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

Dakar, 30 April–4 May 2007

Item 5 (i) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters for consideration or action by the
Conference of the Parties: reporting**

Reporting pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention**

Note by the Secretariat

1. Paragraph 1 of Article 15 of the Stockholm Convention requires each Party to report to the Conference of the Parties on the measures it has taken to implement the provisions of the Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention. Paragraph 2 of that Article sets out the information to be reported, and paragraph 3 stipulates that reporting must be carried out at periodic intervals and in a format to be decided by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting.
2. By its decision SC-1/22, the Conference of the Parties decided that, in accordance with Article 15 of the Convention, each Party should submit its first report by 31 December 2006, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting. By that decision, the Conference also adopted the format for reporting pursuant to Article 15 that is set out in the annex to the decision.
3. In its decision SC-2/18, the Conference of the Parties adopted the format for reporting on polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) contained in the annex to that decision and requested the Secretariat to develop an electronic system for reporting pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention and to make it available to Parties no later than 30 September 2006, in time for it to be used by Parties when preparing their first reports pursuant to Article 15.
4. In response to the above request the Secretariat developed an electronic system for reporting and made it available to Parties on the Convention's website (www.pops.int). Parties and others were invited to test the electronic system for reporting and to provide feed back to the Secretariat during an

* UNEP/POPS/COP.3/1.

** Stockholm Convention, Article 15, Article 20 paragraph 2 (d), and Annex A , Part II paragraph (g); Reports of the Conference of the Parties on the work of its first meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.1/31), annex I, decision SC-1/22 and on the work of its second meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.2/30), annex I, decision SC-2/18.

initial trial period of one month, after which individual secured Party accounts were set up to allow each Party to manage its own data and to submit its national report directly to the Secretariat through the electronic system.

5. Each Party to the Convention has been assigned two individual accounts and passwords in order to access the electronic system for reporting. The first account is intended for the exclusive use of the official contact point and allows her or him to coordinate the data collection at the national level, certify the electronic submission and submit the report to the Secretariat officially. The second account is intended for the use of technical staff responsible for providing the different data required from each Party. This user is not permitted by the system to submit the report officially.

6. The Secretariat has provided the individual user names and passwords of the relevant accounts to those Parties that have nominated official contact points pursuant to decision SC-2/16 on official communications with Parties and observers. As of 7 February 2007, the Secretariat had distributed individual user identifications and passwords to 55 Parties.

7. Paragraph 2 (d) of Article 20 of the Stockholm Convention requires the Secretariat to prepare and make available to the Parties periodic reports based on information received pursuant to Article 15 and other available information.

8. At the time of preparing the present note, the Secretariat had received national reports from 23 Parties. Fifteen reports had been submitted through the official channels (i.e., via the official contact point designated pursuant to decision SC-2/16) and the remaining eight Parties had used alternative means and were invited to resubmit their reports through the official channels.

9. Reports submitted by the following Parties were accepted: Australia, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, European Community, Germany, Lithuania, Mali, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Uruguay. National reports submitted to the Secretariat through the official contact points are available for viewing and downloading at the Convention website. A status list of the national reports received by the Secretariat pursuant to Article 15 is set out in the annex to the present note. A brief analysis of the reports received by the Secretariat is contained in table 1 below.

10. Pursuant to Annex A, Part II, subparagraph (g) of the Stockholm Convention, 10 of the 15 Parties whose reports were accepted included a part C on progress in eliminating polychlorinated biphenyls in addition to the mandatory parts A and B.

11. Four Parties out of the 55 Parties that were provided with individual user identifications and passwords reported difficulties when trying to use the electronic system for reporting.

Table 1. Brief analysis of the reports received by the Secretariat

Issue	Developed Country Parties	Developing country Parties or Parties with economies in transition	Total number of Parties
Number of reports submitted to the Secretariat	6	17	23
Number of reports submitted through official channels	5	10	15
Number of accepted reports which included parts A and B	5	10	15
Number of accepted reports which included part C	5	5	10
Number of accepted reports submitted through the electronic system for reporting	3	4	7

Possible action by the Conference of the Parties

12. The Conference may wish:
- (a) To take note of the information contained in the present note;
 - (b) To encourage Parties that have not yet done so to submit their national reports pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention to the Secretariat no later than 31 July 2007;
 - (c) To request the Secretariat to prepare a periodic report pursuant to paragraph 2 (d) of Article 20 of the Convention by 30 July 2008, in time to be used in the effectiveness evaluation under Article 16 of the Convention;
 - (d) To encourage Parties that have not used the electronic system for reporting to do so;
 - (e) To invite Parties to provide comments on their experience using the electronic system for reporting to the Secretariat by 31 December 2007;
 - (f) To request the Secretariat to develop a users manual for the electronic system and to distribute it widely in order to facilitate the process for reporting pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention;
 - (g) To request the Secretariat, to provide training, upon request and subject to availability of funds, to enable Parties to use the electronic system for reporting effectively.

Annex

Status of national reports submitted by Parties pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention

Party	Date report was received by Secretariat	Report submitted through electronic system for reporting	Party has nominated an official contact point ¹	Report submitted through official contact point	Submitted parts A and B of the reporting format	Submitted part C of the reporting format ²
Antigua and Barbuda			Yes			
Argentina ³	01 Jan 07	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Armenia			Yes			
Australia⁴	2 Feb 07	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Austria			No			
Azerbaijan			Yes			
Bahamas			No			
Bahrain			Yes			
Barbados ⁵	10 Dec 06	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Belarus			No			
Belgium			No			
Benin			No			
Bolivia			No			
Botswana			Yes			
Brazil	12 Jan 07	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Bulgaria			No			
Burkina Faso			Yes			
Burundi	20 Jan 07	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Cambodia	9 Feb 07	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Canada ⁶	21 Dec 06	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Cape Verde			No			
Chad			No			
Chile	28 Dec 06	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
China			No			
Congo, Democratic Republic of the			No			
Cook Islands			No			
Croatia			No			

¹ Each Party that has nominated an official contact point pursuant to decision SC-2/16 has been provided with the relevant user identification and passwords necessary to access the electronic system for reporting.

² Part C of the reporting format provides additional information on PCBs.

³ Argentina was requested by the Secretariat to re-submit its national report through its official contact point.

⁴ Reported difficulties in accessing the electronic system for reporting.

⁵ Barbados was requested by the Secretariat to re-submit its national report through its official contact point.

⁶ Canada was invited to nominate an official contact point pursuant to decision SC-2/16 and was requested to re-submit its national report through official channels.

Party	Date report was received by Secretariat	Report submitted through electronic system for reporting	Party has nominated an official contact point ¹	Report submitted through official contact point	Submitted parts A and B of the reporting format	Submitted part C of the reporting format ²
Costa Rica⁷	29 Dec 06	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Côte d'Ivoire			Yes			
Cyprus ⁸	2 Feb 07	No	No	No	Yes	No
Czech Republic			Yes			
Denmark ⁹	22 Dec 06	No	No	No	Yes	No
Djibouti			No			
Dominica			No			
Ecuador			No			
Egypt			Yes			
Eritrea			No			
Ethiopia			No			
European Community	22 Dec 06	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fiji			No			
Finland			Yes			
France			Yes			
Gambia			Yes			
Georgia			No			
Germany⁵	Jan 07	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ghana			No			
Greece			No			
Grenada			No			
Honduras			No			
Iceland			Yes			
India			No			
Iran (Islamic Republic of)			Yes			
Japan			Yes			
Jordan			No			
Kenya			No			
Kiribati			No			
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of			No			
Kyrgyzstan			No			
Kuwait			Yes			
Lao People's Democratic Republic			No			
Latvia			No			

⁷ Costa Rica deposited its instrument of ratification on 6 February 2007, and received its password and user identification to access the electronic system for reporting on 8 February 2007, after it had submitted its national report.

⁸ Cyprus was invited to nominate an official contact point pursuant to decision SC-2/16 and was requested to re-submit its national report through official channels.

⁹ Denmark was invited to nominate an official contact point pursuant to decision SC-2/16 and was requested to re-submit its national report through official channels.

Party	Date report was received by Secretariat	Report submitted through electronic system for reporting	Party has nominated an official contact point ¹	Report submitted through official contact point	Submitted parts A and B of the reporting format	Submitted part C of the reporting format ²
Lebanon ¹⁰	Jan 07	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Lesotho			No			
Liberia			No			
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya			No			
Liechtenstein			No			
Lithuania	29 Dec 06	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Luxembourg			No			
Madagascar			No			
Maldives			No			
Mali	19 Jan 07	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Marshall Islands			No			
Mauritania			No			
Mauritius			Yes			
Mexico			Yes			
Micronesia (Federated States of)			No			
Moldova, Republic of			Yes			
Monaco			No			
Mongolia			Yes			
Morocco			No			
Mozambique			No			
Myanmar			No			
Namibia			Yes			
Nauru			No			
Netherlands			Yes			
New Zealand			No			
Nicaragua			Yes			
Niger			No			
Nigeria			No			
Niue			No			
Norway⁵	7 Feb 07	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Oman			Yes			
Panama			No			
Papua New Guinea			No			
Paraguay			Yes			
Peru			No			
Philippines			No			
Portugal			No			
Qatar			Yes			
Republic of Korea			Yes			

¹⁰ Lebanon was invited to nominate an official contact point pursuant to decision SC-2/16 and was requested to re-submit its national report through official channels.

Party	Date report was received by Secretariat	Report submitted through electronic system for reporting	Party has nominated an official contact point ¹	Report submitted through official contact point	Submitted parts A and B of the reporting format	Submitted part C of the reporting format ²
Romania			Yes			
Rwanda			No			
Saint Kitts and Nevis			No			
Saint Lucia			No			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines			No			
Samoa			Yes			
Sao Tome and Principe			No			
Senegal			No			
Sierra Leone			No			
Singapore			No			
Slovakia	20 Dec 06	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Slovenia	5 Feb 07	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Solomon Islands			No			
South Africa			No			
Spain			No			
Sri Lanka ¹¹	Jan-07	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Sudan			Yes			
Swaziland			No			
Sweden	17 Jan 07	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Switzerland			Yes			
Syrian Arab Republic			Yes			
Tajikistan						
Tanzania, United Republic of			No			
Thailand			Yes			
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹²	7 Feb 07	No	No	No	Yes	No
Togo			No			
Trinidad and Tobago			Yes			
Tunisia			No			
Tuvalu			No			
Uganda			Yes			
United Arab Emirates			No			
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland			Yes			
Uruguay	27 Dec 06	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Vanuatu			No			

¹¹ Sri Lanka was requested to re-submit its national report through its official contact point.

¹² The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was invited to nominate an official contact point pursuant to decision SC-2/16 and was requested to re-submit its national report through official channels.

Party	Date report was received by Secretariat	Report submitted through electronic system for reporting	Party has nominated an official contact point¹	Report submitted through official contact point	Submitted parts A and B of the reporting format	Submitted part C of the reporting format²
Venezuela			No			
Viet Nam			No			
Yemen			Yes			
Zambia			No			