

Legal and Regulatory Frameworks for Stockholm Convention Implementation | Global round table event

October 14, 2026 | 15:00–16:30 CEST, GMT+2

Register here: <https://bit.ly/NIPLegislation>

Introduction

This round table is part of the training activities delivered by the Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP) under Component 4 (Knowledge Management and Information Sharing) of the GEF-funded, UNEP-led Project ID 10785, “Global Development, Review and Update of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)” – hereinafter referred to as the Global NIP Update Project.

POPs pose severe risks to human health and ecosystems, requiring robust domestic legal and regulatory frameworks for their listing, phase-out and lifecycle management. As the Stockholm Convention’s Annexes are periodically amended, Parties must continuously update their national legislation and enforcement regimes. A sound legal framework is essential for translating policy commitments into enforceable obligations and building action plans on institutional and regulatory strengthening. This framework must encompass measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use, manage specific exemptions, and ensure the identification and management of stockpiles, waste and contaminated sites.

The European Union offers a widely referenced regional example, implementing its Stockholm Convention obligations through Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 on persistent organic pollutants (the “POPs Regulation,” which recast and replaced the earlier Regulation (EC) 850/2004), operating alongside the broader chemicals framework established by the REACH Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals. These instruments offer a reference for countries designing or updating their own national frameworks.

At the same time, developing countries require adaptable, national-level regulatory mechanisms tailored to resource-constrained environments. By

exploring different legislative frameworks and adaptable legal pathways such as integrating POPs restrictions into overarching national waste management legislation, this round table aims to equip countries with practical tools for effective NIP implementation.

Format

The virtual round table will comprise: (i) an overview of the Stockholm Convention's obligations related to legislation, (ii) a presentation on the European Union's regulatory framework, REACH and the POPs Regulation (EU) 2019/1021, (iii) national case studies from project countries on their domestic legislative and regulatory approaches to POPs management and (iv) a moderated discussion and Q&A session. Questions not addressed during the event will be followed up afterwards, including through the NIP group on the Green Forum.

This event will be conducted in English, with simultaneous interpretation into French and Spanish provided.

Objectives

- To present the Stockholm Convention Secretariat's legal and institutional requirements for implementation, including obligations arising from amendments listing new POPs.
- To exchange national and regional experiences on legislative and regulatory approaches to POPs management, including dedicated POPs laws, chemicals-management legislation, and amendments to environmental and waste legislation.
- To discuss common legal and institutional challenges, such as transposing new POPs listings into national law, aligning mandates across ministries and regulators, and ensuring enforcement and compliance capacity.
- To identify how strengthened legal frameworks can support NIP updates and evidence-based policymaking for POPs management.

Target audience

- Stockholm Convention Official Contact Points and National Focal Points particularly from project countries

- National officials and experts involved in the process of reviewing and updating the NIPs
- Legal advisors and regulatory affairs officers from ministries of environment, chemical management authorities and other relevant regulatory bodies
- Practitioners working on POPs inventory and management
- Members of NIP National Coordinating Mechanism/Committees and Project Coordination Units/Thematic Task Groups
- Representatives of Regional Centers and relevant stakeholders

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Speakers

- Sharon Rivera, Programme Officer, Governance Branch, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions
- Paul Speight, Head of the Safe and Sustainable Chemicals Unit, DG Environment of the European Commission
- National Representatives

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