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CONTACTING THE SECRETARIAT

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

Secretariat of the Stockholm
Convention
Technical Assistance Programme
United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)
11-13 Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine GE, Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 917 8729
Fax: +41 22 917 8098
Email: TA@pops.int



COP5

APPOINTMENT OF THE JOINT HEAD

On 24 March 2011, the Executive Director of UNEP announced that Mr. Jim Willis, a US national, had been chosen to fill the position of Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention Secretariat, the Stockholm Convention Secretariat and the UNEP-part of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat.

Mr. Willis has worked in the field of environment with a particular focus on policy issues related to chemicals and wastes. Mr. Willis worked as the Director of the Chemical Control Division with the US Environmental Protection Agency and previously as the Director of the UNEP Chemicals Branch, including as Executive Secretary of the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions secretariats.

His experience extends from the national to the international levels. Ms. Willis also has extensive experience from intergovernmental



Mr. Jim Willis, Executive Secretary of the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions

tal meetings and negotiations as well as the management of multicultural teams.

We take the opportunity to welcome Mr. Willis to the who took office on 18 April 2011 in time to attend the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

PREPARING FOR COP-5

The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (COP-5), to be held from 25 to 29 April 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland, will mark the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention. This will be an opportunity to look back at the achievements – for instance the adoption of the synergies decisions by the Extraordinary meetings of the Conferences of the Parties and the entry into force of the amendments adding nine chemicals to the Convention – and look ahead at the opportunities to further eliminate POPs.

Among other issues, COP-5 is expected to review a number of items related to financial

and technical assistance. As such, COP-5 will consider:

- new ways of facilitating the work of the financial mechanism of the Convention, for example by providing consolidated guidance to the financial mechanism and by considering the establishment of a group on financial resources and mechanisms;
- the development of a study to assess parties' funding needs, including a format to report funding needs associated with implementation of the Convention;

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CREDENTIALS *VERSUS* ACCREDITATION FOR THE COP-5: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

It is important to note that the main difference between the two legal processes is that, according to the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties, as contained in annex to decision SC-1/1, the former - i.e. credentials - is applicable to Parties whereas Observers, in particular Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), are subject to the latter - i.e. accreditation.

1) Credentials of Parties' representatives

• Who needs to present credentials?

Each Party participating in a meeting shall be represented by a delegation consisting of a head of delegation and such other representatives, alternate representatives and advisers, as may be required. Please note that an alternate representative or an adviser may act as a representative upon designation by the head of delegation.

• Who can issue credentials?

The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.

• When do/to whom credentials have to be submitted?

The credentials of representatives, as well as the names of alternate representatives and advisers, shall be submitted to the Secretariat if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Secretariat.

2) Accreditations of NGO Observers

• What steps does an NGO need to follow in order to be accredited?

NGOs are invited to submit to the Secretariat the relevant [application form](#), duly completed, together with the information and supporting documentation intended to confirm the legal personality of the organization as well as its qualifications in matters covered by the Convention, notably as identified in the Article 10 of the Convention. For further information, please consult the [list of NGOs accredited to the meetings of the Stockholm Convention COPs](#).

• Once accredited, on which condition does an NGO participate to meetings?

Pursuant to Rule 7, any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention and which has informed the Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a meeting as an observer, may be so admitted, unless at least one third of the Parties present at the meeting object.

• Once accredited and admitted, how may an NGO participate to the proceedings of the meetings?

In principle, an accredited NGO may make observations but has no right to vote. More precisely, according to Rule 7 of the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties, such observers may, upon invitation of the President, participate without the right to vote in the proceedings of any meeting in matters of direct concern to the body or agency they represent, unless at least one third of the Parties present at the meeting object.

PREPARING FOR COP-5

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- the endorsement of the six currently Nominated Stockholm Convention Centres as Stockholm Convention Regional Centres for capacity-building and the transfer of technology;
- a new capacity-building activities to be delivered as part of the Secretariat's technical assistance programme,
- a joint programme of technical assistance activities among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
- the development of additional guidance to be developed to assist Parties in their development and implementation of the Convention.

On Monday 25 April, during the lunch break, COP-5 participants will also be given the opportunity to interact with of Ms. Monique Barbut, CEO of the Global Environment Facility as

well as with the other panelists attending the Finance Roundtable .

For further information please visit COP-5 webpage: www.pops.int.



COP-4 of the Stockholm Convention, May 2009

POPS SOCIAL: A NEW ERA OF RESPONSIBLE COMMUNICATION



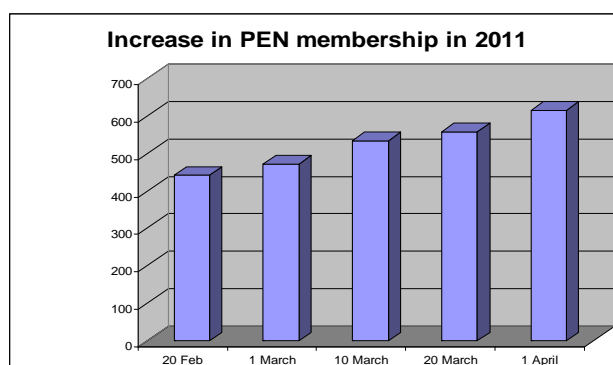
POPs Social, the new social networking platform of the Stockholm clearing-house mechanism, has been designed to serve both the need for accountability and for innovation.

POPs Social enables users to register within specific online groups (social networks) on themes mandated by the Parties to the conventions. Some of these networks are formal (“by invitation only”), such as the *POPs Review Committee* or the *PCB Elimination Network Advisory Committee*.

Others groups are relatively open and participation is voluntary. The Webinars groups to which participants register their interest in a specific topic fall into this voluntary category. POPs Social facilitates well-structured, open debate on issues related to the conventions.

Participants in POPs Social are encouraged to share information on Events, News, Blogs, Documents and Forums with their own groups or with the POPs Social membership as a whole. They can become a “Friend” of any member, participate in discussion forums, share draft documents or proposals to group members, and review the contributions of others.

To date, POPs Social has established 30 groups comprised of more than 1,100 members in total during its 6-month period of beta testing. The most active group so far is the PCBs Elimination Network (PEN) which has attracted more than 120 members to one or more of its 4 sub-groups.



POPsSocial will be formally launched at the 5th Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

SCHEDULE OF SIDE EVENTS AT COP-5

	Monday, 25 April	Tuesday, 26 April	Wednesday, 27 April	Thursday, 28 April	Friday, 29 April
Lunch time Event A	Finance forum for sustainable solutions	New POPs	10th anniversary	Scientific advances	Synergies
Lunch time Event B		Networking	Indigenous peoples	PFC alternatives and POPs-free side event	Safe Planet
Evening event A	Reception hosted by the Swiss government 2011 Stockholm Convention Awards	General Assembly of the Global Alliance for Alternatives to DDT	FAO on pesticides in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia		
Evening Event B		UNIDO Toolkit for investigating and managing POPs contaminated sites	Film premiere: “Silent Snow”		

POPS REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS LISTING OF ENDOSULFAN

The recommendation of the POPs Review Committee (POPRC) to amend Annex A of the Convention by adding a new chemical, endosulfan, will be under consideration by the COP at its fifth meeting. Endosulfan was proposed for listing by the European Community and its member States that are Parties to the Stockholm Convention. As a broad-spectrum insecticide, endosulfan is currently used to control a wide range of pests on a variety of crops. A total of between 18,000 and 20,000 tons of endosulfan are produced annually in Brazil, China, India, Israel and South Korea. The largest users of endosulfan (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Pakistan and the United States) use a total of about 15,000 tons of endosulfan annually. The use of endosulfan is banned or will be phased out in 60

countries that, together, account for 45 per cent of current global use. The POPRC has evaluated the proposal to list endosulfan in accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of the Convention and developed a risk profile and a risk management evaluation for endosulfan. Based on these documents, at its 6th meeting in 2010, the POPRC recommended to the COP that it considers listing technical endosulfan, its related isomers and endosulfan sulfate in Annex A, with specific exemptions. Both documents are available on the Convention website. An information brochure on endosulfan developed by the Secretariat will also be available to participants at COP-5.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MEETINGS / WORKSHOPS

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE
26 April	First Assembly of the Global Alliance for the development and deployment of alternatives to DDT for disease vector control	Geneva, Switzerland
25-29 April	Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention	Geneva, Switzerland
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
23-26 May	Regional awareness raising workshop on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination for the Implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions for French-speaking Africa	Dakar, Senegal
31 May-2 June	Regional Capacity Building Workshop for PBCEs Emissions Reduction from E-wastes	Beijing, China
27 June-2 July	7th Summer School on Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology	Brno, Czech Republic
26-29 July	Regional awareness raising workshop on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination for the Implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	Nadi, Fiji

WEBINARS

Topic	Date / Time (GMT) (Duration 1 hour)	Registration deadline
Briefing on the Stockholm Convention COP-5	6 April 14.00 GMT 8 April 08.00 GMT	28 March
	13 April 14.00 GMT 15 April 08.00 GMT	4 April
Briefing on the outcomes of the Stockholm Convention COP-5 <i>NEW!</i>	11 May 14.00 GMT 13 May 08.00 GMT	2 May
	18 May 14.00 GMT 20 May 08.00 GMT	9 May
Updating national inventories on unintentional POPs <i>NEW!</i>	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 <i>NEW!</i>	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

