

June 30, 2004

**Eleventh Session of the Interim Negotiating Committee of the Rotterdam Convention
for Prior Informed Consent (PIC)**

The Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) aims 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. It establishes the principle that export of a chemical covered by the Convention can only take place with the prior informed consent of the importing party.

Canada acceded to the Convention in August 2002, and PIC provisions are implemented in Canada by the Export of Substances Under the Rotterdam Convention Regulations of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* 1999. These regulations apply to both industrial chemicals and pesticides. The Convention entered into force on February 24, 2004.

The eleventh session of the Interim Negotiating Committee will be held on September 18, 2004. Participating countries will be asked to decide, by consensus, whether they agree or not to the inclusion of several substances on the list of chemicals subject to the requirements of the PIC procedure. The pesticide ethyl parathion is included on the list of substances to be considered.

Ethyl parathion is no longer registered for pest control use in Canada.

A consultation document regarding the proposal to add ethyl parathion to the PIC procedure is available from the Environment Canada website at www.ec.gc.ca/nopp/docs/consult/Rotterdam/tml_tel/en/index.cfm.

You may obtain further information, including background information, a copy of the Rotterdam Convention, and meeting documents for agenda items, on the PIC homepage www.pic.int. If you have any general questions concerning the Rotterdam Convention on PIC or the operation of the ICRC, please contact Lars Juergensen of the Pest Management Regulatory Agency by phone at (613) 736-3697 or by email at Lars_Juergensen@hc-sc.gc.ca.