



BC
RC
SC

UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.3/INF/4



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

Distr.: General
29 February 2008

English only



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



**Stockholm Convention on
Persistent Organic Pollutants**

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

Third meeting

Rome, 25–28 March 2008

Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

**Consideration of the intersessional work undertaken by the
members of the ad hoc joint working group and by the
Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

**Information provided by the secretariat of the Convention on
Biological Diversity on its experience in organizing back-to-back
meetings**

Note by the secretariats

1. In paragraph 72 of the meeting report of the report of the second meeting¹ of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancement of cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Secretariats were asked to seek information from the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity on its experience in organizing back-to-back meetings and to provide a document setting out such information for the third meeting of the ad hoc joint working group.
2. In light of the above, the information provided by the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is set out in the annex to the present note. The information has been reproduced as received and has not been formally edited.

* UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.3/1.

¹ Document UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.2/18.

030308

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

Annex



Secretariat of the
Convention on Biological Diversity



Ref.: SCBD/OES/AD/DK/62144

6 February 2008

Subject: *Request for information from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity regarding back to back meetings*

Dear Mr. Cooper,

I refer to your correspondence of 1 February 2008 and the information requested of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) by the second meeting of the ad hoc joint working group on cooperation and coordination between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, regarding experience in organizing back to back meetings.

The organization of back-to-back meetings has been systematically adopted by the CBD. For example, meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol are usually held back to back with the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (MOP-4) and the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-9), which will be held this year in Bonn, Germany from 11 - 30 May, will be no exception. Similarly, meetings of the Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) and of the Working Group on Article 8 (j) are usually held back-to-back; the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) meetings are paired with meetings of the Working Group on Protected areas or with the Working Group on the Review of Implementation, etc.

In short, there is a pattern of pairing meetings under the CBD. The organization of thematically related back to back meetings has allowed the SCBD to streamline our organizational and logistics process and achieve important savings estimated at approximately US \$100,000 – US \$150,000.

Mr. Donald Cooper
Co-Executive Secretary
Secretariat for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent
Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International
Trade
11-13, Chemin des Anémones
CH – 219 Châtelaine, Geneva



United Nations
Environment Programme


413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, QC H2Y 1N9, Canada

Tel : +1 514 288 2220
Fax : +1 514 288 6588

<http://www.cbd.int>
secretariat@cbd.int

The Ad Hoc Joint Working Group on Cooperation and Coordination of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions may be interested in an information document that the SCBD will circulate to COP 9 later this year on the periodicity of meetings and organization of work of the COP.

Yours sincerely,


Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary