



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

Distr.: General
20 January 2006

Original: English

**Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Second meeting**

Geneva, 1–5 May 2006

Item 5 (b) (ii) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties:
measures to reduce or eliminate release from unintentional
production: identification and quantification of releases**

Identification and quantification of dioxin and furan releases**

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its seventh session, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an Internationally Legally Binding Instrument for Implementing International Action on Certain Persistent Organic Pollutants, in paragraph 1 of its decision INC-7/5, took note of the revised standardized toolkit for identification and quantification of dioxin and furan releases (the “Toolkit”), as set forth in document UNEP/POPS/INC.7/INF/14, as the guidance for undertaking release reporting pursuant to Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Paragraph 2 of the decision invited Governments and others to submit to the Secretariat, by 31 March 2004, their additional comments on the Toolkit, as well as information and methodologies on other chemicals under Article 5 and Annex C of the Convention. Paragraph 3 of the decision requested the Secretariat, taking into account the comments and information received, to prepare and issue a further revised version of the Toolkit for submission to the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting, and that it should be made available prior to the meeting, in sufficient time to allow for its adequate consideration.
2. In response to paragraph 2 of decision INC-7/5, 30 submissions were received from Governments and non-governmental organizations. Those submissions were compiled and reproduced in the annex to document UNEP/POPS/COP.1/INF/9.

* UNEP/POPS/COP.2/1.

** Stockholm Convention, Article 5 and Annex C; report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on the work of its seventh session (UNEP/POPS/INC.7/28), annex I, decision INC-7/5; report of the Conference of the Parties on the work of its first meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.1/31), paragraph 39.

3. In response to paragraph 3 of decision INC-7/5 and taking into account the submissions referred to in paragraph 2 above, UNEP Chemicals, in consultation with the Secretariat, prepared the second edition of the Toolkit, which was submitted to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its first meeting in document UNEP/POPS/COP.1/INF/8. To explain how the submissions were incorporated into the second edition, UNEP Chemicals prepared the responses to the comments which are given in document UNEP/POPS/COP.1/INF/10.

4. Because of the high volume of work, the Conference of the Parties was unable to take up the item on the Toolkit at its first meeting and agreed that it would be placed on the agenda for its next meeting (document UNEP/POPS/COP.1/31, paragraph 39).

5. Since the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, technical corrections have been made to the English and Spanish versions of the second edition of the Toolkit. The second edition of the Toolkit is before the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties in document UNEP/POPS/COP.2/INF/5.

6. Of the four persistent organic pollutants listed in Annex C of the Convention, the second edition of the Toolkit covers only polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs) and polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs). The other two classes of pollutant, hexachlorobenzene and polychlorinated biphenyls, are not covered by the Toolkit because the necessary data and information to do so are lacking.

Possible action by the Conference of the Parties

7. The Conference of the Parties may wish:

(a) To welcome the issuance of the second edition of the Toolkit as set forth in document UNEP/POPS/COP.2/INF/5;

(b) To endorse the Toolkit as guidance for undertaking release reporting pursuant to Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention and as a methodology for national implementation plans for compiling national dioxin and furan release inventories;

(c) To note that present data and information are not sufficient to prepare similar Toolkits for the remaining two unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants listed in Annex C of the Convention, polychlorinated biphenyls and hexachlorobenzene.
