

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention

United Nations Environment Programme

Office Address: International Environment House 1

11-13, chemin des Anémones, 1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

Postal Address: c/o Palais des Nations, 8-14, avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Tel.: +41 (0) 22 917 8271 | Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 8098 | E-mail: brs@un.org

Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

Tel.: +39 06 5705 2061 | Fax: +39 06 5705 3224 | E-mail: pic@fao.org

Date: 16 February 2024

Subject: Invitation for comments on the draft decision guidance document for mercury being prepared by the Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that at its nineteenth meeting held from 3 to 6 October 2023 in Rome, the Chemical Review Committee adopted six decisions contained in annex I to the report of the meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.19/14). The report has been made available on the Rotterdam Convention's website: www.pic.int/crc19. The twelfth meeting of the Committee is scheduled to take place in Rome from 17 to 20 September 2024, back to back with the twentieth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention.

In decision CRC-19/4, the Committee concluded that the notifications of final regulatory action for mercury submitted by Colombia and the European Union met the criteria set out in Annex II to the Convention and adopted the rationale for the Committee's conclusion.

The Committee recommended, in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article 5 of the Convention, that the Conference of the Parties list mercury in Annex III to the Convention as an industrial chemical.

The Committee further decided to develop a **draft decision guidance document for mercury** and established an intersessional drafting group for this purpose. Following the agreed workplan, the intersessional drafting group has prepared a draft decision guidance document, enclosed in this letter, for review and comments by the Chemical Review Committee members and observers.

Please review the draft decision guidance document for mercury and submit your comments to the Secretariat by **19 March 2024**.

The comments should be submitted to the Secretariat by e-mail to:

Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall (kei.ohno@un.org).

Should you require additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat by e-mail.

Yours sincerely,

For 

Rolph Payet
Executive Secretary

Encl. Draft decision guidance document for mercury

To: Chemical Review Committee members and observers

Cc: Representatives of permanent missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva