



**Regional Consultation to Promote Ratification of the Rotterdam  
Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain  
Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade**

**Dushanbe, Tajikistan**

**Hotel “Tajikistan”, 12-14 April 2012**



**Региональная консультация в поддержку ратификации  
Роттердамской конвенции о процедуре предварительного  
обоснованного согласия в отношении отдельных опасных химических  
веществ и пестицидов в международной торговле**

**Душанбе, Таджикистан**

**Гостиница «Таджикистан», 12-14 Апреля 2012**

# **Regional Consultation to Promote Ratification of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade**

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## **Introduction**

The overall objective of this consultation was to facilitate a national dialogue among relevant stakeholders on the benefits of the Rotterdam Convention for the countries: Belarus, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, as the basis for identifying a strategy and preparing a national action plan leading towards ratification of the Rotterdam Convention.

The meeting was structured around a series of plenary presentations and discussions in working group (see agenda). National working groups were established at the second day. Participants from one country formed one group.

The Consultation focused on the ratification and benefits of the Rotterdam Convention. Following plenary presentations by the Secretariat and by a participant from Kyrgyzstan, a country which has experience in ratification of the Rotterdam Convention, the meeting separated into the national working groups, and they undertook brainstorming, regarding the benefits and steps towards ratification of this Convention. Participants discussed the necessary steps leading to possible ratification, and identify the tasks, roles and responsibilities of individual stakeholders in this process.

## **Summary of outcomes including general recommendations**

The meeting had the participation of four countries, such as Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and FAO technical officers and consultant. Working languages were English and Russian, and meeting documents and presentations were made available mainly in Russian. The participants showed little knowledge of the Rotterdam convention, which compelled repeatedly to clarify various aspects of this agreement for better understanding of obligations once the country is becoming part of the convention.

Existing experience in Kyrgyzstan with regards to the implementation of the convention and preparation of required notifications was presented and useful for discussion among the participants.

The delegation of the countries prepared a plan for ratification of the convention, where each country identified the steps to follow for such a ratification.

## **Belarus**

The delegation of the country will examine the steps required for ratifying the convention, a process which will be coordinated with all stakeholders in the country. After that the proposed ratification will be brought to the government for its approval. All materials for ratification should be submitted to the parliament. Ratification approval should become a law.

The DNA for Belarus is likely to be the Ministry of Public Health, which should prepare a work plan to comply with the notifications required by the convention.

In Belarus, while there is a well established pesticide registry, there is no registry for industrial chemicals, and for this reason the country may need technical assistance for inventory of such chemicals and to consider the ways to set up a system for approval, prohibition and limiting the use of industrial chemicals.

## **Tajikistan**

Recommendations are very similar to the above-mentioned ones for Belarus. However, the delegates of the country consider appropriate to nominate the DNA in anticipation, for it to prepare all documentation required for ratification and its further submission to the head of the Government. In addition, it also proposed to create a committee which will support the work of the DNA. Members of this committee should be Ministries of Agriculture, Public Health, Economic growth and trade, Finances, Energy and Industry, and Customs.

The delegates of the country also proposed to update the list of prohibited and severely limited applications chemicals. Legislation on this matter is also essential to be reviewed.

## **Uzbekistan**

The delegation of the country considers necessary to study the convention and its benefits by a group of various stakeholders in the country. This working group should prepare the supporting documentation for proposing the ratification of the convention by the Government.

As in the case of Tajikistan, the delegation of Uzbekistan also understands the need to review the existing legislation in the country.

## **General Workshop Recommendations**

All delegations agreed that ratification of Rotterdam Convention will benefit the countries for improved management of pesticides and industrial chemicals, prohibiting or limiting the use of those extremely hazardous substances. Ratification and active participation in the convention will also be directly beneficial to the human and animal health as well as for protection of the environment.

To effectively comply with the convention, the delegations recommended:

- to review the existing legislation regarding the use of hazardous substances in the countries,
- to create working groups of stakeholders to study the text of the convention in detail and
- to prepare the necessary documentation, which will be further submitted to the Government for final approval of the ratification.

In this process, either at the time of preparing the documentation or immediately after the ratification

- it is also essential to designate the DNA in the country for effective compliance with the required notifications of the convention.
- No less important is also to review the list of prohibited or strictly limited used chemicals in the countries, to check how it coincides with the Annex III of the Convention.

## AGENDA

### Regional Consultation to Promote Ratification of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 12-14 April 2012

THURSDAY 12 April		
08:30-9:00	Registration of participants	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Session:</b>	<b>OPENING</b>	
9:00-9:30	Opening Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee on Environment Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (CEP)</li> <li>Ecology and Emergency Department of the Executive office of the President the Republic of Tajikistan</li> <li>Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention</li> <li>FAO</li> </ul>	Dr. T.O.Salimov, Chairman of the Committee  Kh.Ibodzoda, Head of the Department  G. Wyrwal, Secretariat  H. Muminjanov, Plant Production and Protection Officer, FAO-SEC
9:30-10:00	Presentation of participants and secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of the agenda and organization of the workshop</li> <li>Objectives/ Structure</li> <li>Preparatory work</li> </ul>	<i>Chair</i> – N. Sh. Saidov, CEP H. Muminjanov, FAO  T. Touraeva, AFAOR
10:00-10:30	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>2nd Session</b>	<b>Introduction to the Rotterdam Convention</b>	<b><i>Chair: H. Muminjanov, FAO</i></b>
10:30- 12:00	Code of Conduct on Distribution and Use of Pesticides, and brief introduction to the Rotterdam Convention	R. Labrada, FAO
12:00-12:30	Discussion / questions and answers	
<b>12:30-13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Session</b>	<b>The Prior Informed Consent Procedure</b>	<b><i>Chair: Z.Kadoeva, Kyrgyzstan</i></b>
13:30 – 14.00	Brief introduction to the Prior Informed Consent Procedure, including key elements and how it operates	R. Labrada, FAO
14:00 - 14:30	Status of implementation of the Convention	H.Muminjanov, FAO
14:30 – 14:45	Questions/answers/discussions	
<b>14:45 - 15:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
15:00 – 15.45	Presentation on status of implementation and challenges encountered	<i>Z.Kadoeva, Kyrgyzstan</i>
15:45 – 16:30	Questions and answers	
<b>18:00</b>	<b>COCKTAIL RECEPTION</b>	

<b>FRIDAY 13 April</b>		
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Session</b>	<b>Ratification and benefits of the Rotterdam Convention</b>	<b>Chair: G. Gabriel, FAO</b>
9:00 – 9:30	Steps towards Ratification and Benefits of the Convention	R. Labrada, FAO
9:30 – 9:45	Financial Obligations	G. Wyrwal, FAO
9:45 – 10:00	Legal Requirements	H. Muminjanov, FAO
10:00 – 10:15	Questions and answers	
10:15 – 10:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
10:30 - 11:15	Country in the region who has ratified the Convention or have had experience in implementation of the Rotterdam Convention	Z. Kadoeva, DNA Kyrgyzstan
11:15 – 11:30	Questions/answers discussion: Country experiences with ratification .	
11:30 – 12:00	Preparation for break out groups to discuss process, possible procedures and steps towards ratification	G. Wyrwal, FAO
<b>12:00-13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
13:30 – 15:00	Break out groups - Benefits of the Convention and steps towards ratification	
15:00-15:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
15.30 – 16:00	Plenary report of break out groups and discussion.	
<b>SATURDAY 14 April</b>		
<b>5<sup>th</sup> session</b>	<b>Integration with ongoing chemicals management activities</b>	<b>Chair: R. Labrada, FAO</b>
10:30-10:45	Presentation on linkages between Basel, Stockholm, Rotterdam, opportunities for coordinated implementation including information on recent international developments	H. Muminjanov, FAO
10:45 - 11:00	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	
<b>6<sup>th</sup> session</b>	<b>Reviewing elements of national plans of ratification</b>	<b>Chair: G. Gabriel, FAO</b>
9:00 - 9:30	National Strategic plan – incorporation of ratification of Rotterdam Convention in	H. Muminjanov, FAO
9:30 - 12:00	The opportunity will be given for national working groups to work through the elements of a national plan to ratify the Rotterdam Convention The national delegates will be invited to sit together and choose the items of highest priority for working towards ratification, and to draft a brief one page summary of the requirements for ratification.	

<b>7th session</b>	<b>Wrap up</b>	<b>Chair: Saidov N. Sh., CEP</b>
	Each country will be invited to give a brief presentation ( 10 minutes ) on what they see as the priority work for ratification, highlighting areas of concern.	
	Workshop evaluation	
	Closing remarks; follow-up and next steps	T,O.Salimov, CEP, Tajikistan H. Muminjanov, FAO G. Wyrwal, FAO
<b>13:30:14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	

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