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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR AN
INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT
FOR IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON
CERTAIN PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

Fifth session

Johannesburg, 4-9 December 2000

Item 4 of the provisional agenda *

PREPARATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT
FOR IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON CERTAIN
PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

Draft article B - "Objective"

Note by the secretariat

At its fourth session, held in Bonn from 20 to 25 March 2000, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee requested the secretariat to prepare a compilation of proposals received prior to the close of the session concerning the objective of the convention - draft article B - for consideration at its fifth session (UNEP/POPS/INC.4/5, para. 33). In response, the secretariat prepared the requested compilation of proposals which is included in the annex to the present document.

* UNEP/POPS/INC.5/1.

Annex

Proposals concerning draft article B – “Objective”

AUSTRALIA

“The objective of this Convention is to promote and support international action to protect human health and the environment through the adoption of measures which will reduce or eliminate emission and discharges of certain persistent organic pollutants of global concern.”

NORWAY

“The objective of this Convention is to protect human health and the environment through the reduction and ultimate elimination of releases of persistent organic pollutants in accordance with the precautionary approach contained in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.”

PHILIPPINES

“(The objective of this Convention is:)

1. To protect human health and the environment through the elimination of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) of global concern and their anthropogenic sources, either immediately or over time;
2. To build the capacity of all countries to eliminate POPs and their sources, and to identify and implement cleaner and/or environmentally sound technologies and cost-effective alternatives that are not POPs;
3. To ensure that health and safety aspects are not compromised while POPs are being phased out and eliminated.”

PORTUGAL

(on behalf of the European Community and its member States)

“The objective of this Convention is, through applying the precautionary principle, to eliminate persistent organic pollutants so as to protect human health and the environment.”

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

“The objective of this Convention is to protect human health and the environment through the reduction and, where feasible, the elimination of releases of persistent organic pollutants of global concern, taking into account technical and socio-economic considerations.”

VENEZUELA

“(The objective of this Convention is) to monitor, reduce and subsequently eliminate persistent organic pollutants, including their production, use, import and export, with a view to protecting the environment and human health with the aim of achieving sustainable development.”
