



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

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
on Persistent Organic Pollutants
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To: Stockholm Convention Focal Points
POPs INC- 7 Heads of Delegation
UNEP Official Points of Contact

Subject: Follow up to decision INC-7/8 on Technical Assistance- request for information

Dear colleagues,

At its seventh session held in Geneva, 14 – 18 July 2003, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an Internationally Binding Instrument for Implementing International Action on Certain Persistent Organic Pollutants (INC), adopted decision INC-7/8 on technical assistance, contained in annex I of the report of the meeting, document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/28. The decision invites Governments, when developing their national implementation plans as called for in Article 7 of the Convention, to identify areas and issues in addition to those in the annex of the above-mentioned decision for which they may require technical assistance, and to transmit this information to the Secretariat **by 31 December 2004**. For your convenience please find attached the annex to decision INC-7/8.

This letter is to solicit the information requested in the above-mentioned decision. Information should be sent to:

James B. Willis, Executive Secretary
Interim Secretariat for the Stockholm Convention
UNEP Chemicals
11-13 chemin des Anémones
CH-1219, Chatelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 797 34 60
E-mail: ssc@chemicals.unep.ch

Submission by e-mail is much preferred.

Please let María Cristina Cárdenas Fischer on my staff know if you have any questions. She can be contacted at tel: +41 22 917 8635, fax: +41 22 797 3460 or email: mcardenas@chemicals.unep.ch

Yours sincerely,

[Original Signed]

James B. Willis
Executive Secretary

Attachment

ANNEX TO DECISION INC-7/8

Some common elements of technical assistance needs and priorities

- (a) Development of national implementation plans as called for in Article 7 of the Convention;
- (b) Review of available infrastructure, capacity and institutions at the national and local levels, and the potential to strengthen them in light of the Convention;
- (c) Training for decision makers, managers and personnel who are responsible for issues related to the Convention in:
 - (i) Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) identification;
 - (ii) Technical assistance needs identification;
 - (iii) Project proposal writing;
 - (iv) Legislation development and enforcement;
 - (v) POPs inventory development;
 - (vi) Risk assessment and management of PCBs, dioxins and furans;
- (d) Development and strengthening of research capacity at the national, subregional and regional levels:
 - (i) Development and introduction of alternatives to POPs;
 - (ii) Training of technical personnel;
- (e) Development and establishment of laboratory capacity, including promotion of standard sampling and analysis procedures for the validation of inventories;
- (f) Development, implementation and enforcement of regulatory controls and incentives for the sound management of POPs;
- (g) Identification and disposal of POPs wastes, including technology transfer for the destruction of such wastes;
- (h) Identification and promotion of best available techniques and best environmental practices;
- (i) Identification and remediation of POPs-contaminated sites;
- (j) Promotion of awareness-raising and information-dissemination programmes;
- (k) Identification of the obstacles and barriers that exist in the transfer of technology and identification of the means to overcome them.