

**Decision IG.19/9**

**"Regional Plan on the phasing out of DDT in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol"**

*The 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties,*

*Recalling* Article 8 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean as amended in Barcelona 1995, hereinafter referred to as the Barcelona Convention,

*Recalling* Annex 1.C of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities hereinafter referred to as the LBS Protocol,

*Recalling* further the decision 17/8 of the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties entitled (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) "Implementation of NAPs and the preparation of legally binding measures and timetables required by Art.15 of the LBS Protocol",

*Taking into account* the pertinent provisions of the relevant international environmental conventions, especially the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal,

*Taking full account* of the National Implementation Plans in course of development or already developed by the Parties under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,

*Noting* that the present use of DDT by the Parties is mostly limited, according to countries' information,

*Noting* also the different capabilities of the Parties to undertake measures, as well as their common but differentiated responsibilities,

*Considering* that the precautionary principle underlies the concerns of all the Parties of the Mediterranean Action Plan,

*Considering* that in spite of the actions already taken at regional and national level, these substances may still enter the marine environment by an insufficient management of stockpiles and wastes, however, in decreasing amounts,

*Recognizing* that DDT is persistent a organic pollutant that possesses toxic properties, resists degradation, bioaccumulates and is transported widely,

*Fully aware* of the health concerns resulting from local exposure to persistent organic pollutants,

*Recognizing* the special hydrographical and ecological characteristics of the Mediterranean Sea Area,

*Conscious* of the need of developing regional regulatory measures for hazardous pesticides in close cooperation with other relevant international environmental agreements,

***Decides*** to adopt the Regional Plan on the phasing out of DDT in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol together with its Annexes hereinafter referred to as the Regional Plan, which are contained in the **Annex** to this decision;

***Invites*** the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures to the implementation of this Regional Plan.

## ANNEX

### *Regional Plan on the phasing out of DDT in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

#### ARTICLE I

##### Definitions of Terms

(a) "DDT" is a synthetic pesticide (Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane; 1,1,1-Trichloro-2,2-bis-(4-chlorophenyl)-ethane; CAS Nr. 50-29-3). The technical product is a mixture of about 85% pp'-DDT and 15% op'-DDT isomers. In the environment, the product is broken down and metabolized mainly to its derivatives DDD and DDE.

(b) "Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)" are organic compounds from natural or anthropogenic origin that possess toxic properties, resist physical, chemical and biological degradation, bioaccumulate in high concentrations through the food web and are transported through air, water and migratory species, reaching regions where they have never been produced or used; their high persistence pose a risk of causing adverse effects to the environment and human health.

(c) "Wastes" means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.

(d) "Environmentally sound management of pesticides wastes" means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.

#### ARTICLE I (Bis)

##### Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the phasing out of DDT contained in other existing future, national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

#### ARTICLE II

##### Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:

(a) the production and use of DDT, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and

(b) the import and export of DDT and its waste in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article

2. The Parties shall ensure that this chemical as an active substance or as a waste is imported or exported only:

(a) for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal according to the provisions of the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal,

(b) for a use or purpose which is permitted for that Party under Appendix A.

3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that such DDT waste, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:

- (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
  - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;
  - (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
  - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BAT and BEPs for environmentally sound management of POPs listed in Appendix A. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor the implementation of the measures.

### ARTICLE III

#### Timetables for Implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures to eliminate DDT by the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties, in 2011 and the chemical waste and stock piles by 31 December 2012 at the latest.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biannual basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in 2011.

### ARTICLE V

#### Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know how and technology would be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat. Priority would be given to those Parties who have ratified the LBS Protocol.

### ARTICLE VI

#### Identification of Stock Piles

The Parties should identify to the extent practicable stock piles consisting of or containing DDT and they should report to the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention before 30 June 2010.

### ARTICLE VII

#### Entry into Force

The regional plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

## APPENDIX A

List of Accepted Purposes and Specific Exemptions for DDT.

CHEMICAL	ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS <sup>a b</sup>
DDT CAS No: <b>50-29-3</b>		
	Use in emergency circumstances <sup>1</sup>	Disease vector control

<sup>a</sup> Exemption can be granted for quantities to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

<sup>1</sup> In emergency circumstances, a concerned Party should inform the Contracting Parties through the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention, the Stockholm Convention and WHO according to their procedures.

<sup>b</sup> Except quantities of the chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Annex.

## APPENDIX B

### Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for Environmentally Sound Management of DDT Wastes

- A. Several BEPs for the phasing out of DDT are hereby described:
1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
    - i. Stockpiles consisting of or containing DDT and its derivatives;
    - ii. Products in use and wastes consisting of or containing DDT;
  2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of DDT waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
    - i. label information where DDT waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
    - ii. or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
  3. Waste pesticide holders, including farmers and householders, shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession.
  4. DDT waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection programme.
  5. Mixing or bulking of DDT waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques.
  6. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of DDT waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority.
  7. Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to identify sites contaminated by DDT and its derivatives. Remediation should be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.
  8. DDT waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country.

B. The BEP list above mentioned is not exhaustive; more extensive and detailed information is described in the MAP Technical Report n° 155 Plan for the Management of PCB Waste and Nine Pesticides for the Mediterranean Region, in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Convention (Annex B Part II), and in the Basel Convention Technical guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with DDT.

The Parties shall add to, and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the pesticides concerned.

