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**Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm
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Item 6 (e) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters for consideration by the Conference of the Parties:
terms of reference of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee**

**Overview of the regional distribution of Member States of the
United Nations General Assembly and member nations of the
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations****

Note by the secretariat

1. The present note provides an overview of the regional distribution of Member States of the United Nations General Assembly and member nations of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), respectively. The overview was prepared by the Secretariat in response to a request made at the seventh session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Legally Binding Instrument for Implementing International Action on Certain Persistent Organic Pollutants (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/28, para. 83).

2. A list of Member States of the United Nations General Assembly arranged in regional groups as of 31 May 2002 is provided in annex I to the present note and a list of FAO member nations by region as of 1 December 2004 as used for FAO Council election purposes is provided in annex II to the present note.¹ In both annexes, Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants as of 22 November 2004 are highlighted in bold.

* UNEP/POPS/COP.1/1.

** Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, article 19; report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on the work of its seventh session (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/28), para. 83.

¹ The listing of countries in annex II is presented as found on the web site of the Food and Agriculture Organization

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3. As of May 2004, the following Eastern European countries in the list of Member States of the United Nations General Assembly have joined the European Community: Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. In addition, the following three States have joined the European Community as of May 2004: Cyprus (former Asian group member on the United Nations General Assembly list); Estonia (not member of any regional group on the United Nations General Assembly list); and Malta (member of the Western European and other States Group on the United Nations General Assembly list). Accession to the European Community does not affect the FAO regional groups since all ten accession countries belong to the FAO "Europe" region.

Annex I

Member States of the United Nations General Assembly arrange in regional groups as of 31 May 2002²

Africa (53)

Algeria
 Angola
Benin
Botswana
 Burkina Faso
 Burundi
 Cameroon
 Cape Verde
 Central African
 Republic
Chad
 Comoros
 Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
 Democratic
 Republic of the
 Congo
Djibouti
Egypt
 Equatorial Guinea
 Eritrea
Ethiopia
 Gabon
 Gambia
Ghana
 Guinea
 Guinea-Bissau
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
 Libyan Arab
 Jamahiriya
 Madagascar
 Malawi
Mali
 Mauritania
Mauritius
Morocco
 Mozambique
 Namibia
 Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
 Sao Tome and
 Principe
Senegal
 Seychelles
Sierra Leone
 Somalia

South Africa

Sudan
 Swaziland
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
**United Republic
 of Tanzania**
 Zambia
 Zimbabwe

Asia (52)

Afghanistan
 Bahrain
 Bangladesh
 Bhutan
 Brunei
 Darussalam
 Cambodia
China
 Cyprus*
**Democratic
 People's
 Republic
 of Korea**
Fiji
 India
 Indonesia
 Iran (Islamic
 Republic of)
 Iraq
Japan
Jordan
 Kazakhstan
 Kuwait
 Kyrgyzstan
 Lao People's
 Democratic
 Republic
Lebanon
 Malaysia
 Maldives
Marshall Islands
 Micronesia
 (Federated States
 of)
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
 Nepal

Oman
 Pakistan
 Palau
**Papua New
 Guinea**
Philippines
 Qatar
 Republic of Korea
Samoa
 Saudi Arabia
 Singapore
Solomon Islands
 Sri Lanka
 Syrian Arab
 Republic
 Tajikistan
 Thailand
 Tonga
 Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
**United Arab
 Emirates**
 Uzbekistan
 Vanuatu
Viet Nam
Yemen

**Eastern Europe
(21)**

Albania
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Belarus
 Bosnia and
 Herzegovina
 Bulgaria
 Croatia
Czech Republic*
 Georgia
 Hungary*
Latvia*
 Lithuania*
 Poland*
**Republic of
 Moldova**
Romania
 Russian
 Federation
 Serbia and
 Montenegro

² This grouping is unofficial and has been developed to take into account the purposes of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 1991 (XVIII) (1963), 22/138 (1978) and 2847 (1971); "UN Handbook 2002", which is published by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Members on the list that have also joined the European Community as of the first of May 2004 are marked with an asterisk.

Slovakia*	Jamaica	Israel
Slovenia*	Mexico	Italy
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Nicaragua	Liechtenstein
Ukraine	Panama	Luxembourg
	Paraguay	Malta
	Peru	Monaco
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Netherlands
	Saint Lucia	New Zealand
Latin America and the Caribbean (33)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Norway
	Suriname	Portugal
Antigua and Barbuda	Trinidad and Tobago	San Marino
Argentina	Uruguay	Spain
Bahamas	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Sweden
Barbados		Turkey ³
Belize		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Bolivia		Ireland
Brazil	Western Europe and other (27)	United Nations members that are not members of any regional group (5)⁴
Chile	Andorra	Estonia*
Colombia	Australia	Kiribati
Costa Rica	Austria	Switzerland
Cuba	Belgium	Timor-Leste
Dominica	Canada	United States of America ⁵
Dominican Republic	Denmark	
Ecuador	Finland	
El Salvador	France	
Grenada	Germany	
Guatemala	Greece	
Guyana	Iceland	
Haiti	Ireland	
Honduras		

3. Turkey participates fully in both the Asian and Western Europe and Others groups, but for electora l purposes is considered a member of the Western Europe and Others Group only.

4. Switzerland and Timor Leste became United Nations members in 2002. Information on their membership status in United Nations regional groups was not readily available.

5. The United States of America is not a member of any regional group, but attends meetings of the Western European and Others Group as an observer and is considered to be a member of that group for electoral purposes.

Not a Member of the United Nations: **Cook Islands**

Annex II

FAO member nations by region for Council election purposes⁵ as of 1 December 2004

I. Africa

(Member nations: 48; Council seats: 12)

Algeria	Gabon	Niger
Angola	Gambia	Nigeria
Benin	Ghana	Rwanda
Botswana	Guinea	Sao Tome and
Burkina Faso	Guinea-Bissau	Principe
Burundi	Kenya	Senegal
Cameroon	Lesotho	Seychelles
Cape Verde	Liberia	Sierra Leone
Central African	Madagascar	South Africa
Republic	Malawi	Swaziland
Chad	Mali	Togo
Comoros	Mauritania	Tunisia
Congo	Mauritius	Uganda
Cote d'Ivoire	Morocco	United Republic of Tanzania
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mozambique	Zambia
Equatorial Guinea	Namibia	Zimbabwe
Eritrea		
Ethiopia		

II. Asia

(Member nations: 23; Council seats: 9)

Bangladesh	Indonesia	Maldives
Bhutan	Japan	Mongolia
Cambodia	Kazakhstan	Myanmar
China	Lao People's	Nepal
Democratic People's	Democratic	Pakistan
Republic of Korea	Republic	Philippines
India	Malaysia	Republic of Korea
		Sri Lanka
		Timor-Leste
		Thailand
		Uzbekistan
		Viet Nam

⁵ http://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/memberships_reg_en.asp. This web link is to be considered as an FAO official information document.

III. Europe

(Member nations: 44; Council seats: 10)

Albania	Georgia	Norway
Armenia	Germany	Poland
Austria	Greece	Portugal
Azerbaijan	Hungary	Republic of Moldova
Belgium	Iceland	Romania
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ireland	San Marino
Bulgaria	Israel	Slovakia
Croatia	Italy	Slovenia
Cyprus	Latvia	Spain
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Sweden
Denmark	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Estonia	Malta	The former Yugoslav
European Community (member organization)	Monaco	Republic of Macedonia
Finland	Netherlands	Turkey
France		United Kingdom
		Yugoslavia

IV. Latin America and the Caribbean

(Member nations: 33; Council seats: 9)

Antigua and Barbuda	Dominica	Nicaragua
Argentina	Dominican Republic	Panama
Bahamas	Ecuador	Paraguay
Barbados	El Salvador	Peru
Belize	Grenada	Saint Kitts And Nevis
Bolivia	Guatemala	Saint Lucia
Brazil	Guyana	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Chile	Haiti	Suriname
Colombia	Honduras	Trinidad and Tobago
Costa Rica	Jamaica	Uruguay
Cuba	Mexico	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

V. Near East

(Member nations: 21; Council seats: 6)

Afghanistan

Bahrain

Djibouti**Egypt**

Iran (Islamic

Republic of)

Iraq

Jordan

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Lebanon

Libya

Oman

Qatar

Saudi Arabia

Somalia

Sudan

Syrian Arab Republic

Tajikistan

Turkmenistan

United Arab**Emirates****Yemen****VI. North America**

(Member nations; Council seats: 2)

Canada

United States of America

VII. Southwest Pacific

(Member nations: 16; Council seats: 1)

Australia**Cook Islands****Fiji****Kiribati**

Micronesia (Federated States of)

Marshall Islands**Nauru****New Zealand**

Niue

Palau

Papua New Guinea**Samoa****Solomon Islands****Tuvalu**

Tonga

Vanuatu