

RC-4/1: Progress in the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the review of the implementation of key obligations under the Rotterdam Convention set out in the note by the Secretariat,¹

Welcoming the substantial progress made in implementing the provisions of the Convention since its entry into force in 2004,

1. *Acknowledges* the importance of adequate national infrastructure for pesticide and industrial chemicals management in developing countries to the preparation and submission of notifications of final regulatory action to ban or severely restrict pesticides and in taking and reporting decisions on the import of chemicals listed in Annex III of the Convention;
2. *Takes note of* the substantial number of import responses which indicate consent to continued trade in chemicals listed in Annex III and reaffirms that the listing of a chemical in Annex III does not constitute a recommendation to ban or severely restrict its use;
3. *Also takes note of* the 177 chemicals for each of which at least one complete notification of final regulatory action has been submitted and invites Parties when preparing notifications of final regulatory action to give priority to those chemicals as a means of facilitating the identification of candidate chemicals for listing in Annex III;
4. *Notes* the importance of Parties having adequate capacity to collect information on pesticide poisonings and to make such information available to their designated national authorities;
5. *Encourages* Parties to make use of the information on national regulatory actions to ban or severely restrict chemicals available under the Convention and the evaluations of chemicals by the Stockholm Convention Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to strengthen national decision-making on chemicals;
6. *Invites* Parties that have taken final regulatory actions to notify the Secretariat of such actions within the timeframe established by the Convention, if they have not yet done so, given that notifications of final regulatory action are key to the addition of chemicals to Annex III and the continued effectiveness of the prior informed consent procedure and information exchange;
7. *Invites* Parties that have proposed chemicals for inclusion under the Stockholm Convention and have also subjected such chemicals to domestic regulatory action to ban or severely restrict their use to submit notifications of final regulatory action pertaining to such chemicals to the Secretariat in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention;
8. *Invites* Parties to consider the obstacles that prevent the submission of proposals to list severely hazardous pesticide formulations in Annex III of the Convention;
9. *Requests* Parties that have yet to submit import responses for all of the chemicals listed in Annex III, in particular industrial chemicals, to do so in a timely manner as an essential step for the effective operation of the prior informed consent procedure;
10. *Invites* Parties to review and update as necessary their import responses for chemicals listed in Annex III;
11. *Requests* the Secretariat to undertake a review of the current regulatory processes for chemicals to determine their relationship to the definitions of banned or severely restricted chemicals in Article 2 of the Convention and to submit the results of its review for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its next ordinary meeting.