



# United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署  
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE  
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

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*Secretariat for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee  
for an International Legally Binding Instrument for Implementing International Action  
on Certain Persistent Organic Pollutants*

The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme has the honour to refer to the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Legally Binding Instrument to Implement International Action on Certain Persistent Organic Pollutants held in Johannesburg, from 4 to 10 December 2000. At the session the Committee successfully completed negotiations of the draft Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

The draft Convention text is contained in appendix I to the meeting report of the fifth session of the Committee (document UNEP/POPS/INC.5/7). As indicated in paragraph 88 of the report:

?The secretariat reported that, under the guidance of the Chair, it would review the text for minor editorial adjustments, such as correcting typographical errors, adjusting numbering and cross-references, ensuring the accuracy of document citations, and otherwise correcting any unintended errors that might exist in the text. It also noted that it would verify all language versions to prepare equally authentic texts. The secretariat sought the inputs of representatives to assist in the above process by 28 February 2001. That approach was agreed upon by the Committee.?

The secretariat will complete these activities when preparing the final draft Convention text that will be included in a meeting document for the Conference of Plenipotentiaries to adopt the Convention and open it for signature. The Conference will be held in Stockholm, from 22 to 23 May 2001.

As part of the renumbering of the Convention text to be done by the secretariat, Article D of the text contained in appendix I to UNEP/POPS/INC.5/7, will be split into three separate articles:

- (a) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use (that will include paragraphs: 1, 1 bis, 2 bis, 2 ter, 5 and 6);
- (b) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production (that will include paragraph 3);
- (c) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes (that will include paragraphs 4 and 4 bis).

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- 2 -

The text of Article R bis contained in appendix I to UNEP/POPS/INC.5/7 may be placed as a separate article immediately following the article on measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use, since it applies specifically to the provisions contained therein.

The text of Annex B contained in appendix I to UNEP/POPS/INC.5/7 was modified to change the column heading in Part I from "Acceptable purpose" to "Acceptable purpose or Specific exemption" and to list the contents of the column accordingly. This editorial change was made to clear up drafting inconsistencies between Article R bis and Annex B in a manner consistent with the policy intent of the Committee.

To assist in the verification of the language versions of the draft Convention text, representatives are requested to submit by 28 February 2001 input to: Director, UNEP Chemicals; 11-13, Chemin des Anémones; CH-1219, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland; Telephone: +41-22-917-8190; Facsimile: +41-22-797-3460; or E-mail: [dogden@unep.ch](mailto:dogden@unep.ch).

A preparatory meeting is scheduled on 21 May 2001 in Stockholm to complete work on resolutions for the Conference of Plenipotentiaries that were tabled at the fifth session of the Committee but that the Committee did not have adequate time to consider. Those resolutions are contained in appendix IV to UNEP/POPS/INC.5/7.

At its fifth session, the Committee developed a list of requests from countries for specific exemptions in Annex A and Annex B, and acceptable purposes in Annex B. The list, which is based on requests received throughout the negotiating process that were not subsequently withdrawn, is included in appendix VI to UNEP/POPS/INC.5/7. The Committee agreed to accept any additional country requests prior to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries (see paragraph 69 of UNEP/POPS/INC.5/7). Such requests should be submitted no later than 21 May 2001 to: Director, UNEP Chemicals; 11-13, Chemin des Anémones; CH-1219, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland; Telephone: +41-22-917-8190; Facsimile: +41-22-797-3460; or E-mail: [dogden@unep.ch](mailto:dogden@unep.ch).

Inquiries can be made to the Director of UNEP Chemicals at the above addresses.

Geneva, January 2001