

Stockholm Convention

2001 - 2011
CHEMICAL CHALLENGES,
SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

10th
ANNIVERSARY



CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

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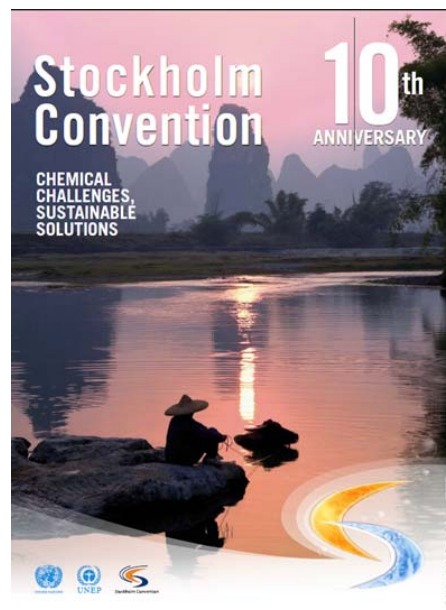
MAY 2011

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY



The Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention is proud to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention! In May 2001, following several years of intensive negotiations, the convention was adopted in Stockholm, Sweden. Ten years later, it counts a regularly increasing number of Parties (173 to date) and has almost doubled the number of persistent organic pollutants listed in its annexes (22 as of May 2011). This delivers a strong message of increasing worldwide involvement in protecting human health and the environment.

In order to share the celebration of this landmark event with all stakeholders, the Secre-



tariat has prepared a thematic package consisting of a booklet which presents the major achievements over 10 years, a leaflet with a CD, two posters and a bag.

The CD contains the booklet in all 6 languages, along with templates of the leaflet, posters and a powerpoint presentation on the same theme.

All items were distributed at COP-5, held in Geneva from 20-25 April, and will also be shared at upcoming workshops. As of 20 May 2011, the different elements of the 10th anniversary package will also be available on our homepage for download (www.pops.int).

ENDOSULFAN ELIMINATION AGREED TO AT COP-5

The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention was held from 25 to 29 April 2011 in Geneva. Its theme, *Stockholm at 10: Chemical Challenges, Sustainable Solutions*, marked the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention in 2001.

Under the presidency of Mr. Karel Blaha (Czech Republic), the Parties agreed on more than 30 measures to promote global action against POPs. Most notably, the Conference

decided to add endosulfan to the list of POPs to be eliminated worldwide by including it in Annex A to the Convention, with specific exemptions. This action puts the widely-used pesticide on course for elimination from the global market by 2012. The conference recognized that financial and technical support is required to facilitate the replacement of the use of

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CALL FOR WORLDWIDE CAMPAIGNS, SUCCESS STORIES AND YOUTH ART CONTESTS

The Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention is inviting all stakeholders to participate in celebrating the important landmark by making use of the 10th anniversary package and launching national or other activities (at regional, community- or organizational levels). The templates (in Indesign software) can be used by Parties and others to customize the posters or leaflets in order to raise awareness on the importance of protecting human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants. Of course, although the existing templates can be used as an inspiration to develop campaigns, we are encouraging all sorts of creative and innovative approaches in reaching out to the general public!

The Secretariat is also encouraging Parties, NGOs, IGOs and other stakeholders to share success stories on how the Stockholm Convention triggered positive changes in chemical management and/or sustainable development in their country/community/organization/etc. Best stories will be selected, compiled and presented at the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio, Brazil in June 2012.

The success stories should showcase the positive impact the Stockholm Convention has had at national or local level. The aim of the publication is to provide ideas to other countries/communities/organizations, and encourage them in their efforts towards ridding the world of POPs by developing sustainable solutions to overcome the challenges posed by these chemicals.

Potential subjects could include for example: the use of chemical and non-chemical alternatives to listed POPs, innovative methods to avoid the use of POPs, health benefits for workers and other groups of population, increased scientific and political engagement to protect human health and the environment, increased awareness and behavioural changes, etc.

The deadline for sending the brief outline (a few lines) of the success story is **1 July 2011**. More details regarding the suc-

cess story structure and the agenda can be found on our website in the area dedicated to the 10th anniversary (available starting May 20th).

As a third pillar to the 10th anniversary celebrations, the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention is inviting Parties to organize national drawing/photography/short film contests for children and youth.

The theme for the competition is “Stockholm at 10: Chemical Challenges, Sustainable Solutions” and what it means to young people around the world. For example, in their artwork, children and youth may explore the many ways persistent organic pollutants affect the life of the planet, enter people’s bodies, and change ecosystems, the reasons why the planet’s “chemical temperature” is rising, and how people can protect themselves and nature from these harmful substances.

The national contests deadline would be 31 December 2011. The winners of the national contests would be invited to participate in a global contest, from which a selection of the best entries would be presented at the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development.

For more information regarding the 10th anniversary activities, please contact: sc10@pops.int.



The 10th anniversary package

ENDOSULFAN ELIMINATION AGREED TO AT COP-5 (CON'T)

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endosulfan in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. A work programme to support the development and deployment of alternatives to endosulfan was also adopted.

Specific to technical assistance the Conference of the Parties endorsed seven new Stockholm Convention regional centres in Algeria, Kenya, India, Iran, Senegal, South Africa and the Russian Federation. The latter is conditional on that country’s ratification of the Convention.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Osvaldo Alvarez (Chile) was elected to serve as president of the sixth meeting of the conference of the Parties, to be held on 6-10 May 2013 in Geneva. All decisions taken by the conference will be included in the report of the meeting which will be available on the convention website.



View from the plenary

PROGRESS IN ELIMINATING AND REDUCING POPs

Since the adoption of the Stockholm Convention in May 2001, significant progress has been made towards reducing and ultimately eliminating the threats posed by POPs to human health and the environment. Below are the main trends reported towards phasing-out or restricting production, use and disposal of the currently listed 21 POPs:

With regards to Annex A POPs, progress has been achieved as specific exemptions are no longer available for the initial POPs aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene and mirex. Currently, exemptions are still available for the recycling of articles containing the listed brominated ethers, as well as the use and disposal of articles manufactured from recycled materials that contain these chemicals. To date, only three countries have registered for such exemptions. In addition, the use of lindane as a pharmaceutical for head lice and scabies is still allowed, for which one country has registered. The need for specific exemptions is reviewed every five years, allowing the transition to safer alternatives. In the case of the listed brominated ethers, the review will be initiated at the next Conference of the Parties.

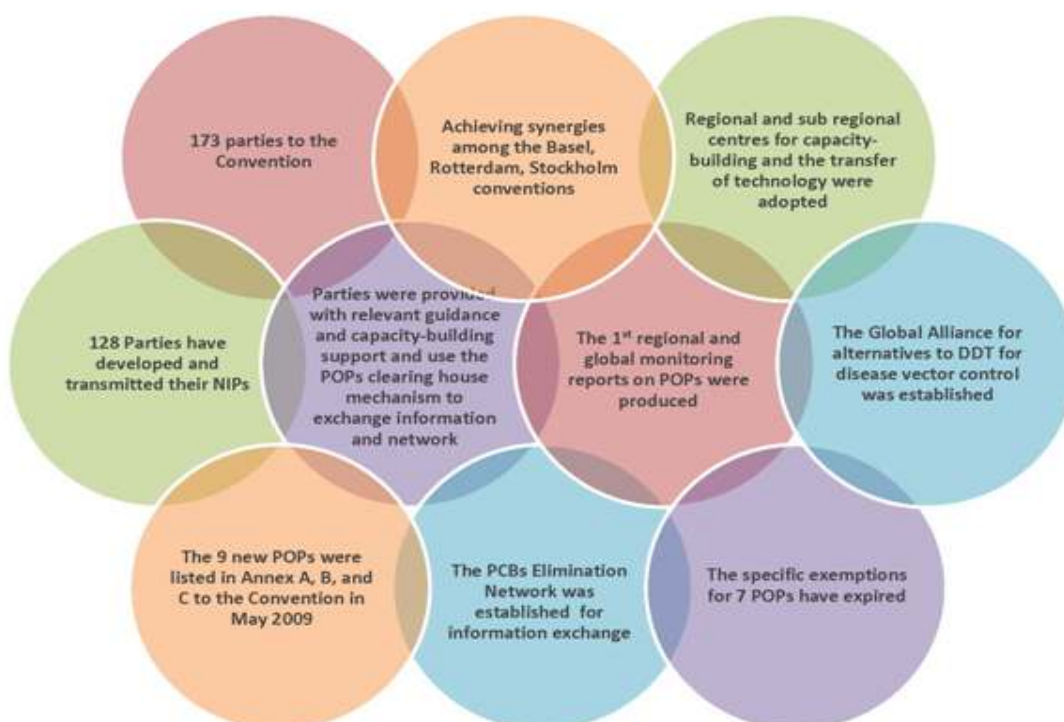
With regards to Annex B POPs, the convention currently contains DDT, allowed for disease vector control in accordance with WHO guidelines. In 2009, the global production of DDT was estimated at 3,314 tons, which represent a reduction of 43% compared to the 2007 level. Annex B also contains the newly added industrial chemical perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS). Seven countries have so far registered for PFOS production/use. A process for reporting on elimination and for evaluating the continued need of PFOS will be considered at the next Conference of the Parties.



Two Convention booklets on POPs: The 9 new POPs (left) and, Ridding the World of POPs: A Guide to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (right)

With regards to Annex C POPs, major progress has also been achieved. A large majority of Parties have reported on inventories of dioxin and furan releases, providing a harmonized set of data for prioritising actions over time. Making use of the guidelines on BAT and BEP, most countries are now implementing measures to tackle unintentionally produced POPs.

10 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 10 YEARS



CREATING SYNERGIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE THREE CONVENTIONS IN FRENCH-SPEAKING AFRICAN COUNTRIES

The Regional Awareness-raising Workshop on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in French-speaking countries in Africa has been rescheduled to 5-8 July 2011. The workshop is jointly organised with the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Francophone Africa, located in Dakar, Senegal.

The workshop is intended to enhance participants' awareness of the process under way and existing opportunities to further promote a coordinated implementation of the conventions at the national, regional and international levels. Toward this objective, the workshop is composed of different thematic sessions.

The first one focuses on the current international legal framework related to the conventions, in particular the joint decisions that have been agreed upon thus far, and the new possible ones to be taken this year at each Convention's Conference of the Parties. This introductory session will be followed by a second component promoting an exchange among countries on their experiences with implementing coordinated



measures to fulfill their conventions' requirements at the national level. A third component will touch upon the status of national legal frameworks in the region and possible pathways to enhance synergistic work in this area. Building on UNITAR's training expertise, the fourth element of the workshop aims at building capacities in strategizing efforts for resource mobilization in the field of chemicals and wastes management.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MEETINGS / WORKSHOPS

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE
22-24 May	RECETOX POPs workshop: "Identifying the research needs in the global assessment of POPs ten years after the signature of the Stockholm Convention"	Brno, Czech Republic
31 May-2 June	Regional Capacity Building Workshop for PBDEs Emissions Reduction from E-wastes	Beijing, China
27 June-2 July	7th Summer School on Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology	Brno, Czech Republic
5-8 July	Regional awareness raising workshop on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination for the Implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in French-speaking Africa	Dakar, Senegal
25-29 July	Regional workshop on joint implementation of the Waigani, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	Nadi, Fiji

WEBINARS

Topic	Date / Time (GMT) (Duration 1 hour)	Registration deadline
Briefing on the outcomes of the Stockholm Convention COP-5	11 May 14.00 GMT 13 May 08.00 GMT	2 May
	18 May 14.00 GMT 27 May 08.00 GMT	9 May
Updating national inventories on unintentional POPs NEW!	1 June 14.00 GMT 3 June 08.00 GMT	23 May
	15 June 14.00 GMT 17 June 08.00 GMT	6 June
Promoting synergies among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions NEW!	29 June 14.00 GMT 1 July 08.00 GMT	20 June
	6 July 14.00 GMT 8 July 08.00 GMT	27 June

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FOR WORKSHOPS

Registrations to participate in the workshops organised by the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention must be submitted through the **official contact points** designated by Parties for the performance of administrative functions and formal communication under the Convention or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For further information on the activities organized by the Secretariat, please visit us at www.pops.int. To request assistance, please send a message to: TA@pops.int

