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CONTACTING THE SECRETARIAT

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OUTCOMES OF THE 7TH MEETING OF THE POPS REVIEW COMMITTEE

At its seventh meeting held from 10-14 October in Geneva, Switzerland, the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee adopted more than a dozen decisions, including one recommending that the flame retardant hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) be listed under the Convention.

The committee also initiated risk profiles of two industrial chemicals newly proposed for elimination under the global chemicals treaty: chlorinated naphthalenes, used for wood preservation, as additives to paints and engine oils, for cable insulation and in capacitors, and hexachlorobutadiene, a widely used fumigant to control pests, industrial solvent and by-product during production of other chlorinated solvents. The Committee agreed to continue its assessment of a third chemical, pentachlorophenol (PCP), which is an organochlorine compound used as a pesticide and disinfectant.



Kei Ohno, Reiner Arndt, Jim Willis and David Ogden

The Committee also agreed to prepare guidance on alternatives to Endosulfan and to DDT as well as to the use of PFOS in open applications. The Secretariat should continue to provide assistance to enhance the effective participation of Parties and stakeholders in the work of the Committee. A calendar of training and capacity building activities for 2012 will be available shortly.

For more information: www.pops.int/poprc.

OUTCOMES OF THE 10TH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE BASEL CONVENTION

The Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (COP-10) was held from 17 to 21 October 2011 in Cartagena, Colombia. It gathered 118 Parties, 2 non-Parties, many UN agencies and intergovernmental organizations and a number of non-governmental organizations, private sector and business organizations.

The meeting was a historical one, unblocking the Ban Amendment that was adopted at COP-3 in 1995, to ban the export of hazardous wastes from OECD to non-OECD countries. The ground for the breakthrough was prepared by the Country Led Initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention, initiated by the Governments of Indonesia and Switzerland at COP-9. The effort was supported by the Government of Colombia, host of the Conference.

COP-10 adopted 29 decisions: on the Stra-

tegic Framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for 2012-2021, on strengthening the BCRCs, on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, on the Partnership Programme, on the programme budget and on several technical guidelines.

COP-10, which has already been hailed as "the miracle of Cartagena" because it marks a turning point for the Basel Convention, also adopted the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes.

For more information:
www.basel.int/COP10/tabid/1571/Default.aspx



OUTCOMES OF THE MERCURY INC-3

The third session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on Mercury (INC-3) was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 31 October to 4 November 2011. The Committee, chaired by Mr. Fernando Lugris (Uruguay), made progress in its deliberations, finishing a first reading of the draft text for a mercury treaty.

Advancement was made on articles related to artisanal and small scale gold mining; storage, wastes and contaminated sites; and awareness-raising, research and monitoring, and

communication of information. Six contact groups met, as well as the legal group, which considered articles related to institutional arrangements, settlement of disputes and final provisions.

Future intersessional work will include preparation by the secretariat of a revised text, based on reports by the six contact groups and work of the legal group. This text will be discussed at INC-4, taking place from 25-29 June 2012 in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON NEEDS ASSESSMENT & 10TH ANNIVERSARY GLOBAL ART CONTEST COUNT-DOWN

Sign up to our Technical assistance needs assessment:

As a follow-up to Decision SC-5/20 adopted by the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention at its fifth meeting, we are inviting developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to provide us with information on their technical assistance and technology transfer needs in order to implement the convention, as well as the barriers and obstacles they face in that regard.

An online questionnaire on this topic will soon be sent out to all Official Contact Points and Permanent Missions, via the POPs Social interface. Please fill it in **by 31/01/2012**.

The results of this needs assessment will also allow us to prepare our new programme for 2013-2015.



Less than 4 months left to participate !

10th anniversary global art contest for children & youth

The contest opens on 1 January 2012 and closes on 16 March 2012!

Visit our [webpage](#) (in English, French and Spanish):
Learn more about the rules, technical guidelines and how to participate, and discover how the Czech Republic organised its national art contest. Educational material will also be available soon in the three languages to help explain the POPs issue to children and help them for their entries

POPS IN THE NEWS

Visit our latest news section on our website: <http://chm.pops.int/Convention/Media/POPsintheneeds/tabid/2306/Default.aspx>

NEERI INAUGURATES POPS CENTRE IN NAGPUR

On 24 November, the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) inaugurated its Stockholm Convention Regional Centre on POPs for the Asia region in Nagpur, India. The centre was officially endorsed as a regional

centre for capacity-building and technology transfer at COP-5 in April 2011. It will serve Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF UNU-SHIMADZU PARTNERSHIP AND THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION AT 10

The United Nations University (UNU) international symposium “Past 10 Years and Future of Stockholm Convention on POPs” was held on October 25 in Tokyo in relation to UNU’s project “Environmental Monitoring and Governance in the Asian Coastal Hydrosphere.” The UNU project focuses on environmental monitoring and governance by strengthening collaboration among national research bodies, UNU, and Shimadzu Corporation. The partnership between UNU’s Institute for Sustainability and Peace and Shimadzu Corporation for last 15 years has contributed to the implementation of the Stockholm Convention by providing national project coordinators in Asia with technologies and assistance for environmental monitoring activities.

The first session focused on achievements and future direction of the Stockholm Convention, followed by a ceremony celebrating the completion of the fifth phase of the UNU project. Topics discussed were 10 major achievements and current agenda of the Convention, application of Annex D criteria to 10 new chemicals listed as POPs and future challenges, and management of POPs and the roles of monitoring for the Global Monitoring Plan in Japan. The second session dealt with various activities and research outcomes that have been undertaken in China, Japan, South Korea, and Vietnam for Stockholm Convention.

Furthermore, recent status of the UNIDO’s projects on environmentally sound management of POPs and investigation efforts by Japan Electric and Electronics Industry were delivered to highlight the activities and collaboration of business and international organizations.

2011 UNU-ISP International Symposium

Past 10 Years and Future of Stockholm Convention on POPs

25 October 2011 (Tuesday) from 9:30 to 17:10
U Thant International Conference Hall at the UN University Headquarters, Tokyo



Publication distributed at the UNU-ISP International Symposium in Japan

WORKSHOP ON “SOLID WASTE REUTILIZATION IN CEMENT INDUSTRY AND FLUE GAS CLEANING RESIDUE DISPOSAL”

The workshop on “Solid Waste Reutilization in Cement Industry and Flue Gas Cleaning Residue Disposal” was held on 27 October 2011, in Beijing, China. The workshop was co-organized by the School of Environment, Tsinghua University and Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Asia and the Pacific (BCRC China) / Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-building and the Transfer of Technology in Asia and the Pacific (SCRCAP).

The objective of the workshop was to improve and update the knowledge of participants on solid waste management, cement co-disposal process and pollution control technology. It was attended by over 50 participants from universities, research academia, laboratories and the industrial sector. International and Chinese experts were invited to deliver speeches in the fields of cement manufacturing process, formation of pollutants and circulation phenomena in cement kilns, formation of PCDD/



Participants at the workshop in Beijing

PCDFs in modern cement kilns, equipment for alternation fuel preparation and handling, and situation of industrial and hazardous waste co-disposal in cement plants in China.

WORKSHOP "STRENGTHENING ACTIVITIES OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS" IN MOSCOW

ANO Centre for International Projects (ANO CIP), the Basel and Stockholm Regional Centre in the Russian Federation, held a meeting on "Strengthening activities of the civil society participation in the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions" on 23-25 August 2011 in Moscow. The meeting was attended by 27 participants, representing state authorities in the field of environmental protection and NGOs from the Republics of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine.

Participants shared experiences in implementing the three conventions at the national level, including information on the participation of NGOs and civil society and on solutions to problems of chemical safety in general.

The meeting recommended: that participants from countries of the sub-region, which are not yet the parties to the three conventions, appeal to their governments to become parties to them; to involve the representatives of civil society in decision-making processes on the safe circulation of chemicals; that the Secretariats of the conventions develop guidance



Participants at the workshop in Moscow

about the mechanisms and processes of coordination at the national and regional levels with the involvement of NGOs, regional centers, and also SAICM Secretariat; strengthening cooperation with Regional centers and providing assistance and financial support for their activities, taking into account the geographical and linguistic community of countries participant and holding similar regional meetings on a regular basis.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MEETINGS / WORKSHOPS

Date	Activity	Venue
21-29 November	Regional training on ESM of PCBs	Alang, Gujarat,
23-25 November	Third PEN Advisory Committee meeting	Lyon, France
28-30 November	Sixth Toolkit Expert Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland
29 November-1 December	Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes	Shenzen, China
5-7 December	Regional Workshop for the Development of Ambient Air Monitoring Network of POPs in West Asia	Kuwait City, Kuwait
13 December	Alternatives Identification and Assessment Training	Barcelona, Spain

WEBINARS

Topic	Date /Time (GMT +1) (Duration 1 hour)	Registration deadline
The Stockholm Convention's 10th anniversary global art contest for children and youth	22 November at 4 pm (in Spanish) 23 November at 4 pm (in French) 24 November at 10 am (in English)	21Nov.
Financial mechanism: COP-5 decisions and NIP Update	6 December at 4 pm 8 December at 10 am	29 Nov.
E-waste	12 December at 4 pm 16 December at 10 am	9 Dec.

INFORMATION

For further information on the activities organized by the Secretariat or its partners, including conditions for registering to workshops and webinars, please visit us at: www.pops.int.

To request assistance, please send a message to: TA@pops.int.