

**Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements  
of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC)  
Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in  
International Trade**

**Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)**

**BC-RC-SC /AHJWG.1/INF/3**

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**Ad hoc joint working  
group on enhancing  
cooperation and  
coordination among  
the Basel, Rotterdam and  
Stockholm conventions**

Distr.: General  
15 February 2007

English only

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**First meeting**

Helsinki, 26-28 March 2007

Items 2 and 5 of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters**

**Venue and date of the second meeting  
of the ad hoc joint working group**

**Note verbale concerning venue of meetings and participation of  
observers in the meetings of the ad hoc joint working group**

**Submission by GRULAC**

Attached is a note verbale from the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of GRULAC, which is forwarded to the ad hoc joint working group at the request of GRULAC, containing proposals regarding the venue and the participation as observers of States Parties during the next up-coming meetings of the ad hoc joint working group.

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\* BC-RC-SC /AHJWG.1/1.



MISION PERMANENTE DE LA  
REPUBLICA BOLIVARIANA DE VENEZUELA  
ANTE LA OFICINA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS Y  
DEMAS ORGANISMOS INTERNACIONALES  
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N° 161

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the Office of the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, and to the Chairpersons of the Conferences of the Parties of the three Conventions, and in its quality of GRULAC-Environment coordinator would like to make reference to some relevant issues, related to the work to be undertaken by the Ad Hoc Joint Working Group of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the three conventions (AHJWG).

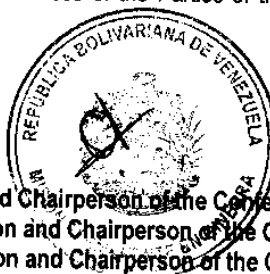
First of all, the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of GRULAC members would like to share the strong interest that members of this Group have shown on the possibility that the next up-coming meetings of the AHJWG were celebrated in Geneva, Switzerland. This would allow Geneva based delegations, which directly follow the works of the three Conventions, to be in closer contact and in constant feedback with their regional representatives to the Group. By this means, State parties would have the opportunity to share with them their own concerns, ideas and views on the work in progress inside of the ADJWG, and therefore cooperate with them in this important task.

On the other hand, the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela would like to call the attention that for the GRULAC region, enhancing cooperation and coordination among the three conventions, is a holistic process which needs to be developed at all levels, and therefore it should actively involve all State parties at the appropriate stage. Therefore the Group welcomes the participation as observers of State parties of at least one of the three Conventions involved in this process, during the up-coming meetings of the AHJWG. This would allow those State parties which are not represented in the AHJWG, but not less interested on this important process, to be present in its meetings and therefore be directly aware of the progress of its works. This participation as observers would not give them the right to speak nor to participate in the decision making process of the AHJWG. In addition, this request does not include the participation of Observer States to the three Convention, neither Non-Governmental Organizations nor Intergovernmental Organizations. If Observers were allowed to participate under this scheme and if the next coming meetings took place in Geneva, all Geneva based delegations would have the opportunity to be much more involved in this key process.

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of GRULAC would like to request to the Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, to kindly forward this note verbale to the elected members of the AHJWG, and invites them to seriously consider these two proposals above mentioned, during the first meeting of the Group, looking forward to a favourable decision on this regard.

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to Office of the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and to the Chairpersons of the Conferences of the Parties of the three Conventions, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 05 February 2007



To the:

- Secretariat of the Basel Convention and Chairperson of the Conference of the Parties
- Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention and Chairperson of the Conference of the Parties
- Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention and Chairperson of the Conference of the Parties

Copy: To all GRULAC-Environment Permanent Missions  
Geneva