



Rotterdam Convention

A forum of importance for the mandate of FAO

**Achievements of the fifth meeting of the Conference
of the Parties (COP-5)**



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The Rotterdam Convention: A solution to key challenges

Key challenges

- ➔ Dramatic growth in chemical production
- ➔ Human health and environment at risk
- ➔ Countries without sufficient capacity are particularly vulnerable

Rotterdam Convention

- ➔ Provides tools for info exchange (“early warning system”)
- ➔ Enables informed decisions
- ➔ Supports monitoring of hazardous chemicals import worldwide
- ➔ Contributes to the sound environmental use of chemicals
- ➔ Protects human health and the environment

Conference of the Parties (COP-5, June 2011)

Key decisions (1)

Addition of 3 pesticides to PIC procedure – a major success

- ➔ Alachlor, aldicarb and endosulfan listed in Annex III
- ➔ Example endosulfan
 - ✓ used as a crop protection agent for many years
 - ✓ known for its serious adverse impacts on human health and the environment
 - ✓ crop production without endosulfan is feasible
- ➔ Close cooperation of Rotterdam and Stockholm (POP) Convention to assist countries in managing hazardous chemicals

Conference of Parties (COP-5, June 2011)

Key decisions (2a)



➔ Programme of work and budget for 2012/13 (in US \$)

Year	2012	2013
Operational budget		
Host country contribution	1 615 200	1 615 200
Assessed contributions covered by Parties	2 125 676	2 187 887
Grand Total budget	3 740 876	3 803 087
Percentage increase compared 2011	- 6.1%	-5.1%
Anticipated voluntary (extra budgetary) contributions		
Grand Total budget	1 983 150	2 058 295
Percentage increase compared 2011	3%	4.9%

Conference of Parties (COP-5, June 2011)

Key decisions (2b)

PWB: the importance of technical assistance

- ➔ Assisting countries to meet obligations under the Convention
- ➔ Importance of capacity building for Parties
- ➔ Monitoring of health and environmental impacts of pesticides

Conference of Parties (COP-5, June 2011)

Key decisions (3)

Synergies Omnibus Decision - MEAs joining forces

- ➔ Coordination and cooperation among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
- ➔ Synergy decision includes provisions for joint activities, management, services, budgets, audit, evaluation and reporting
- ➔ Adopted by Stockholm Convention COP in April 2011 and Basel Convention COP in October 2011



Impact of the Rotterdam Convention

- ➔ RC first line of defense - keeps hazardous chemicals out of a country
- ➔ RC supports management of risk when trading hazardous chemicals and pesticides
- ➔ RC used by developing countries to share responsibility

