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**PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN HAZARDOUS
CHEMICALS AND PESTICIDES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

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The purpose of the Rotterdam Convention is to promote common responsibility and joint efforts of the Parties in international trade in certain hazardous chemicals to protect human health and the environment from potentially harmful effects and to promote their environmentally sound use by facilitating the exchange of information on their properties, fixing implementation provisions at the national level of the decision-making process regarding their import and export, and the dissemination of these decisions to the Parties.

The heart of the convention is the informed consent procedure (PIC procedure), which aims to obtain and disseminate decisions of importing countries as to whether they want to receive in the future consignments of chemicals that have been banned or severely restricted; exchange of information on toxic chemicals and associated hazards; prevention of illegal international transport of toxic and dangerous products.

Final regulatory action notifications are means by which parties inform the Secretariat of their actions to ban or severely restrict a chemical for reasons related to human health and the environment. Summaries of new notifications of final regulatory action are published every June and December in the PIC circular and stored in the database of notifications of final regulatory action.

The import responses are decisions submitted by the parties indicating whether they agree to import chemicals listed in Annex III to the Convention and subject to the PIC procedure. All import responses submitted by parties are published every June and December in the PIC circular and are available in the import response database.

Article 10 of the Convention sets out the obligations of the parties with respect to future imports of chemicals listed in Annex III. The Parties have an ongoing obligation to submit to the Secretariat as soon as possible, and in any event no later than nine months after the date on which the decision guidance document was sent, their import decision (whether final or interim response) with respect to future imports of the chemical. In cases where a party changes an import decision previously submitted to the secretariat, the designated National Authority should submit a revised import response as soon as possible.

Measures to ensure compliance with the obligations arising from the Rotterdam PIC Convention in relation to certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade: creation of a single list of banned and severely restricted chemicals and pesticides; amendments to the Unified List of Goods to which prohibitions or restrictions on import or export are applied by the Member States of the Customs Union within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Community and the Regulation on the Application of Restrictions approved by the Decision of the Customs Union Commission of November 27, 2009 No. 132, Decision of the Customs Union of March 21, 2015 No30 "On measures of non-tariff regulation".