



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

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**Stockholm Convention on
Persistent Organic Pollutants**

**Chemical Review Committee and
Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee
First joint meeting
Rome, 20 October 2013**

**Report of the first joint meeting of the Chemical Review
Committee of the Rotterdam Convention and the Persistent
Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm
Convention**

I. Opening of the meeting

1. The first joint meeting of the Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention was held at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome, on 20 October 2013. Ms. Hala Sultan Saif Al-Easa (Qatar), Chair of the Chemical Review Committee, declared the meeting open at 10 a.m..
2. Mr. Clayton Campanhola, Executive Secretary of the Rotterdam Convention, welcomed the participants to Rome and to the first joint meeting of the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee. He stressed that the objectives of the present meeting were to promote exchange of scientific information among the members of the two committees and to enhance synergies among the chemicals conventions. Mentioning the World Food Day on 16 October 2013, he added that the members played an important role in taking decisions that contributed to solving the global challenge of producing food in a sustainable way, reducing hunger and rural poverty and avoiding contamination of food with agricultural chemicals. He furthermore highlighted FAO's role in promoting alternatives to the use of hazardous chemicals and supporting countries to implement integrated pest management. Partnerships between FAO and other United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), technical development agencies, donors, civil society and the private sector supported the chemicals conventions and the life cycle approach to managing hazardous chemicals.
3. Mr. Jim Willis, Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, thanked FAO for organizing the first joint meeting between the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee at FAO headquarters. He drew attention to the successful cooperation between UNEP and FAO in the chemicals and wastes cluster, with UNEP contributing expertise on industrial chemicals and wastes and FAO providing in-depth expertise and infrastructure on agricultural pesticides, which resulted in providing better support to governments and experts in implementing the conventions. He underscored the ground-breaking character of the first joint meeting between the committees and that the members were invited to make use of the opportunity to exchange information and identify further ways of enhancing cooperation and sharing of information between the committees.

4. Ms Al-Easa then informed the participants that at their second extraordinary meetings in 2013, the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had dedicated a whole section of their omnibus decision to enhancing cooperation and coordination between technical bodies of the three conventions. The present meeting would focus on elements contained in this section of the omnibus decision. She also mentioned that Mr. Reiner Arndt (Germany), Chair of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, and herself would take turns in chairing the present meeting. Mr. Arndt then addressed the committees, inviting them to interact actively and share information.

II. Organizational matters

A. Adoption of the agenda

5. The Committees adopted the agenda set out below on the basis of the provisional agenda that had been circulated as document UNEP/FAO/RC/POPS/CRC-POPRC.1/1/Rev.1:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Mandates and review processes under the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention and the Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention.
4. Requests in the omnibus decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions:¹
 - (a) Alignment of the working arrangements of the Chemical Review Committee with those of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;
 - (b) Scientific information exchange relating to review of chemicals by the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;
 - (c) Identification of further steps to enhance the cooperation and coordination between the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;
 - (d) Development of guidance to assist parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Chemical Review Committee in their work when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention.
5. Other matters.
6. Closure of the meeting.

B. Attendance

6. The meeting was attended by the following 26 members of the Chemical Review Committee: Ms. Anahit Aleksandryan (Armenia), Ms. Anja Bartels (Austria), Mr. Gilberto Fillmann (Brazil), Ms. Parvoleta Angelova Luleva (Bulgaria), Ms. Hang Tang (Canada), Mr. Victor N'Goka (Congo), Mr. Droh Lanciné Goné (Côte d'Ivoire), Ms. Mirijam Kristina Brigitta Seng (Germany), Mr. Mehdi Ghaemian (Iran, Islamic Republic of), Mr. Michael Frank Ramsay (Jamaica), Mr. Peter Simon Opiyo Ombajo (Kenya), Ms. Amel Al-Rashdan (Kuwait), Mr. Gaoussou Kanouté (Mali), Mr. Sidi Ould Aloueimine (Mauritania), Mr. Arturo Gavilán García (Mexico), Ms. Leonarda Christina van Leeuwen (Netherlands), Ms. Susan Jane Collier (New Zealand), Mr. Muhammad Bashir Khan (Pakistan), Ms. Vilma Morales Quillama (Peru), Ms. Magdalena Frydrych (Poland), Ms. Hala Sultan Saif Al-Easa (Qatar), Mr. Jung-Kwan Seo (Republic of Korea), Mr. Mohamad Saleh I.T. Makki (Saudi Arabia), Mr. Jürgen Heinrich Helbig (Spain), Ms. Sarah Maillefer (Switzerland) and Mr. Boniface Mbewe (Zambia).

7. The members of the Committee from Ecuador, Gambia and Yemen were unable to attend.

8. The meeting was attended by the following 19 members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee: Ms. Norma Sbarbati Nudelman (Argentina), Ms. Estefania Gastaldello Moreira (Brazil), Mr. Joswa Aoudou (Cameroon), Mr. Robert Chénier (Canada), Mr. Jianxin Hu (China), Mr. José Álvaro Rodríguez (Colombia), Ms. Floria Roa Gutiérrez (Costa Rica), Mr. Jorge Álvarez Álvarez (Cuba), Mr. Raouf Okasha (Egypt), Mr. Sylvain Bintein (France), Mr. Reiner Arndt (Germany), Mr.

¹ UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/4, annex I, decisions BC.Ex-2/1, RC.Ex-2/1, SC.Ex-2/1.

Agus Haryono (Indonesia), Mr. Masaru Kitano (Japan), Ms. Lulwa Ali (Kuwait), Ms. Haritiana Rakotoarisetra (Madagascar), Mr. Martien Janssen (Netherlands), Mr. Peter Dawson (New Zealand), Ms. Kyunghhee Choi (Republic of Korea), Ms. Svitlana Sukhorebra (Ukraine) and Mr. Samuel Banda (Zambia).

9. The members of the Committee from the Czech Republic, Finland, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Nigeria, Norway, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Republic of Tanzania and Thailand were unable to attend.

10. The meeting was attended by the following members of the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee: Mr. Ram Niwas Jindal (India) and Mr. Azhari Abdelbagi (Sudan).

11. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following countries as observers: Australia, Belarus, Canada, China, Ecuador, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Norway, Oman, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

12. Non-governmental organizations were also represented as observers. The names of those organizations are included in the list of participants (UNEP/FAO/RC/POPS/CRC-POPRC.1/INF/1).

III. Mandates and review processes under the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention and the Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention

13. In considering the item, the committees had before them a note by the Secretariat on the processes under the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and the Chemical Review Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/POPS/CRC-POPRC.1/2). Mr. Arndt and Ms. Al-Easa gave presentations on the mandates and review processes of the two committees.

14. In the ensuing discussion, the participants pointed out some differences and commonalities between the two committees and their working procedures. For example, it was noted that the Chemical Review Committee did a substantive amount of preparatory work before its meetings, with the Bureau and intersessional task groups doing a preliminary review of notifications of final regulatory actions and proposals for listing severely hazardous pesticide formulations in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention. A similar approach could be considered for the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, for instance for the review of new proposals to list chemicals under the Annexes A, B and/or C to the Stockholm Convention. The members agreed that the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee could discuss this suggestion and possible modalities at its next meeting.

15. Comparing the mechanisms for triggering action by the two committees, it was noted that under the Stockholm Convention, any party could nominate a chemical for inclusion in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention without having banned or restricted it at the national level. Under the Rotterdam Convention, it requires notifications of final regulatory actions submitted by parties from at least two PIC regions, or a proposal for a severely hazardous pesticide formulation submitted by a party that is a developing country or a country with an economy in transition. It was also noted that the criteria for listing banned or severely restricted chemicals as set out in Annex II to the Rotterdam Convention required, among others, that the final regulatory action had been taken as a consequence of a risk evaluation involving prevailing conditions within the Party taking the action. The members also pointed out that there was no automatic link between the review mechanisms of the two conventions and that the processes needed to be triggered separately under each convention. However, information generated under one of the two processes could be used under the other process, for example information available in risk profiles, decision guidance documents and the PIC circular.

16. The committees took note of the information provided.

IV. Requests in the omnibus decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

A. Alignment of the working arrangements of the Chemical Review Committee with those of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

17. In considering the sub-item, the committees had before them a note by the Secretariat on the alignment of the working arrangements of the Chemical Review Committee with those of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to allow for mutual information sharing and effective participation of experts and observers at committee meetings (UNEP/FAO/RC/POPS/CRC-POPRC.1/3). At their second extraordinary meetings in 2013, the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had requested such an alignment of the Chemical Review Committee with the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.

18. An observer representative of the party that had made the proposals for aligning the working procedures at the meetings of the conferences of the parties in 2013 was invited to explain the idea further. She outlined the content of a conference room paper her country had submitted during the meetings of the conferences of the parties: First, on the participation of observers in committee meetings, she noted that the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee had been very inclusive towards the participation of observers, and that this model could be applied under the Chemical Review Committee. Second, her country had suggested exploring how listing chemicals under the Stockholm Convention could provide support for the process of listing a chemical under the Rotterdam Convention, for example in terms of bridging information. It was agreed that the second topic would be further discussed under agenda item 4 (d).

19. In the ensuing discussion, there was general agreement that observers played an important role in both committees, that their participation should be promoted and that the same approach towards observer participation should be applied in both committees. It was noted that the terms of reference and the mandates of the two committees were not different related to the participation of observers, but that different practices might have been applied in the past. One member felt that observers were already able to participate actively in the Chemical Review Committee, in plenary discussions, as well as in contact groups. The Secretariat added that it was undertaking activities for enhancing the effective participation of observers in the work of the committees through the technical assistance programme, including webinars and workshops.

20. The committees concurred that members and observers of the two committees should be invited to participate as observers in each others' meetings. The Secretariat was requested to notify them of upcoming meetings and send them the meeting registration form.

21. One member cautioned that when discussing the alignment of working arrangements, the committees should be mindful about the limitations of their respective mandates and terms of references as provided by the conventions and the conferences of the parties.

22. The Secretariat then outlined a number of initiatives it had taken to harmonize the organizing, running and follow-up to the meetings of the conferences of the parties and subsidiary bodies of the three conventions. For example, the floor would generally be given to observers in plenary before taking decisions and contact groups would be set up to allow the participation of observers if further discussion of an issue was needed. Contact groups could later on be turned into drafting groups limited to the participation of members only to finalize the drafting work.

23. The committees took note of the information provided.

B. Scientific information exchange relating to review of chemicals by the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

24. In considering the sub-item, the committees had before them a note by the Secretariat on scientific information exchange relating to review of chemicals by the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (UNEP/FAO/RC/POPS/CRC-POPRC.1/4). At their second extraordinary meetings in 2013, the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had welcomed the identification of the options for information exchange and improved communication and recommended that the implementation of joint activities between the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and the Chemical Review Committee be accelerated.

1. Identification and listing of chemicals including consideration of impurities

25. Mr. Robert Chénier (Canada), member of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, and Ms. Sarah Maillefer (Switzerland), member of the Chemical Review Committee, gave presentations on the identification and listing of chemicals under the two conventions. Both presenters shared experiences and difficulties faced by the committees in the review process, including how to address impurities, transformation products, isomers, articles and commercial mixtures of chemicals.

26. In the ensuing discussion, the members discussed the issue of dealing with chemicals that are present as trace contaminants in products. It was pointed out that there was no universally applicable system or level for determining the presence of chemical contaminants. Several members supported the idea of having globally applied cut-off values. The globally harmonized system of classification and labelling of chemicals (GHS) which provides one standardized approach was supported by many members. Applying the GHS systematically would be an option, if it was further developed to consider specificities related to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. Currently, the GHS classified chemicals by types of hazards, not necessarily taking, for example, certain persistent organic pollutants criteria into account.

27. The committees took note of the information provided.

2. Processes and contents of technical documents developed by the committees, including bridging information from international assessments and scientific literature

28. Mr. Azhari Abdelbagi (Sudan), member of the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, gave a presentation on the content and development of decision guidance documents under the Rotterdam Convention and Ms. Floria Roa-Gutierrez (Costa Rica), member of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, gave a presentation on the content and development of risk profiles.

29. In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that both committees operated in a similar way related to circulating drafts of the documents and preparing tables of comments and how those had been reflected in the documents.

30. The members also pointed out that information gathered under one process could be used in the other process. Information from risk profiles and risk management evaluation documents prepared by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee had been used by the Chemical Review Committee in several occasions in the past when developing draft decision guidance documents. Another possibility could be to mention the status of the chemical under one convention in respective technical documents of the other convention. It was also noted that the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee could take into account the information on alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride available under the Rotterdam Convention, when preparing its evaluation on alternatives to those chemicals.

31. The committees took note of the information provided.

3. Experiences in decision-making by the committees

32. Mr. Jürgen Helbig (Spain), member of the Chemical Review Committee, and Mr. Jian Xin Hu (China), member of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, gave presentations on decision-making in the two committees and in particular the criteria used for evaluating chemicals.

33. In the ensuing discussion, a member highlighted the difficulties faced by countries in preparing notifications of final regulatory action, in particular in demonstrating that the final regulatory action was based on a risk evaluation involving prevailing conditions. She was, however, of the view that submitting notifications of final regulatory action was a useful exercise for developing countries, as it promoted information exchange, which in turn stimulated research, increased awareness on best available techniques and best environmental practices and on the importance of taking necessary precautions in handling hazardous chemicals including personal protective equipment. She also highlighted the usefulness of bridging information, especially in developing countries to fulfil the criteria for listing.

34. The committees took note of the information provided.

C. Identification of further steps to enhance the cooperation and coordination between the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

35. In considering the sub-item, the committees had before them a note by the Secretariat on the identification of further steps to enhance the cooperation and coordination between these two technical

bodies (UNEP/FAO/RC/POPS/CRC-POPRC.1/5). At their second extraordinary meetings in 2013, the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had requested the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and the Chemical Review Committee to discuss and identify further steps to enhance the cooperation and coordination between the two technical bodies, where practical and in accordance with their autonomous mandates and terms of reference.

36. The representative of the Secretariat informed the committees about activities undertaken to enhance cooperation and coordination among the committees in the form of joint activities. She also drew attention to the document outlining possible areas of collaboration and cooperation developed by the chairs of the two committees for the meetings of the conferences of the parties in 2013 (UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/INF/17).

37. In the ensuing discussion, suggestions on how to enhance cooperation and coordination among the committees were raised. These included briefing the committees on the outcomes of each other's meetings specifically in the case of back-to-back meetings. The committees agreed that such briefings would include outcomes of the recent meeting, as well as other information relevant to the agenda items under consideration by the upcoming meeting.

38. Debriefing webinars open to the general public, currently held after each committee meeting, would also be continued. One member proposed that announcements for webinars related to the committees should be sent by email to all members of the two committees in advance to facilitate planning for participating in the webinars. Another member suggested that up-to-date information on alternatives and substitutes needed to be made available to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, for example through the clearing house mechanism, in order to support them to implement the conventions.

39. Finally, the committees noted that further work on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the committees could take place in the future. The item would be on the agenda of future meetings of the two committees.

40. The committees took note of the information provided.

D. Development of guidance to assist parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Chemical Review Committee in their work when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention

41. In considering the sub-item, the committees had before them a note by the Secretariat on the development of guidance to assist parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Chemical Review Committee in their work when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/POPS/CRC-POPRC.1/6). At their second extraordinary meetings in 2013, the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had requested the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and the Chemical Review Committee to develop guidance to assist parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Chemical Review Committee in their work when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention.

42. Ms. Mirijam Seng (Germany), member of the Chemical Review Committee, gave a presentation on the development of guidance by the Chemical Review Committee. She highlighted that the Committee had prepared a number of working papers and policy guidance covering the review process under the Rotterdam Convention, which included some indication on how information generated under the Stockholm Convention could and had been taken into account in the past. Those documents were considered work in progress and could be further amended in the light of experience gained.

43. In the ensuing discussion, the members concluded that certain information already existed and that before developing further guidance, the existing material should be scrutinized.

44. The committee members took note of the information provided and decided to set up a joint intersessional working group, co-chaired by Ms. Seng and Mr. Abdelbagi, to review the information already available, summarize existing guidance and, if deemed necessary, develop further guidance to assist parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Chemical Review Committee in their work when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention. The group would be open-ended and include members from the two committees, as well as observers. The outcome of the work would be presented at the tenth meeting of the Chemical Review Committee and the tenth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee in October 2014. The

composition and the workplan of the joint intersessional working group are set out in annexes I and II to the present report, respectively.

V. Other matters

Feed-back on the first joint meeting of the Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention

45. The participants felt that the meeting had been successful and demonstrated that both committees could learn from each others' experiences and improve on certain aspects. The meeting was considered a step forward in view of the synergies process and had helped improving coordination and cooperation among the committees, in particular related to the exchange of information. There was a general agreement that a joint meeting would not be needed every year, but could be meaningful if organized at a different interval, e.g. every second year.

46. The Secretariat would collect additional feed-back on the present meeting by email after the meeting.

VI. Closure of the meeting

47. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the meeting was declared closed at 4:16 p.m..

Annex I

Composition of the joint intersessional working group for the development of guidance to assist parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Chemical Review Committee in their work when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention

Members of the Chemical Review Committee²

Ms. Anja Bartels (Austria)
 Mr. Gilberto Fillmann (Brazil)
 Ms. Hang Tang (Canada)
 Mr. Victor N'Goka (Congo)
 Mr. Droh Lanciné Goné (Côte d'Ivoire)*
 Mr. Michael Frank Ramsay (Jamaica)*
 Mr. Peter Opiyo (Kenya)*
 Ms. Amal Al-Rashdan (Kuwait)
 Mr. Gaoussou Kanouté (Mali)
 Mr. Sidi Ould Alueimine (Mauritania)³
 Mr. Arturo Gavilán García (Mexico)
 Ms. Leonarda van Leeuwen (Netherlands)
 Mr. Muhammad Bashir Khan (Pakistan)*
 Ms. Vilma Morales Quillama (Peru)*
 Ms. Magdalena Frydrych (Poland)
 Ms. Hala Sultan Al-Easa (Qatar)*
 Mr. Jung Kwan Seo (Republic of Korea)
 Mr. Mohamad Saleh Makki (Saudi Arabia)
 Mr. Jürgen Helbig (Spain)
 Ms. Sarah Maillefer (Switzerland)
 Ms. Susan Jane Collier (New Zealand)*

Members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee⁴

Ms. Norma Sbarbati-Nudelman (Argentina)**
 Mr. Joswa Aoudou (Cameroon)
 Mr. José Álvaro Rodríguez (Colombia)**
 Ms. Floria Roa-Gutierrez (Costa Rica)**
 Mr. Agus Haryono (Indonesia)
 Mr. Raouf Okasha (Egypt)**
 Mr. Sylvain Bintein (France)
 Mr. Reiner Arndt (Germany)**
 Ms. Caroline Wamai (Kenya)
 Ms. Haritiana Rakotoarisetra (Madagascar)
 Mr. Martien Janssen (Netherlands)
 Mr. Peter Dawson (New Zealand)**
 Ms. Kyunghee Choi (Republic of Korea)
 Mr. Azhari Abdelbagi (Sudan)⁵
 Ms. Svitlana Sukhorebra (Ukraine)**
 Ms. Francisca Katagira (United Republic of Tanzania)**

² Chemical Review Committee members whose names are marked with an asterisk (*) will end their terms on 30 April 2014.

³ Mr. Aloueimine is a member of the Chemical Review Committee until 30 April 2014. His term of office as a member of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee starts on 5 May 2014.

⁴ Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee members whose names are marked with two asterisks (**) will end their terms on 4 May 2014.

⁵ Mr. Abdelbagi is also a member of the Chemical Review Committee until 30 April 2014.

Observers⁶

Mr. Jack Holland (Australia)***
Mr. Gary Fan (Australia)
Mr. Hubert Binga (Gabon)***
Mr. Shuji Tamura (Japan)
Mr. Naoki Hashizume (Japan)
Ms. Reiko Eda (Japan)
Ms. Christina Tofsen (Norway)
Ms. Trine Celius (Norway)
Mr. Ousmane Sow (Senegal)***
Mr. Jayakody Sumith (Sri Lanka)***
Ms. Kristen Hendricks (United States of America)
Ms. Caroline Ciuciu (Bromine Science and Environmental Forum)
Ms. Venetia Spencer (Bromine Science and Environmental Forum)
Mr. Shunmugam Ganesan (Indian Chemical Council)
Ms. Michelle Lopez Orfei (International Council of Chemical Associations)
Ms. Mariann Lloyd-Smith (International POPs Elimination Network)
Mr. Joseph DiGangi (International POPs Elimination Network)
Ms. Meriel Watts (Pesticide Action Network, Asia Pacific)

⁶ Observers marked with three asterisks (***) are Persistent Organic Pollutants Committee members who will start their terms on 5 May 2014.

Annex II

Workplan for the development of guidance to assist parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Chemical Review Committee in their work when a chemical under consideration is a persistent organic pollutant listed under the Stockholm Convention

<i>Tasks to be carried out</i>	<i>Responsible persons</i>	<i>Deadlines</i>
Prepare initial draft document	Chair Co-Chair	15 December 2013
Send initial draft document to joint intersessional working group members for comments via e-mail	Chair Co-Chair	15 December 2013
Replies	All task group members	20 January 2014
Update initial draft based on comments from joint intersessional working group members	Chair Co-Chair	20 February 2014
Send updated initial draft document to the Chemical Review Committee (CRC) and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC) members and observers for comments via e-mail	Chair Co-Chair	20 February 2014
Replies	All CRC and POPRC members and observers	31 March 2014
Draft the guidance document based on the comments from CRC, POPRC members and observers	Chair Co-Chair	28 April 2014
Send draft guidance document joint intersessional working group members for comments via e-mail	Chair Co-Chair	28 April 2014
Replies	All drafting group members	9 May 2014
Finalize draft guidance document based on the comments of the joint intersessional working group	Chair Co-Chair	30 May 2014
Send draft guidance document to Secretariat	Chair Co-Chair	30 May 2014
Present draft guidance document to CRC and POPRC at its tenth meetings, respectively		October 2014