



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

Distr.: General  
23 January 2007

Original: English

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

**Third meeting**

Dakar, 30 April–4 May 2007

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters: election of officers**

**Election of officers of the Conference of the Parties at its third  
meeting**

**Note by the Secretariat**

1. Paragraphs 2 and 3 of rule 22 of the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties, adopted by the Conference at its first meeting in its decision SC-1/1, state as follows on the issue of the election of officers of the Conference:

**“Rule 22**

2. At the second and subsequent ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties, a President and nine Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall act as Rapporteur, shall be elected from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting. These officers shall serve as the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. Each of the five United Nations regional groups shall be represented by two Bureau members. The term of office of the President shall commence immediately and the terms of office of the Vice-Presidents shall commence upon the closure of the meeting at which they are elected. The President shall remain in office until a new President is elected at the commencement of the next ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

3. The offices of the President and Rapporteur shall normally be subject to rotation among the United Nations regional groups. No elected officer may serve on the Bureau for more than two consecutive terms.”

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\* UNEP/POPS/COP.3/1.

2. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure and consistent with the approach for the election of officers taken at the second meeting of the Conference, the election of officers at the third meeting could proceed as follows:

- (a) The President elected at the second meeting of the Conference, Mr. Nicholas Kiddle (New Zealand), would open the third meeting of the Conference;
- (b) The Conference would decide which of the current Vice-Presidents would serve as Rapporteur. For the purposes of regional rotation, the Rapporteur would be expected to be from a region other than that from which the Rapporteur of the first and second meetings of the Conference was elected.<sup>1</sup>
- (c) The Conference would then elect a President for its third meeting who, for the purpose of regional rotation, would be expected to be from a region other than the regions from which the Presidents of the first and second meetings were elected.<sup>2</sup> Immediately following the elections, the term of office of the President elected at the second meeting of the Conference would end<sup>3</sup> and the term of office of the newly elected President would begin;
- (d) If the newly elected President is not one of the Vice-Presidents elected at the second meeting, one of the Vice-Presidents from the region represented by the new President would terminate his or her term of office in order to maintain regional balance within the Bureau.
- (e) The Conference would then elect nine Vice-Presidents, whose terms of office would commence at the closure of the third meeting of the Conference and terminate at the closure of the fourth meeting of the Conference. One of the Vice-Presidents would serve as Rapporteur and, for the purpose of regional rotation, would be expected to be from a region other than the regions from which the Rapporteur of the first and second meetings and the Rapporteur of the third meetings were elected.

### **Possible action by the Conference**

3. In electing its officers, the Conference may wish to follow the procedure set out in paragraph 2 above.

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<sup>1</sup> Ms. Therese Yarde (Barbados) from the group of Latin American and Caribbean States was elected as a Vice-President at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and agreed to serve as Rapporteur. Ms. Yarde continued to serve as Rapporteur until the end of her term of office as Vice-President, at the closure of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Conference has yet to decide which of the Vice-Presidents elected at the second meeting of the Conference will serve as Rapporteur at the third meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Mariano Arana (Uruguay) from the group of Latin American and Caribbean States was elected President at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and Mr. Kiddle from the group of Western European and other States was elected President at the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

<sup>3</sup> As Mr. Kiddle was also elected at the second meeting of the Conference of Parties to serve as a Vice-President, with a term of office commencing at the closure of that meeting and ending at the closure of the third meeting, he will continue to serve on the Bureau as a Vice-President until the closure of the third meeting.