

**Stockholm Convention
on Persistent Organic
Pollutants**

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**Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Eleventh meeting**
Geneva, 1–12 May 2023
Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: election of officers

Election of officers

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. At its eleventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is expected to elect the officers of the Conference of the Parties who will serve during its twelfth meeting.
2. In addition to electing those officers, the Conference of the Parties is expected to appoint 14 new members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee with terms of office from 5 May 2024 to 4 May 2028, to elect the chair of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee,¹ and to select 10 Parties to nominate 1 expert each by 30 June 2023 to serve on the DDT expert group with terms of office from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2027.²
3. A table providing an overview of all the elections expected to take place during the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention is set out in the annex to document UNEP/CHW.16/INF/4–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/4–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/4.

II. Implementation

4. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of rule 22 of the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties, as adopted by decision SC-1/1 with the exception of the second sentence of paragraph 1 of rule 45, and as amended by decision SC-5/1, set out the following procedures for the election of the officers of the Conference of the Parties:

Rule 22

1. At each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a President and nine Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall act as Rapporteur, shall be elected from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting. These officers shall serve as the Bureau of

* UNEP/POPS/COP.11/1.

¹ See UNEP/POPS/COP.11/11.

² See UNEP/POPS/COP.11/5.

the Conference of the Parties. They shall commence their terms of office at the closure of the meeting at which they are elected and remain in office until the closure of the next ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting. Each of the five United Nations regional groups shall be represented by two members.

2. The offices of the President and Rapporteur shall normally be subject to rotation among the United Nations regional groups. No elected officer may serve on the Bureau for more than two consecutive terms.

5. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties elected one president and nine vice-presidents from among the representatives present at the meeting to serve as officers from the closure of its tenth meeting until the closure of its eleventh meeting, as follows:

President:	Ms. Keima Gardiner (Trinidad and Tobago)
Vice-Presidents:	Mr. Linroy Christian (Antigua and Barbuda)
	Mr. Mario Vujic (Croatia)
	Ms. Caroline Theka (Malawi)
	Mr. Glenn Wigley (New Zealand)
	Mr. Ivan Djurickovic (Serbia)
	Mr. Sheikh Ahmed Tunis (Sierra Leone)
	Mr. Wasantha Dissanayake (Sri Lanka)
	Mr. Yaser Abu Shanab (State of Palestine)
	Ms. Maria Delvin (Sweden)

6. Mr. Djurickovic was also elected to act as Rapporteur.

7. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties also entrusted the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, with facilitating, during the intersessional period preceding the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the process for nominating candidates for election.³ During their 2022 meetings, the conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Rotterdam conventions also agreed to the same arrangement, with a view to ensuring consistency in approaches and, ultimately, to facilitating decision-making on elections during the meetings of the conferences of the Parties in 2023.

8. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure, at its eleventh meeting the Conference of the Parties is to elect a president and nine vice-presidents, one of whom is to act as rapporteur, from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting. Those officers are to begin their terms of office at the closure of the eleventh meeting and serve until the closure of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

9. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure, for the purposes of regional rotation the next president would be expected to be elected from among the Western European and other States represented at the meeting, and the rapporteur from among the Latin American and Caribbean States represented at the meeting.

10. A table showing the regions and Parties from which the offices of president and rapporteur have been filled since the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties is set out in the annex to the present note.

11. To facilitate the election of officers and members of subsidiary bodies, on 19 December 2022, the Secretariat, on behalf of the bureaux, sent a letter to all Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions regarding the elections to take place during the 2023 meetings of the conferences of the Parties.⁴ Attached to the letter were three information packages on the elections to take place during the meetings of the conferences of the Parties, including information as at 30 November 2022 on arrears in assessed contributions to the general trust fund of each convention, as well as an overview of all the elections to take place during the meetings. In its letter, the Secretariat invited Parties to consider submitting to the Secretariat, by 1 March 2023, the names of candidates, along with, where relevant, the required documentation supporting the nominations of the candidates, namely, in the case of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, a curriculum vitae and the completed form for the declaration of conflicts of interest. Parties were also invited to consult in their

³ UNEP/POPS/COP.10/33/Add.1, para. 31.

⁴ The letter is available at <http://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/Communications/tabid/3391/Default.aspx>.

regions in advance of and during the regional preparatory meetings on candidates to be considered for election, so as to facilitate decision-making during the 2023 meetings of the conferences of the Parties on the election of officers and members of subsidiary bodies.

12. In accordance with paragraph 3 (e) of rule 5 of the financial rules of the Stockholm Convention, and as decided by the Conference of the Parties in decision SC-10/26 on the programme of work and budget for the Stockholm Convention for the biennium 2022–2023, no representative of any Party whose contributions are in arrears for two or more years is eligible to become a member of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties or a member of any subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, provided, however, that this does not apply to Parties that are least developed countries or small island developing States or to Parties that have agreed on and are respecting a schedule of payments in accordance with the financial rules.

13. Information on arrears in assessed contributions to the general trust funds of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions is provided in a note by the Secretariat on a combined proposal for the programmes of work and proposed budgets for the three conventions for the biennium 2024–2025, including joint activities,⁵ and in associated documents cited therein.

14. In decisions BC-13/20, RC-8/13 and SC-8/23, on mainstreaming gender, the conferences of the Parties recognized that, notwithstanding the efforts of Parties and the Secretariat to promote gender equality, efforts were still needed to ensure that women and men from all Parties were equally involved in the implementation of the three conventions and were represented in their bodies and processes and thus informed and participated in decision-making on gender-responsive hazardous chemicals and wastes policies. Parties are therefore encouraged to ensure that both female and male candidates are put forward for election as members of the Bureau and, in particular, as President.

III. Proposed action

15. The Conference of the Parties, at its eleventh meeting, is invited to elect a president and nine vice-presidents, including one vice-president to act as rapporteur, to serve as the officers of the Conference of the Parties from the closure of its eleventh meeting to the closure of its twelfth meeting, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

16. The Conference of the Parties may also wish to entrust the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, with facilitating the election of officers and members of subsidiary bodies during the intersessional period preceding the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and during that meeting.

⁵ UNEP/CHW.16/27–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/22–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/28.

Annex

Offices of the president and the rapporteur of the ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention since its first meeting

	<i>First meeting</i>	<i>Second meeting</i>	<i>Third meeting</i>	<i>Fourth meeting</i>	<i>Fifth meeting</i>	<i>Sixth meeting</i>	<i>Seventh meeting</i>	<i>Eighth meeting</i>	<i>Ninth meeting</i>	<i>Tenth meeting</i>	<i>Eleventh meeting</i>
President	Latin American and Caribbean States (Uruguay)	Western European and other States (New Zealand)	African States (Senegal)	Asia-Pacific States (Islamic Republic of Iran)	Eastern European States (Czech Republic)	Latin American and Caribbean States (Chile)	Western European and other States (Sweden)	African States (Ghana)	Asia-Pacific States (Jordan)	Eastern European States (Latvia)	Latin American and Caribbean States (Trinidad and Tobago)
Rapporteur	Latin American and Caribbean States (Barbados)	Latin American and Caribbean States (Barbados)	Western European and other States (Netherlands)	African States (Zambia)	Asia-Pacific States (India)	Eastern European States (Czech Republic)	Latin American and Caribbean States (Ecuador)	Western European and other States (Australia)	African States (Ethiopia)	Asia-Pacific States (Islamic Republic of Iran)	Eastern European States (Serbia)