



a toxics-free future

IPEN Intervention on Global Monitoring Plan Given by Jasminka Randjelovic

Thank you Mr President
I speak on behalf of IPEN.

We would like to thank all who worked on the Global Monitoring Plan. Monitoring is extremely important for demonstrating Convention effectiveness. We would like to make few points about the current reports and make several suggestions as ongoing testing goes forward.

1. The monitoring reports combine data from many different years and it becomes confusing to interpret gaps as well as trends.
2. The monitoring reports would benefit from providing some context to the levels that are observed. For example, it would be helpful to Parties to know how levels in POPs in human milk compare to regulatory levels for POPs in cow's milk. If you compare the dioxin levels in human milk in Latin America with the EU regulatory limit, the results are surprising.
3. The monitoring programme still leaves significant data gaps in Africa, Asia, CEE, GRULAC, the Arctic and Antarctica; this should be addressed as a priority so that Convention effectiveness can be adequately measured.

4. Newly listed POPs should be incorporated into the monitoring plan as soon as possible. It is necessary to improve the work of professional organisations (laboratories) for measurement of new POPs chemicals in environmental and biological matrices, food and articles, through accreditation of methods, procurement of laboratory equipment and specialisation of laboratory staff taking into account that financial resources are used in the most efficient way with maximal results.

5. Global monitoring should include countries that have produced POPs and those requesting exemptions and/or acceptable purposes.

6. The monitoring plan should include a subset of hotspot sites since these contribute to wider contamination from long-range transport, including potential accelerated releases and transport due to climate warming.

7. Since the treaty notes the importance of the Arctic, the monitoring plan should also be updated to include POPs in traditional and market food sources, particularly traditional foods of Arctic Indigenous Peoples including fish, marine mammals, rendered oils, blubber, liver and other organ tissues.

Thank you Mr President.