



## Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

Distr.: General  
10 October 2016

Original: English

---

### Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade Eighth meeting

Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017

Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters: election of officers**

### Election of officers

#### Note by the Secretariat

## I. Introduction

1. At its eighth meeting the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade is expected to elect the officers of the Conference of the Parties that will serve during its ninth meeting. The present note provides information regarding these elections.
2. In addition to electing those officers, the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting is expected to elect the Chair of the Chemical Review Committee for a term starting on 1 May 2018, to appoint the 14 experts designated subsequent to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to serve as members of the Committee with terms of office from 1 May 2016 to 30 April 2020 and to elect 17 new members of the Committee with terms of office from 1 May 2018 to 30 April 2022 (see UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/7).
3. A table providing an overview of all the elections expected to take place during the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is set out in the annex to document UNEP/CHW.13/INF/6-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/22-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/34.

## II. Implementation

4. Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of rule 22 of the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties, as adopted by decision RC-1/1 with the exception of the second sentence of paragraph 1 of rule 45, set out the following procedures for the election of the officers of the Conference of the Parties:

#### Rule 22

1. At the first ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a President and four Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall act as Rapporteur, shall be elected from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting. These officers shall serve as the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. Each of the United Nations regional groups shall be represented by one Bureau member. The Bureau shall remain in office until the closure of the second

---

\* UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/1.

ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

2. At the second and subsequent ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the election of officers from among the Parties to serve as the Bureau for the following meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall take place before the end of the meeting. These officers shall commence their term of office at the closure of the meeting and shall serve until the closure of the following ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

3. The offices of the President and Rapporteur shall normally be subject to rotation among the United Nations regional groups. No elected officer may serve on the Bureau for more than two consecutive terms.

5. At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties elected one President and four Vice-Presidents from among the Parties to serve as officers from the closure of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties until the closure of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as follows:

President:	Mr. Franz Perrez (Switzerland)
Vice-Presidents:	Ms. Trecia David (Guyana)
	Mr. Hassan Rahimi Majd (Islamic Republic of Iran)
	Ms. Silvija Nora Kalniņš (Latvia)
	Ms. Caroline Theka (Malawi)

6. Mr. Majd was also elected to act as Rapporteur.<sup>1</sup> Following the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Islamic Republic of Iran named Mr. Mohammad Hematyar to replace Mr. Majd.

7. In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of rule 22 of the rules of procedure, at its eighth meeting the Conference of the Parties is to elect a President and four Vice-Presidents, one of whom is to act as Rapporteur, from among the Parties. Those officers are to commence their terms of office at the closure of the eighth meeting and serve until the closure of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

8. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure, for the purposes of regional rotation the next President would be expected to be elected from among the Latin American and Caribbean States represented at the meeting and the Rapporteur from among the Central and Eastern European States.

9. To facilitate the election of officers a list of the regions and Parties from which the offices of President and Rapporteur have been filled since the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties is set out in the annex to the present note.

10. Pursuant to decision RC-7/15 on the programme of work and budget for the Rotterdam Convention for the biennium 2016–2017, no representative of any Party whose contributions are in arrears for two or more years shall be eligible to become a member of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties or a member of any subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, provided, however, that this shall not apply to Parties that are least developed countries or small island developing States or to Parties that have agreed on and are respecting a schedule of payments in accordance with the financial rules.

11. Information on arrears in assessed contributions to the general trust funds of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions is provided in the note by the Secretariat on a combined proposal for the programmes of work and proposed budgets of the three conventions for the biennium 2018–2019, including joint activities (UNEP/CHW.13/26-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/25-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/29), and associated documents cited therein.

12. Pursuant to the Gender Action Plan of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for 2016–2017,<sup>2</sup> the Secretariat promotes active gender-balanced participation in meetings of the bodies of the conventions, including by officers.

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21, para. 29.

<sup>2</sup> Available at <http://brsmeas.org/Gender/BRSGenderActionPlan/tabid/3652/language/fr-CH/Default.aspx>.

### **III. Proposed action**

13. The Conference of the Parties is invited to elect at its eighth meeting a President and four Vice-Presidents, including one Vice-President to act as Rapporteur, to serve as the officers of the Conference of the Parties from the closure of its eighth meeting to the closure of its ninth meeting, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

## Annex

**Regions and Parties from which the offices of President and Rapporteur have been filled since the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

	<i>First meeting</i>	<i>Second meeting</i>	<i>Third meeting</i>	<i>Fourth meeting</i>	<i>Fifth meeting</i>	<i>Sixth meeting</i>	<i>Seventh meeting</i>	<i>Eighth meeting</i>
<b>President</b>	<b>Western European and other States</b> (Switzerland)	<b>Western European and other States</b> (Switzerland)	<b>Asia-Pacific States</b> (China)	<b>Latin American and Caribbean States</b> (Argentina)	<b>African States</b> (South Africa)	<b>Central and Eastern European States</b> (Poland)	<b>Asia-Pacific States</b> (Jordan)	<b>Western European and other States</b> (Switzerland)
<b>Rapporteur</b>	<b>Asia-Pacific States</b> (Jordan)	<b>African States</b> (Ethiopia)	<b>Central and Eastern European States</b> (Lithuania)	<b>African States</b> (Mali)	<b>Western European and other States</b> (Finland)	<b>Latin American and Caribbean States</b> (Ecuador)	<b>Western European and other States</b> (France)	<b>Asia-Pacific States</b> (Islamic Republic of Iran)