

Standing Committee on Treaties  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Agriculture, Water and the Environment Portfolio**

**Committee:** Standing Committee on Treaties  
**Question No:** 1  
**Hearing Date:** 08 September 2020  
**Division/Agency:** Environment Protection Division (EPD)  
**Topic:** Treaties on International Monetary Fund and Rotterdam Convention  
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**Question Date:** 24 September 2020  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Mr Sharma asked:**

CHAIR: Thanks very much. Can you just give us a couple of examples of the most commonly traded hazardous chemicals and pesticides that the Rotterdam convention deals with and regulates?

Mr McGregor: I can get that information. I just don't have it to hand. If you give me a few moments, I'll be able to come back to you with a few examples. There are two broad categories of chemicals that are covered by the convention—pesticides, on the one hand, and industrial chemicals, on the other. I'll just get some examples to come back to you with.

CHAIR: You can take that one on notice if you want to. You can come back in the hearing or at a subsequent time. The compliance committee that is being established will consist of 15 members drawn from the parties to the convention. Is that correct?

Mr McGregor: That's correct.

**Answer:**

There are 52 chemicals listed on Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention. Examples of chemicals that are listed on Annex III to the Convention and are traded by Australia are tetraethyl lead (used in aviation gasoline) and ethylene oxide (a pesticide). Other well-known examples of chemicals listed include DDT (a pesticide), PFOS (used in a range of applications, including fire-fighting foams) and most forms of asbestos.

The full list of chemicals listed on Annex III can be accessed at [www.pic.int/TheConvention/Chemicals/AnnexIIIChemicals](http://www.pic.int/TheConvention/Chemicals/AnnexIIIChemicals).