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Briefing on the 2027 Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the **Basel,** **Rotterdam** and **Stockholm** Conventions

5 October 2026 | 10:00–11:30 CEST | International Environment House 1 (Room 3) & Webex

SPEAKERS



Rolph PAYET

Executive Secretary,
BRS Conventions



Andrea LECHNER

Head, Conference Services
Unit, Governance Branch,
BRS Conventions



Juliette KOHLER

Chief, Governance Branch,
BRS Conventions



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Welcome and Opening Remarks

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Chair



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Preparations for the 2027 meetings of the Conferences of the Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

Juliette Voinov Kohler

Senior legal officer and Chief, Governance Branch

BRS Secretariat

5 October 2026

Outcomes of recent meetings relevant to the preparations of the 2027 COPs

Andrea Lechner, Head of Conference Services Unit

Juliette Voinov Kohler, Senior legal officer and Chief, Governance Branch

BRS Secretariat

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Andrea LECHNER

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Twenty-second meeting of the Chemical Review Committee (CRC-22)

- 15–18 September 2026, FAO Headquarters, Rome
- Interim Chair: Mr. Stephen Sangster (Belize)
- 101 participants (28 members and 73 observers)
- www.pic.int/crc22





Main outcomes of CRC-22

Methyl-parathion (pesticide)

- Finalized the draft decision guidance document and forwarded it to the COP together with the listing recommendation **for consideration by COP-13**
- Replacement of current SHPF listing



Lead chromates (industrial chemicals)

- Recommended lead chromates for listing in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention as industrial chemicals
- Draft decision guidance document to be developed in the intersessional period, at the earliest to be considered at COP-14



Review of other notifications of final regulatory action at CRC-22



Chemicals for which no notifications were found to meet the criteria:

- Azinphos-ethyl (pesticide), endrin (pesticide), mephosfolan (pesticide), methomyl (pesticide), phenthoate (pesticide), phosphamidon (pesticide), prothiofos (pesticide), prothoate (pesticide), quinalphos (pesticide)

Consideration deferred for:

- Atrazine (pesticide) – additional information requested from notifying Party
 - Carbaryl (pesticide)
 - Fenamiphos (pesticide)
 - Profenofos (pesticide)
- } Bureau to consider whether to include on provisional agenda of future meetings



Other outcomes of CRC-22

- **Revised human health and environmental incident report forms agreed to** (forms for making proposals for listing SHPF)
- **Updates made to the Handbook of Working Procedures and Policy Guidance for the Chemical Review Committee**
 - Collection of examples of SHPF proposals (section 2.7)
 - Guidance to intersessional Task Groups on reviewing notifications of FRAs and supporting documentation for chemicals scheduled for consideration by the CRC (section 1.7)



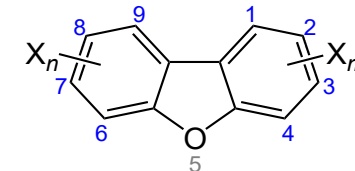
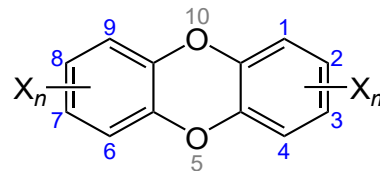
Twenty-second meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC-22)



- 21–25 September 2026, FAO Headquarters, Rome
- Interim Chair: Ms. Magdalena Frydrych (Poland)
- 146 participants (26 members and 120 observers)
- www.pops.int/poprc22



Main outcomes of POPRC-22



Polybrominated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans (PBDD/Fs) and mixed polybrominated/chlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans (PBCDD/Fs)

- Decided that tetra- to octabrominated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins and dibenzofurans are likely, as a result of their long-range environmental transport, to lead to **significant adverse human health and environmental effects** such that global action is warranted
- Adopted the **risk profile**
- Invited Parties and observers to submit, by 4 December 2026:
 - **Socio-economic** information specified in **Annex F**, to support the preparation of the **risk management evaluation**
 - Further information relevant to **mixed polybrominated/chlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins and dibenzofurans**, in view of the need for further study and the possible preparation of an addendum to the risk profile

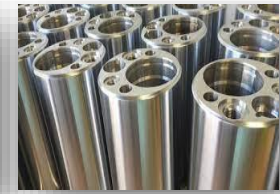
Main outcomes of POPRC-22



Evaluation of new proposals by Parties for listing in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention against Annex D screening criteria

- **Decabromodiphenylethane (DBDPE) and its related substance, 1,1'-ethane-1,2-diylbisbenzene, brominated (Norway)**
- **Bis(2-ethylhexyl) tetrabromophthalate (TBPH), covering any of its individual isomers and/or combinations thereof (EU)**
 - Satisfied that the screening criteria have been fulfilled for DBDPE; and for TBPH
 - Invited Parties and observers to submit, by 4 December 2026:
 - Information specified in **Annex E**, to support the preparation of the **risk profile**

Main outcomes of POPRC-22



Evaluation of the continued need for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions

- **General:** Encourage further phase-out and transition to safer, feasible alternatives.
- **Insect baits with sulfluramid as an active ingredient for control of leaf-cutting ants:** Continued need remains; clarify the Annex B entry and consider further review.
- **Hard-metal plating:** Recommend that the specific exemption no longer be available.
- **Fire-fighting foam for class B fires:** Recommend ending the specific exemption upon expiry of existing registrations.

Recommended amendments to Annex B to the Convention to be considered by COP-13 under the agenda item on PFOS, its salts and PFOSF

Preparations for the 2027 COPs

Meeting highlights



- BC COP-18, RC COP-13 and SC COP-13 will be held back-to-back in Panama City, Panama on 19 – 30 April 2027, in the Panama Convention Center
- Preparatory meetings will be held on 18 April 2027
- No high-level segment
- COPs Presidents:
 - ❖ BC: Mr. Nawaf Bilasi (Saudi Arabia)
 - ❖ RC: Ms. María Inés Esquivel (Panama)
 - ❖ SC: Mr. Joswa Aoudou (Cameroon)
- Meetings website:
<https://www.brsmeas.org/2027COPs>



Registration and credentials



➤ **Invitations to Parties:** 30 September 2026

➤ **Registration**

- Parties: by **Friday, 20 November 2026**
- Observer: by **Friday, 11 December 2026**
- Using the BRS online registration system (new feature: information on visa process)
- Official nomination letter (for Parties: from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission) must be uploaded at time of registration
- Parties invited to consider nominating bureaux members and ensuring gender balance, as well as continuity between regional preparatory meetings and the COPs

➤ **Credentials:**

- Submission to the Secretariat, if possible, no later than 24 hours after the opening of the meetings (by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 20 April 2027)
- Advance submission of electronic copies of credentials by 1 April 2027 to joanne.slotte@un.org; originals at the meeting venue in Panama
- Bureaux agreed that they would accept original credentials in good order as well as copies in good order on the understanding that the original will be submitted as soon as possible
- Templates are available on the meetings website



Financial support

- Subject to the availability of funding:
 - For **one representative per State per convention** to which the State is a Party, to a **maximum of three representatives** per State, for up to the full two-week duration of the meetings, and
- Requests for financial assistance must be confirmed in the **official nomination letter / Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission** and should indicate the order of priority, as funds may be limited
- Deadline for requests:
 - Parties' delegates: Friday, 20 November 2026
- **New UN debit card:**
 - Parties to carefully review the user guide
 - Extended hours for DSA distribution starting on Sunday 18 April



Visa for entry into Panama

- **Quick Guide for participants requiring a visa to enter the Republic of Panama**
prepared by the Government of Panama, attached to the invitation letters and notification to observers
- Provides detailed information on who needs to apply for a visa and the overall process
- Delegates to read the guidance carefully, indicate their expected need for a visa in the online registration platform and provide the requested information in the corresponding fields
- Early registration is highly encouraged
- Visa process will be fully electronic and free
- Processing time of approximately 30 days but depends on completeness of application
- *No possibility of visa upon arrival*



Visa for entry into Panama (cont.)

➤ Steps:

1. Identify if you need a visa using the Quick Guide
2. Indicate your need for visa in the online registration platform and provide requested information
3. Wait to receive your confirmation letter (including URL to apply for a visa), visa support letters and visa application instructions
4. Start the visa procedure using the provided URL
 - Provide all the requested information (includes copy of passport which is valid 6 months after entry into Panama, BRS confirmation letter, copy of national ID, photograph, proof of accommodation, flight reservation/itinerary, visa support letters from BRS and the Government of Panama, and proof of financial support/means)
 - Do not start the application through a different procedure
5. Provide any required follow-up clarification



Other logistics information

- Further information will be provided by the host Government and made available to Parties and observers on:
 - Accommodation
 - Transportation
- Steps are undertaken to Green the COPs
- Meetings will be paperless



Meeting documents

- Provisional agendas of the meetings: Posted, sent out with the invitation letters
- Tentative schedule of the meetings: to be finalized at the joint meeting of the bureaux of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, 23-24 November 2026, Geneva, Switzerland
- Budget documents: to be posted 19 January 2027 (90 days before the COPs)
- Other working meeting documents, including joint documents: to be posted by 19 February 2027 (6-8 weeks before the COPs)
- <https://www.brsmeas.org/2027COPs>

Election of officers



Basel Convention					Rotterdam Convention			Stockholm Convention				
	COP Bureau	OEWG Bureau	ICC	ENFORCE	COP Bureau	Compliance Committee	CRC	COP Bureau	POPRC	Compliance Committee	Effectiveness evaluation committee	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 members	2 members	2 Parties
Asia - Pacific	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	n/a	1 officer	1 member	4 members	2 officers	4 members	2 members	2 members	2 Parties
EE	2 officers	1 officer	3 members	2 members (1 Party, 1 BCRC)	1 officer	3 members	4 members	2 officers	3 members	3 members	2 members	2 Parties
GRULAC	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	n/a	1 officer	2 members	2 members	2 officers	2 members	1 member	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	1 member	2 members	2 Parties

Elections of Officers

Rules and requirements



- Nomination of candidates invited by **1 December 2026** along with supporting documents, and selection of candidates facilitated by the regional election focal points
- With regards to the Eastern Europe region, the bureaux agreed to entrust the Secretariat with facilitating the process for nominating candidates from that region for election
- 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 and SIDS, and for Parties respecting a schedule of payments



Theme and related events

- The theme of the meetings is:

“Make Visible the Invisible”.
- A “From Regional Action to Global Impact” Fair will be organised to raise awareness on the work of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and their contribution towards addressing the crises of pollution, biodiversity loss and climate change, showcasing how evidence leads to action.
- The Fair will take place from 21 to 23 April 2027.
- Expressions of interest to book an exhibition booth should be sent no later than **8 January 2027**. A dedicated online request form, as well as detailed information on the Fair and exhibition booths, will be made available on the Fair webpage in late November 2026.



Side events



➤ **Purpose:**

Provide a platform for Parties, observers and other stakeholders to exchange information, share experiences and discuss issues related to the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.

➤ **Key milestones:**

- Late November 2026: Publication of organizer guidance; Opening of online application process.
- 8 January 2027: Deadline for submission of requests for side events.
- 19 February 2027: Notification of allocated slots to organizers.

➤ **Current planning:** Side events to be held during lunch breaks and evening time slots; Up to two side events in parallel; Draft schedule to be published prior to the meetings.

Regional preparatory meetings for the 2027 COPs



Region	Dates	Venue
Africa	3-5 March 2027	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Asia-Pacific	31 March – 2 April 2027	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Eastern Europe	1-3 March 2027	Geneva, Switzerland
GRULAC	8-10 March 2027	Panama City, Panama

Overview of items on the provisional agendas of the meetings

Basel Convention COP-18 main issues



Strategic issues

- Improving the PIC procedure

Scientific and technical matters

- Technical guidelines:
 - POPs wastes, waste lead-acid batteries, other batteries, waste pneumatic tyres and e-wastes
- E-notifications
- Further consideration of plastic waste, incl. proposal to amend Annex IX entry B3011
- National reporting
- Used textiles and textile waste

Legal, governance and enforcement matters

- Further legal clarity:
 - Recommendations on Annexes I and III
- Proposal by the Russian Federation to amend paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the Convention
- Implementation and Compliance Committee (specific submissions; general review; programme of work)

Basel Convention Partnership Programme

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

Rotterdam Convention COP-13 main issues



Listing of chemicals in Annex III to the Convention

- 1 new chemical: methyl-parathion as a pesticide (already listed as SHPF)
- 8 returning chemicals : acetochlor, chlorpyrifos, chrysotile asbestos, iprodione, mercury, methyl bromide, paraquat and paraquat formulations

Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention

- Follow-up to decision RC-12/5 on enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention
- Proposal by African countries to amend Article 16 of the Rotterdam Convention

Compliance

- Compliance Committee (specific submissions; general review; programme of work)

Stockholm Convention COP-13 main issues



Reduce or eliminate release from intentional production and use

- Exemptions
- DDT
- Polychlorinated biphenyls
- PFOS, its salts and PFOSF

Implementation plans

Financial mechanism

- Changes to the TOR of the 7th review

Reporting

- Further updates to electronic reporting system

Effectiveness evaluation

Compliance (questions of compliance; systemic issues; programme of work)

Regional centers

- Nomination of a new host institution for SCRC Mexico
- Nomination of a host institution for SCRC Kazakhstan



Joint issues

Technical assistance

Regional centers

Resource mobilization strategy

- Draft resource mobilization strategy from non-State actors for the African and Latin American and Caribbean regions

Programmes of work and budgets

- Consider budget for 2028-2029

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
- Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange
- From science to action
- Mainstreaming gender



Upcoming briefings

- Look out for our additional briefings in February/March 2027:
 - on the organization of work;
 - the substantive issues on the agenda;
 - and logistics.
- <https://www.brsmeas.org/2027COPs>

Thank you!

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Closing

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THANK YOU!



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WHAT'S NEXT?

 genevaenvironmentnetwork.org



CONFERENCE

Briefing on the 81st Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee | SC81

08 OCT 2026 | 10:00 - 11:30

International Environment House I & Online | Webex

CITES, GEN

🌿 Nature | Trade and Environment
🌿 SDG14 | SDG15



CONFERENCE

How Well Are National Climate Plans Protecting Health? Launching the 2026 Healthy NDC Scorecards

14 OCT 2026 | 18:30 - 20:00

Maison de la Paix | Auditorium A2

IHEID, Geneva Global Health Platform, GCHA, GEN

🌿 Climate | Health and Environment
🌿 SDG3 | SDG13



Road to the First International Conference
Global Framework on Chemicals

CONFERENCE

Road to the First International Conference of the Global Framework on Chemicals | Investing for Impact for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste

27 OCT 2026 | 14:00 - 15:30

International Environment House I, Room 2 & Online | Webex

GFC, GEN

🌿 Chemicals and Pollution
🌿 SDG3 | SDG12



CONFERENCE

Briefing on the Montevideo Programme V: A Decade of Action on Environmental Law

03 NOV 2026 | 09:30 - 11:00

International Environment House 1 | Room 2 & Online | Webex

UNEP, GEN

🌿 Environmental Law
🌿 SDG16

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