

LEGAL BASIS/MANDATE:**Work programme activity #: 28**COP-decisions: **SC-5/8**

- Requests the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to take the lead in implementing the proposed activities in developing reporting and reviewing requirements for the use of lindane as a human health pharmaceutical for the control of head lice and scabies, in cooperation with the World Health Organization, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting on progress in doing so;
- Invited parties to facilitate the provision of information relating to the use of lindane, including through notifications of registration for specific exemptions;
- Encouraged those parties that may seek specific exemptions for future persistent organic pollutant chemicals to make efforts to introduce alternative measures as soon as possible

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) held in 2009, by its decision SC- 4/15, lindane was listed in the Convention under Annex A with specific exemptions for use as a human health pharmaceutical only for the control of head lice and scabies as second line treatment. The specific exemptions are available to the Parties registered for that purpose until August 26, 2015

By the same above decision the COP requested the Secretariat to develop a work plan in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) for reporting and reviewing requirements on the use of lindane allowed for the specific exemption. The work plan developed for this purpose was endorsed by the COP at its fifth meeting in 2011 for implementation.

As part of implementation of the work plan, the Secretariat in collaboration with the WHO undertook a limited survey to collect some baseline information on the distribution and use of lindane from selected countries and stakeholders to facilitate implementation of the work plan. To facilitate identification of key elements on sound management of lindane and promotion of alternatives to lindane two webinars were held for parties and stakeholders on strategies implemented by countries that have successfully eliminated the reliance on lindane for pharmaceutical purposes.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED:

- Consultation of an expert panel to development of reporting on and reviewing of continued need of lindane
- Development of guidance documents for sound managements of lindane for pharmaceutical uses
- Capacity assistance for lindane using countries on proper regulation of distribution and use of lindane

RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:

- Stakeholder collaboration on the assessment of alternatives and enhanced knowledge on continued need for the use of lindane
- Facilitate registering for specific exemptions of lindane
- Capacity for countries to eliminate reliance on lindane

BUDGET [USD] FOR 2012- 2013

<i>BUDGET COMPONENTS</i>	
<i>1.Expert panel consultation</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>2.Development of guidance documents</i>	<i>20,000</i>
<i>3 Capacity assistance on regulation of distribution and use of lindane</i>	<i>240,000</i>
TOTAL FUNDS TO BE RAISED FOR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	310,000
COP APPROVED BUDGET (SV trust fund)	565,000
Funding received (as of 1 March 2013) by Germany and Switzerland	46,949