

CC-12/7: Submission regarding Liberia

The Committee,

Recalling the submission by the Secretariat to the Committee regarding Liberia concerning possible difficulties faced by this party to comply with its reporting obligation under paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention (CHW/CC/9c/2010/5),

Noting that the expert working group on environmentally sound management has selected for funding a draft pilot project proposal by Liberia entitled “Conducting inventory, awareness raising and training to enhance, promote and establish ESM in e-waste management”⁸ and that as at 1 June 2016, the Secretariat is working with Liberia to further develop the terms of reference and implementation plan for the project which is expected to be implemented in 2016 at an approximate cost of US\$ 40,000;

Recalling also decisions CC- 8/6, CC-9/6, CC-10/6 and CC-11/7,

Noting that Liberia remains in the situation of having never submitted a national report pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention,

Without prejudice to future decisions by the Committee related to this or other specific submissions,

1. *Expresses* its appreciation for the cooperation of Liberia with the Committee during the twelfth meeting of the Committee which assisted the Committee in determining the root causes of the matter of concern as well as measures to resolve the matter of concern;
2. *Expresses* its concern about the continued lack of transmission of national reports;
3. *Welcomes* the willingness of Liberia to participate in training activities on national reporting, including by electronic means and to submit its national report for 2015 by the end of 2016;
4. *Welcomes also* the transmission by Liberia of a draft compliance action plan to assist in resolving the matter of concern regarding reporting obligations under Article 13 of the Basel Convention;⁹
5. *Recalls* decision BC-12/7 whereby the Conference of the Parties authorizes the Committee to make recommendations to the Executive Secretary on the use of the implementation fund in the intersessional period between the twelfth and thirteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties to assist Parties in the context of the facilitation procedure set out in paragraphs 19 and 20 of the terms of reference, to fund activities listed in the compliance action plans approved by the Committee;
6. *Approves* the elements of the compliance action plan set out in the annex to the present decision and *recommends* that the Executive Secretary use, subject to their availability, resources in the implementation fund of up to USD 60,000 for the purpose of covering costs associated with the implementation of the activities listed therein;
7. Consequently, and in accordance with its obligations under Article 13 of the Convention, *invites* Liberia to submit to the Secretariat its national report for 2016 and subsequent national reports complete and on time;
8. *Encourages* Liberia, if needed, to seek financial and technical support for the implementation of the Basel Convention, including from the UNEP special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;
9. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue its communications with and support to Liberia and to report to the Committee as appropriate;

⁸ UNEP/CHW/CLI_EWG.4/INF/7.

⁹ UNEP/CHW/CC.12/2/Add.7, annex II.

10. *Requests* also the Secretariat to transmit this decision to the Expert Working Group on Environmentally Sound Management and *invites* that group to ensure that the activities of its work programme pertaining to Liberia are supportive of the work of the Committee;

11. *Requests* further the Secretariat to transmit this decision to the Basel Convention Regional Centre for English-speaking countries in Africa;

12. *Decides* to keep the matter relevant to the submission CHW/CC/9c/2010/5 under review.

Annex to decision CC-12/7: Submission regarding Liberia

Voluntary compliance action plan

Objective:

- Restore Liberia’s compliance with its reporting obligations under Article 13, paragraph 3 of the Basel Convention.

Specific objectives:

- Transmit the national reports of Liberia for 2016 and subsequent years to the Secretariat in full and on time.

Actions	Responsible authority	Indicative timeline for implementation of the actions	Indicator of achievement	Comments
Area of intervention 1: Legal, institutional and policy frameworks				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify key stakeholders involved in the management of hazardous wastes and other wastes; - Undertake an assessment of the legal and institutional frameworks including possible gaps to implement the Basel Convention in order to enable compliance with the reporting obligations; - Establish/take the necessary legal and institutional mechanisms/measures to ensure sustainability of compliance with national reporting obligations, including development of legislation implementing the Basel Convention. 	Liberia’s Environmental Protection Authority	24 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key stakeholders involved in the management of hazardous wastes and other wastes identified; - Assessment report on the legal and institutional frameworks available; - Necessary legal and institutional mechanisms/measures established/taken, including the development and adoption of legislation implementing the Basel Convention. 	Mechanisms to manage hazardous and medical should be put in place through the implementation of required projects and activities

Area of intervention 2: Development of a national inventory of hazardous wastes and other wastes				
<p>Taking into account the activities of Liberia's pilot project "Conducting inventory, awareness raising and training to enhance, promote and establish ESM in e-waste management" and ensuring, that the project and the activities below are mutually reinforcing, including avoiding any duplication of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake an assessment of the steps already taken to develop an inventory of hazardous wastes and other wastes, and of their outcomes; - Establish a methodology for the inventory, through consultations with stakeholders; - Implementation of the methodology through the development of a national inventory of hazardous wastes and other wastes; - Complete the Basel Convention questionnaire for national reporting for 2016 and subsequent years. 	Liberia's Environmental Protection Authority	12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment report on the steps already taken to develop an inventory available; - Methodology for the inventory developed; - An inventory, using the methodology developed, is carried out; - The Basel Convention questionnaire for national reporting for 2015 and subsequent years are completed and transmitted to the Secretariat. 	Medical waste was identified, but the waste disposal aspect was not emphasized. This also needs to be looked into.
Area of intervention 3: Awareness-raising, training and information exchange				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct awareness-raising and training activities on the Basel Convention, with a focus on development of legislation and the development of an inventory of hazardous wastes and other wastes. 	Liberia's Environmental Protection Authority	12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness-raising and training activities on the Basel Convention are conducted, with a focus on the development of legislation and the development of an inventory of hazardous wastes and other wastes. 	In addition to legislation, the production of regulations, guidelines and standards should also be considered