



BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

July 2016

Guidelines on the use of cameras and audio/video recording devices by participants at meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (BRS) and their subsidiary bodies¹

1. The present BRS guidelines apply to participants using cameras and/or audio/video recording devices within a BRS-designated meeting venue. As required, other guidance or instructions may apply when deemed necessary by the BRS Secretariat or United Nations (UN) Security, in conformity with UN and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s rules and regulations.

A. Still Photographs

2. Still photographs may be taken by meeting participants within the BRS-designated conference venue's public areas, such as lobbies and corridors, and in meeting rooms provided that such activities are carried out unobtrusively and do not disrupt the activities or movements of other participants or the security provisions of that area.

3. In the case of professional/commercial photographers accompanying a Party or observer² delegation, these should be registered as a member of the delegation of the Party or observer and identified as such in the registration form, and the Party or observer is to provide information to the Secretariat on the purpose of the photographic assignment. The Secretariat approval is required for any such photographic assignments. Once approved by the Secretariat, the professional/commercial photographer will be assisted by the Secretariat staff or the UN security staff on site to complete his/her assignments, including by being escorted by the Secretariat or the UN security staff into meeting rooms or other areas should this be requested.

B. Video and Audio Recordings

4. Video and audio recordings may be made by participants in public areas, such as lobbies and corridors, provided that those making such recordings have the permission of those they wish to record and such activities do not disrupt the activities or movements of other participants or the security provisions of that area.

5. Audio and video recordings by Party or observer participants during open and closed official meetings, including contact groups, and in designated high-security zones, are not permitted.

6. Any professional/commercial audio, video or film producers and technicians that may be accompanying Parties and observers should be registered as member of the delegation of the Party or

¹ These guidelines are intended for government and observer organization delegations and do not change or replace current policies and arrangements regarding the use of cameras, radio or TV equipment by accredited media organizations at BRS meetings.

² See the relevant provisions of each Convention and rules of procedure: Article 15 paragraph 6 of the Basel Convention, Article 18 paragraph 7 of the Rotterdam Convention and Article 19 paragraph 8 of the Stockholm Convention; Rules 6, 7 and 26 of the Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, Rules 6, 7 and 26 of the Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, and Rules 6, 7 and 26 of the Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

observer and identified as such in the registration form, and the Party or observer is to provide information to the BRS Secretariat on the purpose of the audio, video or film production. The Secretariat approval is required for any such audio or video assignments. Once approved by the BRS Secretariat, the professional/commercial producer and technicians will be assisted by the Secretariat staff or the UN security staff on site to complete their assignments, including by being escorted by the Secretariat or the UN security staff into meeting rooms or other areas should this be requested.

C. Measures

7. Any non-observance of these guidelines will normally be resolved in consultations between the BRS Secretariat and the relevant meeting participant and/or the entity it represents. It may involve other meeting participants if deemed necessary by the Secretariat.

8. Kindly note that, in conformity with applicable UN/UNEP/FAO rules and regulations, the BRS Secretariat and the UN Security reserve the right to take the following measures for non-observance of the above:

- (a) Confiscation of the representative's badge;
- (b) Removal of the representative from the premises;
- (c) Confiscation of unauthorized material;
- (d) Any other measure falling within their mandate that is deemed appropriate or necessary.

9. For the purpose of paragraphs 7 and 8, the BRS Secretariat and the UN Security may act upon a complaint or on their own initiative.