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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 5 of the provisional agenda\*

PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

United Nations Environment Programme capacity-building activities undertaken in  
support of the Stockholm Convention\*\*

Note by the secretariat

In paragraph 1 of its resolution 3 on capacity-building and the capacity assistance network, the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, "Invites the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to focus its efforts in the interim period on arrangements for capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention in signatory developing countries and signatory countries with economies in transition, for the consideration of and adoption by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties." To assist the Committee with information that it may find useful for these efforts, the secretariat has provided the attached summary of a number of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) capacity-building activities undertaken in support of the Stockholm Convention. This information is not a comprehensive summary of all such activities and has not been formally edited.

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

\*\* Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Stockholm Convention, resolution 3, paragraph 1.

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Attachment

**INTERIM ACTIVITIES FOR CAPACITY BUILDING  
UNDERTAKEN IN SUPPORT OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION SINCE ITS ADOPTION ON MAY 2001**

**GEF MSP: SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON POPS**

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve Government understanding of the Stockholm Convention, and the benefits of and the need to become a Party;</li> <li>• Improve Government understanding of the nature of the problems caused by POPs</li> <li>• Help countries understand what their obligations are under the Stockholm Convention;</li> <li>• Encourage and facilitate early ratification of the Convention;</li> <li>• Identify some of the legislative, capacity building, investment and other infrastructural measures needed to support the implementation of the Stockholm Convention and related instruments (Basel, Rotterdam, regional agreements);</li> <li>• Facilitate eligible countries' access to GEF resources for enabling activities and NIP development and the implementation of the Convention;</li> <li>• Help Governments to begin the process of developing a National Implementation Plan (NIP) and other implementation/enabling activities under the Convention; and</li> <li>• Encourage co-operative partnerships among different sectors and stakeholders for the implementation of the Convention.</li> </ul>	<p>A series of 8 workshops were programmed as part of this project, the following six have already been held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manama, Bahrain (11-15 Nov.2001)</li> <li>• Bangkok, Thailand (26-30 Nov. 2001)</li> <li>• Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (25 Feb.- 1 March, 2002)</li> <li>• Montevideo, Uruguay (18-22 March 2002)</li> <li>• Bratislava, Slovakia (8-12 April 2002)</li> <li>• Port of Spain, Trinidad &amp; Tobago (3-7 June 2002)</li> </ul> <p>Two more workshops are planned, one for the CIS countries in Kiev (9-13 September 2002) and one for Anglophone Africa (date and venue to be decided)</p> <p>In all, more than 115 countries have participated.</p>

**PCB INVENTORY PROJECTS**

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES
Development of national PCB inventories, with pesticides and dioxins/furans also included in some cases.	Projects are under way in the Republic of Congo, Cuba, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Peru, Senegal, Syria, Vietnam, and Yemen.
Development of national PCB inventories	Combined projects for Central America and for SADC countries are under development in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention.
Management of PCBs in Russia	Development of an inventory and a plan for PCB management as a contribution to Phase II of the AMAP project on PCBs in Russia. Funded by the Canadian Trust Fund.

**ALTERNATIVES TO POPS PESTICIDES<sup>1</sup>**

DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITIES
Sub-regional Workshops on sustainable approaches for pest and vector management and opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bangkok, Thailand, March 2000</li> <li>• St Petersburg, Russian Federation, July 2000</li> <li>• Panama City, Panama, February 2001</li> <li>• Bangkok, Thailand, March 2001</li> <li>• Dakar, Senegal, October 2001</li> <li>• Port of Spain, Trinidad &amp; Tobago, April 2002 (Jointly with SBC)</li> </ul>
Establishment of an Expert Group on Termite Biology and Management by UNEP, FAO, and the Global IPM Facility.	Development of Expert Reports and Web pages including expert advice on alternative strategies for the control of termite pests.
Information Exchange tools including via the POPs Homepage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A reference database on chemical and non-chemical alternatives</li> <li>• Expert address database</li> <li>• Discussion forums</li> <li>• Collection of action plans and studies to reduce/eliminate releases/uses of POPs</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Part of UNEP's activities to promote and build capacities to initiate immediate actions on POPs, carried out in collaboration with WHO and FAO and aimed at assisting countries identifying and adopting sustainable strategies in pest and vector control

**DIOXIN/FURAN INVENTORIES – TOOLKIT**

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES
The "Asia Dioxin Toolkit" project has been started with five participating countries (US-funded): Brunei Darussalam, Jordan, Lebanon, Philippines, Vietnam) and a kick-off workshop in Hanoi, October 1-4, 2001.	National workshops were held/will be held in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manila, Philippines - July 2001</li> <li>• Vietnam – December 2001</li> <li>• Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam – January 2002</li> <li>• Beirut, Lebanon – April 2002</li> <li>• Amman, Jordan – August 2002</li> </ul>
Nigeria: Dioxin /Furan Inventory	A dioxin/furan inventory project with the Toolkit is underway
Peru: Dioxin /Furan Inventory	A dioxin/furan Toolkit project has been started with a national workshop in Lima, May 2002 (jointly with a PCB inventory project) (Swiss funding)
Thailand: Dioxin Toolkit Project	A dioxin Toolkit project is underway and almost finalized (German funding)
South America: Toolkit Projects	Toolkit projects will start shortly in South America
Uruguay: A dioxin/furan inventory	A dioxin/furan inventory with the Toolkit has been finalized (UNEP funding)
Dioxin and furan source quantification	Emission and residue samples have been taken and were analyzed for dioxins and furans – results from a developing country Dioxin/furan measurements have been performed at 7 industrial installations in Thailand to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) gain knowledge about emissions from plants under developing country conditions;</li> <li>b) verify emission factors in the Toolkit</li> <li>c) initiate capacity building on sampling and analysis in developing</li> </ol>

**POPS WASTE DISPOSAL**

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
Project for the development of Guidelines for Persistent Organic Pollutant Waste Disposal	Development of guidelines and performance standards for the environmentally sound disposal of POPs waste as called for in resolution No. 5 of the DIPCON. The project is being implemented jointly with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention. This activity is funded by the Canadian Trust Fund.

**BAT/ BEP ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
BAT/BEP Workshop for Asian Countries- Co-organized with the Governments of Germany and Thailand	A workshop was organized to reach a common understanding of BAT/BEP and report to the Sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Persistent Organic Pollutants for the development of guidance to the Conference of the Parties. The Workshop was held in Bangkok – March 2002 (German funding). Proceedings are available
South America BAT/BEP workshop	A workshop will be organized late 2002/ early 2003

**CHEMICALS INFORMATION EXCHANGE NETWORK PROJECT (CIEN)**

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES
<p>The Chemicals Information Exchange Network Project is a joint US-EPA/UNEP project implemented in several developing countries in Africa. It aims to provide access to technical information and create synergies between the national agencies involved in chemical management thus strengthening their capacity and their participation in international activities. The goals of the project are achieved by the provision of equipment and services needed to access internet and by training staff from national agencies in the participating countries.</p>	<p>Stakeholder meetings and Internet training sessions have been held in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mauritania, Niger, Madagascar, Senegal and Togo.</li> </ul> <p>Workshops on Chemical Information Exchange Network have been held in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cotonou, Benin – January 2002</li> <li>• Lome, Togo- January 2002</li> <li>• Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso – February 2002</li> <li>• Dakar, Senegal – February 2002</li> <li>• Conakry, Guinea – March 2002</li> <li>• Nouakchott, Mauritania – April 2002</li> <li>• Antanarive, Madagascar – April 2002</li> <li>• Niamey, Niger- to be held in June (2002)</li> </ul>

**REGIONALLY BASED ASSESSMENT FOR PERSISTENT TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES
<p>The overall objective of the project is to deliver a comprehensive regionally based assessment of the damage and threats posed by persistent toxic substances, and to evaluate and agree the priorities between chemical related environmental issues at the regional level in order to focus subsequent interventions on the most important and pressing issues.</p> <p>The Global Environment Facility in conjunction with several donor states funds the project and the United Nations Environment Programme implements it.</p> <p>.</p>	<p>For the purpose of this project the globe has been divided into 12 regions: the Arctic, North America, Europe, the Mediterranean, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Indian Ocean, Central and North East Asia, South-East Asia and South Pacific, the Pacific Islands, Central America and the Caribbean, Eastern and Western South America and Antarctica.</p> <p>Each of the twelve regions will prepare a Regional Report, which will include an assessment of the sources of persistent toxic substances in the environment, their concentrations and impact on biota, their transboundary transport, and an assessment of the root causes of the problems and capacity to manage these problems. Consolidation of the results of the regional analyses will provide an assessment of global priorities. The results of the assessment will be widely disseminated via the World Wide Web and other media.</p>

**SUPPORT OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS**

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
<p>GEF 12 Country Pilot Project: Development of National Implementation Plans for the Management of Persistent Organic Pollutants</p>	<p>The objective of the project is to strengthen national capacity to manage persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and to assist countries in meeting their obligations under the Stockholm Convention. The project will assist twelve pilot countries in developing a National Implementation Plan (NIP) for POPs management, thus enabling them to reduce and eventually eliminate their POPs emissions. These NIPs are expected to meet the initial reporting obligations of the participating countries towards the Convention. The following countries are participating in the project: Barbados, Bulgaria, Chile, Ecuador, Guinea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Slovenia, and Zambia. UNEP is the implementing agency.</p>

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
Enabling Activities for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants: National Implementation Plan	<p>Projects submitted to the GEF through UNEP as the implementing agency, have been approved for the following countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Côte d'Ivoire,</li> <li>• Fiji</li> <li>• Kenya</li> <li>• Gambia</li> <li>• Mauritania</li> <li>• Mozambique</li> <li>• Tunisia</li> <li>• Yemen.</li> </ul> <p>Project proposals for the following three countries have been submitted to the GEF for approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jordan</li> <li>• Sri Lanka</li> <li>• Uruguay.</li> </ul>
Assistance provided to countries to develop their project proposals for Enabling Activities for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants: National Implementation Plan	UNEP is currently providing assistance for the development of their NIP proposals to the following countries who have requested it: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Benin, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gambia, Haiti, Kuwait, Madagascar, Oman, Panama, Peru, Senegal, Saint Lucia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda and Zimbabwe.
Workshop: Preparation for National Implementation Plans in the SPREP region	A workshop held in Samoa in November 2001, brought together countries in the SPREP Region to explore the opportunities for a regional approach the development of their National Implementation Plans. The Workshop was funded by the Canadian Trust Fund.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITY	COMMENTS
Workshop on Implementing Rotterdam, Stockholm, Basel and Waigani Conventions in the SPREP Region.	A workshop held in Cairns, Australia in March 2001, presented the obligations of the four conventions and identified the synergies and elements in common at the legislative and operational levels.
Inuit Circumpolar Conference POPs Assessment	Assessment of the impact of persistent organic pollutants on local communities in the Arctic. Project funded by the Canadian Trust Fund.
Persistent Organic Pollutants, Food Security, and Indigenous Peoples in Arctic Russia	The project aims to assess the threats of POPs to the indigenous peoples in Arctic Russia. This GEF project is being implemented by UNEP.
Prevention of Human and Environmental Exposure to DDT and other Toxic Pesticides and Strengthening of Malaria Control Programmes in Africa. (GEF PDF-B)	This project is being implemented by UNEP, and is executed by AFRO, WHO's regional office for Africa.
Regional Program of Action and Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives to DDT for Malaria Vector Control in Mexico and Central America	This GEF project is being implemented by UNEP and executed by PAHO (WHO Regional Office for the Americas) and national Health Ministries.
Reducing Reliance on Agricultural Pesticide Use and Establishing a Community Based Pollution Prevention System in the Senegal and Niger River Basin (GEF PDF-B)	This project is being implemented by the UNEP.
Prevention of Human and Environmental Exposure to DDT and other Toxic Pesticides and Strengthening of Malaria Control Programmes in Africa, PDF-B.	The following countries are participating in the project: Eritrea, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland. This GEF project is implemented by UNEP and executed through the WHO Regional Office for Africa and the national roll-back malaria committees.
Reducing Pesticide Runoff to the Caribbean Sea	Colombia, Costa Rica and Nicaragua participate in this GEF project, which is being implemented by UNEP.



## PUBLICATIONS

### Pesticides

- Joint UNEP/FAO/WHO Guidance Document on alternative strategies for sustainable pest and vector control in reducing and eliminating the use of Persistent Organic Pesticides.

### PCBs

- PCB Transformers and Capacitors: from Management to Reclassification and Disposal (UNEP Chemicals, May 2002). English and French versions available. Spanish version pending.

### Dioxins and Furans

- Standardized Toolkit for the Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases" (UNEP Chemicals) available in three languages (English, Spanish, French)

### Proceedings:

UNEP Chemicals Workshops on Management of Chemicals:

- UNEP/FAO/ WHO Workshop on Sustainable Approaches for Pest and Vector Management and Opportunities for Collaboration in Replacing Persistent Organic Pollutant Pesticides, Bangkok, Thailand, March 2001.
- Subregional Awareness Raising Workshop on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure, Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Basel and Waigani Conventions, Cairns, Australia, April 2001.
- Subregional Workshop on Identification and Management of PCB's and Dioxins/Furans Havana, Cuba, April 2001.
- Subregional Workshop on Chemicals Policy and Legislation with Special Emphasis on the Reduction and Elimination of Persistent Organic Pollutants, Accra, Ghana, September 2001
- Kick-off Workshop on the Asia Toolkit Project on Inventories of Dioxins and Furan Releases, Hanoi, Vietnam, October 2001
- Subregional Workshop on Support the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention, Manama, Bahrain, (11-15 November 2001)
- Subregional Workshop on Support the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention, Bangkok, Thailand, (26-30 November 2001)
- Subregional Workshop on Support the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention, Bratislava, Slovakia (8-12 April 2002)

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