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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 5 of the provisional agenda*

Preparations for the Conference of the Parties

**OFFERS TO HOST THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION
ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS****

Note by the secretariat

1. In its resolution 6, the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants called upon the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider the offers to host the Convention secretariat received from Germany and Switzerland, as well as any other offers, and to provide a comparative analysis of those offers regarding the physical location of the secretariat for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting. The preparation of that analysis was to be carried out in consultation with the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee.
2. To facilitate that comparative analysis, at its sixth session the Committee adopted decision INC-6/19, in which it invited interested countries to provide the secretariat, by 30 November 2002 with detailed information on the conditions and advantages attached to their offers to host the permanent secretariat of the Stockholm Convention, with special focus on the items listed in the appendix to the decision. Also, in the decision the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee requested the secretariat to compile the offers received and submit them to the Committee for consideration at its seventh session.
3. As of 1 December 2002, the secretariat had received detailed information on their offers to host the permanent secretariat of the Stockholm Convention from the Governments of Germany, Switzerland and Italy; those submissions are contained in documents UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/3, 4 and 5 respectively.

* UNEP/POPS/INC.7/1

** Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, article 20; Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Stockholm Convention, resolution 6 (in document UNEP/POPS/CONF/4, appendix I); decision INC-6/19 and appendix (in document UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22, annex I).

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Possible action by the Committee

4. The Committee may wish to:

(a) Consider the above information and the detailed information related to offers to host the permanent secretariat of the Stockholm Convention contained in the documents listed in paragraph 3 above;

(b) Forward the offers and supporting information received to the Conference of the Parties at its first session;

(c) Request the secretariat to prepare a comparative analysis of those offers for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first session;

(d) Establish a consultative process to assist the secretariat in that task.
