



COPs

BRIEFING ON THE 2023 MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE PARTIES TO THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET | IEH1, Room 3 & Online

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BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS



Diana RIZZOLIO



Coordinator, Geneva Environment Network

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BRIEFING ON THE 2023 MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE PARTIES TO THE BRS CONVENTIONS



7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET
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SPEAKERS

By order of intervention.



Rolph PAYET

Executive Secretary, Basel Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention



Marylene BEAU

Programme Officer, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



David OGDEN

Chief, Governance Branch, BRS Conventions



Gundega TRUMKALNE

Chief, Funds Management, Administration and Human Resources Branch, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



Kathleen CREAVALLE

Deputy Director, Corporate Services Division, United Nations Environment Programme



Michel TSCHIRREN

Waste and Chemicals Focal Point of the Global Affairs Section, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment



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Welcome and Introductory Remarks

- Rolph PAYET | Executive Secretary, Basel Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Presentations by the Secretariat

Update on Preparations for the 2023 Meetings of the COPs to the BRS Conventions

- Marylene BEAU | Programme Officer, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Overview of Key Items on the Provisional Agendas of the Meetings

- David OGDEN | Chief, Governance Branch, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Budget Issues, Implementation of the MoUs between UNEP and the COPs to the BRS Conventions

- Gundega TRUMKALNE | Chief, Funds Management, Administration and Human Resources Branch, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
- Kathleen CREAVALLE | Deputy Director, Corporate Services Division, UN Environment Programme

Perspectives of Switzerland

Perspectives of Switzerland on the Proposal to Amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the Rotterdam Convention & to Add a New Annex VIII to the Convention

- Michel TSCHIRREN | Waste and Chemicals Focal Point, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland

Q&A

Closing Remarks

- Michel TSCHIRREN | Waste and Chemicals Focal Point, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland



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Photo by IISD/ENB | Angeles Estrada Vigil.

Welcome & Introductory Remarks



Rolph PAYET

Executive Secretary,
Basel Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



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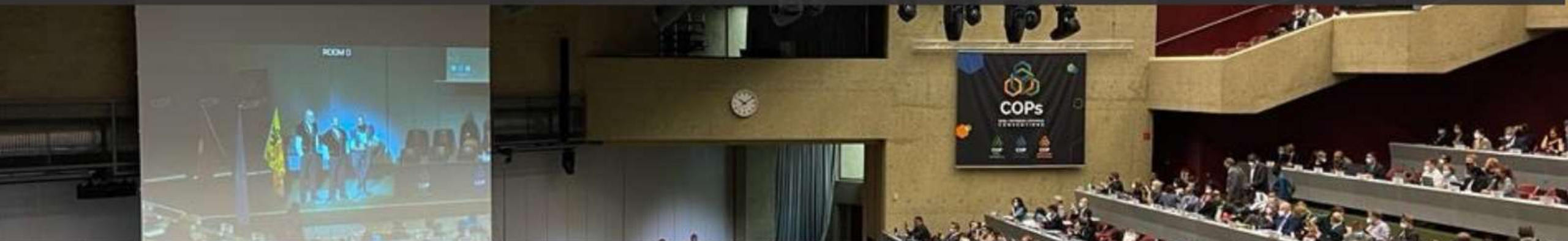
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Closing Remarks

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Presentations by the Secretariat





BRIEFING ON THE 2023 MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE PARTIES TO THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS



Preparations for the 2023 Meetings of the COPs to the BRS Conventions



Marylene BEAU



Programme Officer, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET | IEH1, Room 3 & Online



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BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
C O N V E N T I O N S

Briefing on the 2023 meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

7 March 2023, 10:00 a.m. CEST

Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Update on preparations for the 2023 meetings of the COPs



Meeting highlights

- BC COP-16, RC COP-11 and SC COP-11:
 - 1-12 May 2023, Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), Geneva, Switzerland
 - 30 April 2023: preparatory meetings (regional groups, bureaux)
- Theme: *“Accelerating action: Targets for the sound management of chemicals and wastes”*
- Face-to-face meetings
- No high-level segment
- COP Presidents:
 - Reggie Hernaus, BC
 - Ana Berejiani, RC
 - Keima Gardiner, SC
- PCB Fair and side events
- Meetings website: <http://www.brsmeas.org/2023COPs>



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Registration and credentials



BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
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BRS donors - COPs and RPMs

- **Representatives of Parties**
 - Deadline for registration by and requests for financial assistance lapsed on 20 January 2023
- Admitted observers invited to register by 24 March 2023; Bodies or agencies not previously admitted as observers need to complete procedure for admission before registration by same deadline
- **On-site registration:**
 - 10 am to 5 pm on Sunday, 30 April 2023
 - 8 am to 5 pm on Monday, 1 May 2023
 - 9 am to 5 pm during other days
- **Credentials:**
 - Submission to the Secretariat if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the meetings (by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 2 May 2023)
 - Advance submission of electronic copies of credentials by 7 April 2023; originals at the meeting venue



China



Denmark



Germany



Japan



Netherlands



Norway



Sweden



Switzerland

Tentative schedule (week 1)



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CONVENTIONS

	Mon, 1 May	Tue, 2 May	Wed, 3 May	Thu, 4 May	Fri, 5 May	Sat, 6 May	
10 AM - 1 PM	Joint Opening Adoption of the agendas Organizational matters POPs wastes	Joint Technical assistance Compliance PoW and budget MoUs	<i>Reports of contact groups</i>			BC Technical guidelines (cont.) Strategic framework PIC procedure ESM guidelines ICC (cont.)	No formal meetings
			SC PCBs Unintentional POPs NIPs Reporting	SC Draft decisions Rules of procedure	Joint Synergies in preventing illegal traffic Next COPs Other matters (observers)		
3 PM - 6 PM	BC Technical guidelines Further legal clarity	SC Compliance (cont.) Effectiveness evaluation Exemptions PFOS DDT	RC Enhancing the effectiveness	SC Draft decisions Other matters (cont.)	SC Draft decisions SC report	No formal meetings	
	SC Listing of chemicals		Joint Financial resources Cooperation with the Minamata Convention Cooperation with other organizations				Adoption of reports on credentials

Tentative schedule (week 2)



BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS

	Sun, 7 May	Mon, 8 May	Tue, 9 May	Wed, 10 May	Thu, 11 May	Fri, 12 May
		<i>Reports of contact groups</i>				
10 AM – 1 PM	BC National legislation Amendment proposal by Russian Federation Partnerships	BC <i>Draft decisions</i> OEWG Other matters (cont.)	BC <i>Draft decisions</i>	RC <i>Draft decisions</i>	RC <i>Draft decisions</i>	RC <i>Draft decisions</i> RC report
				Joint CHM Gender Science to action		
3-6 PM	BC Classification Reporting Electronic approaches Plastic waste Amendments to annexes II, VIII and IX on e-waste Nanomaterials	RC Compliance (cont.) Listing of chemicals	RC Listing of chemicals (cont.) Enhancing the effectiveness (cont.) Status of implementation Rules of procedure Other matters (cont.)	BC <i>Draft decisions</i> BC report	Joint <i>Draft decisions</i> Credentials update	BC budget
						RC budget
						SC budget
						Closure
				Report of joint sessions		

Potential contact and other groups



Joint:

- Programmes of work and budgets
- Technical assistance/financial resources and mechanisms
- Joint issues

SC:

- Listing of chemicals
- Compliance

BC:

- Group on technical matters
- Group on strategic matters
- Group on compliance and legal matters

RC:

- Enhancing the effectiveness of the Convention
- Compliance
- Listing of chemicals

*Limited number of contact groups running in parallel

Election of officers



Basel Convention					Rotterdam Convention			Stockholm Convention		
	COP Bureau	OEWG Bureau	ICC	ENFORCE	COP Bureau	CC	CRC	COP Bureau	POPRC	DDT Expert Group
Africa	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	2 members (1 Party, 1 BCRC)	1 officer	1 member	4 members	2 officers	4 members	2 Parties
Asia - Pacific	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	n/a	1 officer	1 member	4 members	2 officers	4 members	2 Parties
EE	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	2 members (1 Party, 1 BCRC)	1 officer	2 members	1 member	2 officers	1 member	2 Parties
GRULAC	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	n/a	1 officer	2 members	2 members	2 officers	2 members	2 Parties
WEOG	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	1 member (1 Party)	1 officer	2 members	3 members	2 officers	3 members	2 Parties

For more information see: <http://www.brsmeas.org/2023COPs/Elections/tabid/9424/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Election of officers: Rules and requirements



- Nomination of candidates invited by 1 March 2023 and selection of candidates facilitated by the regional election focal points

Africa	Sheikh Ahmed Tunis (Sierra Leone)
Asia Pacific	Mohamed Aman (Bahrain)
Eastern Europe	Artak Khachatryan (Armenia)
GRULAC	Napoleon Garcia (El Salvador)
WEOG	Tuulia Toikka (Finland) – for EU Glenn Wigley (New Zealand) – for non-EU

- According to the financial rules, no representative of any Party whose contributions are **in arrears for 2 or more years** shall be eligible to become:
 - A member of the BC COP Bureau or its subsidiary bodies
 - A member of the RC or SC COP Bureau or a member of its subsidiary bodies
 - Except for LDCs, SIDS and Parties respecting a schedule of payments

Guidelines for rules of conduct for meeting participants



These guidelines were prepared by the Secretariat to ensure an orderly running of COPs meetings and subsidiary body meetings:

- 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 bodies, <http://www.brsmeas.org/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-COPS.2021-GUID-1-RecordingDevices.English.pdf>
- Guidelines for the participation of representatives of observers at meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (BRS) and their subsidiary bodies, <http://www.brsmeas.org/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-COPS.2021-GUID-2-Observersparticipation.English.pdf>
- Guidelines on preventing and addressing all forms of harassment at meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, <http://www.brsmeas.org/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-COPS.2021-GUID-3-Harassment.English.pdf>

Regional preparatory meetings



Region	Dates	Locations
Asia-Pacific	14-16 March 2023	Bangkok, Thailand
Africa	21-23 March 2023	Dakar, Senegal
Eastern Europe	28-30 March 2023	Zagreb, Croatia
GRULAC	28-30 March 2023	Panama City, Panama



Preparatory webinars



Date and time (UTC+1)	Title	Language	Please register a few days in advance, utilizing any of the following links:
Tuesday 18 April 2023 10:00-11:00	BRS COPs 2023 briefing	English	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/r54f4675562e121057a79b8b705179474
Tuesday 18 April 2023 16:00-17:00		Spanish	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/r0b3969ceee82f2c6f553f3bb89412635
Wednesday 19 April 2023 16:00-17:00		English	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/r0fbef4b56cff084a0c806caedbd8e25f
Thursday 20 April 2023 10:00-11:00		French	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/rccd2f3ee474198a5342781c359f126c2

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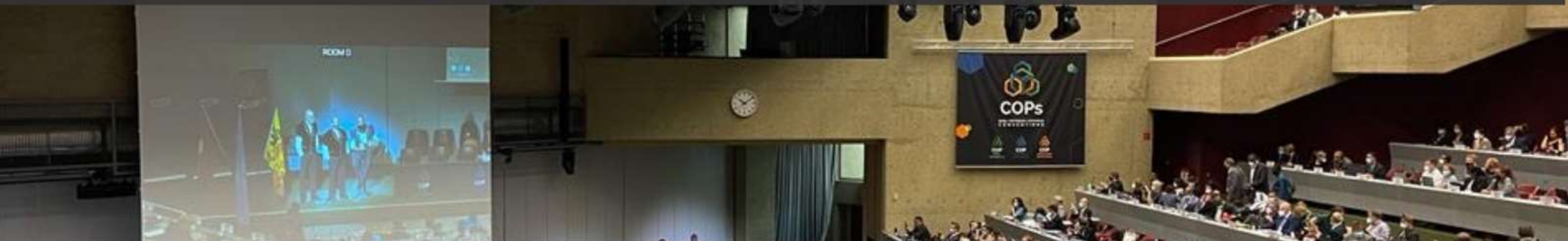
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Q&A

Closing Remarks

- Michel TSCHIRREN | Waste and Chemicals Focal Point, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland





Overview of Key Items on the Provisional Agendas of the Meetings



David OGDEN



Chief, Governance Branch, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



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Overview of key items on the provisional agendas of the meetings



Basel Convention COP-16 main issues



Strategic issues

- Strategic framework
- Enhancing the PIC procedure

Scientific and technical matters

- Technical guidelines:
 - Plastic wastes, POPs wastes, waste lead-acid batteries, other batteries and e-wastes
- E-notifications
- Further consideration of plastic waste
- Follow-up to e-waste amendments: Assessment of the need to update existing guidance

Basel Convention Partnership Programme

- Plastic Waste Partnership
- Partnership for Action on Challenges relating to E-waste
- ENFORCE
- Household waste partnership

Legal, governance and enforcement matters

- Implementation and Compliance Committee (specific submissions; general review, including national reporting, illegal traffic, national legislation, programme of work)
- Further legal clarity:
 - EU amendment proposals on Annex IV
 - Recommendations of the expert working group on annexes I and III
 - Proposal by the Russian Federation to amend paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the Convention

Rotterdam Convention COP-11 main issues



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Compliance

- Work programme of the Committee

Listing of chemicals in Annex III to the Convention

- 2 new chemicals: iprodione and terbufos,
- 5 old ones: acetochlor, carbosulfan, chrysotile asbestos, fenthion formulations and paraquat formulations

Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention

- Proposal by Switzerland, Australia, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Mali to amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the Rotterdam Convention and to add a new Annex VIII
- Proposal by African countries to amend Article 16 of the Rotterdam Convention

Stockholm Convention COP-11 main issues



Reduce or eliminate release from intentional production and use

- DDT (evaluate the continued need)
- PCBs
 - Assessment of the progress towards elimination of PCB
 - Strategy to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals
- PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (POPRC recommendations)

Listing of chemicals in Annex A, B or C

- Methoxychlor
- Dechlorane Plus
- UV-328

Compliance

- For possible adoption based on the draft texts in the annex of document SC-11/21

National Implementation Plans (NIPs)

- Revised guidance on developing and updating NIPs; draft global approach to the review and updating of NIPs

Reporting

- Updated electronic reporting system

Joint issues



Technical assistance

- Review of regional centers

Financial resources

- Implementation of the MoU between the GEF Council and the Stockholm Convention COP
- Special Programme on institutional strengthening

International cooperation and coordination:

- With the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- With other organizations

Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the BRS conventions

- Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade

Programmes of work and budgets

- Consider full budget for 2024-2025

Memorandums of Understanding between UNEP and the COPs (and FAO in the case of RC)

- Proposal for amendments to the three convention-specific MOUs for possible adoption by the COPs

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CONVENTIONS



Budget Issues, Implementation of MoUs between UNEP and BRS COPs



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Chief, Funds Management, Administration and Human Resources Branch, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



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Deputy Director, Corporate Services Division,
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Budget Documents

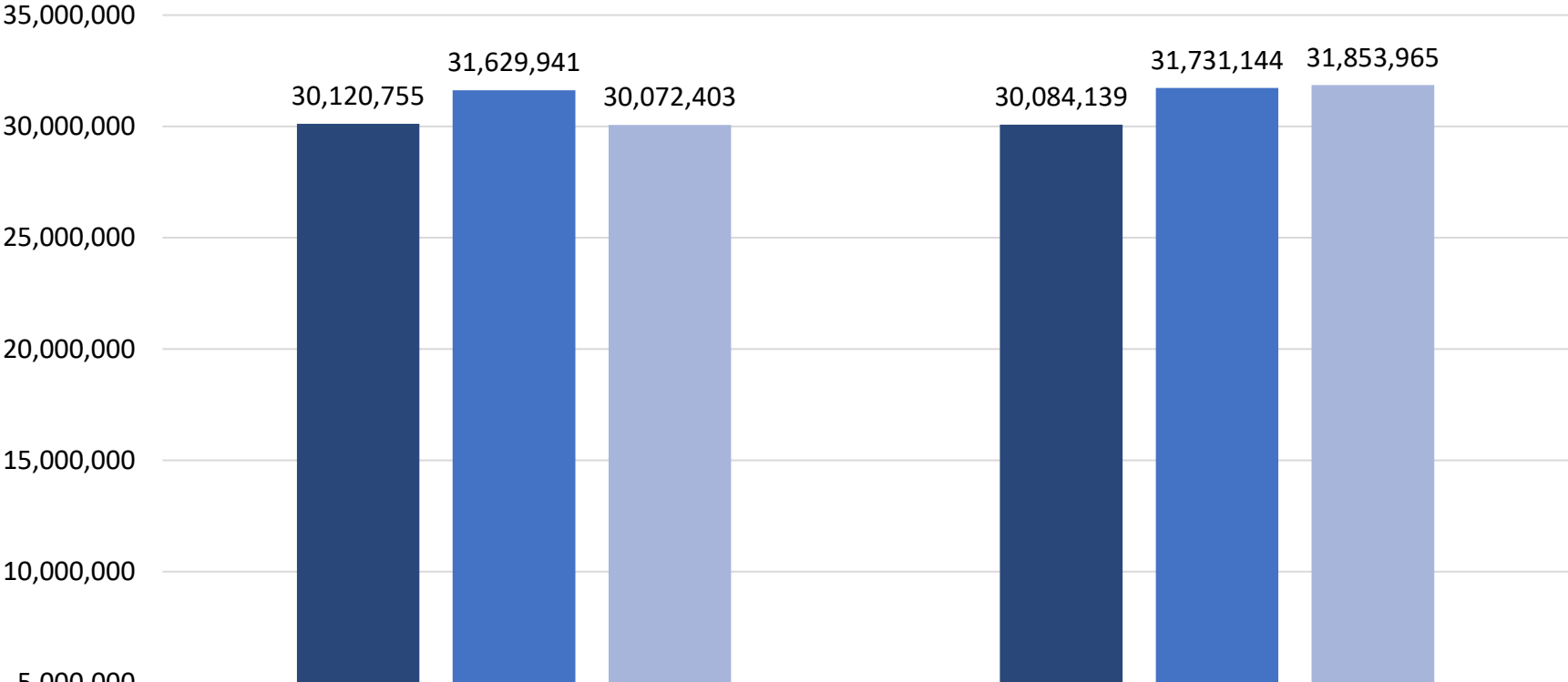


Budget documents



- **Programmes of work and budgets for the biennium 2024–2025: combined proposal**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/27-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/22-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/28
 - Presents two scenarios for the programmes of work and budgets: Executive Secretaries’ scenario (not to exceed a 5 per cent increase above the 2022-2023 level) and the Zero nominal growth scenario and explains any variances and sets out decisions that the Parties may wish to consider adopting.
- **Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2024–2025: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/45-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/50
 - Annexes to this document set out operational budgets for the two funding scenarios, presents indicative assessed contributions; gives background information on staffing component and provides information on financial and in-kind contributions to the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat.
- **Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2024-2025: programmes of work activity fact sheets**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/46–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/30–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/51
 - Provides further details on the individual activities.

Two funding scenarios



■ Approved budget 2022 - 2023	30,120,755	30,084,139
■ Executive Secretaries' scenario 2024-2025	31,629,941	31,731,144
■ Zero Nominal Growth scenario 2024-2025	30,072,403	31,853,965

■ Approved budget 2022 - 2023 ■ Executive Secretaries' scenario 2024-2025 ■ Zero Nominal Growth scenario 2024-2025

How to find documents



Visit www.brsmeas.org

Basel Convention > The Convention > Conference of the Parties > Meetings > COP.16 > Working documents / Information documents

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Basel Convention. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Basel Convention', 'Rotterdam Convention', 'Stockholm Convention', and 'Synergies'. Below this is a header with the UN Environment Programme logo and the text 'BASEL CONVENTION Controlling transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal'. A navigation menu includes 'HOME', 'THE CONVENTION', 'PROCEDURES', 'IMPLEMENTATION', 'COUNTRIES', and 'PARTNERS'. The breadcrumb trail reads: 'You are here: Basel Convention > The Convention > Conference of the Parties > Meetings > COP.16'. The main content area is titled 'Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention' and 'Geneva, Switzerland, from 1-12 May 2023'. It includes a 'Venue' section for the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG) and a 'Highlights' section. A 'Meeting documents' section is visible at the bottom, with tabs for 'Working documents' and 'Information documents', and language selection buttons for Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. A table with columns for 'Document symbol', 'Title', 'Download', and 'Upload date' is partially visible.

Implementation of the memorandums of understanding between UNEP, FAO and the conferences of the Parties



Documents related to MOUs (meeting documents)



- **Implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/28
- **Implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention**
 - UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/23
- **Implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention**
 - UNEP/POPS/COP.11/29

Documents related to MOUs (information documents)



- **Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to the respective conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on the implementation of the memorandums of understanding (joint document)**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/49-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/33-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/53
- **Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the implementation of the memorandum of understanding**
 - UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/34
- **Letters by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) proposing amendments to the memorandums of understanding between UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, and between UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (joint document)**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/53-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/39-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/57

Background



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Identical decisions (BC-15/30, RC-10/19 and SC-10/26) were taken at the meetings of the COPs to the three Conventions (6 – 17 June 2022) requesting the Executive Director of UNEP to comply with the MOUs between the UNEP regarding service costs to be covered by UNEP pursuant to the Annex to each MOU.

A memo was sent by the BRS Executive Secretary to the Executive Director UNEP, dated 28 July 2022, transmitting the request by the conferences of the Parties to the Executive Director of UNEP to comply with the three MOUs.

The Executive Director of UNEP initiated a review of the memorandum of understanding for the purpose of clarifying the central administrative services provided in support of the Convention against the 33 per cent share of the programme support costs income attributable to all the trust funds of the Convention.

As was communicated by the Secretariat to all Parties in a letter dated 20 December 2022, the Executive Director has, as an outcome of this review, proposed amendments to the three MoUs.

The letters from the Executive Director and annexes reflecting the proposed revisions to each of the three memorandums of understanding, with changes tracked, are set out in document UNEP/CHW.16/INF/53–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/39–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/57.

Major areas of clarification: Services provided by UNOG on behalf of UNEP



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CONVENTIONS

Medical and Counselling Services

Host Country relations related to diplomatic services (UNLP, CDL, diplomatic license plates, petrol cards)

Mail and diplomatic pouch services

Security and safety

Implications of the changes to the budget



- The proposed amendments will clarify which services provided to the BRS Secretariat should be covered by the UNEP's share of the PSC costs.
- The proposed amendments will not result in less services provided to the BRS Secretariat.
- In principle, approving the amendment will not result in additional costs to the Parties since these costs were already being absorbed by the BRS Secretariat prior to 2022 as part of the core budget (except for 2022 – 2023 budget when they were excluded). It should be noted that some of the cost categories, e.g., security, have continued to increase over the years.
- These services have been included in both budget scenarios for 2024 – 2025 (Executive Secretaries' scenario and the Zero nominal growth scenario).

Proposed actions by Parties



- Proposed amendments to the three MOUs may be reviewed with a view of amending them during the next meetings of the Conference of the Parties, within the scheduled work of the Budget Contact Group.
- The review may be followed by a decision by each of the three Conferences, adopting amendments to the memorandums of understanding, in particular the Annex setting out the revised central administrative services provided by UNEP in support of the three Conventions.
- Decisions may also be made by the Parties authorizing the Executive Secretary, on an exceptional basis, to draw from the available surplus of the three Conventions' general trust funds to cover the funding gap for the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) services provided to the Secretariat during the biennium 2022–2023, not included in the approved budget. It is estimated that the amount needed will be 298K covering 7 quarters of the biennium at 42.5K per quarter (expenses of the 1st quarter of 2022 were already paid prior to the decision of the COPs in June 2022).

UNEP's perspective on the implementation of the memorandums of understanding



Memorandums of understanding between UNEP and BRS Conventions



Background: Current MOUs signed in May 2019 between UNEP and the three conventions.

Areas covered: staffing, Delegation of Authority, common administrative costs, financial matters, programmatic relationship.

During the 2022 COPs , Parties to the Conventions requested that the UNEP PSC portion cover costs under category Security and Safety as well as several other types of core services

Memorandums of understanding between UNEP and BRS Conventions



Amendment to clarify the interpretation of provision of services vrs the coverage of the cost of the services.

The direct costs associated to any activity is covered from the core fund regardless of the service provider.

The indirect cost, which cannot be associated to any particular entity are covered from program support

Amendment to clarify which indirect cost are covered by UNEP portion of PSC

BRS over-expenditure of its PSC due to low implementation rates since 2015

Need to diversify costs of a long term nature charged to PSC to reduce risks

Revision of UNEP's Program Support Cost Policy and Timeline



BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS

The current Program support cost (PSC) policy was issued in May 2017.

IPSAS Cost recovery policy issued by UNHQ triggered the need to revise the policy

Some initial analysis done. Policy affects UNEP Divisions and MEAs.

Final revised PSC policy is expected to be issued by early 2024.

Thank you



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions
International Environment House I
11-15 Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
www.brsmeas.org

 [SafePlanet](#)  [BRS MEAS](#)  [@Safe.Planet](#)  [@brsmeas](#)  [BRS-conventions](#)

BRIEFING ON THE 2023 MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE PARTIES TO THE BRS CONVENTIONS



7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET
IEH1, Room 3 & Online

AGENDA

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- Rolph PAYET | Executive Secretary, Basel Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

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Perspectives of Switzerland

Perspectives of Switzerland on the Proposal to Amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the Rotterdam Convention & to Add a New Annex VIII to the Convention

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Q&A

Closing Remarks

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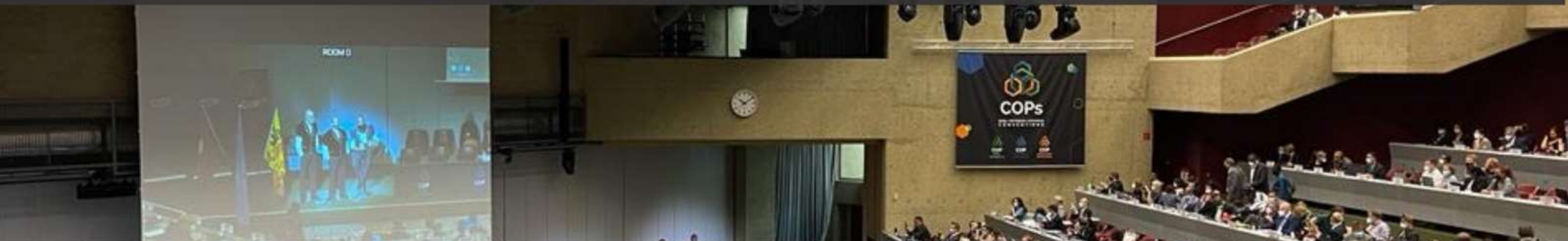
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BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS



Perspectives of Switzerland

Michel TSCHIRREN

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Waste and Chemicals Focal Point, Federal
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Proposal to amend the **Rotterdam Convention**

Proposal to amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the
Convention and add a new Annex VIII

Co-sponsors: Australia, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Georgia, Ghana, Mali,
Nigeria, Republic of Maldives, and Switzerland

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

[Rotterdam Amendment Proposal - 2023 \(English\) - YouTube](#)



The aim of the Rotterdam Convention

Information-sharing to enable sound decision making

- Promotes **shared responsibility** for managing trade of certain hazardous chemicals
- Empowers Parties to **decide** whether to accept a chemical import, and **under what conditions**
- Does *not* ban manufacture, use or trade of chemicals



Process for listing a chemical in Annex III

Parties in two or more regions notify 'final regulatory action'

information reviewed by Secretariat and then CRC

CRC Prepares decision guidance document (DGD)

Recommendation to list in Annex III, and DGD, considered by the COP

COP decides to list chemical in Annex III



What problem is the proposal trying to solve?

- The COP has failed to agree to list five chemicals, even though **all the listing criteria have been met**
- This is **undermining the effectiveness of the Convention**
 - Erodes confidence in the process
 - Limits information sharing
 - Reduces the ability of Parties to control imports of these hazardous substances

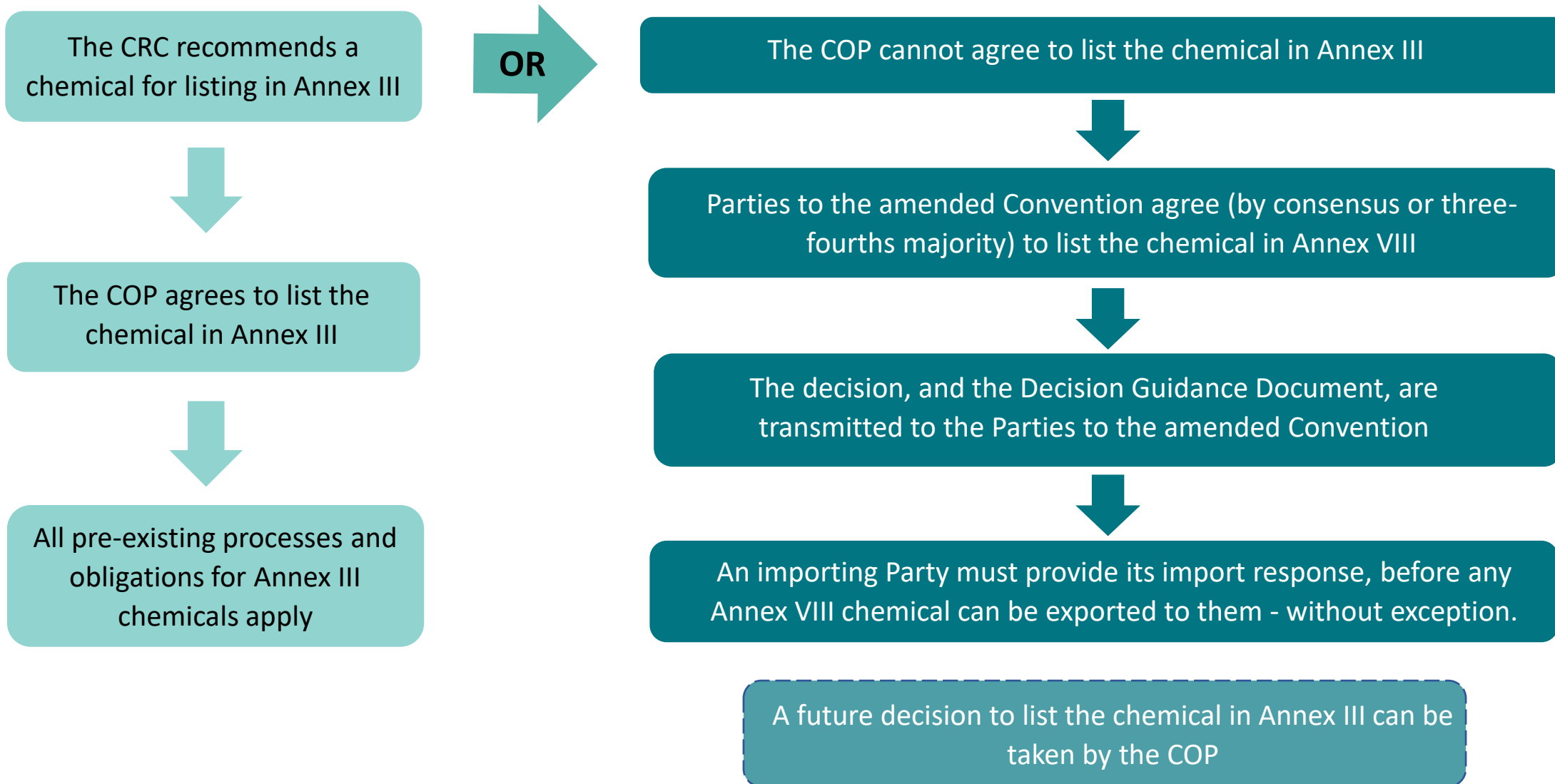




What is the proposal?

- To create a pathway for listing chemicals that have **met the listing criteria**, but the COP cannot reach agreement to list them in Annex III
- A new Annex (Annex VIII)
 - Amendments to Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 will establish the process for listing a chemical in Annex VIII
- If the COP decides to adopt the proposed amendment, Parties to the Convention will have the opportunity to ratify it.

How will the proposed Annex VIII work?





Benefits of the proposed amendment

- Provides an additional tool for some countries to managed unwanted shipments of hazardous chemicals
- Helps countries take domestic action
- Retains the aim of sharing responsibility for the sound management of chemicals
- Builds on existing Convention processes which **will remain unchanged**

You can find the links to the proposal, explanatory video, and brochure on the Rotterdam website

English | Español | Français

Basel Convention Rotterdam Convention Stockholm Convention Synergies

Meetings Documents Networks Publications

UN environment programme FAO ROTTERDAM CONVENTION Share Responsibility

THE CONVENTION PROCEDURES IMPLEMENTATION COUNTRIES SECRETARIAT PARTNERS Search

Overview

- Text of the Convention
- How it works
- History
- Frequently Asked Questions

Amendments

- Overview
- Proposed amendments**

Chemicals

- Annex III Chemicals
- Decision Guidance Documents
- Harmonized System Codes
- Recommended for listing
- Candidate Chemicals
- Not yet recommended for listing
- Intersessional Work on Listing

Chemical Review Committee

- Overview and Mandate
- Membership
- Meetings
- Reports and Decisions
- CRC Recommendations
- Call for Information
- Guidance
- Quiz
- Workshops and Webinars

Compliance Committee

- Arrears
- Trust Fund
- Special Voluntary Trust Fund RC

Synergies

- Communications

side event at the 2023 BRS COPs!

English | Español | Français

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THE CONVENTION PROCEDURES IMPLEMENTATION COUNTRIES SECRETARIAT PARTNERS Search

Rotterdam Convention > The Convention > Amendments > Proposed amendments | Login

Proposed amendments

Amendment of the Rotterdam Convention (Article 21)

There are currently two proposals under consideration for amendment of the Convention.

Proposal to amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the Convention and to add a new Annex VIII

On 19 October 2022 the Secretariat received a proposal by Switzerland, Australia and Mali to amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the Convention and to add a new Annex VIII, along with an explanatory note. Burkina Faso, Colombia, Georgia, Ghana, Nigeria and Republic of Maldives subsequently joined as co-sponsors of the proposal.

Pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article 21 of the Convention, on 27 October 2022, more than six months before the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (1-12 May 2023), the Secretariat communicated the amendment proposal to the Parties and signatories to the Convention with an invitation to provide any comments thereon by 16 January 2023. The proposal was also communicated to the depositary for information. The proposal will be considered by the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The explanatory note transmitted alongside the amendment proposal is set out in the above-mentioned communication. In addition, the proponents have published a brochure in English, French and Spanish and produced a short video to explain their proposal. The video is available in English, French and Spanish.

A compilation of comments received from Parties prior to the consideration of the proposal will also be made available to the Conference of the Parties. Comments received from Parties and observers are available in the table below.

Comments received from Parties and observers on the proposal to amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the Convention and to add a new Annex VIII

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

We hope you can support this proposal, and by doing so support the continued success of the Convention



		IMPORTING PARTY	
EXPORTING PARTY	Has ratified the new Annex VIII	Has not ratified the new Annex VIII	
Has ratified the new Annex VIII	<p>Importing Party bound by Article 10 Exporting Party bound by Article 11</p> <p>Outcome: PIC procedure implemented; chemical can be traded if importing Party consents</p>	<p>Importing Party not bound by Article 10 Exporting Party bound by Article 11</p> <p>Outcome: exporting Party can export in accordance with Article 11, providing it has received explicit consent from the importing non-Party.</p>	
Has not ratified the new Annex VIII	<p>Importing Party bound by Article 10 Exporting Party not bound by Article 11</p> <p>Outcome: the listing process and consequent availability of information through the DGD enables the importing Party to assess potential risks and take action to manage import, through its national legal frameworks and policies.</p>	<p>Importing Party not bound by Article 10 Exporting Party not bound by Article 11</p> <p>Outcome: Articles 10 and 11 do not apply to the international trade of the chemical.</p>	

Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 Changes

ARTICLE 7

Listing of chemicals in Annexes III and VIII

- For each chemical that the Chemical Review Committee has decided to recommend for listing in Annex III, it shall prepare a draft decision guidance document. The decision guidance document should, at a minimum, be based on the information specified in Annex I, or, as the case may be, Annex IV, and include information on uses of the chemical in a category other than the category for which the final regulatory action applies.
- The recommendation referred to in paragraph 1 together with the draft decision guidance document shall be forwarded to the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties shall decide whether the chemical should be made subject to the Prior Informed Consent procedure or subject to explicit consent and, accordingly, list the chemical in Annex III or in Annex VIII, and approve the draft decision guidance document.
- When a decision to list a chemical in Annex III or in Annex VIII has been taken and the related decision guidance document has been approved by the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat shall forthwith communicate this information to all Parties.

ARTICLE 10

Obligations in relation to imports of chemicals listed in Annex III and Annex VIII

- Each Party shall implement appropriate legislative or administrative measures to ensure timely decisions with respect to the import of chemicals listed in Annex III and Annex VIII.
- Each Party shall transmit to the Secretariat, as soon as possible, and in any event no later than nine months after the date of dispatch of the decision guidance document referred to in paragraph 3 of Article 7, a response concerning the future import of the chemical concerned. If a Party modifies this response, it shall forthwith submit the revised response to the Secretariat.
- The Secretariat shall, at the expiration of the time period in paragraph 2, forthwith address to a Party that has not provided such a response, a written request to do so. Should the Party be unable to provide a response, the Secretariat shall, where appropriate, help it to provide a response within the time period specified in the last sentence of paragraph 2 of Article 11.
- A response under paragraph 2 shall consist of either:
 - A final decision, pursuant to legislative or administrative measures:
 - To consent to import;
 - Not to consent to import; or
 - To consent to import only subject to specified conditions; or
 - An interim response, which may include:
 - An interim decision consenting to import with or without specified conditions, or not consenting to import during the interim period;
 - A statement that a final decision is under active consideration;
 - A request to the Secretariat, or to the Party that notified the final regulatory action, for further information;
 - A request to the Secretariat for assistance in evaluating the chemical.
- A response under subparagraphs (a) or (b) of paragraph 4 shall relate to the category or categories specified for the chemical in Annex III and Annex VIII.
- A final decision should be accompanied by a description of any legislative or administrative measures upon which it is based.
- Each Party shall, no later than the date of entry into force of this Convention for it, transmit to the Secretariat responses with respect to each chemical listed in Annex III and Annex VIII. A Party that has

provided such responses under the Amended London Guidelines or the International Code of Conduct need not resubmit those responses.

- Each Party shall make its responses under this Article available to those concerned within its jurisdiction, in accordance with its legislative or administrative measures.
- A Party that, pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 4 above and paragraph 2 of Article 11, takes a decision not to consent to import of a chemical or to consent to its import only under specified conditions shall, if it has not already done so, simultaneously prohibit or make subject to the same conditions:
 - Import of the chemical from any source; and
 - Domestic production of the chemical for domestic use.
- Every six months the Secretariat shall inform all Parties of the responses it has received. Such information shall include a description of the legislative or administrative measures on which the decisions have been based, where available. The Secretariat shall, in addition, inform the Parties of any cases of failure to transmit a response.

ARTICLE 11

Obligations in relation to exports of chemicals listed in Annex III and Annex VIII

- Each exporting Party shall:
 - Implement appropriate legislative or administrative measures to communicate the responses forwarded by the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 10 of Article 10 to those concerned within its jurisdiction;
 - Take appropriate legislative or administrative measures to ensure that exporters within its jurisdiction comply with decisions in each response no later than six months after the date on which the Secretariat first informs the Parties of such response in accordance with paragraph 10 of Article 10;
 - Advise and assist importing Parties, upon request and as appropriate:
 - To obtain further information to help them to take action in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 10 and paragraph 2 (c) below; and
 - To strengthen their capacities and capabilities to manage chemicals safely during their life-cycle.
- Each Party shall ensure that a chemical listed in Annex III is not exported from its territory to any importing Party that, in exceptional circumstances, has failed to transmit a response or has transmitted an interim response that does not contain an interim decision, unless:
 - It is a chemical that, at the time of import, is registered as a chemical in the importing Party; or
 - It is a chemical for which evidence exists that it has previously been used in, or imported into, the importing Party and in relation to which no regulatory action to prohibit its use has been taken; or
 - Explicit consent to the import has been sought and received by the exporter through a designated national authority of the importing Party. The importing Party shall respond to such a request within sixty days and shall promptly notify the Secretariat of its decision.

The obligations of exporting Parties under this paragraph shall apply with effect from the expiration of a period of six months from the date on which the Secretariat first informs the Parties, in accordance with paragraph 10 of Article 10, that a Party has failed to transmit a response or has transmitted an interim response that does not contain an interim decision, and shall apply for one year.

- Until such time that it is listed in Annex III, each Party shall ensure that a chemical listed in Annex VIII is not exported from its territory to any importing Party that, in exceptional circumstances, has failed to transmit a response or has transmitted an interim response that does not contain an interim decision.

ARTICLE 22

Adoption and amendment of annexes

- 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.
- Annexes shall be restricted to procedural, scientific, technical or administrative matters.

- The following procedure shall apply to the proposal, adoption and entry into force of additional annexes to this Convention:
 - Additional annexes shall be proposed and adopted according to the procedure laid down in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Article 21;
 - Any Party that is unable to accept an additional annex shall so notify the Depository, in writing, within one year from the date of communication of the adoption of the additional annex by the Depository. The Depository 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 an additional annex and the annex shall thereupon enter into force for that Party subject to subparagraph (c) below; and
 - On the expiry of one year from the date of the communication by the Depository 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) above.
- Except in the case of Annex III and Annex VIII, the proposal, adoption and entry into force of amendments to annexes to this Convention shall be subject to the same procedures as for the proposal, adoption and entry into force of additional annexes to the Convention.
- The following procedure shall apply to the proposal, adoption and entry into force of amendments to Annex III and Annex VIII:
 - Amendments to Annex III shall be proposed and adopted according to the procedure laid down in Articles 5 to 9 and paragraph 2 of Article 21;
 - The Conference of the Parties shall take its decisions on adoption of amendments to Annex III by consensus;
(b) In all efforts to take a decision on adoption of an amendment to Annex III by consensus have been exhausted, the Conference of the Parties may alternatively decide to adopt that proposed amendment as an amendment to Annex VIII pursuant to the procedure set out in paragraph 3 of Article 21, and approve the decision guidance document;
 - A decision to amend Annex III or Annex VIII shall forthwith be communicated to the Parties by the Depository. The amendment shall enter into force for all Parties on a date to be specified in the decision.
- 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.

Annex VIII – Chemicals Subject to Explicit Consent

Chemical	Relevant CAS number(s)	Category

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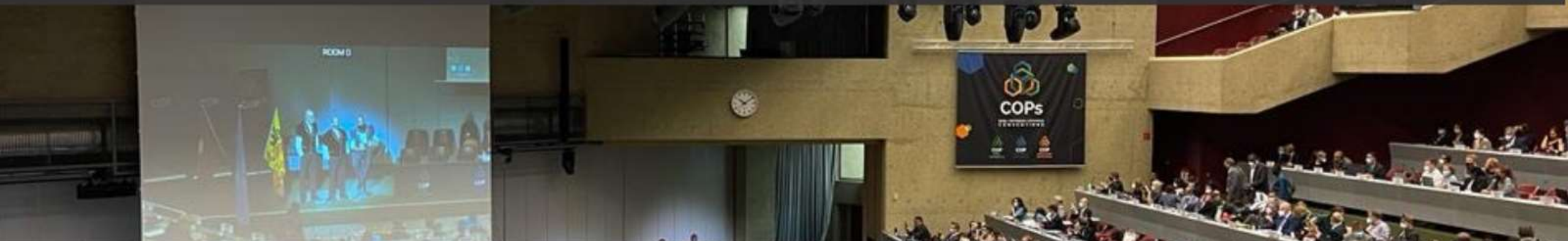
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Concluding Remarks






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BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS



Concluding Remarks

Michel TSCHIRREN

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Confederaziun svizra

Waste and Chemicals Focal Point, Federal
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THANK YOU!



Rolph PAYET



Executive Secretary, Basel Rotterdam
and Stockholm Convention



Marylene BEAU



Programme Officer, Basel, Rotterdam
and Stockholm Conventions



David OGDEN



Chief, Governance Branch, BRS
Conventions



Gundega TRUMKALNE



Chief, Facilities Management Section,
United Nations Office at Geneva



Kathleen CREAVALLE



Deputy Director, Corporate Services
Division, United Nations Environment
Programme



Michel TSCHIRREN



Waste and Chemicals Focal Point of the
Global Affairs Section, Swiss Federal
Office for the Environment



WHAT'S NEXT?

genevaenvironmentnetwork.org



WOMEN, GIRLS AND THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

A HRC 52 side event, organized by the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment

7 March 2023, 14:00 - 15:00
Room XXII, Palais des Nations and online (see link below)

CONFERENCE

HRC52 Side Event | Girls, Women, and the Right to a Healthy Environment

07 MAR 2023 14:00 - 15:00
Palais des Nations | Room XXII & Online | Webex
Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council

Human Rights and Environment
SDG5



CONFERENCE

Celebrating International Women's Day 2023 | Women, Girls, and the Triple Planetary Crisis

08 MAR 2023 08:30 - 10:00
International Environment House | & Online | Webex

SDG5



CONFERENCE

Session d'information sur la 2ème session du Comité de négociation intergouvernemental chargé d'élaborer un instrument international juridiquement contraignant sur la pollution plastique (Pollution Plastique CIN-2)

15 MAR 2023 15:00 - 16:30
Maison internationale de l'environnement II & en ligne
France, GEN

Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics
SDG3 | SDG12



COPs

BRIEFING ON THE 2023 MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE PARTIES TO THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET | IEH1, Room 3 & Online



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Extra Slides

Photo by IISD/ENB | Angeles Estrada Vigil.



Rolph PAYET

Executive Secretary,
Basel Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET | IEH1, Room 3 & Online



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Marylene BEAU



Programme Officer, Basel, Rotterdam
and Stockholm Conventions



7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET | IEH1, Room 3 & Online

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BRIEFING ON THE 2023 MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE PARTIES TO THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS



David OGDEN



Chief, Governance Branch, Basel,
Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET | IEH1, Room 3 & Online

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COPs

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BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS



Gundega TRUMKALNE



BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS

Chief, Funds Management, Administration and Human Resources Branch, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

7 March 2023 | 10:00 - 12:00 CET | IEH1, Room 3 & Online

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Kathleen CREAVALLE



Deputy Director, Corporate Services
Division, UN Environment Programme



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Girma GINA



Finance and Budget Officer,
UN Environment Programme



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Michel TSCHIRREN



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Waste and Chemicals Focal Point, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland



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Budget Issues, Implementation of MoUs between UNEP and BRS COPs

Gundega TRUMKALNE



Chief, Funds Management, Administration and Human Resources Branch, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

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Budget Issues, Implementation of MoUs between UNEP and BRS COPs



Kathleen CREAVALLE



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