



## Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

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### Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

#### Fourteenth meeting

Rome, 17–21 September 2018

Item 5 of the provisional agenda\*

#### Report on activities for effective participation in the work of the Committee

## Report on activities for effective participation in the work of the Committee

### Note by the Secretariat

#### I. Introduction

1. In its decision SC-8/9, on the operation of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants requested the Secretariat to continue, subject to the availability of resources, to undertake activities to support Parties and others to participate effectively in the work of the Committee as listed in decision POPRC-12/7.
2. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties, among others, requested the Secretariat to continue, subject to the availability of resources, to assist the Committee in collecting information on persistent organic pollutants in products as necessary for its review of chemicals.

#### II. Implementation

3. As part of the technical assistance plan for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for the period 2018–2021<sup>1</sup> and in line with budget activity fact sheets,<sup>2</sup> the Secretariat has organized, thanks to generous financial support provided by the European Union and the Governments of Germany and Norway, a joint regional workshop for enhancing the effective participation of Parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in the work of the Rotterdam Convention's Chemical Review Committee and the Stockholm Convention's Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee for the Central and Eastern European Region, from 6 to 8 February 2018 in Brno, Czech Republic.<sup>3</sup> During the biennium 2018–2019, the Secretariat is planning to organize, subject to the availability of resources, similar joint regional workshops in other regions.
4. For the purpose of providing orientation on the work of the Committee, the designated experts appointed to serve as members of the Committee with terms of office commencing on 5 May 2018<sup>4</sup> participated as observers in the thirteenth meeting of the Committee, including the orientation session

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\* UNEP/POPS/POPRC.14/1.

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/36-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/26-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/25.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54/Rev.1.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.brsmeas.org/tabid/6246/Default.aspx>.

<sup>4</sup> Decision SC-8/9, annex.

organized by the Secretariat.<sup>5</sup> The incoming experts had the opportunity to interact with other members and share experiences and knowledge on the chemicals being reviewed and other technical work. The participation of the designated experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition was made possible thanks to the generous financial support provided by the European Union and the Government of Sweden.

5. In addition, the Secretariat organized online briefings of the meetings of the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee,<sup>6</sup> and developed a number of awareness raising materials on newly listed persistent organic pollutants.<sup>7</sup> More information on technical assistance activities, including on the topics related to the work of Committee, is available on the website of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.<sup>8</sup>

6. The present note has not been formally edited.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://chm.pops.int/tabid/6140/Default.aspx>.

<sup>6</sup> <http://chm.pops.int/tabid/4218/Default.aspx>.

<sup>7</sup> <http://chm.pops.int/tabid/2511/Default.aspx>.

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.brsmeas.org/tabid/4893/Default.aspx>.