

BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

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Training of potential chairs for meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, 3-5 or 5-7 February 2025, Geneva

Outline of the programme

Objective

In order to strengthen the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, there is a need to expand the number and diversity of trained, confident and willing chairs for the various meetings under the conventions. The three-day training workshops, combined with an online training component, will aim to enhance the skills and knowledge of government officials to effectively chair at various types of meetings across the three conventions.

Target audience

The training targets government representatives from countries that are Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. Interested participants should have taken a lead role in the negotiations under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in the past and have a desire to participate in the roles of chairs in upcoming meetings under the conventions. Participants will also include representatives from the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, the Intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution and the Global Framework on Chemicals.

Content

The training will address practical and procedural issues encountered by chairs of international meetings, encompassing preparations, effective conduct of meetings, rules of procedure, administrative matters related to the operation of various meetings under the three conventions, as well as gender equality considerations and awareness of cultural differences.

The training will be composed of two sequential components: the chairs' training online course, to be completed by participants in December 2024/January 2025, followed by the face-to-face workshops, which will include presentations, case studies and simulation exercises. Senior negotiators who have previously served as chairs will share their experiences, lessons learned, and best practices.

More specifically, the training will cover the following topics:

- Key institutions of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and actors at their meetings;
- Basic principles of meeting operations relevant to chairs, including procedural and substantive aspects;
- Fundamentals of chairing and negotiating;
- Management of and participation in contact groups.