

## **Rotterdam Convention**

*The Rotterdam Convention is an international treaty designed to facilitate informed decision making by countries with regard to trade in hazardous chemicals. The main objective of the Convention is to promote shared responsibility and cooperative efforts among parties in the international trade of certain hazardous chemicals in order to protect human health and the environment from potential harm and contribute to their environmentally sound use. Rotterdam Convention is a name for the Convention that was adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries (COP) in 1998 in Rotterdam (Netherlands) that aims to promote shared responsibilities in relation to the International trade of hazardous chemicals. The secretariat of the convention is in Geneva, Switzerland. Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedures (PIC) that entered into force on the 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2004 is a legally binding instrument, which was adopted on 10<sup>th</sup> September 1998 by a Conference of Plenipotentiaries in Rotterdam. India acceded to the Convention on 24.05.2006. There are a total of 54 chemicals listed in Annex III, 35 pesticides (including 3 severely hazardous pesticide formulations), 18 industrial chemicals and 1 chemical in both the pesticide and the industrial categories. Around 165 countries have acceded to it, so far.*

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