

# Introductory Course to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

## *Course Syllabus*



**InforMEA**  
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON  
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

## Learning objectives

The export of chemicals has raised grave concerns to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as they may be faced with chemicals without adequate information about their harmful impacts and without the infrastructure to manage them in an environmentally sound manner.

This course introduces you to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which provides Parties with a first line of defense against hazardous chemicals.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of regulating international trade in certain chemicals
2. Identify the core components and mechanisms established by the Rotterdam Convention
3. Outline the synergies process undertaken by the Stockholm,

## Content and duration

The e-learning course is comprised of 3 lessons, which provide links to the relevant treaty text paragraphs and term concepts of the InforMEA Glossary section. The lessons are organised in books, which can be downloaded in pdf from the left-hand navigation menu.

The core content of these lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publication and/or external websites

It will take you 1 hour approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. You can manage your time as you wish; take a few units and retake the course whenever it is more convenient for you.

## Assessment and certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress.

You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new course and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Unit	Content	Learning objectives
Unit 1 - Introduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hazardous Chemicals</li> <li>2. The origins of the Rotterdam Convention</li> <li>3. Objectives and scope</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Outline the concern regarding international trade of chemicals</li> <li>2. Describe the origins, scope and objectives of the Rotterdam Convention</li> </ol>
Unit 2 - Main Provisions of the Rotterdam Convention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Prior Informed Consent procedure</li> <li>2. The Export Notification procedure</li> <li>3. The listing of chemicals in Annex III of the Convention</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the core components and procedures established by the Rotterdam Convention</li> </ol>
Unit 3 – Institutional Arrangements and the Synergies Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conference of the Parties</li> <li>2. Secretariat</li> <li>3. Subsidiary body - Chemical Review Committee</li> <li>4. Non-compliance</li> <li>5. Synergies among the hazardous chemicals and wastes multilateral environmental agreements</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the institutional arrangements of the Rotterdam Convention</li> <li>2. Outline the synergies process undertaken by the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions</li> </ol>



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This course has been developed under the InforMEA UNEP initiative based on the UNEP Training Manual on International Environmental Law in co-authorship with the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat.

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