



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION establishing the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union within the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention as regards the amendments of Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade

COMMON GUIDELINES

Consultation deadline for Croatia: 29.3.2013

COUNCIL DECISION

of ...

**establishing the position to be adopted
on behalf of the European Union within the sixth meeting
of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention
as regards the amendments of Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention
on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure
for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides
in international trade**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 192 and 207, in conjunction with Article 218(9), thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The Union approved the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade (the 'Rotterdam Convention') by Council Decision 2006/730/EC¹.
- (2) Regulation (EC) No 689/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 concerning the export and import of dangerous chemicals² implements the Rotterdam Convention within the Union.
- (3) In order to ensure that importing countries benefit from the protection offered by the Rotterdam Convention, it is necessary and appropriate to support the recommendation from the Chemical Review Committee as regards the inclusion in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention of azinphos-methyl, chrysotile asbestos, octabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures, pentabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, perfluorooctanesulfonates, perfluorooctanesulfonamides and perfluorooctanesulfonyls, and liquid formulations (emulsifiable concentrate and soluble concentrate) containing paraquat dichloride at or above 276 g/L, corresponding to paraquat ion at or above 200 g/L. Those substances are already banned or severely restricted in the Union and are therefore subject to export requirements which go beyond what is required under the Rotterdam Convention.

¹ OJ L 299, 28.10.2006, p. 23.

² OJ L 204, 31.7.2008, p. 1.

- (4) The sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention is expected to decide on the proposed amendments to Annex III. The Union should support those amendments,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The position to be adopted by the European Union at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention is that the Commission shall, on behalf of the Union, support the adoption of the amendments to Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade¹ as regards the inclusion of azinphos-methyl, chrysotile asbestos, octabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures, pentabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether commercial mixtures, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, perfluorooctanesulfonates, perfluorooctanesulfonamides and perfluorooctanesulfonyls, and liquid formulations (emulsifiable concentrate and soluble concentrate) containing paraquat dichloride at or above 276 g/L, corresponding to paraquat ion at or above 200 g/L.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at ...,

For the Council

The President

¹ OJ L 63, 6.3.2003, p. 29.