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

Sixth session

Geneva, 17-21 June 2002

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS: ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Scenario note for the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee

Note by the secretariat

Attached to the present note for the information of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee is a scenario note for the sixth session of the Committee provided by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. John Buccini (Canada). This information is circulated as received and has not been formally edited.

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\* UNEP/POPS/INC.6/1.

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Attachment

**SCENARIO NOTE FOR POPs INC6**

In keeping with the practice for previous INC meetings, I have prepared this scenario note to communicate the state of planning and my general expectations for INC6 and, hopefully, to assist delegates in preparing for the meeting.

This note is being distributed with the first group of INC6 meeting documents and will be followed by a second group of documents, the distribution of which is scheduled to take place by April 30, 2002. All meeting documents will be made available on the Stockholm Convention web site (<http://www.chem.unep.ch/sc>) with the exception of some information documents that will be distributed at INC6. With the timely availability of these documents, delegates should have sufficient time to review them, conduct consultations and make other preparations favourable to ensuring a productive session at INC6.

**Objectives for INC6:**

With the development of the Convention now concluded, the work of the INC undergoes a major shift from negotiation to implementation. The resolutions that were adopted at the May 2001 Stockholm Conference urged countries to implement the Convention in advance of its entry into force and provided the mandate for the INC to continue to meet until the Convention enters into force (*i.e.*, 90 days after the 50<sup>th</sup> instrument of ratification is deposited). The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP1) must then be held within one year after entry into force. As noted in Resolution 1, the INC has been mandated to make preparations for COP1 and to oversee cooperative international action on POPs. Additional tasks were mentioned in resolutions 2 to 6.

Thus the main objective for this meeting is to establish the INC as the oversight mechanism to coordinate and foster continuing international action on POPs and to prepare for a "quick start" to the COP process by advancing preparations for COP1.

**Organization of work:**

INC6 will involve 5 days of meetings from June 17-21, 2002 (*i.e.* Monday - Friday), with provision for regional meetings on June 16 (Sunday). I encourage all meeting delegates to participate in the Sunday regional meetings and the Secretariat will allow for these meetings in making travel arrangements for those delegates for whom they provide assistance.

From Monday to Friday, the proposed daily schedule for INC meetings involves two three-hour sessions per day (10:00 - 13:00 and 15:00 - 18:00): there will be no meetings of the INC in the evenings.

The INC will meet in plenary for the entire week. Contact groups will be set up as needed to address particular issues in the same manner as at previous INC meetings and we will continue the past practice of starting each day with reports to the plenary from contact groups. The Legal Drafting Group (LDG) will be established at an appropriate time during the meeting. I would draw to your attention that with the retirement from public service of the former Head of the LDG (Patrick Szell), a new delegate will have to be selected to serve as Head. Delegates are reminded that only representatives of governments and, by agreement of the INC, of the Commission of the European Community are able to participate in the LDG.

The report of the meeting will continue to be an important product of our work. With so many POPs related activities going on, the report will serve as a useful compilation and reference document to remind participants (and inform those who were not at the meeting) of all the developments and agreements arrived at during INC6. It will be discussed in the plenary on Friday (June 21) as the last item of business prior to the closure of the meeting.

### **The Meeting Agenda:**

The mandate for continuation of the INC process is derived from Resolutions that were included in the Final Act of the Stockholm Conference. The first Resolution (on Interim Arrangements) invites the Executive Director of UNEP to convene further meetings of the INC pending the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and specifies several tasks to be addressed by the INC. Resolutions 2 to 6 add to the list of tasks and I encourage all meeting participants to review these Resolutions and the related portions of the Convention text prior to INC6. The secretariat and I have carefully examined these Resolutions and the Convention and constructed an annotated agenda for INC6 (UNEP/POPS/INC.6/1/Add.1) that should allow delegates to address all the issues referred to in the Resolutions and ensure that adequate preparations are made for COP1. Each meeting document includes a footnote on the first page referencing relevant provisions in the Convention and the Resolutions that mandate the INC to address an issue. Delegations are invited to identify any issues that they feel should have been included in the annotated agenda to the Secretariat prior to the meeting or, at the latest, during the consideration of the agenda at the start of INC6.

On Monday morning, following the opening formalities and the report from the secretariat on intersessional activities, I will invite delegates to address two issues concerning the Bureau. The first is a requirement to elect replacements for any Bureau members that are unable to continue. The second issue is a proposal that was made during the preparatory meeting to the Stockholm Conference (by the Group of 77 and China) to expand the Bureau from 5 to 10 members.

The secretariat will then provide a briefing on international activities relating to the work of the Committee. I expect that some countries, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations may also wish to make brief interventions to report on significant developments of their own. This will be followed by a report by the secretariat and a review of the situation regarding extrabudgetary funds.

Item 5 of the annotated agenda lists the issues that must be addressed by the INC. This has been structured to follow the numerical order of the respective Articles of the Convention. These issues may be grouped into 3 main areas: control related provisions; implementation plans, financial and technical assistance, and capacity building; and procedural matters and remaining provisions. I propose that we begin our deliberations on Monday with discussion of issues relating to implementation plans, financial and technical assistance, and capacity building. At present, there is a high level of interest and activity in this area and I feel that it would be suitable to begin here. This discussion will likely continue on Tuesday, after which I would propose that the remainder of the issues be addressed in the order in which they appear in the annotated agenda, with the possibility of adjusting the order slightly to make best use of our time. The LDG may be set up after discussion of the procedural articles. If there are any suggestions relating to the sequence in which issues will be addressed, these may be raised on Monday morning during the adoption of the agenda.

There are many issues to address at INC6 to give effect to the Stockholm Conference resolutions. Many of the possible activities will have cost implications and I have asked the Secretariat to keep a running total during the meeting and to report on this to the plenary on Friday. Our ability to successfully undertake initiatives will, in many cases, depend on the availability of funding and I must remind you that during the interim period, we are dependant upon voluntary donor contributions to conduct our work.

### **Outcomes of INC6:**

Decisions and direction will be provided on those aspects of the six resolutions from the Stockholm Convention pertaining to preparations for COP1.

John Buccini  
Chair, POPs Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee  
February 6, 2002

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