



RESTRUCTURING OF THE 3 SECRETARIATS



BASEL CONVENTION



ROTTERDAM CONVENTION



STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

Logos of the three Conventions

RESTRUCTURING OF THE 3 SECRETARIATS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

CHINA'S TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROMOTION CENTER FOR POP REDUCTION AND CONTROL

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF POPS IN BRAZIL

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION'S GLOBAL ART CONTEST FOR YOUTH

8TH MEETING OF CHEMICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

WORKSHOP TO PREPARE A DRAFT MONITORING PLAN FOR POPS IN MOROCCO

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

CONTACTING THE SECRETARIAT

For further information or to request assistance, please contact us at:

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As a follow up to the mandate set out in the decisions on joint managerial functions adopted by the Conferences of the Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, held in 2011, the Executive Secretary's proposal for the organization of the secretariats of the three conventions is now available on the conventions' websites.

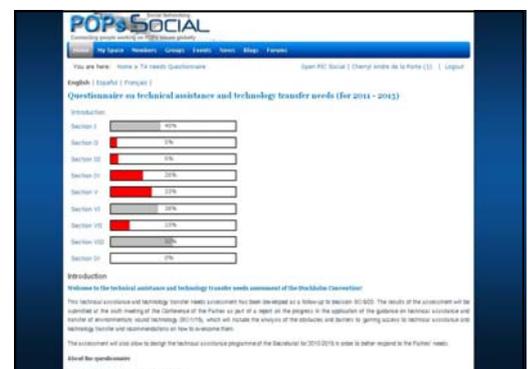
The proposal presents the objectives of the restructuring. It also describes the process for developing the proposal, which included the work of a secretariat task force on restructuring, as well as extensive discus-

sions with regional groups at all three of the 2011 COPs. The document also includes a timeline for implementation and next steps, bearing in mind that the new structure is to be implemented by 31 December 2012.

Comments received from Parties and observers on the proposal are posted on the conventions' websites. Further information is also provided on the analysis undertaken by the secretariat task force on restructuring regarding the functions and processes currently in place in the secretariats. More information on: www.pops.int

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT: ONLY ONE WEEK LEFT TO RESPOND!

On 11 January 2012, all Official Contact Points (OCPs) of the Stockholm Convention from developing country Parties or Parties with economies in transition were invited to fill out a questionnaire to assess the technical assistance and technology transfer needs of their country. The questionnaire was designed as a follow-up to decision SC-5/20 adopted by the 5th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in April 2011. The questionnaire is available on the POPs Social portal which can be accessed through the Convention's website. All OCPs were provided with the relevant weblink and their login details via email. If you are an OCP and have not yet accessed the



Online questionnaire on the POPs Social website questionnaire, we would like to urge you to do so, as the deadline for submitting it is coming soon on 17 February 2011. Filling it out takes approximately 45 minutes. Thank you!

CHINA'S TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROMOTION CENTER FOR POPs REDUCTION AND CONTROL OPENS



Opening ceremony of the China's Technology Transfer Promotion Centre

China's center for promoting the transfer of POPs reduction and control technology (hereinafter abbreviated as TTPC) opened in Tsinghua University, Beijing, China on December 29, 2011. The ceremony was co-organized by the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office at the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (FECO/MEP), the School of Environment of Tsinghua University (THU), CSD (Beijing) Environmental Protection Development Co., Ltd (CSD) and the Stockholm Convention regional centre for Capacity-building and the Transfer of Technology in Asia and the Pacific (SCRCAP). The TTPC is established under the GEF project "Strengthening Institutions, Regulations and Enforcement (SIRE) Capacities for Effective and Efficient Implementation of the National Implementation Plan (NIP) in China" (hereinafter as SIRE project), and jointed operated by THU and CSD. About 50

representatives from the SIRE project international executive agency (UNIDO), the SIRE project national executive agency (FECO/MEP), THU, CSD and some Chinese institutes attended the ceremony.

After the ceremony, a workshop on the "Key technologies of POPs reduction and control for China" was held. Presentations were made on: the progress of China in implementing the Stockholm Convention; the review of the status and trends of the local R&D activities regarding POPs-related environmentally sound technologies; experience in developing high temperature incineration technologies for PCBs wastes. In addition, the case was made for the international transfer of thermal desorption technology into China for the remediation of POPs contaminated sites.

According to the work plan of the TTPC, the potential technologies suitable for an application in China will be identified and evaluated and an internet-based platform will be developed to prompt the communication among the technology vendors, developers and users. Both global and local expertise resources will be integrated toward the fulfillment of technology requests from companies in China (e.g. owners of incinerators, sinter plants, pesticide producers, etc.). The establishment of TTPC is an important activity for China to fulfill its urgent and comprehensive technology needs for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs. The experience gained could provide technical support to SCRCAP to implement technology transfer in the Asia-Pacific region.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF POPs IN BRAZIL



Simulation class at International Training Course

JICA, ABC and CETESB, as Regional Centre of the Stockholm Convention on POPs for the GRULAC Region and the executive partner of a trilateral project TCTP/JICA/ABC/CETESB, are conducting the "1 International Training Course on POPs Management". The course has been entirely developed, coordinated and implemented by CETESB's experts and was held at CETESB facilities in São Paulo, Brazil. Its objective is to promote the capacity-building and transfer of technology for relevant POPs issues. It is divided into three different modules: the first one was held from 9 to 27 January and it was attended by 43 decision-makers, regulatory authorities and experts from GRULAC countries, Brazilian States and CETESB' technicians. The participants were trained in urban health and ESM of solid waste, PCBs and

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

pesticide obsolete wastes management, unintentional POPs management (toolkit application and air emission technology controls), chemical emergency responses/CEE, soil and groundwater pollution prevention, management and evaluation of contaminated sites. There were also practical classes: a CEE simulation and four field visits in two installations located about 25 miles

away from Sao Paulo municipality: auto-clave as healthy waste treatment, co-processing unit and two examples of POPs remediated sites. The legal documents, guidelines and technical procedures that provided the bases for the training were available for download. As an exercise, a selected POPs issue, based on the training, has to be developed and sent to CETESB. The modules II and III were held until February 9th.

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION'S GLOBAL ART CONTEST FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH: FINAL COUNTDOWN



The contest, which opened on 1 January 2012, closes on **16 March 2012**. All drawings, photography and videos should be sent by Official Contact Points to the Secretariat before that date.

The contest has been designed to help promote awareness about POPs among the younger public. Educational material is available in English, French and Spanish to support the youth in designing their entries. All information is available on our dedicated [webpage](#).

The Czech Republic, which has organised a national contest in 2011, will be the first country to send its entries for the global competition. The Czech Republic entries, which were exhibited at the Ministry of the Environment in Prague between 16 December and 15 January, are now exhibited at RECETOX, the Stockholm Convention regional centre based in Brno, from 17 January to 20 February.

In April, the Jury, composed of members of the Secretariat, will convene to make the final selection of winners (9 for each art category). The final winning entries will then be presented at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, from 18 June to 6 July 2012. In parallel, they will be showcased virtually at the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development and in the Stockholm Convention regional centres.

THE 8TH MEETING OF THE CHEMICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN GENEVA IN MARCH

The Chemical Review Committee (CRC) is a subsidiary body of the Rotterdam Convention established to review chemicals and pesticide formulations according to the criteria set out by the Convention in Annexes II and IV respectively and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties for listing such chemicals in Annex III.

The 8th meeting of the Chemical Review Committee (CRC-8) will be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 19 to 23 March 2012.

In this meeting, the Committee will review the draft Decision Guidance Documents for pentabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures, octabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and its precursor perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride and Gramoxone Super. OctaBDE commercial mixtures, PentaBDE commercial mixtures, and PFOS and related chemicals have also been reviewed by the Stockholm Convention's POPRC in the past. As an example of cooperation and information exchange between the two Committees, CRC has used some of the documentation from POPRC on these chemicals in its evaluation during CRC-7 and in the inter-sessional process. After the review of the decision guidance



Experts discussion at the CRC-7 meeting

documents by the CRC-8, several new industrial chemicals and a severely hazardous pesticide formulation will enter the Annex III of Rotterdam Convention.

In this term, two new candidate pesticides, dicofol and trichlorfon are also submitted to the CRC-8 for review.

More information on the details of the meeting and related documents can be found at www.pic.int

WORKSHOP TO PREPARE A DRAFT MONITORING PLAN FOR POPS IN MOROCCO



Mohammed V avenue in Rabat, Morocco

The Department of the Environment in Morocco, in cooperation with the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CPRAC) are organizing a workshop in Rabat on 13-15 March 2012 to develop the elements of a monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants in Morocco. This will be developed in the framework of the Global Monitoring Plan prepared by the Stockholm Convention on POPs. Presentations by scientists experienced in the measurement of POPs concentrations in the atmosphere and humans will be followed by working groups to develop a simple monitoring program that can last over time.

Registration for assistance is restricted due to limited capacity of the room and resources available.

For more information please contact: vvidal.tecnic@cprac.org

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MEETINGS / WORKSHOPS

Date	Activity	Venue
20-22 Feb	UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment	Nairobi, Kenya
6-8 Mar	National Green Customs Initiative workshop	Merida, Mexico
14-16 Mar	Pan-African E-waste Forum	Nairobi, Kenya
19-23 Mar	Eighth Meeting of the Chemicals Review Committee under the Rotterdam Convention	Geneva, Switzerland
4 -7 Jun	GEF Governing Council	Washington DC, US
27 Jun- 2 Jul	Mercury intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC-4)	Punta del Este, Uruguay

WEBINARS

Topic	Date /Time (GMT +1) (Duration 1 hour)
Opportunities to phase out Lindane in pharmaceutical uses	21 February, 3 pm (GMT+1h): Register 8 March, 10 am (GMT+1h): Register
How to benefit from and to contribute to the POPRC's work?	17 April, 4 pm (in Sp) (GMT+2h): Register 19 April, 10 am (in Eng)(GMT+2h): Register
How to enhance PCB inventories: Identifying PCBs in closed and open applications	8 May, 4 pm (GMT+2h): Register 10 May, 10 am (GMT+2h): Register
How to avoid cross-contamination: Managing PCBs in an environmentally sound manner	19 June, 4 pm (in Sp) (GMT+2h): Register 21 June, 1 pm (in Eng) (GMT+2h): Register

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.

