



Council of the
European Union

137800/EU XXV. GP
Eingelangt am 23/03/17

Brussels, 23 March 2017
(OR. en)

7504/17

Interinstitutional File:
2017/0027 (NLE)

ENV 277
MI 253
WTO 79
CHIMIE 29

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	6286/17 ENV 133 MI 128 WTO 32 CHIMIE 14 - COM(2017) 73 final
Subject:	Draft Council Decision establishing the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union within the Conference of the Parties with regard to amendments of Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention - Adoption

1. The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade ('the Convention') entered into force on 24 February 2004. The commitments set out in the Convention are implemented in Union law by Regulation (EU) No 649/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 concerning the export and import of dangerous chemicals¹. By its Decision 2006/730/EC of 25 September 2006², the Council decided to approve the Convention on behalf of the European Community.

¹ OJ L 201, 27.7.2012, p. 60

² Council Decision 2006/730/EC of 25 September 2006 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Community, of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade (OJ L 299, 28.10.2006, p. 23).

2. The eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP8) to the Convention will be held from 24 April to 5 May 2017. On the basis of the recommendations from the Chemical Review Committee, a subsidiary body of the Convention, COP is expected to take a decision on inclusion of further chemicals in the PIC procedure by adding them to Annex III to the Convention.
3. On 13 February 2017, the Council received the Commission proposal for a Council Decision establishing the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union for COP 8 with regard to proposals for amendments of Annex III to the Convention.
4. The Working Party on International Environment Issues (WPIEI) on 15 February and the Working Party on the Environment (WPE) on 6 March 2017, considered the proposal. On this basis, the Presidency prepared a compromise text reflecting the agreement reached at the WPE. To this end, the text set out in the JL document 7243/17 is deemed acceptable to all delegations.
5. The Committee of Permanent Representatives is invited to recommend that the Council, at a forthcoming session, adopt the Decision as set out in the JL document 7243/17 as an "A" item.
