

OEWG-IV/11: Preparation of technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutants

The Open-Ended Working Group,

Recalling Conference of the Parties decision VII/13 and its own decision OEWG-III/8,

Noting with appreciation the roles played by Parties and others, especially Australia and Mexico as lead countries, in the preparation of the outstanding specific technical guidelines,

1. *Agrees* to merge the technical guidelines on the eight pesticides with the technical guidelines on hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical;
2. *Requests* the Secretariat, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, to prepare final draft technical guidelines on the pesticides aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, mirex and toxaphene, and hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical for consideration by the small intersessional working group;
3. *Requests* Mexico in consultation with the small intersessional working group, to prepare final draft technical guidelines on DDT for consideration by the small intersessional working group;
4. *Requests* Australia, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, to prepare revised draft technical guidelines on unintentionally produced polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, polychlorinated biphenyls and hexachlorobenzene, to be posted on the Basel Convention's website by 30 November 2005, for consideration by the small intersessional working group, taking into account comments made before, during and after the fourth session of the Open-ended Working Group;
5. *Invites* Parties and others to submit comments by 15 October 2005:
 - (a) To the Secretariat in respect of the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 of the present decision;
 - (b) To the Secretariat and Mexico in respect of the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 3 of the present decision,noting that the basis for these comments would be draft texts available on the Basel Convention's website by mid-July 2005, reflecting the changes agreed to in the contact group on technical matters set up at the fourth session of the Open-ended Working Group and some outstanding issues;
6. *Invites* Parties and others to submit comments to the Secretariat and Australia by 15 January 2006 in respect of the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 4 of the present decision;
7. *Invites* Parties and others to submit comments to the Secretariat, preferably by 15 January 2006, on the methodology for the further definition of low persistent organic pollutant content and levels of destruction and irreversible transformation, as well as on the updating of the general technical guidelines and the technical guidelines on polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated terphenyls and polybrominated biphenyls, taking into account the outcome of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;
8. *Requests* the small intersessional working group to finalize the preparation of the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2–4 of the present decision and to consider the comments by Parties and others referred to in paragraph 7 of the present decision, at a meeting to be held immediately before the fifth session of the Open-ended Working Group;
9. *Requests* the Secretariat to present the outcome of the small intersessional working group to the Open-ended Working Group at its fifth session for its consideration and for finalization of the technical guidelines referred to in paragraphs 2–4 of the present decision.