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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR AN
INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT
FOR IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON
CERTAIN PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

Seventh session

Geneva, 14-18 July 2003

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Adoption of the agenda

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening of the session

1. The seventh session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Legally Binding Instrument for Implementing International Action on Certain Persistent Organic Pollutants, to be held at the Geneva International Conference Centre, Rue de Varembé 15, Geneva, Switzerland, will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 14 July 2003.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered.

Item 2: Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

3. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda contained in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/1.

(b) Organization of work

4. The Committee has before it the scenario note for the session prepared by the Chair (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/1).
5. The Committee may wish to decide to meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. every day from 14 to 18 July 2003, subject to adjustment as necessary.
6. The Committee may wish to review the process for reporting on its work as it agreed in paragraph 190 of the report of its sixth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22).

* UNEP/POPS/INC.7/1.

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(c) Report by the secretariat on inter-sessional work requested by the Committee and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

7. The secretariat will provide a verbal report on progress made in completing the work requested of the secretariat by the Committee at its sixth session. The Committee may wish to take note of this report.

(d) Bureau issues

8. In accordance with rule 12 of its rules of procedure (UNEP/POPS/CONF/PM/INF/1), the Committee may need to elect replacement bureau members in the event that any are unable to continue.

Item 3: Review of ongoing international activities relating to the work of the Committee

9. The secretariat will provide a verbal report on ongoing activities relating to the work of the Committee based on the fifth edition of the master list of actions on the reduction and/or elimination of the releases of persistent organic pollutants (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/15).

10. Intergovernmental organizations will be given the opportunity to provide very brief interventions about their ongoing activities relating to the work of the Committee.

Item 4: Activities of the secretariat and review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds

11. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on the draft programme of work and budget (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/2), on contributions to the POPs Club (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/13) and on a compilation of reports used in other multilateral environmental agreements for dealing with their budgets (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/2). The third document was requested by the Committee in paragraph 50 of UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22. The Committee may wish to take note of the information presented in these notes and consider the possible action listed in the document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/2.

12. The Committee may wish to establish a budget group as indicated in paragraph 50 of UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22.

Item 5: Preparations for the Conference of the Parties¹

(a) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use and Register of specific exemptions (articles 3 and 4, and annex A and annex B)

(i) DDT

13. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on a possible format for reporting by Parties that use DDT (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/3), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/2. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

14. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on guidance and information needed to assist in evaluating the continued need for DDT for disease vector control (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/4), as also requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/2, on a World Health Organization report on information needed from Parties on DDT use (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/21), and on a list of references to existing World Health Organization recommendations and guidelines concerning the use of DDT for disease vector control (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/22). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/4.

¹ All references to articles and annexes below are to those contained in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

(ii) Register of specific exemptions

15. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on country requests for specific exemptions, the review process for entries in the specific exemptions register and the format of the register (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/5), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/3, and on the submissions received from Governments of their views on a possible reporting format, review process and format for the specific exemptions register in response to decision INC-6/3 (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/16). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/5.

(b) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production (article 5 and annex C)(i) Guidelines on best available techniques and guidance on best environmental practices

16. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat containing the report of the first session of the Expert Group on Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practices, held from 10 to 14 March 2003 in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, U.S.A. (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/6), which was established by the Committee at its sixth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22, para. 75). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in this note and consider providing any comments relevant to the work of that group.

(ii) Evaluation of current and projected releases of chemicals listed in annex C

17. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on a revised standardized Toolkit for the identification and quantification of dioxin and furan releases (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/7), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/4, on the current version of the updated and expanded Toolkit (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/14), on the comments received regarding how the Toolkit can be updated and expanded in response to the decision (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/17), and on an analysis of all comments and the manner in which they have been reflected in the revised draft of the Toolkit (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/23). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in the document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/7.

(c) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes (article 6)

18. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat reporting on the status of the development of technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutant wastes (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/8), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/5 and on development of technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutant wastes (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/19). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes.

(d) Implementation plans (article 7)

19. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on draft interim guidance to assist countries in the preparation of national implementation plans (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/9 and UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/20), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/6, on the comments received on the preparation of such draft guidance in response to decision INC-6/6 (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/18) and on a report by the Global Environment Facility to the Committee (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/11). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/9.

20. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on the preparation of guidance relevant to the review and updating of national implementation plans (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/10), as further requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/6. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

- (e) Listing of chemicals in annexes A, B and C (article 8, annexes D, E and F, and paragraph 6 of article 19)

21. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on a brief description and draft terms of reference for the Persistent Organic Pollutant Review Committee (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/11), as requested by the Committee during deliberations on this subject at its sixth session (see UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22, para. 102). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

- (f) Information exchange (article 9)

22. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on a workplan and budget for the initiation and maintenance of a clearing-house mechanism for information exchange on persistent organic pollutants (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/12), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/7, and on submissions received in response to requests for information contained in a number of Committee decisions taken at its sixth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/16), including submissions on the design, development, operation and scope of the clearing-house mechanism made in response to decision INC-6/7. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/12.

- (g) Technical assistance (article 12)

23. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on guidance on technical assistance (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/13), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/8. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

24. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on a feasibility study on regional and subregional centres (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/14), as requested by the Committee in decisions INC-6/9 and INC-6/11. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

25. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on case studies of regional and subregional centres (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/15) as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/10. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

26. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on submissions received in response to requests for information contained in a number of Committee decisions taken at its sixth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/16), including submissions made in response to decisions INC-6/8, INC-6/9, INC-6/10 and INC-6/11, which relate to technical assistance. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note.

- (h) Financial resources and mechanisms (article 13)

27. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on guidance to the financial mechanism (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/17), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/13, and on submissions received in response to requests for information contained in a number of Committee decisions taken at its sixth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/16), including submissions made in response to decision INC-6/13 on elements that might be included in guidance to the financial mechanism. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/17.

28. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on draft terms of reference for the review of the financial mechanism under paragraph 8 of article 13 (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/24), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/14. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in this note and consider the possible action listed therein.

29. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on the collection of information from relevant funding institutions on the ways in which they can support the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/18), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/15. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

(i) Interim financial arrangements (article 14)

30. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on a draft memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention and the Global Environment Facility (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/16) and on similar arrangements between the Global Environment Facility and the governing bodies of other multilateral environmental agreements (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/9), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/12, and on a report by the Global Environment Facility to the Committee (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/11). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/16.

(j) Reporting (article 15)

31. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on the format and timing of Party reporting under article 15 (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/19), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/16, and on submissions received in response to requests for information contained in a number of Committee decisions taken at its sixth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/16), including comments on the timing and format of reporting received in response to decision INC-6/16. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/19.

(k) Effectiveness evaluation (article 16)

32. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on effectiveness evaluation (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/20), as requested by the Committee in decision INC-6/17, and on a United Nations Environment Programme workshop to develop a global persistent organic pollutant monitoring programme to support the effectiveness evaluation of the Stockholm Convention, which was held from 24 to 27 March 2003 in Geneva, Switzerland (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/10).

(l) Non-compliance (article 17)

33. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on a synthesis of views on non-compliance received in response to Committee decision INC-6/18 (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/21), on a compilation of these views (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/8) and on non-compliance regimes in other multilateral environmental agreements (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/22), as requested by the Committee in decision 6/18. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/21.

(m) Settlement of disputes (article 18)

34. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on draft rules of arbitration and conciliation (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/27). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

(n) Conference of the Parties (article 19)

35. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on the draft rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/25). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and consider the possible action listed therein.

36. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on the draft financial rules for the Conference of the Parties, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/26). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in this note and consider the possible action listed therein.

(o) Issues relating to the Stockholm Convention not otherwise covered

37. The Committee may wish to consider other matters relating to the Stockholm Convention that delegations may raise that are not otherwise addressed in the present annotated agenda.

(p) Other issues for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting

(i) Location of the secretariat (resolution 6 of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries)

38. The Committee has before it notes by the secretariat on offers to host the permanent secretariat of the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/23), as requested by the Committee in decision in INC-6/19, and on the information on such offers submitted by the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/3), Switzerland (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/4) and Italy (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/5) in response to the decision. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in these notes and consider the possible action listed in the document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/23.

(ii) Liability and redress (resolution 4 of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries)

39. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on a report by the co-chairs of a workshop on liability and redress held from 19 to 21 September 2002 in Vienna, Austria (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/6). The Committee may wish to take note of the report.

Item 6: Status of ratifications of the Convention

40. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on the status of ratifications of the Convention (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/12). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note and call upon countries and regional economic integration organizations entitled to do so to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, if they have not already done so, with a view to bringing it into force as soon as possible.

Item 7: Other matters

41. The Committee has before it a note by the secretariat on general steps to be taken prior to lodging instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval, accession or the like with the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/7), as requested by the Committee during deliberations on this subject at its sixth session (see UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22, para. 188). The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the note.

42. The Committee may wish to consider other matters raised by delegations in the course of the session.

Item 8: Adoption of the report

43. At the final meeting of the session, the Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the draft report of the work of the seventh session as prepared by the Rapporteur. The final report of the work of the session, as adopted by the Committee, will be circulated.

Item 9: Closure of the session

44. It is expected that the session will be closed by the Chair by 6 p.m. on Friday, 18 July 2003.
