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Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

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Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Fourth meeting

Geneva, 4–8 May 2009

Item 9 of the provisional agenda*

Other matters

Status of ratification of the Stockholm Convention

Note by the Secretariat

1. The text of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants was adopted at the meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on 22 May 2001 in Stockholm. In accordance with its Article 26, the Convention entered into force on 17 May 2004, on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
2. According to paragraph 2 of Article 26 of the Convention, “for each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves this Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession”.
3. As at 24 March 2009, 162 States and one regional economic integration organization had ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to the Convention. One of those States, Malawi, lodged its instrument of ratification with the Depositary on 27 February 2009 and thus the Convention will not enter into force for it until 27 May 2009, after the close of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. On the date of the opening of the meeting, the Convention will have entered into force for 161 States and one regional economic integration organization, listed in annex I to the present note.
4. Addition information on the status of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession of the Convention is set out in annex II to the present note. The information provided is reproduced as published by the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, acting on behalf of the Depositary, without formal editing by the Secretariat.

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Annex I

Parties to the Convention as at 4 May 2009

1. Albania
2. Algeria
3. Angola
4. Antigua and Barbuda
5. Argentina
6. Armenia
7. Australia
8. Austria
9. Azerbaijan
10. Bahamas
11. Bahrain
12. Bangladesh
13. Barbados
14. Belarus
15. Belgium
16. Benin
17. Bolivia
18. Botswana
19. Brazil
20. Bulgaria
21. Burkina Faso
22. Burundi
23. Cambodia
24. Canada
25. Cape Verde
26. Central African Republic
27. Chad
28. Chile
29. China
30. Colombia
31. Comoros
32. Congo
33. Cook Islands
34. Costa Rica
35. Côte d'Ivoire
36. Croatia
37. Cuba
38. Cyprus
39. Czech Republic
40. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
41. Democratic Republic of the Congo
42. Denmark
43. Djibouti
44. Dominica
45. Dominican Republic
46. Ecuador
47. Egypt
48. El Salvador
49. Eritrea
50. Estonia
51. Ethiopia
52. European Community
53. Fiji
54. Finland
55. France
56. Gabon
57. Gambia
58. Georgia
59. Germany
60. Ghana
61. Greece
62. Guatemala
63. Guinea
64. Guinea-Bissau
65. Guyana
66. Honduras
67. Hungary
68. Iceland
69. India
70. Iran (Islamic Republic of)
71. Jamaica
72. Japan
73. Jordan
74. Kazakhstan
75. Kenya
76. Kiribati
77. Kuwait
78. Kyrgyzstan
79. Lao People's Democratic Republic
80. Latvia
81. Lebanon
82. Lesotho
83. Liberia
84. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
85. Liechtenstein
86. Lithuania
87. Luxembourg
88. Madagascar
89. Maldives
90. Mali
91. Marshall Islands
92. Mauritania
93. Mauritius
94. Mexico
95. Micronesia (Federated States of)
96. Monaco
97. Mongolia
98. Morocco
99. Mozambique
100. Myanmar
101. Namibia
102. Nauru
103. Nepal
104. Netherlands
105. New Zealand
106. Nicaragua
107. Niger
108. Nigeria
109. Niue
110. Norway
111. Oman
112. Pakistan
113. Panama
114. Papua New Guinea
115. Paraguay
116. Peru
117. Philippines
118. Poland
119. Portugal
120. Qatar
121. Republic of Korea
122. Republic of Moldova
123. Romania
124. Rwanda
125. Saint Kitts and Nevis
126. Saint Lucia
127. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
128. Samoa
129. Sao Tome and Principe
130. Senegal
131. Seychelles
132. Sierra Leone
133. Singapore
134. Slovakia
135. Slovenia
136. Solomon Islands
137. South Africa
138. Spain
139. Sri Lanka
140. Sudan
141. Swaziland
142. Sweden
143. Switzerland
144. Syrian Arab Republic
145. Tajikistan
146. Thailand
147. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
148. Togo
149. Trinidad and Tobago
150. Tunisia
151. Tuvalu
152. Uganda
153. Ukraine
154. United Arab Emirates
155. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
156. United Republic of Tanzania
157. Uruguay
158. Vanuatu
159. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
160. Viet Nam
161. Yemen
162. Zambia

Annex II

Status of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession as at 24 March 2009

Participant	Signature	Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)
Albania	05/12/2001	04/10/2004
Algeria	05/09/2001	22/09/2006
Angola		23/10/2006 (a)
Antigua and Barbuda	23/05/2001	10/09/2003
Argentina	23/05/2001	25/01/2005
Armenia	23/05/2001	26/11/2003
Australia	23/05/2001	20/05/2004
Austria	23/05/2001	27/08/2002
Azerbaijan		13/01/2004 (a)
Bahamas	20/03/2002	03/10/2005
Bahrain	22/05/2002	31/01/2006
Bangladesh	23/05/2001	12/03/2007
Barbados		07/06/2004 (a)
Belarus		03/02/2004 (a)
Belgium	23/05/2001	25/05/2006
Belize	14/05/2002	
Benin	23/05/2001	05/01/2004
Bolivia	23/05/2001	03/06/2003
Bosnia and Herzegovina	23/05/2001	
Botswana		28/10/2002 (a)
Brazil	23/05/2001	16/06/2004
Brunei Darussalam	21/05/2002	
Bulgaria	23/05/2001	20/12/2004
Burkina Faso	23/05/2001	31/12/2004
Burundi	02/04/2002	02/08/2005
Cambodia	23/05/2001	25/08/2006
Cameroon	05/10/2001	
Canada	23/05/2001	23/05/2001
Cape Verde		01/03/2006 (a)
Central African Republic	09/05/2002	12/02/2008
Chad	16/05/2002	10/03/2004
Chile	23/05/2001	20/01/2005
China ²	23/05/2001	13/08/2004
Colombia	23/05/2001	22/10/2008
Comoros	23/05/2001	23/02/2007
Congo	04/12/2001	12/02/2007

Cook Islands		29/06/2004 (a)
Costa Rica	16/04/2002	06/02/2007
Côte d'Ivoire	23/05/2001	20/01/2004
Croatia	23/05/2001	30/01/2007
Cuba	23/05/2001	21/12/2007
Cyprus		07/03/2005 (a)
Czech Republic	23/05/2001	06/08/2002
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		26/08/2002 (a)
Democratic Republic of the Congo		23/03/2005 (a)
Denmark ³	23/05/2001	17/12/2003
Djibouti	15/11/2001	11/03/2004
Dominica		08/08/2003 (a)
Dominican Republic	23/05/2001	04/05/2007
Ecuador	28/08/2001	07/06/2004
Egypt	17/05/2002	02/05/2003
El Salvador	30/07/2001	27/05/2008
Eritrea		10/03/2005 (a)
Estonia		07/11/2008 (a)
Ethiopia	17/05/2002	09/01/2003
European Community	23/05/2001	16/11/2004 (AA)
Fiji	14/06/2001	20/06/2001
Finland	23/05/2001	03/09/2002 (A)
France	23/05/2001	17/02/2004 (AA)
Gabon	21/05/2002	07/05/2007
Gambia	23/05/2001	28/04/2006
Georgia	23/05/2001	04/10/2006
Germany	23/05/2001	25/04/2002
Ghana	23/05/2001	30/05/2003
Greece	23/05/2001	03/05/2006
Guatemala	29/01/2002	30/07/2008
Guinea	23/05/2001	11/12/2007
Guinea-Bissau	24/04/2002	06/08/2008
Guyana		12/09/2007 (a)
Haiti	23/05/2001	
Honduras	17/05/2002	23/05/2005
Hungary	23/05/2001	14/03/2008
Iceland	23/05/2001	29/05/2002
India	14/05/2002	13/01/2006
Indonesia	23/05/2001	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	23/05/2001	06/02/2006
Ireland	23/05/2001	
Israel	30/07/2001	

Italy	23/05/2001	
Jamaica	23/05/2001	01/06/2007
Japan		30/08/2002 (a)
Jordan	18/01/2002	08/11/2004
Kazakhstan	23/05/2001	09/11/2007
Kenya	23/05/2001	24/09/2004
Kiribati	04/04/2002	07/09/2004
Kuwait	23/05/2001	12/06/2006
Kyrgyzstan	16/05/2002	12/12/2006
Lao People's Democratic Republic	05/03/2002	28/06/2006
Latvia	23/05/2001	28/10/2004
Lebanon	23/05/2001	03/01/2003
Lesotho	23/01/2002	23/01/2002
Liberia		23/05/2002 (a)
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		14/06/2005 (a)
Liechtenstein	23/05/2001	03/12/2004
Lithuania	17/05/2002	05/12/2006
Luxembourg	23/05/2001	07/02/2003
Madagascar	24/09/2001	18/11/2005
Malawi	22/05/2002	27/02/2009
Malaysia	16/05/2002	
Maldives		17/10/2006 (a)
Mali	23/05/2001	05/09/2003
Malta	23/05/2001	
Marshall Islands		27/01/2003 (a)
Mauritania	08/08/2001	22/07/2005
Mauritius	23/05/2001	13/07/2004
Mexico	23/05/2001	10/02/2003
Micronesia (Federated States of)	31/07/2001	15/07/2005
Monaco	23/05/2001	20/10/2004
Mongolia	17/05/2002	30/04/2004
Montenegro ⁴	23/10/2006 (d)	
Morocco	23/05/2001	15/06/2004
Mozambique	23/05/2001	31/10/2005
Myanmar		19/04/2004 (a)
Namibia		24/06/2005 (a)
Nauru	09/05/2002	09/05/2002
Nepal	05/04/2002	06/03/2007
Netherlands	23/05/2001	28/01/2002 (A)
New Zealand ⁵	23/05/2001	24/09/2004
Nicaragua	23/05/2001	01/12/2005
Niger	12/10/2001	12/04/2006

Nigeria	23/05/2001	24/05/2004
Niue	12/03/2002	02/09/2005
Norway	23/05/2001	11/07/2002
Oman	04/03/2002	19/01/2005
Pakistan	06/12/2001	17/04/2008
Palau	28/03/2002	
Panama	23/05/2001	05/03/2003
Papua New Guinea	23/05/2001	07/10/2003
Paraguay	12/10/2001	01/04/2004
Peru	23/05/2001	14/09/2005
Philippines	23/05/2001	27/02/2004
Poland	23/05/2001	23/10/2008
Portugal	23/05/2001	15/07/2004 (A)
Qatar		10/12/2004 (a)
Republic of Korea	04/10/2001	25/01/2007
Republic of Moldova	23/05/2001	07/04/2004
Romania	23/05/2001	28/10/2004
Russian Federation	22/05/2002	
Rwanda		05/06/2002 (a)
Saint Kitts and Nevis		21/05/2004 (a)
Saint Lucia		04/10/2002 (a)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		15/09/2005 (a)
Samoa	23/05/2001	04/02/2002
Sao Tome and Principe	03/04/2002	12/04/2006
Saudi Arabia	14/03/2002	
Senegal	23/05/2001	08/10/2003
Serbia	02/05/2002	
Seychelles	25/03/2002	03/06/2008 (a)
Sierra Leone		26/09/2003 (a)
Singapore	23/05/2001	24/05/2005
Slovakia	23/05/2001	05/08/2002
Slovenia	23/05/2001	04/05/2004
Solomon Islands		28/07/2004 (a)
South Africa	23/05/2001	04/09/2002
Spain	23/05/2001	28/05/2004
Sri Lanka	05/09/2001	22/12/2005
Sudan	23/05/2001	29/08/2006
Suriname	22/05/2002	
Swaziland		13/01/2006 (a)
Sweden	23/05/2001	08/05/2002
Switzerland	23/05/2001	30/07/2003
Syrian Arab Republic	15/02/2002	05/08/2005

Tajikistan	21/05/2002	08/02/2007
Thailand	22/05/2002	31/01/2005
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	23/05/2001	27/05/2004
Togo	23/05/2001	22/07/2004
Tonga	21/05/2002	
Trinidad and Tobago		13/12/2002 (a)
Tunisia	23/05/2001	17/06/2004
Turkey	23/05/2001	
Tuvalu		19/01/2004 (a)
Uganda		20/07/2004 (a)
Ukraine	23/05/2001	25/09/2007
United Arab Emirates	23/05/2001	11/07/2002
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11/12/2001	17/01/2005
United Republic of Tanzania	23/05/2001	30/04/2004
United States of America	23/05/2001	
Uruguay	23/05/2001	09/02/2004
Vanuatu	21/05/2002	16/09/2005
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	23/05/2001	19/04/2005
Viet Nam	23/05/2001	22/07/2002
Yemen	05/12/2001	09/01/2004
Zambia	23/05/2001	07/07/2006
Zimbabwe	23/05/2001	

NOTES

1. In accordance with article 26 (3) of the Convention, any instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of that organization.

2. With the following :

In accordance with the provisions of article 153 of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and article 138 of the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, the Government of the People's Republic of China decides that the Convention shall apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

3. With a territorial exclusion in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

4. Historical Information

Montenegro Note 1. *The National Assembly of the Republic of Montenegro adopted its Declaration of Independence on 3 June 2006, following the referendum in the Republic of Montenegro on 21 May 2006, which took place pursuant to Article 60 of the Constitutional Charter of Serbia and Montenegro. Montenegro was admitted to membership in the United Nations by General Assembly resolution A/RES/60/264 on 28 June 2006. In a letter dated 10 October 2006,*

received by the Secretary-General on 23 October 2006 and accompanied by a list of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, the Government of the Republic of Montenegro notified that: "[The Government of the Republic of Montenegro decided to succeed to the treaties to which the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro was a party or signatory. [The Government of the Republic of Montenegro succeeds to the treaties listed in the attached Annex and undertakes faithfully to perform and carry out the stipulations therein contained as from June 3rd 2006, which is the date the Republic of Montenegro assumed responsibility for its international relations and the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Declaration of Independence. [The Government of the Republic of Montenegro does maintain the reservations, declarations and objections made by Serbia and Montenegro, as indicated in the Annex to this instrument, prior to the date on which the Republic of Montenegro assumed responsibility for its international relations."

Serbia Note 1. As from 3 June 2006: "Serbia". Formerly: "Serbia and Montenegro" until 2 June 2006. The Republic of Serbia continued the membership of Serbia and Montenegro in the United Nations, including all organs and organizations of the United Nations system, on the basis of Article 60 of the Constitutional Charter of Serbia and Montenegro, activated by the Declaration of Independence adopted by the National Assembly of Montenegro on 3 June 2006. Accordingly, by a letter dated 3 June 2006, the President of the Republic of Serbia notified the Secretary-General that "membership of the state union of Serbia and Montenegro is continued by the Republic of Serbia in the United Nations, including all organs and organizations of the United Nations system...". Subsequently, in a letter dated 16 June 2006, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia informed the Secretary-General that "the Republic of Serbia continues to exercise its rights and honour its commitments deriving from international treaties concluded by Serbia and Montenegro. Therefore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs requests that the Republic of Serbia be considered a party to all international agreements in force, instead of Serbia and Montenegro. Furthermore, the Government of the Republic of Serbia will perform the functions formerly performed by the Council of ministers of the state union of Serbia and Montenegro as depositary for the corresponding multilateral treaties." Moreover, in a letter dated 30 June 2006, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia confirmed that "all treaty actions undertaken by Serbia and Montenegro will continue in force with respect to the Republic of Serbia with effect from 3 June 2006. Therefore, all declarations, reservations and notifications made by Serbia and Montenegro will be maintained by the Republic of Serbia until the Secretary-General, as depositary, is duly notified otherwise."

Serbia and Montenegro Note 1. As from 4 February 2003 until 2 June 2006. Formerly: "Yugoslavia" until 3 February 2003.

5. With the following territorial exclusion:

".....consistent with the constitutional status of Tokelau and taking into account the commitment of the Government of New Zealand the development of self-government for Tokelau through an act of self-determination under the Charter of the United Nations, this ratification shall not extend to Tokelau unless and until a Declaration to this effect is lodged by the Government of New Zealand with the Depositary on the basis of appropriate consultation with that territory."

DECLARATIONS

(Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations were made upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.)

Argentina

Declaration:

In accordance with article 25, paragraph 4 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Republic of Argentina declares that any amendment to Annex A, B, or C shall enter into force for Argentina only after it has deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto.

Australia

Declaration:

"In accordance with article 25 (4) [of the Convention], the Government of Australia declares that any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of Australia's instrument of ratification with respect thereto."

Austria

Declaration:

"The Republic of Austria declares in accordance with Article 18 paragraph 2 of the Convention that it accepts both of the means of dispute settlement mentioned in paragraph 2 as compulsory in relation to any party accepting an obligation concerning one or both of these means of dispute settlement."

Bahrain

Declarations:

1. Arbitration according to the procedures adopted by the Conference of States Parties is the only binding procedure for the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain regarding resolving any dispute on the interpretation or implementation of the Convention.
2. Any amendment to the Convention annexes A, B and C will not be binding to the Kingdom of Bahrain unless it is ratified according to the constitutional rules.

Bangladesh

Declaration

"Pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 4, of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, Bangladesh hereby declares that any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force for Bangladesh only upon the deposit by Bangladesh of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval with respect thereto."

Belgium

Declaration made upon signature:

"This signature engages also the Waloon region, the Flemish region, and the Brussels-Capital region."

Botswana

Declaration:

"... the Republic of Botswana declares pursuant to article 25 (4) that, with respect to it, any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force for it only after it has deposited an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect to such amendment."

Canada

Declaration:

"Pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 4, of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, Canada hereby declares that any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force for Canada only upon the deposit by Canada of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval with respect thereto."

China

Declaration:

In accordance with the provisions of article 25, paragraph 4 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, with respect to the People's Republic of China, any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto.

European Community

Declaration in accordance with article 25 (3) :

"The Community declares that, in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular article 175 thereof, it is competent for entering into international environmental agreements, and for implementing the obligations resulting therefrom, which contribute to the pursuit of the following objectives:

- Preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment,
- Protecting human health,
- Prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources,
- Promoting measures at international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems.

Moreover, the Community declares that it has already adopted legal instruments, binding on its Member States, covering matters governed by this Convention, and will submit and update, as appropriate, a list of those legal instruments to the Conference of the Parties in accordance with article 15 (1) of the Convention.

The Community is responsible for the performance of those obligations resulting from the Convention which are covered by Community law in force.

The exercise of Community competence is, by its nature, subject to continuous development."

India

28 March 2006

Declaration:

"Any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto."

Liechtenstein

Declaration:

"The Principality of Liechtenstein declares in accordance with Article 18 paragraph 2 of the Convention that it accepts both of the means of dispute settlement mentioned in this paragraph as compulsory in relation to any party accepting an obligation concerning one or both of these means of dispute settlement."

Mauritius

Declaration:

"Pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 4, of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Republic of Mauritius declares that any amendments to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force for the Republic of Mauritius only upon the deposit by the Republic of Mauritius of its instrument of Ratification, Acceptance, Approval or Accession with respect thereto."

Moldova

Declaration:

In accordance with article 18, paragraph 2 of the Convention, the Republic of Moldova accepts both of the means of dispute settlement mentioned in this paragraph as compulsory in relation to any party that accepts the same obligation.

Pursuant to article 25, paragraph 4, of the Convention, any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force for the Republic of Moldova only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval with respect thereto.

Micronesia (Federated States of)

Declaration:

1. The Federated States of Micronesia declares in accordance with the provisions of article 25, paragraph 4 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, that any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of the Federated States of Micronesia's instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession thereto.

2. The Federated States of Micronesia declares in accordance with Article 18, paragraph 2 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants that it accepts both of the means of dispute settlement mentioned in this paragraph as compulsory in relation to any party accepting an obligation concerning one or both of these means of dispute settlement.

Slovakia

Declaration:

"Pursuant to article 25, paragraph 4, of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Slovak Republic hereby declares that any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force for the Slovak Republic only upon the deposit by the Slovak Republic of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto."

Slovenia

Declaration:

"In accordance with article 25, paragraph 4 of the Convention, the Republic of Slovenia herewith declares, that any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification with respect thereto."

Syrian Arab Republic

Declaration:

The ratification of the Syrian Arab Republic to this Convention shall in no way signify the recognition of Israel or entail entry into any dealings with Israel in the context of the provisions of this Convention.

Vanuatu

Declaration:

"That in relation to paragraph 4 of Article 25 of the Convention, any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall bind the Republic of Vanuatu only upon its deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession with respect to such amendments."

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Declaration:

In accordance with article 25, paragraph 4 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela declares that any amendment to Annex A, B, or C shall enter into force for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela only after it has deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto.
