



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**



Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/POPS/INC.7/27
1 April 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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

DRAFT RULES ON ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION**

Note by the secretariat

1. At its sixth session, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee considered, inter alia, draft rules on arbitration and draft rules on conciliation, which it referred to its legal drafting group. The Chair of the legal drafting group reported that the group had not had sufficient time to consider the draft rules on arbitration during the sixth session and had decided that it would return to them during the seventh session of the Committee.
2. The Committee had referred also the draft rules on conciliation to the legal drafting group, which considered and agreed on the draft, except for one policy issue that had been flagged for consideration at the seventh session of the Committee. The issue was that for budgetary reasons, the group had examined the possibility of reducing the number of members of the Conciliation Commission of the Stockholm Convention from five members, as is standard in most other conciliation commissions, to three members.
3. The draft rules on arbitration and draft rules of conciliation as at the close of the sixth session of the Committee were given as annex II to document UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22. The secretariat is pleased to refer the draft rules on arbitration to the Committee at its seventh session for further consideration by the legal drafting group for the session. The secretariat is pleased also to refer the draft rules on conciliation to the Committee at its seventh session for consideration of the policy issue mentioned in paragraph 2 above.

* UNEP/POPS/INC.7/1.

** See Stockholm Convention, article 18; Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Stockholm Convention, resolution 1, paragraphs 2, 3 and 6; report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on its sixth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.6/22), paragraphs 146 to 152 and annex II.

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