of persistent organic pollutants on reproductive health;

(e) Make the results of their research, development and monitoring activities referred to in this paragraph accessible to the public on a timely and regular basis; and

(f) Encourage and/or undertake cooperation with regard to storage and maintenance of information generated from research, development and monitoring.

Article 12

Technical assistance

1. The Parties recognize that rendering of timely and appropriate technical assistance in response to requests from developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition is essential to the successful implementation of this Convention.

2. The Parties shall cooperate to provide timely and appropriate technical assistance to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition, to assist them, taking into account their particular needs, to develop and strengthen their capacity to implement their obligations under this Convention.

3. In this regard, technical assistance to be provided by developed country Parties, and other Parties in accordance with their capabilities, shall include, as appropriate and as mutually agreed, technical assistance for capacity-building relating to implementation of the obligations under this Convention. Further guidance in this regard shall be provided by the Conference of the Parties.

4. The Parties shall establish, as appropriate, arrangements for the purpose of providing technical assistance and promoting the transfer of technology to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition relating to the implementation of this Convention. These arrangements shall include regional and subregional centres for capacity-building and transfer of technology to assist developing country Parties and Parties with economies in

transition to fulfil their obligations under this Convention. Further guidance in this regard shall be provided by the Conference of the Parties.

5. The Parties shall, in the context of this Article, take full account of the specific needs and special situation of least developed countries and small island developing states in their actions with regard to technical assistance.

Article 13

Financial resources and mechanisms

1. Each Party undertakes to provide, within its capabilities, financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities that are intended to achieve the objective of this Convention in accordance with its national plans, priorities and programmes.

2. The developed country Parties shall provide new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfill their obligations under this Convention as agreed between a recipient Party and an entity participating in the mechanism described in paragraph 6. Other Parties may also on a voluntary basis and in accordance with their capabilities provide such financial resources. Contributions from other sources should also be encouraged. The implementation of these commitments shall take into account the need for adequacy, predictability, the timely flow of funds and the importance of burden sharing among the contributing Parties.

3. Developed country Parties, and other Parties in accordance with their capabilities and in accordance with their national plans, priorities and programmes, may also provide and developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition avail themselves of financial resources to assist in their implementation of this Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels.

4. The extent to which the developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments under this Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed country Parties of their commitments under this Convention relating to financial resources, technical assistance and technology transfer. The fact that sustainable economic and social development and eradication of poverty are the first and overriding priorities of the developing country Parties will be taken fully into account, giving due consideration to the need for the protection of human health and the environment.

5. The Parties shall take full account of the specific needs and special situation of the least developed countries and the small island developing states in their actions with regard to funding.

6. A mechanism for the provision of adequate and sustainable financial resources to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition on a grant or concessional basis to assist in their implementation of the Convention is hereby defined. The mechanism shall function under the authority, as appropriate, and guidance of, and be accountable to the Conference of the Parties for the purposes of this Convention. Its operation shall be entrusted to one or more entities, including existing international entities, as may be decided upon by the Conference of the Parties. The mechanism may also include other entities providing multilateral, regional and bilateral financial and technical assistance. Contributions to the

mechanism shall be additional to other financial transfers to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition as reflected in, and in accordance with, paragraph 2.

7. Pursuant to the objectives of this Convention and paragraph 6, the Conference of the Parties shall at its first meeting adopt appropriate guidance to be provided to the mechanism and shall agree with the entity or entities participating in the financial mechanism upon arrangements to give effect thereto. The guidance shall address, inter alia:

(a) The determination of the policy, strategy and programme priorities, as well as clear and detailed criteria and guidelines regarding eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources including monitoring and evaluation on a regular basis of such utilization;

(b) The provision by the entity or entities of regular reports to the Conference of the Parties on adequacy and sustainability of funding for activities relevant to the implementation of this Convention;

(c) The promotion of multiple-source funding approaches, mechanisms and arrangements;

(d) The modalities for the determination in a predictable and identifiable manner of the amount of funding necessary and available for the implementation of this Convention, keeping in mind that the phasing out of persistent organic pollutants might require sustained funding, and the conditions under which that amount shall be periodically reviewed; and

(e) The modalities for the provision to interested Parties of assistance with needs assessment, information on available sources of funds and on funding patterns in order to facilitate coordination among them.

8. The Conference of the Parties shall review, not later than its second meeting and thereafter on a regular basis, the effectiveness of the mechanism established under this Article, its ability to address the changing needs of the developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition, the criteria and guidance referred to in paragraph 7, the level of funding as well as the effectiveness of the performance of the institutional entities entrusted to operate the financial mechanism. It shall, based on such review, take appropriate action, if necessary, to improve the effectiveness of the mechanism, including by means of recommendations and guidance on measures to ensure adequate and sustainable funding to meet the needs of the Parties.

Article 14

Interim financial arrangements

The institutional structure of the Global Environment Facility, operated in accordance with the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility, shall, on an interim basis, be the principal entity entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism referred to in Article 13, for the period between the date of entry into force of this Convention and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, or until such time as the Conference of the Parties decides which institutional structure will be designated in accordance with Article 13. The institutional structure of the Global Environment Facility should fulfill this function through operational measures related specifically to persistent organic pollutants taking into account that new arrangements for this area may be needed.

Article 15

Reporting

1. Each Party shall report to the Conference of the Parties on the measures it has taken to implement the provisions of this Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention.
2. Each Party shall provide to the Secretariat:
 - (a) Statistical data on its total quantities of production, import and export of each of the chemicals listed in Annex A and Annex B or a reasonable estimate of such data; and
 - (b) To the extent practicable, a list of the States from which it has imported each such substance and the States to which it has exported each such substance.
3. Such reporting shall be at periodic intervals and in a format to be decided by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting.

Article 16

Effectiveness evaluation

1. Commencing four years after the date of entry into force of this Convention, and periodically thereafter at intervals to be decided by the Conference of the Parties, the Conference shall evaluate the effectiveness of this Convention.
2. In order to facilitate such evaluation, the Conference of the Parties shall, at its first meeting, initiate the establishment of arrangements to provide itself with comparable monitoring data on the presence of the chemicals listed in Annexes A, B and C as well as their regional and global environmental transport. These arrangements:
 - (a) Should be implemented by the Parties on a regional basis when appropriate, in accordance with their technical and financial capabilities, using existing monitoring programmes and mechanisms to the extent possible and promoting harmonization of approaches;
 - (b) May be supplemented where necessary, taking into account the differences between regions and their capabilities to implement monitoring activities; and
 - (c) Shall include reports to the Conference of the Parties on the results of the monitoring activities on a regional and global basis at intervals to be specified by the Conference of the Parties.
3. The evaluation described in paragraph 1 shall be conducted on the basis of available scientific, environmental, technical and economic information, including:
 - (a) Reports and other monitoring information provided pursuant to paragraph 2;
 - (b) National reports submitted pursuant to Article 15; and

(c) Non-compliance information provided pursuant to the procedures established under Article 17.

Article 17

Non-compliance

The Conference of the Parties shall, as soon as practicable, develop and approve procedures and institutional mechanisms for determining non-compliance with the provisions of this Convention and for the treatment of Parties found to be in non-compliance.

Article 18

Settlement of disputes

1. Parties shall settle any dispute between them concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention through negotiation or other peaceful means of their own choice.

2. When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party that is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the depositary that, with respect to any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention, it recognizes one or both of the following means of dispute settlement as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation:

(a) Arbitration in accordance with procedures to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties in an annex as soon as practicable;

(b) Submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice.

3. A Party that is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration in accordance with the procedure referred to in paragraph 2 (a).

4. A declaration made pursuant to paragraph 2 or paragraph 3 shall remain in force until it expires in accordance with its terms or until three months after written notice of its revocation has been deposited with the depositary.

5. The expiry of a declaration, a notice of revocation or a new declaration shall not in any way affect proceedings pending before an arbitral tribunal or the International Court of Justice unless the parties to the dispute otherwise agree.

6. If the parties to a dispute have not accepted the same or any procedure pursuant to paragraph 2, and if they have not been able to settle their dispute within twelve months following notification by one party to another that a dispute exists between them, the dispute shall be submitted to a conciliation commission at the request of any party to the dispute. The conciliation commission shall render a report with recommendations. Additional procedures relating to the conciliation commission shall be included in an annex to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties no later than at its second meeting.

Article 19

Conference of the Parties

1. A Conference of the Parties is hereby established.
2. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall be convened by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme no later than one year after the entry into force of this Convention. Thereafter, ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held at regular intervals to be decided by the Conference.
3. Extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held at such other times as may be deemed necessary by the Conference, or at the written request of any Party provided that it is supported by at least one third of the Parties.
4. The Conference of the Parties shall by consensus agree upon and adopt at its first meeting rules of procedure and financial rules for itself and any subsidiary bodies, as well as financial provisions governing the functioning of the Secretariat.
5. The Conference of the Parties shall keep under continuous review and evaluation the implementation of this Convention. It shall perform the functions assigned to it by the Convention and, to this end, shall:
 - (a) Establish, further to the requirements of paragraph 6, such subsidiary bodies as it considers necessary for the implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) Cooperate, where appropriate, with competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies; and
 - (c) Regularly review all information made available to the Parties pursuant to Article 15, including consideration of the effectiveness of paragraph 2 (b) (iii) of Article 3;
 - (d) Consider and undertake any additional action that may be required for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention.
6. The Conference of the Parties shall, at its first meeting, establish a subsidiary body to be called the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee for the purposes of performing the functions assigned to that Committee by this Convention. In this regard:
 - (a) The members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee shall be appointed by the Conference of the Parties. Membership of the Committee shall consist of government-designated experts in chemical assessment or management. The members of the Committee shall be appointed on the basis of equitable geographical distribution;
 - (b) The Conference of the Parties shall decide on the terms of reference, organization and operation of the Committee; and
 - (c) The Committee shall make every effort to adopt its recommendations by consensus. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted, and no consensus reached, such recommendation shall as a last resort be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting.

7. The Conference of the Parties shall, at its third meeting, evaluate the continued need for the procedure contained in paragraph 2 (b) of Article 3, including consideration of its effectiveness.

8. The United Nations, its specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as any State not Party to this Convention, may be represented at meetings of the Conference of the Parties as observers. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, qualified in matters covered by the Convention, and which has informed the Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties as an observer may be admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object. The admission and participation of observers shall be subject to the rules of procedure adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

Article 20

Secretariat

1. A Secretariat is hereby established.

2. The functions of the Secretariat shall be:

(a) To make arrangements for meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies and to provide them with services as required;

(b) To facilitate assistance to the Parties, particularly developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition, on request, in the implementation of this Convention;

(c) To ensure the necessary coordination with the secretariats of other relevant international bodies;

(d) To prepare and make available to the Parties periodic reports based on information received pursuant to Article 15 and other available information;

(e) To enter, under the overall guidance of the Conference of the Parties, into such administrative and contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective discharge of its functions; and

(f) To perform the other secretariat functions specified in this Convention and such other functions as may be determined by the Conference of the Parties.

3. The secretariat functions for this Convention shall be performed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, unless the Conference of the Parties decides, by a three-fourths majority of the Parties present and voting, to entrust the secretariat functions to one or more other international organizations.

Article 21

Amendments to the Convention

1. Amendments to this Convention may be proposed by any Party.

2. Amendments to this Convention shall be adopted at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat at least six months before the meeting at which it is proposed for adoption. The Secretariat shall also communicate proposed amendments to the signatories to this Convention and, for information, to the depositary.

3. The Parties shall make every effort to reach agreement on any proposed amendment to this Convention by consensus. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted, and no agreement reached, the amendment shall as a last resort be adopted by a three-fourths majority vote of the Parties present and voting.

4. The amendment shall be communicated by the depositary to all Parties for ratification, acceptance or approval.

5. Ratification, acceptance or approval of an amendment shall be notified to the depositary in writing. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 3 shall enter into force for the Parties having accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval by at least three-fourths of the Parties. Thereafter, the amendment shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Party deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of the amendment.

Article 22

Adoption and amendment of annexes

1. Annexes to this Convention shall form an integral part thereof and, unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to this Convention constitutes at the same time a reference to any annexes thereto.

2. Any additional annexes shall be restricted to procedural, scientific, technical or administrative matters.

3. The following procedure shall apply to the proposal, adoption and entry into force of additional annexes to this Convention:

(a) Additional annexes shall be proposed and adopted according to the procedure laid down in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Article 21;

(b) Any Party that is unable to accept an additional annex shall so notify the depositary, in writing, within one year from the date of communication by the depositary of the adoption of the additional annex. The depositary shall without delay notify all Parties of any such notification received. A Party may at any time withdraw a previous notification of non-acceptance in respect of any additional annex, and the annex shall thereupon enter into force for that Party subject to subparagraph (c); and

(c) On the expiry of one year from the date of the communication by the depositary of the adoption of an additional annex, the annex shall enter into force for all Parties that have not submitted a notification in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (b).

4. The proposal, adoption and entry into force of amendments to Annex A, B or C shall be subject to the same procedures as for the proposal, adoption and entry into force of additional

annexes to this Convention, except that an amendment to Annex A, B or C shall not enter into force with respect to any Party that has made a declaration with respect to amendment to those Annexes in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 25, in which case any such amendment shall enter into force for such a Party on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit with the depositary of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect to such amendment.

5. The following procedure shall apply to the proposal, adoption and entry into force of an amendment to Annex D, E or F:

(a) Amendments shall be proposed according to the procedure in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 21;

(b) The Parties shall take decisions on an amendment to Annex D, E or F by consensus; and

(c) A decision to amend Annex D, E or F shall forthwith be communicated to the Parties by the depositary. The amendment shall enter into force for all Parties on a date to be specified in the decision.

6. If an additional annex or an amendment to an annex is related to an amendment to this Convention, the additional annex or amendment shall not enter into force until such time as the amendment to the Convention enters into force.

Article 23

Right to vote

1. Each Party to this Convention shall have one vote, except as provided for in paragraph 2.

2. A regional economic integration organization, on matters within its competence, shall exercise its right to vote with a number of votes equal to the number of its member States that are Parties to this Convention. Such an organization shall not exercise its right to vote if any of its member States exercises its right to vote, and vice versa.

Article 24

Signature

This Convention shall be open for signature at Stockholm by all States and regional economic integration organizations on 23 May 2001, and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 24 May 2001 to 22 May 2002.

Article 25

Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. This Convention shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States and by regional economic integration organizations. It shall be open for accession by States and by regional economic integration organizations from the day after the date on which the

Convention is closed for signature. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the depositary.

2. Any regional economic integration organization that becomes a Party to this Convention without any of its member States being a Party shall be bound by all the obligations under the Convention. In the case of such organizations, one or more of whose member States is a Party to this Convention, the organization and its member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of their obligations under the Convention. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under the Convention concurrently.

3. In its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence in respect of the matters governed by this Convention. Any such organization shall also inform the depositary, who shall in turn inform the Parties, of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

4. In its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, any Party may declare that, with respect to it, any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto.

Article 26

Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

2. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves this Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

3. For the purpose of paragraphs 1 and 2, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of that organization.

Article 27

Reservations

No reservations may be made to this Convention.

Article 28

Withdrawal

1. At any time after three years from the date on which this Convention has entered into force for a Party, that Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary.

2. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon the expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of withdrawal, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal.

Article 29

Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be the depositary of this Convention.

Article 30

Authentic texts

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed this Convention.

Done at Stockholm on this twenty-second day of May, two thousand and one.

Annex A

ELIMINATION

Part I

Chemical	Activity	Specific exemption
Aldrin* CAS No: 309-00-2	Production	None
	Use	Local ectoparasiticide Insecticide
Chlordane* CAS No: 57-74-9	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register
	Use	Local ectoparasiticide Insecticide Termiticide Termiticide in buildings and dams Termiticide in roads Additive in plywood adhesives
Dieldrin* CAS No: 60-57-1	Production	None
	Use	In agricultural operations
Endrin* CAS No: 72-20-8	Production	None
	Use	None
Heptachlor* CAS No: 76-44-8	Production	None
	Use	Termiticide Termiticide in structures of houses Termiticide (subterranean) Wood treatment In use in underground cable boxes
Hexachlorobenzene CAS No: 118-74-1	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register
	Use	Intermediate Solvent in pesticide Closed system site limited intermediate
Mirex* CAS No: 2385-85-5	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register
	Use	Termiticide
Toxaphene* CAS No: 8001-35-2	Production	None
	Use	None
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)*	Production	None
	Use	Articles in use in accordance with the provisions of Part II of this Annex

Notes:

- (i) Except as otherwise specified in this Convention, quantities of a chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Annex;
- (ii) This note shall not be considered as a production and use specific exemption for purposes of paragraph 2 of Article 3. Quantities of a chemical occurring as constituents of articles manufactured or already in use before or on the date of entry into force of the relevant obligation with respect to that chemical, shall not be considered as listed in this Annex, provided that a Party has notified the Secretariat that a particular type of article remains in use within that Party. The Secretariat shall make such notifications publicly available;
- (iii) This note, which does not apply to a chemical that has an asterisk following its name in the Chemical column in Part I of this Annex, shall not be considered as a production and use specific exemption for purposes of paragraph 2 of Article 3. Given that no significant quantities of the chemical are expected to reach humans and the environment during the production and use of a closed-system site-limited intermediate, a Party, upon notification to the Secretariat, may allow the production and use of quantities of a chemical listed in this Annex as a closed-system site-limited intermediate that is chemically transformed in the manufacture of other chemicals that, taking into consideration the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D, do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants. This notification shall include information on total production and use of such chemical or a reasonable estimate of such information and information regarding the nature of the closed-system site-limited process including the amount of any non-transformed and unintentional trace contamination of the persistent organic pollutant-starting material in the final product. This procedure applies except as otherwise specified in this Annex. The Secretariat shall make such notifications available to the Conference of the Parties and to the public. Such production or use shall not be considered a production or use specific exemption. Such production and use shall cease after a ten-year period, unless the Party concerned submits a new notification to the Secretariat, in which case the period will be extended for an additional ten years unless the Conference of the Parties, after a review of the production and use decides otherwise. The notification procedure can be repeated;
- (iv) All the specific exemptions in this Annex may be exercised by Parties that have registered exemptions in respect of them in accordance with Article 4 with the exception of the use of polychlorinated biphenyls in articles in use in accordance with the provisions of Part II of this Annex, which may be exercised by all Parties.

Part II

Polychlorinated biphenyls

Each Party shall:

(a) With regard to the elimination of the use of polychlorinated biphenyls in equipment (e.g. transformers, capacitors or other receptacles containing liquid stocks) by 2025, subject to review by the Conference of the Parties, take action in accordance with the following priorities:

- (i) Make determined efforts to identify, label and remove from use equipment containing greater than 10 per cent polychlorinated biphenyls and volumes greater than 5 litres;
- (ii) Make determined efforts to identify, label and remove from use equipment containing greater than 0.05 per cent polychlorinated biphenyls and volumes greater than 5 litres;
- (iii) Endeavour to identify and remove from use equipment containing greater than 0.005 percent polychlorinated biphenyls and volumes greater than 0.05 litres;

(b) Consistent with the priorities in subparagraph (a), promote the following measures to reduce exposures and risk to control the use of polychlorinated biphenyls:

- (i) Use only in intact and non-leaking equipment and only in areas where the risk from environmental release can be minimised and quickly remedied;
- (ii) Not use in equipment in areas associated with the production or processing of food or feed;
- (iii) When used in populated areas, including schools and hospitals, all reasonable measures to protect from electrical failure which could result in a fire, and regular inspection of equipment for leaks;

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of Article 3, ensure that equipment containing polychlorinated biphenyls, as described in subparagraph (a), shall not be exported or imported except for the purpose of environmentally sound waste management;

(d) Except for maintenance and servicing operations, not allow recovery for the purpose of reuse in other equipment of liquids with polychlorinated biphenyls content above 0.005 per cent;

(e) Make determined efforts designed to lead to environmentally sound waste management of liquids containing polychlorinated biphenyls and equipment contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls having a polychlorinated biphenyls content above 0.005 per cent, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 6, as soon as possible but no later than 2028, subject to review by the Conference of the Parties;

(f) In lieu of note (ii) in Part I of this Annex, endeavour to identify other articles containing more than 0.005 per cent polychlorinated biphenyls (e.g. cable-sheaths, cured caulk and painted objects) and manage them in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 6;

(g) Provide a report every five years on progress in eliminating polychlorinated biphenyls and submit it to the Conference of the Parties pursuant to Article 15;

(h) The reports described in subparagraph (g) shall, as appropriate, be considered by the Conference of the Parties in its reviews relating to polychlorinated biphenyls. The Conference of the Parties shall review progress towards elimination of polychlorinated biphenyls at five year intervals or other period, as appropriate, taking into account such reports.

Annex B

RESTRICTION

Part I

Chemical	Activity	Acceptable purpose or specific exemption
DDT (1,1,1-trichloro-2,2-bis (4-chlorophenyl)ethane) CAS No: 50-29-3	Production	<u>Acceptable purpose:</u> Disease vector control use in accordance with Part II of this Annex <u>Specific exemption:</u> Intermediate in production of dicofol Intermediate
	Use	<u>Acceptable purpose:</u> Disease vector control in accordance with Part II of this Annex <u>Specific exemption:</u> Production of dicofol Intermediate

Notes:

- (i) Except as otherwise specified in this Convention, quantities of a chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Annex;
- (ii) This note shall not be considered as a production and use acceptable purpose or specific exemption for purposes of paragraph 2 of Article 3. Quantities of a chemical occurring as constituents of articles manufactured or already in use before or on the date of entry into force of the relevant obligation with respect to that chemical, shall not be considered as listed in this Annex, provided that a Party has notified the Secretariat that a particular type of article remains in use within that Party. The Secretariat shall make such notifications publicly available;
- (iii) This note shall not be considered as a production and use specific exemption for purposes of paragraph 2 of Article 3. Given that no significant quantities of the chemical are expected to reach humans and the environment during the production and use of a closed-system site-limited intermediate, a Party, upon notification to the Secretariat, may allow the production and use of quantities of a chemical listed in this Annex as a closed-system site-limited intermediate that is chemically transformed in the manufacture of other chemicals that, taking into consideration the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D, do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants. This notification shall include information on total production and use of such chemical or a reasonable estimate of such information and information regarding the nature of the closed-system site-limited process including the amount of any non-transformed and unintentional trace contamination of the persistent organic pollutant-starting material in the final product. This procedure applies except as otherwise specified in this Annex. The

Secretariat shall make such notifications available to the Conference of the Parties and to the public. Such production or use shall not be considered a production or use specific exemption. Such production and use shall cease after a ten-year period, unless the Party concerned submits a new notification to the Secretariat, in which case the period will be extended for an additional ten years unless the Conference of the Parties, after a review of the production and use decides otherwise. The notification procedure can be repeated;

- (iv) All the specific exemptions in this Annex may be exercised by Parties that have registered in respect of them in accordance with Article 4.

Part II

DDT (1,1,1-trichloro-2,2-bis(4-chlorophenyl)ethane)

1. The production and use of DDT shall be eliminated except for Parties that have notified the Secretariat of their intention to produce and/or use it. A DDT Register is hereby established and shall be available to the public. The Secretariat shall maintain the DDT Register.

2. Each Party that produces and/or uses DDT shall restrict such production and/or use for disease vector control in accordance with the World Health Organization recommendations and guidelines on the use of DDT and when locally safe, effective and affordable alternatives are not available to the Party in question.

3. In the event that a Party not listed in the DDT Register determines that it requires DDT for disease vector control, it shall notify the Secretariat as soon as possible in order to have its name added forthwith to the DDT Register. It shall at the same time notify the World Health Organization.

4. Every three years, each Party that uses DDT shall provide to the Secretariat and the World Health Organization information on the amount used, the conditions of such use and its relevance to that Party's disease management strategy, in a format to be decided by the Conference of the Parties in consultation with the World Health Organization.

5. With the goal of reducing and ultimately eliminating the use of DDT, the Conference of the Parties shall encourage:

(a) Each Party using DDT to develop and implement an action plan as part of the implementation plan specified in Article 7. That action plan shall include:

- (i) Development of regulatory and other mechanisms to ensure that DDT use is restricted to disease vector control;
- (ii) Implementation of suitable alternative products, methods and strategies, including resistance management strategies to ensure the continuing effectiveness of these alternatives;
- (iii) Measures to strengthen health care and to reduce the incidence of the disease.

(b) The Parties, within their capabilities, to promote research and development of safe alternative chemical and non-chemical products, methods and strategies for Parties using DDT, relevant to the conditions of those countries and with the goal of decreasing the human

and economic burden of disease. Factors to be promoted when considering alternatives or combinations of alternatives shall include the human health risks and environmental implications of such alternatives. Viable alternatives to DDT shall pose less risk to human health and the environment, be suitable for disease control based on conditions in the Parties in question and be supported with monitoring data.

6. Commencing at its first meeting, and at least every three years thereafter, the Conference of the Parties shall, in consultation with the World Health Organization, evaluate the continued need for DDT for disease vector control on the basis of available scientific, technical, environmental and economic information, including:

- (a) The production and use of DDT and the conditions set out in paragraph 2;
- (b) The availability, suitability and implementation of the alternatives to DDT; and
- (c) Progress in strengthening the capacity of countries to transfer safely to reliance on such alternatives.

7. A Party may, at any time, withdraw its name from the DDT Registry upon written notification to the Secretariat. The withdrawal shall take effect on the date specified in the notification.

Annex C

UNINTENTIONAL PRODUCTION

Part I: Persistent organic pollutants subject to the requirements of Article 5

This Annex applies to the following persistent organic pollutants when formed and released unintentionally from anthropogenic sources:

Chemical
Polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans (PCDD/PCDF) Hexachlorobenzene (HCB) (CAS No: 118-74-1) Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB)

Part II: Source categories

Polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans, hexachlorobenzene and polychlorinated biphenyls are unintentionally formed and released from thermal processes involving organic matter and chlorine as a result of incomplete combustion or chemical reactions. The following industrial source categories have the potential for comparatively high formation and release of these chemicals to the environment:

- (a) Waste incinerators, including co-incinerators of municipal, hazardous or medical waste or of sewage sludge;
- (b) Cement kilns firing hazardous waste;
- (c) Production of pulp using elemental chlorine or chemicals generating elemental chlorine for bleaching;
- (d) The following thermal processes in the metallurgical industry:
 - (i) Secondary copper production;
 - (ii) Sinter plants in the iron and steel industry;
 - (iii) Secondary aluminium production;
 - (iv) Secondary zinc production.

Part III: Source categories

Polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans, hexachlorobenzene and polychlorinated biphenyls may also be unintentionally formed and released from the following source categories, including:

- (a) Open burning of waste, including burning of landfill sites;
- (b) Thermal processes in the metallurgical industry not mentioned in Part II;

- (c) Residential combustion sources;
- (d) Fossil fuel-fired utility and industrial boilers;
- (e) Firing installations for wood and other biomass fuels;
- (f) Specific chemical production processes releasing unintentionally formed persistent organic pollutants, especially production of chlorophenols and chloranil;
- (g) Crematoria;
- (h) Motor vehicles, particularly those burning leaded gasoline;
- (i) Destruction of animal carcasses;
- (j) Textile and leather dyeing (with chloranil) and finishing (with alkaline extraction);
- (k) Shredder plants for the treatment of end of life vehicles;
- (l) Smouldering of copper cables;
- (m) Waste oil refineries.

Part IV: Definitions

1. For the purposes of this Annex:

(a) “Polychlorinated biphenyls” means aromatic compounds formed in such a manner that the hydrogen atoms on the biphenyl molecule (two benzene rings bonded together by a single carbon-carbon bond) may be replaced by up to ten chlorine atoms; and

(b) “Polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins” and “polychlorinated dibenzofurans” are tricyclic, aromatic compounds formed by two benzene rings connected by two oxygen atoms in polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and by one oxygen atom and one carbon-carbon bond in polychlorinated dibenzofurans and the hydrogen atoms of which may be replaced by up to eight chlorine atoms.

2. In this Annex, the toxicity of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans is expressed using the concept of toxic equivalency which measures the relative dioxin-like toxic activity of different congeners of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans and coplanar polychlorinated biphenyls in comparison to 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin. The toxic equivalent factor values to be used for the purposes of this Convention shall be consistent with accepted international standards, commencing with the World Health Organization 1998 mammalian toxic equivalent factor values for polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans and coplanar polychlorinated biphenyls. Concentrations are expressed in toxic equivalents.

Part V: General guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices

This Part provides general guidance to Parties on preventing or reducing releases of the chemicals listed in Part I.

A. General prevention measures relating to both best available techniques and best environmental practices

Priority should be given to the consideration of approaches to prevent the formation and release of the chemicals listed in Part I. Useful measures could include:

- (a) The use of low-waste technology;
- (b) The use of less hazardous substances;
- (c) The promotion of the recovery and recycling of waste and of substances generated and used in a process;
- (d) Replacement of feed materials which are persistent organic pollutants or where there is a direct link between the materials and releases of persistent organic pollutants from the source;
- (e) Good housekeeping and preventive maintenance programmes;
- (f) Improvements in waste management with the aim of the cessation of open and other uncontrolled burning of wastes, including the burning of landfill sites. When considering proposals to construct new waste disposal facilities, consideration should be given to alternatives such as activities to minimize the generation of municipal and medical waste, including resource recovery, reuse, recycling, waste separation and promoting products that generate less waste. Under this approach, public health concerns should be carefully considered;
- (g) Minimization of these chemicals as contaminants in products;
- (h) Avoiding elemental chlorine or chemicals generating elemental chlorine for bleaching.

B. Best available techniques

The concept of best available techniques is not aimed at the prescription of any specific technique or technology, but at taking into account the technical characteristics of the installation concerned, its geographical location and the local environmental conditions. Appropriate control techniques to reduce releases of the chemicals listed in Part I are in general the same. In determining best available techniques, special consideration should be given, generally or in specific cases, to the following factors, bearing in mind the likely costs and benefits of a measure and consideration of precaution and prevention:

- (a) General considerations:
 - (i) The nature, effects and mass of the releases concerned: techniques may vary depending on source size;

- (ii) The commissioning dates for new or existing installations;
- (iii) The time needed to introduce the best available technique;
- (iv) The consumption and nature of raw materials used in the process and its energy efficiency;
- (v) The need to prevent or reduce to a minimum the overall impact of the releases to the environment and the risks to it;
- (vi) The need to prevent accidents and to minimize their consequences for the environment;
- (vii) The need to ensure occupational health and safety at workplaces;
- (viii) Comparable processes, facilities or methods of operation which have been tried with success on an industrial scale;
- (ix) Technological advances and changes in scientific knowledge and understanding.

(b) General release reduction measures: When considering proposals to construct new facilities or significantly modify existing facilities using processes that release chemicals listed in this Annex, priority consideration should be given to alternative processes, techniques or practices that have similar usefulness but which avoid the formation and release of such chemicals. In cases where such facilities will be constructed or significantly modified, in addition to the prevention measures outlined in section A of Part V the following reduction measures could also be considered in determining best available techniques:

- (i) Use of improved methods for flue-gas cleaning such as thermal or catalytic oxidation, dust precipitation, or adsorption;
- (ii) Treatment of residuals, wastewater, wastes and sewage sludge by, for example, thermal treatment or rendering them inert or chemical processes that detoxify them;
- (iii) Process changes that lead to the reduction or elimination of releases, such as moving to closed systems;
- (iv) Modification of process designs to improve combustion and prevent formation of the chemicals listed in this Annex, through the control of parameters such as incineration temperature or residence time.

C. Best environmental practices

The Conference of the Parties may develop guidance with regard to best environmental practices.

Annex D

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS AND SCREENING CRITERIA

1. A Party submitting a proposal to list a chemical in Annexes A, B and/or C shall identify the chemical in the manner described in subparagraph (a) and provide the information on the chemical, and its transformation products where relevant, relating to the screening criteria set out in subparagraphs (b) to (e):

(a) Chemical identity:

- (i) Names, including trade name or names, commercial name or names and synonyms, Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry number, International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) name; and
- (ii) Structure, including specification of isomers, where applicable, and the structure of the chemical class;

(b) Persistence:

- (i) Evidence that the half-life of the chemical in water is greater than two months, or that its half-life in soil is greater than six months, or that its half-life in sediment is greater than six months; or
- (ii) Evidence that the chemical is otherwise sufficiently persistent to justify its consideration within the scope of this Convention;

(c) Bio-accumulation:

- (i) Evidence that the bio-concentration factor or bio-accumulation factor in aquatic species for the chemical is greater than 5,000 or, in the absence of such data, that the log K_{ow} is greater than 5;
- (ii) Evidence that a chemical presents other reasons for concern, such as high bio-accumulation in other species, high toxicity or ecotoxicity; or
- (iii) Monitoring data in biota indicating that the bio-accumulation potential of the chemical is sufficient to justify its consideration within the scope of this Convention;

(d) Potential for long-range environmental transport:

- (i) Measured levels of the chemical in locations distant from the sources of its release that are of potential concern;
- (ii) Monitoring data showing that long-range environmental transport of the chemical, with the potential for transfer to a receiving environment, may have occurred via air, water or migratory species; or
- (iii) Environmental fate properties and/or model results that demonstrate that the chemical has a potential for long-range environmental transport through air,

water or migratory species, with the potential for transfer to a receiving environment in locations distant from the sources of its release. For a chemical that migrates significantly through the air, its half-life in air should be greater than two days; and

(e) Adverse effects:

- (i) Evidence of adverse effects to human health or to the environment that justifies consideration of the chemical within the scope of this Convention;
or
- (ii) Toxicity or ecotoxicity data that indicate the potential for damage to human health or to the environment.

2. The proposing Party shall provide a statement of the reasons for concern including, where possible, a comparison of toxicity or ecotoxicity data with detected or predicted levels of a chemical resulting or anticipated from its long-range environmental transport, and a short statement indicating the need for global control.

3. The proposing Party shall, to the extent possible and taking into account its capabilities, provide additional information to support the review of the proposal referred to in paragraph 6 of Article 8. In developing such a proposal, a Party may draw on technical expertise from any source.

Annex E

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RISK PROFILE

The purpose of the review is to evaluate whether the chemical is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects, such that global action is warranted. For this purpose, a risk profile shall be developed that further elaborates on, and evaluates, the information referred to in Annex D and includes, as far as possible, the following types of information:

- (a) Sources, including as appropriate:
 - (i) Production data, including quantity and location;
 - (ii) Uses; and
 - (iii) Releases, such as discharges, losses and emissions;
- (b) Hazard assessment for the endpoint or endpoints of concern, including a consideration of toxicological interactions involving multiple chemicals;
- (c) Environmental fate, including data and information on the chemical and physical properties of a chemical as well as its persistence and how they are linked to its environmental transport, transfer within and between environmental compartments, degradation and transformation to other chemicals. A determination of the bio-concentration factor or bio-accumulation factor, based on measured values, shall be available, except when monitoring data are judged to meet this need;
- (d) Monitoring data;
- (e) Exposure in local areas and, in particular, as a result of long-range environmental transport, and including information regarding bio-availability;
- (f) National and international risk evaluations, assessments or profiles and labelling information and hazard classifications, as available; and
- (g) Status of the chemical under international conventions.

Annex F

INFORMATION ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

An evaluation should be undertaken regarding possible control measures for chemicals under consideration for inclusion in this Convention, encompassing the full range of options, including management and elimination. For this purpose, relevant information should be provided relating to socio-economic considerations associated with possible control measures to enable a decision to be taken by the Conference of the Parties. Such information should reflect due regard for the differing capabilities and conditions among the Parties and should include consideration of the following indicative list of items:

- (a) Efficacy and efficiency of possible control measures in meeting risk reduction goals:
 - (i) Technical feasibility; and
 - (ii) Costs, including environmental and health costs;
- (b) Alternatives (products and processes):
 - (i) Technical feasibility;
 - (ii) Costs, including environmental and health costs;
 - (iii) Efficacy;
 - (iv) Risk;
 - (v) Availability; and
 - (vi) Accessibility;
- (c) Positive and/or negative impacts on society of implementing possible control measures:
 - (i) Health, including public, environmental and occupational health;
 - (ii) Agriculture, including aquaculture and forestry;
 - (iii) Biota (biodiversity);
 - (iv) Economic aspects;
 - (v) Movement towards sustainable development; and
 - (vi) Social costs;
- (d) Waste and disposal implications (in particular, obsolete stocks of pesticides and clean-up of contaminated sites):
 - (i) Technical feasibility; and
 - (ii) Cost;
- (e) Access to information and public education;
- (f) Status of control and monitoring capacity; and
- (g) Any national or regional control actions taken, including information on alternatives, and other relevant risk management information.

Annex G

ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION PROCEDURES FOR SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES (Decision SC-1/2 of the Conference of the Parties)

Part I: Arbitration procedure

The arbitration procedure for purposes of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 of the Convention shall be as follows:

Article 1

1. A Party may initiate recourse to arbitration in accordance with Article 18 of the Convention by written notification addressed to the other party to the dispute. The notification shall be accompanied by a statement of the claim, together with any supporting documents, and state the subject-matter of arbitration and include, in particular, the articles of the Convention the interpretation or application of which are at issue.

2. The claimant party shall notify the Secretariat that the parties are referring a dispute to arbitration pursuant to Article 18. The notification shall be accompanied by the written notification of the claimant party, the statement of claim and the supporting documents referred to in paragraph 1 above. The Secretariat shall forward the information thus received to all Parties.

Article 2

1. If a dispute is referred to arbitration in accordance with Article 1 above, an arbitral tribunal shall be established. It shall consist of three members.

2. Each of the parties to the dispute shall appoint an arbitrator and the two arbitrators so appointed shall designate by common agreement the third arbitrator, who shall be the President of the tribunal. The President of the tribunal shall not be a national of one of the parties to the dispute, nor have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of one of those parties, nor be employed by any of them, nor have dealt with the case in any other capacity.

3. In disputes between more than two parties, parties in the same interest shall appoint one arbitrator jointly by agreement.

4. Any vacancy shall be filled in the manner prescribed for the initial appointment.

5. If the parties do not agree on the subject-matter of the dispute before the President of the arbitral tribunal is designated, the arbitral tribunal shall determine the subject-matter.

Article 3

1. If one of the parties to the dispute does not appoint an arbitrator within two months of the date on which the respondent party receives the notification of the arbitration, the other party may inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall make the designation within a further two-month period.

2. If the President of the arbitral tribunal has not been designated within two months of the date of the appointment of the second arbitrator, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, at the request of a party, designate the President within a further two-month period.

Article 4

The arbitral tribunal shall render its decisions in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and international law.

Article 5

Unless the parties to the dispute otherwise agree, the arbitral tribunal shall determine its own rules of procedure.

Article 6

The arbitral tribunal may, at the request of one of the parties, indicate essential interim measures of protection.

Article 7

The parties to the dispute shall facilitate the work of the arbitral tribunal and, in particular, using all means at their disposal, shall:

- (a) Provide it with all relevant documents, information and facilities; and
- (b) Enable it, when necessary, to call witnesses or experts and receive their evidence.

Article 8

The parties and the arbitrators are under an obligation to protect the confidentiality of any information they receive in confidence during the proceedings of the arbitral tribunal.

Article 9

Unless the arbitral tribunal determines otherwise because of the particular circumstances of the case, the costs of the tribunal shall be borne by the parties to the dispute in equal shares. The tribunal shall keep a record of all its costs, and shall furnish a final statement thereof to the parties.

Article 10

A party that has an interest of a legal nature in the subject matter of the dispute which may be affected by the decision in the case may intervene in the proceedings with the consent of the tribunal.

Article 11

The tribunal may hear and determine counterclaims arising directly out of the subject matter of the dispute.

Article 12

Decisions both on procedure and substance of the arbitral tribunal shall be taken by a majority vote of its members.

Article 13

1. If one of the parties to the dispute does not appear before the arbitral tribunal or fails to defend its case, the other party may request the tribunal to continue the proceedings and to make its award. Absence of a party or a failure of a party to defend its case shall not constitute a bar to the proceedings.

2. Before rendering its final decision, the arbitral tribunal must satisfy itself that the claim is well founded in fact and law.

Article 14

The tribunal shall render its final decision within five months of the date on which it is fully constituted unless it finds it necessary to extend the time limit for a period which should not exceed five more months.

Article 15

The final decision of the arbitral tribunal shall be confined to the subject matter of the dispute and shall state the reasons on which it is based. It shall contain the names of the members who have participated and the date of the final decision. Any member of the tribunal may attach a separate or dissenting opinion to the final decision.

Article 16

The award shall be binding on the parties to the dispute. The interpretation of the Convention given by the award shall also be binding upon a Party intervening under Article 10 above insofar as it relates to matters in respect of which that Party intervened. The award shall be without appeal unless the parties to the dispute have agreed in advance to an appellate procedure.

Article 17

Any controversy which may arise between those bound by the final decision in accordance with Article 16 above, as regards the interpretation or manner of implementation of that decision, may be submitted by any of them for decision to the arbitral tribunal which rendered it.

Part II: Conciliation procedure

The conciliation procedure for purposes of paragraph 6 of Article 18 of the Convention shall be as follows:

Article 1

1. A request by a party to a dispute to establish a conciliation commission in consequence of paragraph 6 of Article 18 shall be addressed in writing to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall forthwith inform all Parties to the Convention accordingly.
2. The conciliation commission shall, unless the parties otherwise agree, be composed of three members, one appointed by each party concerned and a President chosen jointly by those members.

Article 2

In disputes between more than two parties, parties in the same interest shall appoint their members of the commission jointly by agreement.

Article 3

If any appointments by the parties are not made within two months of the date of receipt by the Secretariat of the written request referred to in Article 1, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, upon request by a party, make those appointments within a further two-month period.

Article 4

If the President of the conciliation commission has not been chosen within two months of the second member of the commission being appointed, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, upon request by a party, designate the President within a further two-month period.

Article 5

1. The conciliation commission shall, unless the parties to the dispute otherwise agree, determine its own rules of procedure.
2. The parties and members of the commission are under an obligation to protect the confidentiality of any information they receive in confidence during the proceedings of the commission.

Article 6

The conciliation commission shall take its decisions by a majority vote of its members.

Article 7

The conciliation commission shall render a report with recommendations for resolution of the dispute within twelve months of being established, which the parties shall consider in good faith.

Article 8

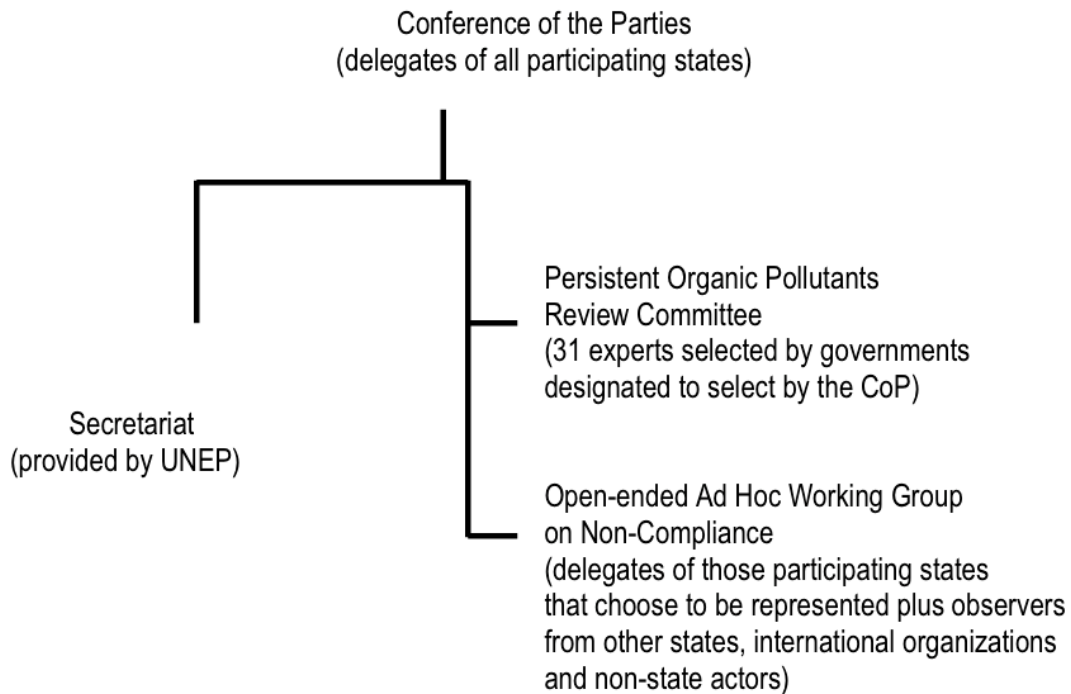
Any disagreement as to whether the conciliation commission has competence to consider a matter referred to it shall be decided by the commission.

Article 9

The costs of the commission shall be borne by the parties to the dispute in shares agreed by them. The commission shall keep the record of all its costs and shall furnish a final statement thereof to the parties.

International Bodies created by the Stockholm Convention

International Bodies created by the Stockholm Convention



* plus ad hoc bodies established for particular tasks by the Conference of the Parties

Information from Stockholm Convention website at www.pops.int



Stockholm Convention on
Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

**Code of practice
for the treatment of confidential information
in the POPs Review Committee**



This publication contains the code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee as decided in decision SC-3/9 by the Conference of the Parties. The versions in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish are available at the Stockholm Convention website (www.pops.int).

Code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the POPs Review Committee

I. Principles

1. It is understood that designation of information as confidential could limit the ability of the Committee to exercise fully its mandate as a subsidiary body to the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention which should work in an open and transparent way. Therefore, any Party or observer submitting information shall endeavour to ensure that such information is non-confidential.
2. Pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention, information on health and safety of humans and the environment shall not be regarded as confidential.
3. In application of paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention, the following information shall not be identified and labelled as confidential for the purposes of the work of the Committee:
 - (a) Information submitted pursuant to paragraphs (a) (iii) and (b)–(g) of Annex E to the Convention;
 - (b) Information submitted pursuant to paragraphs (b) (iv), (c) (i)–(iii) and (e)–(g) of Annex F to the Convention;
 - (c) Information which cannot be labelled as confidential according to domestic legislation of the State or regional economic integration organization of the origin of the information;
 - (d) Information otherwise available in the public domain.
4. In accordance with paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention, Parties that exchange other information shall protect any confidential information as mutually agreed.
5. Any Party or observer shall have the right to designate information or parts of it as confidential, except as otherwise provided in paragraphs 2 and 3 above, and request that its confidentiality be protected in accordance with this code.

6. Access to confidential information shall be restricted to members, authorized staff members of the Secretariat and the Party or observer that submitted it. Confidential information shall not be disclosed in any way to any other person, whether legal or physical. Confidential information shall not be put in the public domain. Confidential information shall be protected from unauthorized disclosure.

II. Definitions

7. For the purpose of this code:
- (a) “A member” means a member of the Committee, appointed under paragraphs 2–9 of the annex to decision SC-1/7 of the Conference of the Parties (“Terms of reference of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee”), who has filed with the Chair a declaration of non-disclosure;
 - (b) “The Secretariat” means the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention;
 - (c) “Information” means any type of information or data provided to the Committee under Article 8 of the Convention;
 - (d) “Confidential information” means any information that has been designated as confidential by the Party or observer who submits the information in accordance with the principles set above, and that is not otherwise available in the public domain;
 - (e) “Recommendations and reports” means recommendations and reports to the Conference of the Parties adopted by the Committee under paragraphs 33–35 of the annex to decision SC-1/7;
 - (f) “Decisions” means decisions adopted by the Committee under paragraph 35 of the annex to decision SC-1/7;
 - (g) “Declaration of non-disclosure” means a copy of the declaration set forth in the appendix to the present code.

III. Scope

8. This code shall be applied to information submitted to the Committee under Article 8 of the Convention for the work at its

meetings, in the intersessional period and to the work of any working group established under paragraph 29 of the annex to decision SC-1/7, and to the use of conclusions based on and reference to confidential information in recommendations and reports of the Committee.

IV. Identification

9. Indication of any information to be put forward by a Party or observer as confidential shall be submitted separately, and in hard copy, from other information, shall be clearly identified and labelled as confidential, and requires the application of this code. The assertion of confidentiality shall be accompanied by documentation of the Party's or observer's basis for such identification.

10. When receiving an indication that a Party or observer intends to label some information as confidential, the Secretariat or the Chair of the Committee shall consider with the Party or observer the need for such a labelling, and agree on the applicability of this code to the information item in question, including the modalities of delivery of such information to or accessibility to it by members.

11. In the event that an agreement is reached on the labelling of an information item as confidential, the procedures described below shall apply.

12. If no agreement is reached on the labelling of an information item as confidential, the information may be withdrawn by the Party or observer submitting the information.

13. The Party or observer shall, to the extent practicable, on the basis of the information submitted by it, provide reformulated document in which the confidential information is rendered into non-confidential information.

V. Procedures

Submission of confidential information

14. A Party or an observer may submit information that it deems to be confidential to the Secretariat. The Party or observer shall be responsible for any contractual or other arrangements for the transmission of this information until the Secretariat confirms its receipt.

15. Confidential information shall normally be submitted in writing in hard copy by Parties or observers in accordance with this code. The information shall not be stored in an electronic database, unless otherwise agreed with the Parties or observers upon submission of the information.

16. All documents submitted by Parties or observers with confidential information shall be marked clearly as “confidential” on a separate cover page, with labels marking it as such on all pages.

17. The Secretariat shall confirm receipt of a request for confidentiality and provide a written assurance to the Party or observer that the information will be protected in accordance with this code.

Handling of confidential information

18. The Secretariat shall take measures to ensure that any information it receives that has been designated as confidential by a Party or observer is protected in accordance with this code.

19. The Secretariat is responsible for ensuring proper receipt, storage and handling of confidential information. To this end, the Secretariat shall establish a logging system for tracking the receipt and handling of confidential information to record the date of receipt of the information and the Party or observer that submitted the information, and to track sign-out and return of document containing confidential information by authorized personnel.

20. Information designated as confidential shall be stored in a secure, locked location.

21. If confidential information must be transported to an external location, the Secretariat staff member concerned shall ensure that the document is under his or her supervision at all times, in a sealed envelope. The obligation of a Secretariat staff member to protect confidential information shall continue after completion of his or her services.

22. Secretariat staff members may be authorized to access confidential information on a need-to-know basis. All Secretariat staff members who need access to confidential information shall be given instructions on methods to protect the confidentiality of such information and shall be required to file with the Executive Secretary a declaration of non-disclosure. Secretariat staff members who are

authorized to access confidential information shall ensure that the documents containing such information are never left unattended in an empty office.

23. Information designated as confidential shall not be distributed or disclosed to non-authorized individuals or organizations and shall not be distributed beyond the Secretariat's control.

24. Upon finalization of procedures under Article 8 of the Convention, and subject to any agreement reached between the Secretariat and the Party or observer submitting the information, the Secretariat shall return any confidential information to the Party or observer that submitted information or, if it wishes so, destroy the information.

25. Any internal documentation developed that contains information designated as confidential shall also be considered confidential and shall be handled in accordance with this code.

26. The Secretariat shall make publicly available information on the requirements set out in this code to protect confidential information.

Access to confidential information

27. Members of the Committee shall be able to access confidential information, if they so request. Members may elect not to receive any confidential information.

28. Members may review confidential information either collectively at a closed session of the Committee, or individually at the offices of the Secretariat, under the supervision of the Secretariat.

29. Should the Party or observer submitting confidential information agree to make a hard copy of such information available to members upon request by mail or other appropriate means away from the Secretariat during the period between meetings of the Committee, the Secretariat shall arrange to send a copy of the information to members in a manner that protects its confidential nature. Members who have so received such information shall ensure that the information is protected in accordance with the standard for protecting the confidentiality of such information as set out in this code or relevant legislation governing the protection of confidential information.

30. Confidential information shall not be sent to experts who are not members of the Committee for review.

Treatment of confidential information at meetings of the Committee

31. When the Committee at its meeting has to invoke confidential information, the meeting shall be held in closed session in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties, applied mutatis mutandis. The Party or observer that submitted the information may be invited by the Committee to participate in the meeting.

32. Decisions, recommendations and reports of the Committee shall not contain any confidential information.

Review of the code

33. This code shall be reviewed on a regular basis by the Committee and the Conference of the Parties.

General provision

34. The provisions of this code are without prejudice to the obligations of members applicable to them under the relevant legislation in their respective countries or the obligations of Secretariat staff members who are officials of the United Nations to observe the relevant United Nations regulations and rules and the standards of conduct contained therein.

Appendix

I. All members shall complete, sign and file with the Chair of the Committee the following

DECLARATION OF NON-DISCLOSURE

In accordance with the code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, I agree to the following:

1. I acknowledge having received a copy of the code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.
2. I acknowledge having read and understood the code.
3. I agree to be bound by, and to adhere to, the provisions of the code and, accordingly, without limitation, to treat confidentially all confidential information that I may view in implementing my functions as a member of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.
4. It is understood that the present declaration is without prejudice to any applicable national laws and regulations.

Name:

Executed on _____

Signature: _____

II. All relevant Secretariat staff members shall sign, complete, and file with the Executive Secretary the following:

DECLARATION OF NON-DISCLOSURE

In accordance with the code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, I agree to the following:

1. I acknowledge having received a copy of the code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.
2. I acknowledge having read and understood the code.
3. I agree to be bound by, and to adhere to, the provisions of the code and, accordingly, without limitation, to treat confidentially all confidential information that I may view in providing secretariat support to the work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.
4. It is understood that the present declaration is without prejudice to any regulations, rules and codes of conduct of the United Nations.

Name:

Executed on _____

Signature: _____

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention

International Environment House 1

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April 2008

SC-1/8: Rules of procedure for preventing and dealing with conflicts of interest relating to activities of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

The Conference of the Parties,

1. *Decides* that it is essential to safeguard confidence in the integrity of the process of work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee while encouraging experienced and competent persons to accept membership in the Committee by:

- (a) Establishing an appropriate code of conduct;
- (b) Establishing clear rules with respect to conflicts of interest during and after service as a member;
- (c) Minimizing the possibility of conflicts arising between the private interests and public duties of members;
- (d) Establishing appropriate procedures for preventing and dealing with conflicts of interest relating to the activities of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;

2. *Decides*, without prejudice to the obligations incumbent upon the individual members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 below, that Governments have primary responsibility in ensuring compliance with the present decision and that, to this effect, when considering designating experts in relevant fields for appointment by the Conference of the Parties, Governments shall exercise due diligence in order to prevent potential or actual situations of conflict of interest;

3. *Decides* that, in carrying out their duties, the members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee shall:

- (a) Perform their official duties and arrange their private affairs in such a manner that public confidence and trust in the integrity, objectivity and impartiality of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee are preserved and enhanced;
- (b) Act in a manner that will bear the closest public scrutiny, an obligation that is not fully discharged by simply acting within the law of any country;
- (c) Act in good faith for the best interest of the process;
- (d) Exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances;
- (e) Not give any preferential treatment to anyone or any interest in any official manner related to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;
- (f) Not solicit or accept gifts, hospitality, or other benefits from persons, groups or organizations having or likely to have dealings with the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;
- (g) Not accept transfers of economic benefit, other than customary hospitality or other benefits of nominal value, unless the transfer is pursuant to an enforceable contract or property right of a member;
- (h) Not depart from their role as members to assist other entities or persons in their dealings with the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee where such actions would result in preferential treatment to any person or group;
- (i) Not knowingly take advantage of, or benefit from, information that is obtained in the course of their duties and responsibilities as members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and that is not generally available to the public;
- (j) Not act, after expiry of their terms of office as members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, in such a manner as to take improper advantage of their previous office;

4. *Decides* that, to avoid the possibility or appearance that members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee might receive preferential treatment, members shall not seek preferential treatment for themselves or third parties or act as paid intermediaries for third parties in dealings with the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;

5. *Decides* that members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee shall disclose activities, including business or financial interests, which might call into question their ability to discharge their duties and responsibilities objectively. The members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee must annually disclose their activities. In addition, they must disclose any

financing from a company engaged in commercial or industrial activities for their participation in the Committee. To this effect, the Conference of the Parties adopts the declaration of interests as set out in the annex to the present decision for consideration in connection with the designation, appointment and review of the status of experts to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;

6. *Decides* that, in assessing potential or actual situations of conflict of interest, the criteria set out in paragraph 1 of the declaration of interests should be applied by all concerned in a consistent manner, on a case-by-case basis, with regard to all relevant circumstances involved in each particular case;

7. *Decides* to adopt the following procedure for the implementation of the declaration of interests:¹

Review process prior to appointment

(a) When considering designating an expert to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, the Government concerned shall inform the expert that he or she shall be requested by the Secretariat to fill in a declaration of interests;

(b) Prior to the designation of an expert by a Government, or concurrently with the process for that designation, the Secretariat shall request the expert, through the Government, to fill in a declaration of interests. The declaration of interests shall be submitted by the designating Government to the Secretariat;

(c) Should the Secretariat require further clarification as to the suitability of an expert, the Secretariat shall discuss the matter with the designating Government and the prospective expert, through the Government, as appropriate. Depending on the outcome of these discussions, the Secretariat may refer the matter to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. The Bureau shall review the matter and make a recommendation to the concerned Government;

(d) Should a Government be in disagreement with a recommendation by the Bureau, that Government may request that the matter be considered by the Conference of the Parties;

Review process after appointment

(e) All appointed experts shall be required to inform the Secretariat, through the Government that designated them, of any change in the information provided in a declaration of interests previously submitted;

(f) In the course of the mandate of an expert, should the Secretariat be of the opinion that a situation of conflict of interest could arise or has arisen, the Secretariat shall discuss the matter with that expert and, where deemed appropriate, with the designating Government. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties may recommend to the Conference of the Parties the temporary suspension of the participation of the expert in some or in all of the activities of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee. A decision on the matter shall be taken by the Conference of the Parties at its next session;

General provisions

(g) Subject to the provisions of the present decision, the Secretariat shall take all necessary measures to safeguard the restricted character of the information provided in the declaration of interests. To the extent necessary for the implementation of the present decision, this information may be provided to the Conference of the Parties and its Bureau and subsidiary bodies, as deemed appropriate;

(h) Where the objectivity of a particular meeting has been called into question, the Conference of the Parties shall define the conditions for the disclosure of all relevant information in addition to that which is provided for in paragraph 7 (g) above;

(i) The Conference of the Parties shall consider any issue that is not covered by the present decision;

(j) The Conference of the Parties shall keep under review the implementation of the present decision and, not later than five years after its adoption, carry out a comprehensive assessment of its implementation with a view to making such amendments thereto as may be required;

8. *Decides* that any designation of experts to serve in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee shall be subject to the relevant provisions of paragraph 7 of the present decision.

Annex to decision SC-1/8

¹ As contained in the annex to the present decision.

Declaration of interests

Measures need to be taken to ensure that the best possible assessment of scientific evidence is achieved in an independent atmosphere free of either direct or indirect pressures. Thus, to ensure the technical integrity and impartiality of the work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, it is necessary to avoid situations in which financial or other interests might affect the outcome of that work.

Each expert is therefore asked to declare any interests that could constitute a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest with respect to his or her involvement in the meeting or work, between, on the one hand, commercial entities and the participant personally, and, on the other hand, commercial entities and the administrative unit with which the participant has an employment relationship. In this context “commercial entity” refers to any company, association (e.g., trade association), organization or any other entity whatsoever, with commercial interests.

1. What is a conflict of interest?

“Conflict of interest” means that the expert or his or her partner, or the administrative unit with which the expert has an employment relationship, has a financial or other interest that could unduly influence the expert’s position with respect to the subject matter being considered. An apparent conflict of interest exists when an interest would not necessarily influence the expert but could result in the expert’s objectivity being questioned by others. A potential conflict of interest exists with respect to any interest which any reasonable person could be uncertain as to whether or not it should be reported.

Different types of financial or other interests, whether personal or with the administrative unit with which the expert has an employment relationship, can be envisaged and the following list, which is not exhaustive, is provided for your guidance. For example, the following types of situations should be declared:

(a) A current proprietary interest in a substance, technology or process (e.g., ownership of a patent), to be considered in – or otherwise related to the subject matter of – the meeting or work;

(b) A current financial interest, e.g., shares or bonds, in a commercial entity with an interest in the subject matter of the meeting or work (except shareholdings through general mutual funds or similar arrangements where the expert has no control over the selection of shares);

(c) An employment, consultancy, directorship, or other position held during the past four years, whether or not paid, in any commercial entity which has an interest in the subject matter of the meeting or work, or an ongoing negotiation concerning prospective employment or other association with such commercial entity;

(d) Performance of any paid work or research during the past four years commissioned by a commercial entity with interests in the subject matter of the meetings or work;

(e) Payment or other support covering a period within the past four years, or an expectation of support for the future, from a commercial entity with an interest in the subject matter of the meetings or work, even if it does not convey any benefit to the expert personally but which benefits his or her position or administrative unit, e.g., a grant or fellowship or other payment, e.g., for such purposes as the financing of a post or consultancy.

With respect to the above, a commercial interest in a competing substance, technology or process, or an interest in or association with, work for or support by a commercial entity having a direct competitive interest must similarly be disclosed.

2. How to complete this declaration

Please complete this declaration and submit it to your Government for transmission to the Secretariat. Any financial or other interests that could constitute a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest should be declared: first, with respect to yourself or partner; and, second, with respect to any administrative unit with which you have an employment relationship. Only the name of the commercial entity and the nature of the interest is required to be disclosed and no amounts need to be specified (although they may be, if you consider this information to be relevant to assessing the interest). With respect to points (a) and (b) in section 1 above, the interest should only be declared if it is current. With respect to points (c), (d) and (e), any interest during the past four years should be declared. If the interest is no longer current, please state the year when it ceased. With respect to point (e), the interest ceases when a financed post or fellowship is no longer occupied, or when support for an activity ceases.

3. Assessment and outcome

The information submitted by you will be used to assess whether the declared interests constitute an appreciable real, potential or apparent conflict of interest in accordance with the provisions of decision SC-1/8 of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention.

Information disclosed on this declaration shall reside within the Secretariat and shall be made available to the Conference of the Parties, its Bureau and subsidiary bodies, as deemed appropriate.

4. Declaration

Have you or your partner any financial or other interest in the subject matter of the meeting or work in which you will be involved, which may be considered as constituting a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest?

Yes: No: If yes, please give details in the box below.

Do you have, or have you had during the past four years, an employment or other professional relationship with any entity directly involved in the production, manufacture, distribution or sale of chemicals or pesticides or directly representing the interests of any such entity?

Yes: No: If yes, please give details in the box below.

1. Type of interest, e.g. patent, shares, employment, association, payment (including details on any compound, work, etc.)	2. Name of commercial entity	3. Belongs to you, partner or unit?	4. Current interest? (or year ceased)

Is there anything else that could affect your objectivity or independence in the meeting or work, or the perception by others of your objectivity and independence?

I hereby declare that the disclosed information is correct and that no other situation of real, potential or apparent conflict of interest is known to me. I undertake to inform you of any change in these circumstances, including if an issue arises during the meeting or work itself.

Signature

Date

Name

Government

I hereby declare that I shall regulate my conduct in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of decision SC-1/8 of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention.

Signature

Name

SC-4/20: Operating procedures of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

The Conference of the Parties

Welcomes the report of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee on its third and fourth meetings¹ and the report of the Chair of the Committee;²

1. *Takes note* of the information in those reports on developments in the Committee, including in respect of its procedures;
2. *Also takes note* of the workplans for the preparation of a draft risk profile (2007–2008 and 2008–2009), the workplan for the preparation of a draft risk management evaluation (2007–2008) and the workplan for the intersessional working group on effective participation (2008–2009), which were adopted by the Committee at its third and fourth meetings;
3. *Encourages* Parties that wish to submit proposals for listing chemicals in Annex A, B or C of the Convention to submit such proposals to the Secretariat at least five months before the meeting of the Committee at which they will be discussed;
4. *Adopts* the amendments to the terms of reference of the Committee set out in annex I to the present decision;
5. *Takes note* of the information provided by the Secretariat on preventing and dealing with conflicts of interest on the part of members of the Committee;³
6. *Endorses* the decision by the Committee to meet in closed session before the start of each meeting of the Committee to discuss any issues related to conflicts of interest of members of the Committee;
7. *Requests* the Chair of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, should any conflict of interest of a member of the Committee arise, to consult the President of the Conference of the Parties and the Executive Secretary with a view to making a decision on the member's participation in the work of the Committee in respect of a particular chemical;
8. *Requests* the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to propose to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting amendments, as appropriate, to the rules of procedure of the Committee set out in decision SC-1/8 for preventing and dealing with conflicts of interest relating to the activities of the Committee and the terms of reference of the Committee contained in decision SC-1/7 to reflect that procedure and any experience gained with it;
9. *Adopts* the revised form for the declaration of conflicts of interest of members of the Committee set out in annex II to the present decision;
10. *Confirms* the appointment of the new members of the Committee;⁴
11. *Also confirms* the nomination of Mr. Jope Rinabobo Davetanivalu (Fiji) to replace Ms. Razia Zariff; Ms. Camila Arruda Boechat (Brazil) to replace Ms. Adriana Maximiano; Mr. Mohammed Khashashneh (Jordan) to replace Mr. Ziad Abu Kaddourah; and Ms. Maria Delvin (Sweden) to replace Mr. Bo Wahlström to serve for the remainder of the terms of office of the members being replaced;
12. *Adopts* the list of Parties to be invited to nominate Committee members for terms of office commencing on 5 May 2010 set out in annex III to the present decision;
13. *Endorses* the handbook for effective participation in the work of the Committee and recommends to Parties that they make use of it;
14. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue activities to assist Parties that are developing countries or countries with economies in transition as listed in decision POPRC-4/8 and to report on the results of those activities to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting;

1 UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20 and UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/15.

2 UNEP/POPS/COP.4/16, annex.

3 UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/3 and UNEP/POPS/COP.4/16.

4 UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/INF/4 and UNEP/POS/POPRC.4/INF/18.

15. *Urges* Parties and observers in a position to do so to provide financial resources to support activities for the effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the work of the Committee;

16. *Requests* the Secretariat to develop a resource kit providing information on the Stockholm Convention and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.

Annex I to decision SC-4/20

Amendments to the terms of reference of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

- (a) Paragraph 27 should be amended to read:
- “Proposals for listing chemicals in Annexes A, B or C shall be distributed at least three months in advance of the meeting at which they are to be discussed. Other documents shall be distributed at least six weeks in advance of the meeting.”
- (b) A new paragraph 27 bis should be added, reading:
- “A Party proposing the listing of a chemical in Annex A, B or C of the Convention shall provide to the Secretariat, no later than five months in advance of the meeting at which it is to be discussed, a proposal consisting of a letter from the proposing Party, documents supporting the proposal and a summary in English of the documents supporting the proposal of up to 20 pages in length.”
- (c) Paragraph 31 should be amended to read:
- “For practical reasons, only the major resource documents for a meeting will be translated into the six official languages of the United Nations and distributed at least six weeks in advance of the meeting. The term “major resource documents” means the summary in English of the documents supporting the proposal for adding a chemical to Annexes A, B or C to the Convention, the risk profile, the risk management evaluation and any report or recommendation for the meeting.”
- (d) A new paragraph 31 bis should be added, reading:
- “Proposals for listing chemicals in Annexes A, B or C shall be distributed at least three months in advance of the meeting at which they are to be discussed in any official language of the United Nations in which they are submitted to the secretariat. The summary in English of the documents supporting the proposals shall be translated into the six official languages of the United Nations and distributed at least six weeks in advance of the meeting.”

Annex II to decision SC-4/20

Revised form for the declaration of conflicts of interest

Name: _____ Designating Government: _____

Term of office: [] – []

Have you or your partner any financial or other interest in the subject matter of any meeting or work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee in which you will be involved that might be considered as constituting a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest? If yes, please give details in the box below.

Yes: No:

Do you have, or have you had during the past four years, an employment or other professional relationship with any entity directly involved in the production, manufacture, distribution or sale of chemicals or pesticides or directly representing the interests of any such entity? If yes, please give details in the box below.

Yes: No:

1. Type of interest, e.g. patent, shares, employment, association, payment (including details on any compound, work, etc.)	2. Name of commercial entity	3. Belongs to you, partner or unit?	4. Current interest? (or year ceased)

Is there anything else that could affect your objectivity or independence in respect of any meeting or work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee in which you will be involved, or the perception by others of your objectivity or independence? If yes, please give details in the box below.

Yes: No:

Declaration:

I hereby declare that the disclosed information is correct and that no other situation of real, potential or apparent conflict of interest is known to me. I undertake to inform you of any change in these circumstances, including if an issue arises during any meeting or the conduct of any work.

I hereby declare that I shall regulate my conduct in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of decision SC-1/8 of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention.

Signature

Date

Annex III to decision SC-4/20

List of Parties identified by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting to nominate Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee members whose terms of office will commence on 5 May 2010

From the African group

1. Egypt
2. Nigeria
3. United Republic of Tanzania
4. Zambia

From the Asian and Pacific group

1. China
2. Japan
3. Jordan
4. Thailand

From the Central and Eastern European group

1. Czech Republic
2. Ukraine

From the Latin American and Caribbean group

1. Argentina
2. Colombia
3. Costa Rica

From the Western European and others group

1. Canada
2. Finland
3. Germany
4. New Zealand