



ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

BRS Treaties • Rotterdam Convention

Milestones in the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention

COP 1 (2004): At its first meeting, the COP established the Chemical Review Committee (CRC) and, among other things, set regions for prior informed consent (PIC) and began considering the arrangements for a financial mechanism.

COP 3 (2006): Parties move closer to working with the GEF and the MLF as financial mechanisms for the Convention.

COP 4 (2008): Parties agreed to include tributyltin compounds to Annex III but there was no decision on a financial mechanism.

COP 5 (2011): Parties agreed to include alachlor, aldicarb and endosulfan to Annex III, to look for synergies amongst the BRS Conventions on sustainable financing, as well as on joint activities, managerial functions and services amongst the BRS secretariats.

COP 6 (2013): Held in conjunction with the COPs of the Basel Convention and their Disposal and the Stockholm Convention and a simultaneous extraordinary meeting of the three COPs. Parties decided to amend Annex III to list: azinphos-methyl; commercial pentaBDE, including industrial tetraBDE and industrial pentaBDE; commercial octaBDE, including hexaBDE and heptaBDE; and PFOS, perfluorooctanesulfonates, perfluorooctanesulfonamides and perfluorooctanesulfonyls. However, COP 6 decided that while paraquat met the listing criteria for an SHPF, it would postpone a decision until COP 7 as those opposed to listing had concerns about the science, alternatives, and implications for trade. A decision on listing chrysotile asbestos was also deferred to COP 7, due to similar concerns.

COP 7 (2015): Parties were unable to agree on the listing of paraquat, fenthion, trichlorfon, and chrysotile asbestos in Annex III, and deferred consideration to COP 8. COP 7 also established an intersessional working group to: review cases where the COP was unable to reach consensus on the listing of a chemical by identifying the reasons for and against listing and, based on that and other information, to develop options for improving the effectiveness of the process; and to develop proposals for enabling information flows to support the PIC Procedure for those chemicals.

COP 8 (2017): In 2017, COP 8 agreed to list four chemicals in Annex III: carbofuran, SCCPs, TBT compounds, and trichlorfon, but deferred decisions on listing carbosulfan, chrysotile asbestos, paraquat, and fenthion until COP 9.

COP 9 (2019): Parties adopted a compliance mechanism through a vote that established a new annex to the Convention, concluding 15 years of negotiations on the issue. The COP agreed to include HBCD and phorate in Annex III, but could not agree to list carbosulfan, acetochlor, paraquat, fenthion, and chrysotile asbestos.



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BRS TREATIES • ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

This factsheet on **The Chemicals Treaties (BRS Treaties): Rotterdam Convention** is included in the comprehensive report: *Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)*, pp. 26–29.