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**Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention  
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of  
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**  
**Twelfth meeting**  
Geneva, 4–15 May 2015

## **Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal on the work of its twelfth meeting**

### **I. Introduction**

1. By decisions BC-11/20, RC-6/12 and SC-6/25, the conferences of the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, respectively, decided to hold the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention back to back in 2015 (hereinafter, “the 2015 meetings”). The conferences of the parties also decided that their 2015 meetings would “include joint sessions, where appropriate, on joint issues” and would “prioritize an agenda and schedule that focus on substantive matters related to implementation of the conventions and provide sufficient time for their consideration”.

2. In accordance with the above decisions, and as described in greater detail in section IV.C below, the 2015 meetings featured joint sessions to address cross-cutting issues of concern to the three conventions as well as the opening and organization of the meetings. The present report describes both the joint sessions of the three conferences of the parties as well as the separate sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. The reports of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), like the present report, cover both the joint sessions of the meetings of the three conferences of the parties as well as the separate sessions of the respective meetings.

### **II. Opening of the meetings (agenda item 1)**

3. Mr. Jan Dusik, Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Europe, acting as master of ceremonies, welcomed the meeting participants to the 2015 meetings.

#### **A. Opening remarks**

4. Opening remarks were made by Mr. Rolph Payet, Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions; Mr. Clayton Campanhola, Executive Secretary of the Rotterdam Convention; Mr. Bruno Oberle, State Secretary, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment, Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); and Ms. Naoko Ishii, Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

5. Mr. Payet, in his remarks, welcomed the participants to the 2015 meetings and expressed his personal commitment to the task of achieving the objectives of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. The sound management of chemicals and wastes, he said, contributed not only to the economic but also the social aspects of sustainable development and all countries had to prioritize its integration into the global policy agenda while ensuring that it remained high on the national agenda. To that end, he said, it was important to strengthen the role and capacity of the regional centres and to foster partnership with non-governmental organizations and the private sector and to extend the synergies process to the regional and national levels. Recalling the theme of the current meetings, moving from science to action: working for a safer tomorrow, he said that while the new sustainable development goals were likely to spark that movement, robust indicators for the chemicals and wastes cluster were needed to ensure the protection of human health and the environment without imposing unnecessary economic constraints on countries, industries and individuals.
6. Regarding the key decisions on the individual agendas for the three conferences of the parties, he drew particular attention to those on the Basel Convention technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electronic and electrical waste (e-waste), whose adoption he described as a crucial step in ensuring the sound management of the fastest growing waste stream on the planet, along with those on the listing of chemicals under the Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions. In regard to the latter two conventions, particular importance must be attached to the establishment of a facilitative mechanism to assist parties in resolving their implementation and compliance issues, and he urged the parties to those conventions to strive for agreement on the remaining matters preventing the adoption of such a mechanism.
7. In conclusion, he expressed gratitude to the donor countries, including China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America, whose contributions had enabled the participation of developing country parties and parties with economies in transition in the regional preparatory meetings and the 2015 meetings, as the inputs of developing country parties and parties with economies in transition were crucial to a successful outcome.
8. Mr. Campanhola began his remarks by offering his condolences to the delegation of Nepal in the wake of the earthquake that had struck the country with devastating consequences. He also paid tribute to the country's firm commitment to the Rotterdam Convention, as evidenced by the 18 notifications of final regulatory action that it had recently submitted for various pesticides despite that tragedy. He drew attention to the science fair that would be held in conjunction with the current meetings, at the opening of which the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) would address the parties. At the core of every meeting of the Conference of the Parties, he said, was the consideration of chemicals recommended for listing in Annex III to the Convention by the Chemical Review Committee. If the two pesticides and two severely hazardous pesticide formulations on the agenda were added to the Convention it would demonstrate the Convention's importance, particularly to developing countries, where agriculture was a key sector and where the conditions of use of pesticides often put farmers and their families at great risk.
9. After outlining the activities of FAO in support of the work of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, he observed that the conventions would also play an important role in helping countries to achieve the post-2015 development goals. In closing, he pledged his commitment to the secretariats' practice of working together closely to provide a high level of support to the parties and he wished them successful deliberations at the current meetings.
10. Mr. Oberle, in his remarks, welcomed the participants to Geneva and urged them to build on the success of the previous joint meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and, drawing on the review of the synergies process, to further harmonize coordination and cooperation in areas such as compliance, technical and financial assistance and guidance to the financial mechanism, thus addressing the conventions' political, technical and strategic challenges in a comprehensive manner that would provide a basis for coherent, overarching, policies while increasing the visibility of the chemicals and wastes cluster. Turning to the items on the agendas of the individual meetings, he highlighted as of particular importance the further development of guidelines on the environmentally sound management of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes, given the growth in the volume of e-waste and the challenge of distinguishing it from used electrical and electronic equipment; facilitating entry into force of the Basel Convention's Ban Amendment; the adoption of efficient and effective compliance mechanisms under the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to ensure that parties facing compliance difficulties received the necessary support; and the listing in the latter two conventions of all substances recommended by the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, including those that had

been the subject of debate at previous meetings. The last issue, he said, was crucial to ensuring the effectiveness of the two conventions as well as the credibility of their scientific bodies.

11. In conclusion, he expressed confidence that the participants at the current meetings would work in the spirit of constructive engagement and pragmatism that had characterized the chemicals and wastes cluster and, in so doing, produce concrete results that would render the three conventions even more effective, efficient, coherent and comprehensive and also strengthen and develop each individual convention.

12. Mr. Steiner welcomed the participants to a venue that he noted had witnessed long hours of intensive negotiations. The year 2015 was undoubtedly a significant year: important decisions were to be made on issues such as the sustainable development goals and climate change, and the 2015 meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions were of crucial relevance to those negotiations. He drew attention to three figures that bore witness to the conventions' fundamental importance. First, between 1970 and 2010, the annual value of global chemicals production had grown from \$170 billion to \$4.2 trillion, showing the economic significance of the substances with which countries had to contend. Second, there were over 100,000 recognized chemical substances in circulation, affecting both the human body and the environment, and the ability to understand their impact was lagging far behind their economic value and development. Third, occupational poisoning in the chemicals industry killed around 1 million people each year. It was necessary, therefore, to ensure that the knowledge and capacity of international organizations was sufficient to enable policymakers, citizens and others to address the opportunities of the twenty-first century chemicals-based economy. The goal was not to stop economic development, but rather to reduce risk, improve standards and ensure accountability with regard to chemicals.

13. Drawing attention to the cost of health care and lost earnings associated with endocrine-disrupting chemicals in the European Union, he said that such costs were a clear indicator of why decisions at meetings of the chemical-related conventions were of such importance in ensuring that chemicals served their intended purpose without causing undue harm. Surely, for example, it was within our capabilities to combat malaria with something other than the outdated chemical DDT and to ensure a move away from the trade-off between damaging costs in return for certain benefits. Such a transition required international solidarity and national action centred around the principles of collaboration and solidarity. History showed that such action was not easy to achieve, and over the years a legacy of frustrations, disappointments and unfulfilled ambitions had accumulated. Currently, however, a decade-long cycle of cooperation had left the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on the threshold of enormously promising breakthroughs in the management of chemicals. To cross that threshold it was necessary to approach issues such as the listing of chemicals in the conventions, compliance and finance in a spirit of good faith and trust so that a complete package of measures could be put in place to ensure the contribution of the chemicals-related conventions to the prosperity and well-being of all.

14. Ms. Ishii, in her remarks, highlighted the achievements of GEF over the previous two years, including the expansion of its chemicals portfolio and support for projects on the elimination and monitoring of persistent organic pollutants. It was crucial, she said, to aim higher in addressing the critical issues that threatened to undermine future development, such as the increased pressures on natural capital and ecosystems caused by current consumption patterns, population growth, and the exceeding of planetary boundaries. In particular, she stressed that it was important to address the effects of chemical pollution, which, as acknowledged in the continuing discussions on the sustainable development goals, must be tackled as a barrier to sustainable development. In addition to the effective implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, she said, that called for a systemic change in approaches to dealing with chemicals, above all those contained in the rapidly proliferating electronic products and other goods in everyday use. Accordingly, GEF was encouraging investment in the prevention of pollution at its source, which would prove more cost-effective and lead to safer and more sustainable production and consumption. Placing a particular emphasis on partnership with the private sector, she drew attention, inter alia, to two projects in China aimed at preventing the upstream emission and production of persistent organic pollutants to ensure that they were eliminated from downstream products. Meanwhile, GEF had set ambitious targets for the phase-out of 80,000 tonnes of those pollutants, and several projects for the reduction of 2,000 tonnes of persistent organic pollutants per year, including two newly identified substances, had already been submitted to the GEF Council. GEF was also striving to provide more support to countries through the establishment of an integrated chemicals and waste focal area and a dedicated support programme to assist small island developing States. Paying tribute to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions as committed partners, she concluded by urging the participants at the current joint meetings to roll up their sleeves and engage in the important deliberations that would drive the conventions forward.

**B. Ban Amendment ceremony**

15. As part of the follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention, Mr. Oberle (Switzerland) and Mr. Rasio Ridho Sani (Indonesia) presided over a ceremony to celebrate the ratification of the Basel Convention Ban Amendment by a further six countries since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to that Convention: Benin, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala and Peru.

**C. Opening statements by the presidents of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

16. Following the Ban Amendment ceremony Mr. Andrzej Jagusiewicz (Poland), President of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, Mr. Mohammed Khashashneh (Jordan), President of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, and Ms. Johanna Lissinger Peitz (Sweden), President of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, made opening statements in which they highlighted the main achievements of the three conventions to date and the challenges, as reflected in the agendas for the current meetings, that must be overcome to ensure future progress. The current meetings, they said, must serve further to enhance the synergies developed over the previous two years, with a particular focus on regional cooperation and information-sharing, legal clarity, technical and financial assistance and, in the case of the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the establishment of facilitative compliance mechanisms.

**D. Regional statements**

17. A number of representatives speaking on behalf of groups of countries made general statements on the issues to be discussed during the meetings. Those statements are reproduced as submitted in document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/57-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/41-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/62.

**E. Formal opening**

18. The twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention were formally opened at 12.35 p.m. on 4 May 2015 by Mr. Jagusiewicz, Mr. Khashashneh and Ms. Lissinger Peitz, respectively.

**III. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 2)**

19. The Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted the following agenda for its twelfth meeting, on the basis of the provisional agenda set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/1:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Election of officers;
  - (b) Organization of work;
  - (c) Report on the credentials of representatives at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. Matters related to the implementation of the Convention:
  - (a) Strategic issues:
    - (i) Follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention;
    - (ii) Strategic framework;
    - (iii) Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes;
  - (b) Scientific and technical matters:
    - (i) Technical guidelines;
    - (ii) Amendments to the annexes to the Basel Convention;

- (iii) Classification and hazard characterization of wastes;
    - (iv) National reporting;
  - (c) Legal, compliance and governance matters:
    - (i) Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention;
    - (ii) National legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic;
  - (d) Technical assistance:
    - (i) Capacity-building;
    - (ii) Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres;
    - (iii) Implementation of decision V/32 on the enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention;
  - (e) International cooperation, coordination and partnerships:
    - (i) Basel Convention Partnership Programme;
    - (ii) Environmentally sound dismantling of ships;
    - (iii) Cooperation with the International Maritime Organization;
    - (iv) Other international cooperation and coordination;
  - (f) Financial resources;
  - (g) Operations and work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2016–2017.
5. Programme of work and budget.
  6. Venue and date of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
  7. Other matters.
  8. Adoption of the report.
  9. Closure of the meeting.

20. In adopting its agenda the Conference of the Parties agreed to discuss under item 7, Other matters, a possible memorandum of understanding between UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the admission of observers to meetings under the Convention, official communications and the Basel Waste Solutions Circle.

## **IV. Organizational matters (agenda item 3)**

### **A. Attendance**

21. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following 160 Parties: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, European Union, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine,

Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

22. In addition, the meeting was attended by representatives of two States that were not parties to the Convention: the Holy See and the United States of America. It was also attended by representatives of six parties that did not submit valid credentials: Barbados, Lebanon, Libya, Mongolia, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine.

23. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented as observers: Economic Commission for Europe, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Global Environment Facility, International Labour Organization, International Telecommunication Union, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, United Nations Office for Project Services, World Health Organization.

24. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented as observers: International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), League of Arab States, South Centre.

25. The following Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres and Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres were represented as observers: Basel Convention Regional Centre for South-East Asia (BCRC-SEA)/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Indonesia (SCRC-Indonesia); Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Asia and the Pacific (BCRC-China)/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in China (SCRC-China); Basel Convention Regional Centre for French-speaking Countries in Africa (BCRC-Senegal)/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Senegal (SCRC-Senegal); Basel Convention Regional Centre for English-speaking Countries in Africa (BCRC-South Africa)/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in South Africa (SCRC South Africa); Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology/Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production, Mediterranean Action Plan (RAC-CP/MAP); Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology (SCRC Czech Republic); Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology (SCRC India); Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology (SCRC Kenya); Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology (SCRC Kuwait).

26. A number of non-governmental organizations were represented as observers. The names of those organizations are included in the list of participants (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/58-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/42-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/63).

## **B. Election of officers**

27. In accordance with rule 21 of the rules of procedure, the following members of the Bureau elected at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention served during the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

President:	Mr. Andrzej Jagusiewicz (Poland)
Vice-Presidents:	Mr. Hadi Farajvand (Islamic Republic of Iran)
	Ms. Gillian Guthrie (Jamaica)
	Mr. Henry Williams (Liberia)
	Mr. Flavien Joubert (Seychelles)
	Mr. Luca Arnold (Switzerland)
	Mr. Ali Abdullah Ahmed Al-Dobhani (Yemen)

28. Ms. Mara Curaba (Belgium), Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation) and Mr. Patricio Silva (Uruguay), elected Vice-Presidents at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, were unable to complete their terms of office. Pursuant to rule 24, Ms. Curaba and Mr. Silva were replaced by their compatriots, Mr. Yorg Aerts and Ms. Laura Dupuy, respectively. Ms. Dupuy was

subsequently replaced by her compatriot Ms. Agustina Camilli. No candidate was put forth to replace Mr. Trepelkov, and his seat on the Bureau remained vacant.

29. Pursuant to rule 21, Mr. Arnold served as rapporteur.

30. Also in accordance with rule 21, the Conference of the Parties elected the following members of the new Bureau, whose terms would commence upon the closure of the current meeting and terminate upon the closure of the next ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

President:	Mr. Mohammed Oglah Hussein Khashashneh (Jordan)
Vice-Presidents:	Ms. Els Van De Velde (Belgium)
	Ms. Alison Kennedy (Canada)
	Ms. Gaia Hernandez (Colombia)
	Mr. Henry Williams (Liberia)
	Mr. Laurence Edwards (Marshall Islands)
	Mr. Dragan Asanovic (Montenegro)
	Ms. Magda Gosk (Poland)
	Mr. Abderrazak Marzouki (Tunisia)
	Ms. Augustina Camilli (Uruguay)

### C. Organization of work

31. The discussion summarized in the present section, on organization of work (agenda item 3 (b)), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 32–35 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 31–34, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 32–35.

32. The three conferences of the parties agreed, with one amendment of the schedule proposed during discussion of the item, to conduct their meetings in accordance with the scenario note and schedule set out in documents UNEP/CHW.12/INF/1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/1 and UNEP/CHW.12/INF/2-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/2-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/2, respectively, which prior to the meetings had been agreed upon by the bureaux of the three conferences. The schedule and conduct of the meetings would be adjusted by the bureaux each day, as necessary, in the light of the progress of the meetings.

33. In accordance with the agreed arrangements, and as described in the scenario note, the conferences of the parties to the three conventions would hold both joint and separate sessions during their meetings. During the joint sessions, the conferences of the parties would discuss cross-cutting issues affecting at least two of the three conventions. In addition, the conferences of the parties would establish such joint and separate contact and drafting groups as they deemed necessary for the various meetings, including a joint contact group on budget matters. All decisions would be adopted pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decisions had been taken into account in the proposed programmes of work and budgets for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications. The total number of contact groups meeting at any one time would be limited to facilitate participation by all delegations. The conferences of the parties also agreed that the presidents of the three conferences would take it in turn to preside over joint sessions and that each, when so presiding, would act on behalf of all three.

34. In carrying out their work at the current meetings, the conferences of the parties had before them working and information documents pertaining to the various items on the agenda for the meetings. Lists of those documents for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, arranged according to the agenda items to which the documents pertain, are set out in information documents UNEP/CHW.12/INF/4, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/3 and UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/61, respectively.

35. The Secretariat informed the meeting participants of a new mobile device application, “BRS App”, which provided information about schedules and other information pertaining to the 2015 meetings.

## **D. Report on the credentials of representatives at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

36. The discussion summarized in the present section, on credentials (agenda item 3 (c)), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 37–39 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 36–38, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 37–39.

37. Introducing the sub-item the President said that, during the period leading up to the 2015 meetings, the bureaux of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had agreed on a common approach to credentials of the representatives participating in the meetings, pursuant to which they would accept original credentials in good order as well as copies of credentials in good order, on the understanding that in the case of the latter originals would be submitted as soon as possible.

38. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat said that, in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, rule 19 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and rule 19 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, the bureaux of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions would examine the credentials of the representatives of the parties present at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, respectively, and that each Bureau would present its report on credentials to its conference of the parties during a separate session.

39. Also under the item it was announced that, as at the start of the 2015 meetings, there were 183 parties to the Basel Convention, 154 parties to the Rotterdam Convention and 179 parties to the Stockholm Convention.

40. Subsequently, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention reported that it had examined the credentials of the representatives of the 166 parties to that Convention that had registered for the meeting and had found that those of 160 parties were in order. Of the 160, seven had submitted copies of their representatives' credentials, which the Bureau had accepted on the understanding that originals would be submitted as soon as possible. Six parties had not submitted credentials for their representatives. Those six parties were therefore participating as observers in the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and would be listed as such in the report of the meeting and list of participants.

41. The Conference of the Parties adopted the report of the Bureau on credentials.

## **V. Matters related to the implementation of the Convention (agenda item 4)**

### **A. Strategic issues**

#### **1. Follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention**

42. The representative of the Secretariat introduced the sub-item, recalling decision BC-11/1, on follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative, covering entry into force of the Ban Amendment, the development of guidelines on environmentally sound management of wastes and providing legal clarity with regard to the interpretation of certain terminology used in the Convention. Since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties six new parties (Benin, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala and Peru) had ratified the Ban Amendment, leaving the number of additional instruments of ratification to be deposited by parties that were parties at the time of adoption of the Amendment required for entry into force at 12. Since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat had held an additional workshop on facilitating the amendment's entry into force and had supported the President and another member of the Bureau in conducting two information briefings on the subject for permanent missions in Geneva and a third in Warsaw for Central and Eastern European parties. Regarding the guidelines on environmentally sound management, an expert working group had met three times and worked intersessionally, beginning five pilot projects and developing a set of practical manuals on promoting the environmentally sound



management of wastes (UNEP/CHW.12/3/Add.2), fact sheets for specific waste streams (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/6), a report assessing possible incentives for private sector investment in environmentally sound management (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/6) and a draft work programme for the period beginning with the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CHW.12/3/Add.1). Regarding legal clarity, an intersessional working group formed in accordance with decision BC-11/1 had met once before and once after the ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, producing a further revised glossary, with some text in square brackets, and recommendations on options for the consistent interpretation of terminology (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52, annexes I and II), which were before the Conference of the Parties at the current meeting.

43. Following the Secretariat presentation the Conference of the Parties discussed the three subjects in sequence.

**(a) Ban Amendment**

44. In the discussion of the Ban Amendment, general appreciation was expressed for the efforts made in the intersessional period to secure the ratifications needed to ensure its entry into force, with most speakers, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, paying tribute to the six countries that had submitted their instruments of ratification since the previous meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The representatives of a number of parties recalled the importance of the Ban Amendment to the success of the country-led initiative as a whole, with the representative of one of the lead countries of the initiative in particular reaffirming his country's continued commitment to supporting the initiative. Several representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that enhanced collective efforts must be made to secure the remaining 12 ratifications required for entry into force in the coming intersessional period, with one calling for further technical and financial support to assist developing countries in implementing the Convention and another, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressing support for the draft decision in section I of document UNEP/CHW.12/3.

45. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties adopted section I of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/3, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

46. Section I of decision BC-12/1, on follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

**(b) Developing guidelines for environmentally sound management of wastes**

47. The Conference of the Parties began its discussion of the environmentally sound management of wastes with a presentation by Mr. Alberto Capra (Argentina) and Mr. Andreas Jaron (Germany), the co-chairs of the expert working group on environmentally sound management.

48. Mr. Capra began by providing an overview of the working group's output. He stressed the working group's desire to promote and implement the practical aspects of environmentally sound management through the draft work programme it had developed. In its work programme, the working group would develop an "ESM toolkit" which, in addition to the manuals and fact sheets already developed, included pilot projects, training programmes, an Internet portal and guidance on self-assessment of national capacity. He underscored the importance of the exchange of information on modalities of public-private partnerships and the inclusion of the private sector in implementing the work programme. Mr. Jaron, observing that environmentally sound management was highly dependent on local circumstances, said that good results could be achieved with a few simple measures and that the approaches and tools developed by the working group were intended for use by those dealing with waste management at all levels. He called for assistance from regional centres, parties and industry in translating the manuals and fact sheets into as many languages as possible and, noting that the manual on waste prevention reflected the current state of waste prevention knowledge, said that the group needed practical descriptions of existing measures and examples of waste prevention.

49. In the ensuing discussion one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed appreciation for the working group's output but indicated that the practical manuals required a number of modifications to ensure consistency with one another, with the Convention and with other decisions and documents. To expedite their revision, she proposed that parties and others be invited to submit comments, that the expert working group revise the manuals accordingly and that the manuals

then be tested. A conference room paper with proposed changes to the draft decision and the draft work programme would be submitted for consideration by the parties.

50. Another representative called for strong support for the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative with regard to environmentally sound management and the work of the expert working group.

51. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties established a contact group on strategic matters, chaired by Ms. Angela Rivera (Colombia), to consider further the draft work programme submitted by the expert working group (UNEP/CHW.12/3/Add.1, annex) and the practical manuals for the promotion of the environmentally sound management of wastes (UNEP/CHW.12/3/Add.2, annex). The group would also work to develop draft decision text for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, taking into account the discussions in plenary and taking section II of the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/3 as its starting point.

52. The chair of the contact group subsequently reported that the group had reached agreement on section II of the draft decision, extending the mandate of the expert working group and adopting its work programme. The Conference of the Parties then adopted section II of the draft decision as agreed by the contact group, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

53. Section II of decision BC-12/1, on follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

**(c) Providing further legal clarity**

54. The Conference of the Parties began its discussion on the subject of legal clarity with a presentation by Mr. Simon Parker (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), co-chair of the small intersessional working group on legal clarity, in which he reported on the work of the group at two face-to-face meetings. The aim of the meetings was, among other things, to ensure consistency between the glossary being developed by the small intersessional working group on legal clarity and the terminology used in the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of e-waste and used electrical and electronic equipment. In particular, the group had focused on clarifying the distinction between waste and non-waste; developing general terms that were not specific to a single waste stream, type of disposal or context; incorporating definitions already existing in the Convention; and restructuring the glossary to include explanatory notes for each term. He said that despite containing bracketed text, owing to the fact that the group had not had time to complete its work, the draft revised version presented in annex I to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52 could provide a basis for the finalization and adoption of the glossary at the current meeting, while annex II to that document presented options for further steps towards achieving the consistent interpretation of terminology, including possible legally binding and voluntary options, which the Conference of the Parties was invited to agree upon for further examination before its next meeting.

55. In the ensuing discussion, general appreciation was expressed to the small intersessional working group for its work in revising the draft glossary of terms and associated explanations, which a number of representatives described as a significant step towards improving the effectiveness of the Convention. Since the group had been unable to complete its work prior to the current meeting, there was general agreement that further work was needed before the glossary could be adopted. A number of representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that they would propose amendments to the options for further steps towards the consistent interpretation of terminology presented in annex II to the document (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52), with the one speaking on behalf of a group of countries expressing support for the legally binding options with a review of Annex IV as a priority. Several representatives said that the group should be mandated to complete its work in the next intersessional period and one representative recommended that, in the interests of reaching consensus at the earliest possible opportunity, the discussion should be confined to general definitions and explanations and that any detailed information should be provided in the technical guidelines on specific waste streams; the continuing discussion on e-waste guidelines, he said, should be completed before reaching a final conclusion.

56. Following the discussion, the Conference of the Parties established a contact group on legal matters, co-chaired by Ms. Anne Daniel (Canada) and Mr. Joost Meijer (Chile), to consider further the revised draft glossary of terms and the options for further steps towards the consistent interpretation of terminology submitted by the small intersessional working group (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52). Taking into account the discussions in plenary, the group would seek to prepare draft decision text for

consideration by the Conference of the Parties and taking section III of the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/3 as its starting point.

57. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision text prepared by the contact group. Section III of decision BC-12/1, on follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## **2. Strategic framework**

58. The President introduced the item, recalling that the Conference of the Parties was to undertake a mid-term evaluation of the strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for the period 2012–2021 at its thirteenth meeting, taking into account a baseline report prepared by the Secretariat, and a final evaluation at its fifteenth meeting. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat drew attention to a note by the Secretariat on progress in implementation of the strategic framework and the establishment of a 2011 baseline against which to measure progress in the mid-term and final evaluations of the framework (UNEP/CHW.12/4). Outlining the measures employed by the Secretariat to obtain from parties the data needed to establish the baseline, including e-questionnaires and online and telephone interviews, she noted that only 36 parties – or 19 per cent of all Basel Convention parties – had submitted such data. Despite the low number of parties reporting information the Secretariat had prepared a report on the baseline (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/5). In accordance with decision BC-11/2, the Secretariat planned during the forthcoming biennium to collect updated information from parties using the reporting format that it had developed in accordance with decisions BC-10/2 and OEWG-8/1, as described in documents UNEP/CHW.11/4 and UNEP/CHW.11/INF/6, and to prepare a report on the mid-term evaluation of the strategic framework for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

59. In the ensuing discussion, one representative drew attention to the low level of reporting of baseline information against which to measure progress and requested the Secretariat to take measures to raise awareness of the forthcoming mid-term evaluation and the associated timelines for collecting input from parties. She proposed that the Secretariat prepare and submit a progress report on the mid-term evaluation of the strategic framework, including any challenges faced in implementing decision BC-10/2, to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting. That report could include an indication of gaps in information that could result in a more complete report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth session.

60. The Conference of the Parties agreed with the proposal described in the preceding paragraph and took note of the information presented.

## **3. Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes**

61. Introducing the sub-item, the President recalled that the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes had been adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting in recognition of the fact that, despite the progress achieved since the entry into force of the Convention, the volume of hazardous and other wastes had continued to increase across the globe and the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and other wastes had not diminished. In the light of that reality, at the current meeting the Conference of the Parties was to consider adopting a road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration developed by the Open-ended Working Group at its ninth meeting.

62. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat recalled that in its decision BC-11/19, on the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2014–2015, the Conference of the Parties had requested the Open-ended Working Group to review the progress of parties in implementing the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes and to prepare a road map for action. The Working Group by its decision OEWG-9/1 had adopted the draft road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting. In the same decision the Working Group had also recommended that the Conference of the Parties mandate the expert working group on environmentally sound management or a new intersessional group to develop guidance to assist parties in developing efficient strategies for preventing and minimizing the generation of hazardous and other wastes and that it invite a lead country within the group to carry out the work on the development of the guidance.

63. In the ensuing discussion, appreciation was expressed to the Open-ended Working Group for the draft road map for implementation of the Cartagena Declaration. Many representatives supported the draft road map and its adoption at the current meeting with some amendments and supported

mandating the expert working group on environmentally sound management to develop guidance to assist parties in developing efficient strategies for achieving the prevention and minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes.

64. One representative said that while the Cartagena Declaration referred to prevention, minimization and recovery of hazardous wastes the road map was largely confined to prevention and minimization; she therefore suggested that matters related to recovery be further developed. Several representatives drew attention to the need for technical assistance, one urging developed countries to actively provide technical assistance and all parties to explore new approaches and sources to facilitate delivery of the technical assistance necessary to ensure meaningful gains on the ground. She also said that regional centres should play a greater role in the implementation of the road map and that part of the Convention budget should be earmarked for the promotion of activities under the road map.

65. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries and emphasizing the importance of waste prevention and minimization, said that the reduction of waste generated at source should be the highest priority. She stressed the importance of all four elements of the road map and of including appropriate experts on waste prevention in the working group mandated to develop guidance on efficient strategies for achieving the prevention and minimization of waste. One representative said that the scope of the Cartagena Declaration was very broad and that it was necessary to consider it from various viewpoints including production, use, collection and recycling stages and to collaborate with relevant organizations in that regard. Another representative suggested that the road map provide for the development of economic instruments to make the initiatives contained therein more economically viable.

66. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to prepare for its consideration a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/10, taking into account the discussion in plenary.

67. The Conference of the Parties subsequently adopted the revised draft decision presented by the Secretariat, as orally amended and pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

68. Decision BC-12/2, on the road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## **B. Scientific and technical matters**

### **1. Technical guidelines**

#### **(a) Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants**

69. The discussion summarized in the present section, on technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants (agenda item 4 (b) (i)), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 70–82 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 103–115.

70. The President introduced the sub-items, noting that the parties would discuss technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutant wastes, on the agenda of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, together with measures to reduce or eliminate releases of persistent organic pollutants from wastes, on the agenda of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

#### **(i) Basel Convention technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutant wastes**

71. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat recalled decision BC-11/3 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, on work on technical guidelines and other matters pertaining to persistent organic pollutants. Pursuant to the decision, the small intersessional working group established under decision OEWG-1/4 had continued its work under the leadership of Canada, producing revised drafts of the various technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutant wastes for review by the Open-ended Working Group at its ninth meeting and the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting. He noted that owing to unavoidable circumstances the draft technical

guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutant pesticides were available in English only. In accordance with decision OEWG-9/3, however, the draft guidelines had been circulated for comment and subsequently revised, and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention might therefore wish to adopt them at the current meeting.

72. The representative of Canada then outlined the work of the small intersessional working group on the development and updating of the technical guidelines, drawing attention to the proposed draft decision on the matter contained in document UNEP/CHW.12/5. The general technical guidelines developed by the working group were intended for use in tandem with the guidelines for individual chemicals, and efforts had been made to reduce duplication of information between the documents.

73. In the ensuing discussion, a number of representatives congratulated the lead countries and organizations of the small intersessional working group for their work in producing the technical guidelines, which had proved to be a positive example of synergistic collaboration between the Basel and Stockholm conventions. Some representatives said that the guidelines would be of particular use to developing countries as they developed methodologies for dealing with wastes containing persistent organic pollutants and further developed their national implementation plans under the Stockholm Convention. Several representatives drew attention to the importance of environmentally sound management and of the definition of low persistent organic pollutant content of wastes, as referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention. Some representatives said that consideration of human health and the environment, and the safety of workers, should be given high priority in further work on the guidelines. One representative said that a number of other guidelines under the Basel Convention, for example the technical guidelines on incineration on land, were out of date and should be revised accordingly. Several representatives expressed the desire to discuss the draft guidelines further in a contact group, with one also proposing an amendment to the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/5 to provide for the participation of Stockholm Convention experts in the work on the guidelines under the Basel Convention.

74. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention established a contact group under the Basel Convention on technical matters co-chaired by Mr. Prakash Kowlessar (Mauritius) and Ms. Magda Gosk (Poland). With regard to the present sub-item, the contact group was to develop revised versions of the technical guidelines and a draft decision, using as a starting point the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/5 and taking into account the discussions in plenary.

75. The Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention subsequently adopted the draft decision prepared by the contact group, as orally revised to correct minor editorial errors.

76. Decision BC-12/3, on technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## **(ii) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from wastes under the Stockholm Convention**

77. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat recalled decision SC-6/11, on measures to reduce or eliminate releases from wastes. By that decision the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention had invited the appropriate bodies of the Basel Convention, with regard to hexabromocyclododecane, a chemical newly listed in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention, to set levels of destruction and irreversible transformation necessary to prevent waste from exhibiting the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants specified in paragraph 1 of Annex D to the Stockholm Convention; to identify methods constituting environmentally sound disposal and establish the concentration levels necessary for defining low persistent organic pollutant content in accordance with paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention; and to update and develop, as needed, Basel Convention technical guidelines on wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants, with the involvement of experts working under the Stockholm Convention; and had requested the Secretariat to continue to support parties to the Stockholm Convention in their efforts to reduce and eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes.

78. Following the adoption of decision SC-6/11 a small intersessional working group under the Basel Convention, as requested in decision BC-11/3 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, and with the involvement of Stockholm Convention experts at the invitation of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, had worked on updating the Basel Convention's persistent-organic-pollutant-related guidelines, and the Secretariat had carried out a number of capacity-building and training activities on measures to reduce and eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes.

79. In the ensuing discussion one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that he looked forward to the adoption of the technical guidelines, which he said would contribute to the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutant wastes. He expressed support for the adoption of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/POPS/COP.7/15, proposing minor changes. Another representative also suggested an amendment to the draft decision. Another representative drew attention to the difficulties faced by developing countries in dealing with toxic wastes, contaminated soils, obsolete stocks and empty packaging.

80. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention requested the Secretariat to prepare a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/POPS/COP.7/15, taking into account the discussions in plenary and including any chemicals newly listed in the annexes to the Convention at the current meeting, as well as any new or updated guidelines adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention at its twelfth meeting.

81. The Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention subsequently adopted the draft decision set out in document UNEP/POPS/COP.7/15, as orally amended, including to reflect the listing of hexachlorobutadiene in Annex A to the Convention, pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters in Annex A to the Convention and polychlorinated naphthalenes in Annex A and Annex C to the Convention.

82. Decision SC-7/9, on measures to reduce or eliminate releases from wastes, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, is set out in the annex to the report of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

**(b) Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds**

83. Introducing the sub-item, the President expressed thanks to the Government of Japan for acting as lead country in the development of guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of elemental mercury and wastes containing or contaminated with mercury. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat said that in response to decision BC-11/5 the small intersessional working group established under decision IX/15, including experts from intergovernmental organizations, civil society and industry, had under the leadership of Japan prepared an initial draft of updated technical guidelines. The draft had been further reviewed by Japan based on comments during the intersessional period and the Open-ended Working Group at its ninth meeting. At the current meeting the Conference of the Parties had before it two versions: the first (UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.8), reflecting all comments received through 30 September 2014 and the discussions of the Open-ended Working Group, was in the six official United Nations languages, while the second (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/8), reflecting also additional comments received up to 21 March 2015, was available in English only.

84. The representative of Japan voiced his appreciation to all who had cooperated in the development of the guidelines, saying that he was ready to participate in discussions that would lead to the adoption of the guidelines at the current meeting.

85. In the ensuing discussion, all representatives who took the floor thanked Japan for its work on the draft guidelines and expressed support for the guidelines and their finalization. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the guidelines were in line with requirements foreseen under the Minamata Convention on Mercury and noted that methods for final disposal of mercury waste were being developed. He said that parties and others should submit any new information that became available to facilitate the updating of the guidelines in the future. Another representative said that it would be useful to collaborate with the Minamata Convention on further work on the guidelines.

86. Following its discussion the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention decided that the contact group on technical matters (see para. 74 above) should consider the sub-item further. Taking into account the discussion in plenary, the group was to develop a revised version of the technical guidelines and a revised draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, taking as its starting point the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/5.

87. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted the revised draft decision prepared by the contact group.

88. Decision BC-12/4, on technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of elemental mercury and wastes containing or contaminated with mercury, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

(c) **Technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electronic and electrical waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention**

89. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat said that in response to decision BC-11/4 the small intersessional working group established under decision BC-10/5 had prepared several revisions of the draft technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electronic and electrical waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention. As no party had volunteered to act as lead, the work to produce the revised drafts had been coordinated by the Secretariat with the support of a consultant firm. A draft of the guidelines had been considered by the Open-ended Working Group at its ninth meeting, in September 2014. Agreement had been reached on many elements of the draft guidelines, and the options for paragraph 26 (b) and the distinction between waste and non-waste had been narrowed to two. A further meeting of the small intersessional working group in January 2015, funded by Japan, had resulted in a new draft that was circulated for comment by the members of the small intersessional working group. A further draft, reflecting the discussions at that meeting and the comments received, was before the Conference of the Parties at the current meeting in English only (UNEP/CHW/12/INF/7), along with an earlier draft (UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.1), in the six official United Nations languages, that had been prepared to reflect comments received pursuant to decision BC-11/4 and the discussions during the ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group. Subsequent to the preparation of those two drafts the small intersessional working group had also met several more times by teleconference, most recently on 29 April 2015. An information session on the technical guidelines was held on 7 May 2015.

90. In the ensuing discussion many representatives praised the work of the small intersessional working group. Many representatives expressed a desire to reach agreement on the guidelines at the current meeting, saying that they were urgently needed to address an issue with significant implications for human health and the environment. Several stressed the need for a constructive approach, building on the considerable common ground that already existed. A number of representatives stressed that the final guidelines should be clear, transparent and easy to use.

91. There was general agreement that the major point of discussion was the distinction between waste and non-waste electrical and electronic equipment, as reflected in the bracketed text in paragraph 26 (b) of the draft guidelines. Such equipment contained a number of toxic or harmful elements that many countries did not have the capacity to dispose of safely. Several representatives argued that repair, reuse, recycling and refurbishment were to be encouraged in order to extend the useful lives of products and that items destined for those purposes should not be defined as waste, provided that all due precautions were in place with regard to packaging and documentation. Other representatives argued that any non-functioning electrical or electronic equipment should be defined as waste and that failure to do so would make it very difficult for countries to monitor and regulate the movement of such items, leaving the door open to widespread illegal traffic in the guise of trade. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that nearly all equipment could be considered repairable and that the process of repair normally involved the replacement of components, with the replaced components immediately becoming waste. Several representatives said that near end-of-life products presented a particular problem, especially in developing countries, as their useful lives ended soon after import. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that inclusion in paragraph 26 (b) of criteria for identifying when used equipment should not normally be considered waste would form a sound basis for a compromise. Several representatives said that, in the long run, improved product quality and greater acceptance of producer responsibility would lead to a reduction in the quantity of waste.

92. Several representatives said that the issue of prior informed consent was of great relevance to the transport of used electrical and electronic products. Several representatives drew attention to the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the hazards posed by electrical and electronic waste. Representatives also highlighted other problems faced by particular States, including smuggling, porous borders and international donations of electrical and electronic products to refugees residing in camps ill-equipped to deal with e-waste issues.

93. A number of representatives pointed to progress that had been made at the national level in developing legislative, regulatory and policy measures pertaining to waste electrical and electronic equipment, saying that a lack of clear internationally recognized guidelines made it more difficult to develop such measures. One representative said that allowing legitimate trade in non-working used equipment would promote the best environmental outcomes for that equipment and enable Governments to focus their regulatory efforts on high-risk activities involving illegal trade in the

informal recycling sector. Several representatives said that the guidelines should take into account existing domestic legislation.

94. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties decided that the contact group on technical matters (see para. 74 above) should consider the sub-item further. Taking into account the discussions in plenary, the group was to develop a revised version of the technical guidelines and a revised draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, taking as its starting point the draft decision set out in paragraph 46 of document UNEP/CHW.12/5.

95. Subsequently, the co-chair of the contact group reported that the group had produced a revised version of the technical guidelines and a related draft decision by which the Conference of the Parties would adopt the guidelines and agree to conduct further work on outstanding issues, listed in annex V to the guidelines, in the period leading up to its next meeting.

96. In the ensuing discussion, several representatives, including two speaking on behalf of groups of countries, expressed support for the technical guidelines and draft decision prepared by the contact group, saying that adoption of the guidelines would enable parties to field test them and that the experience gained from such field tests could serve to further improve them. The two representatives speaking on behalf of groups of countries said that even though they required further work the guidelines were a milestone in the sound management of electrical and electronic waste, with one proposing that they be reviewed periodically to address the outstanding issues listed in annex V and another suggesting that the term “periodically” be clearly defined in the draft decision. One representative said that her country was prepared to support further work on the guidelines provided that they were adopted at the current meeting.

97. Several other representatives, however, said that they could not support the adoption of the guidelines. A number of those representatives, including one who recalled the statement of an observer who had urged the parties not to adopt the guidelines, said that the guidelines were incomplete, could not serve to protect the environment and human health unless outstanding issues were resolved and would enable unscrupulous traders to traffic in hazardous electrical and electronic waste disguised as equipment destined for repair or refurbishment. One representative said that by adopting the guidelines without resolved outstanding issues the parties might undermine the spirit of the Ban Amendment.

98. As a compromise solution, several representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed support for the adoption of the guidelines on a provisional basis.

99. It was agreed that interested parties would consult informally with the aim of achieving a compromise. Subsequently, the President introduced a revised version of the draft decision prepared by the Secretariat to reflect those informal consultations. To address the concerns of those opposing adoption, the revised decision provided for the adoption of the guidelines on an interim basis and stated explicitly that the guidelines were not legally binding and were subordinate to national legislation.

100. In the ensuing discussion, one representative expressed concern that paragraph 30 of the guidelines, which set out the criteria for identifying when used equipment should not normally be considered waste, might encroach on the field of competence of the World Trade Organization. He therefore requested that that paragraph be removed from the text and placed in appendix V, together with the other issues to be considered further, failing which he could not agree to the adoption of the guidelines. Several representatives, including two speaking on behalf of groups of countries, refused to support such an amendment, saying that the criteria in paragraph 30 had been the focus of much of the discussion in the contact group and constituted a core element of the guidelines.

101. Many representatives, however, including one speaking on behalf of a third group of countries, expressed dissatisfaction at the turn of events. One representative, supported by a number of other representatives, suggested that the Conference of the Parties should take note of, rather than adopt, the guidelines; it would make little difference, she said, given that the revised draft decision stated that the guidelines were not legally binding. At her request for clarification, the Legal Officer of the Secretariat said that without prejudice to each party’s own appreciation of the matter, the decision whereby the Conference of the Parties would take note of or adopt the guidelines would not have the legal effect of making them legally binding at the international level. Several representatives, however, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, argued strongly for the use of the term “adopts”. One representative, supported by a number of others, suggested that the parties adopt the draft decision resulting from the informal consultations with the reservations of the one party expressing concern with paragraph 30 of the guidelines set out in a footnote or in the present report; the representative of that party indicated that his delegation could agree to that proposal.



102. Several representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed concern with regard to the manner in which the issue was being handled.

103. The representative of the party proposing that the Conference of the Parties take note of the guidelines rather than adopt them said that her delegation wished to dissociate itself from the proceedings, which she said were not transparent, and asked that her statement be reflected in the present report. She also suggested that the term "interim" in the draft decision was not clear.

104. Following the discussion, the Conference of the Parties adopted the revised draft decision on the understanding that the reservations of the party expressing concern with paragraph 30 of the guidelines would be reflected in the present report or in a footnote to the decision.

105. Decision BC-12/5, on the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## **2. Amendments to the annexes to the Basel Convention**

106. The President introduced the sub-item, recalling that annexes VIII and IX to the Convention provided information regarding the wastes potentially covered by the Convention and that at its eighth meeting the Conference of the Parties had revised the procedure for the review or adjustment of the lists of wastes in the two annexes. Under the revised procedure any proposed change was to be considered by the Open-ended Working Group and the conclusions of the Working Group then transmitted to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its next meeting. The Working Group at its ninth meeting had considered proposed new entry B3025 and agreed that no further work on the proposal would be undertaken. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat reported that the two new entries to Annex IX to the Convention adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision BC-11/6, B3026 and B3027, had entered into force for all parties except those that had notified the Depositary pursuant to paragraph 2 (b) of Article 18 of the Convention that they could not accept the amendments by which the entries had been added to Annex IX.

107. The Conference of the Parties took note of the information presented.

## **3. Classification and hazard characterization of wastes**

108. Introducing the sub-item, the President recalled that in accordance with decision BC-10/10 the Secretariat had received proposals from parties for specific wastes covered by the Basel Convention to be included in the World Customs Organization (WCO) Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System. The Secretariat had been working with WCO to amend the Harmonized System to include codes for those wastes. The representative of the Secretariat then reported on the progress achieved in its work with WCO, outlining the information provided in document UNEP/CHW.12/7.

109. In the ensuing discussion, one representative emphasized the value of increased cooperation and coordination with the World Customs Organization given the importance of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to efforts to control illegal trade in wastes.

110. The Conference of the Parties took note of the information presented, noting that the World Customs Organization was not expected to complete its evaluation of the proposals to amend the Harmonized System before the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties at the earliest.

## **4. National reporting**

111. Introducing the sub-item, the President recalled that under the Convention each party was required to transmit a report to the Secretariat by the end of each calendar year providing specified information for the previous calendar year. At the current meeting, the Conference of the Parties was expected to adopt a revised reporting format (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/16) developed by a small intersessional working group as mandated by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting; to extend the mandate of that group to include the development of an electronic user manual for the electronic reporting system and the revised form for national reporting in the six official languages of the United Nations; and to invite parties to submit their reports for 2013 and previous years.

112. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat said that as requested by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting, the Secretariat had developed the electronic reporting system of the Basel Convention with financial support from the Government of Norway; had begun the development of a system of online queries regarding the data submitted in national reports; had organized various capacity-building activities pertaining to national reporting; and, together with the Implementation and Compliance Committee, had continued to develop documents and tools to assist parties with their reporting obligations. She noted that in accordance with past practice and

owing to a lack of resources the revised reporting format was available in English only. She also took the opportunity to update the information on national reporting contained in document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/17, noting that subsequent to the cut-off date of 24 November 2014 Argentina and the Russian Federation had submitted national reports for the years 2010 and 2011 and the Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria and Uruguay had submitted national reports for the year 2012.

113. The Conference of the Parties then heard from Mr. Joachim Wuttke (Germany), the chair of the small intersessional working group. He stressed that the group considered the manual on reporting, which was still to be prepared, to be of key importance and that among other things it should indicate which items on the reporting format were mandatory. The group had also asked the Secretariat to assess what could be done to make it clear to parties when they were using the electronic reporting system whether or not the reporting format had been fully completed. He then proposed a minor amendment to the wording in one of the tables in the proposed revised reporting format based on the discussions in the small intersessional working group and drew attention to a conference room paper submitted on behalf of a group of countries, which contained proposed amendments to the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/8/Rev.1.

114. In the ensuing discussion, several parties, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, praised the enhanced streamlining and simplicity of the revised reporting format and supported its adoption. They also supported the adoption of the draft decision, with a number of them, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, also supporting the amendment to the draft decision proposed in the conference room paper, which would mandate the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting to adopt a list of waste streams for which additional practical guidelines on the development of inventories should be developed.

115. Several representatives described challenges that their countries had encountered in completing the national reporting format and submitting their national reports, including a lack of capacity to collect all the information requested and poor Internet connectivity. One representative expressed appreciation for a regional workshop that had provided reporting training and support. Further improvements to the reporting format were suggested, including its translation into the five other official languages of the United Nations, improved correction and change capability, additional workshops and the availability of specific guidelines online. A number of representatives requested additional financial and technical assistance for national reporting, and another suggested that parties involved in the revision process consult with other countries in their regions.

116. One representative, noting that the information requested in the reporting format had broadened over the years to include information that might be useful but should not be taken into account in the determination of whether a party was in compliance with its obligations, stressed the need for parties to know which items on the form were mandatory.

117. Following the discussion, the Conference of the Parties decided to refer the revised reporting format to the contact group on legal matters established as described above (see para. 56) for consideration of which items on the form should be mandatory and of the criteria for classifying compliance performance with regard to national reporting obligations. If during this work the group identified the need for revising the draft decision set out in the conference room paper, it could do so.

118. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties adopted a revised draft decision prepared by the contact group.

119. Decision BC-12/6, on national reporting, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## **C. Legal, compliance and governance matters**

### **1. Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention**

120. Introducing the sub-item, the President outlined the objectives of the Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention, which he said were to assist parties to comply with their obligations under the Convention and to facilitate, promote, monitor and aim to secure the implementation of and compliance with the obligations under the Convention. At the current meeting the Conference of the Parties was to elect the members of the Committee, consider a draft decision submitted by the Committee, including a proposed work programme for 2016–2017, and consider four draft guidance documents prepared by the Committee.

121. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat said that the report by the Committee on the implementation of its 2014–2015 work programme was set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/9, sect. II A and B, and the four draft guidance documents, on the development of waste inventories, implementation of the Basel Convention illegal traffic take-back provision (paragraph 2 of Article 9), the control system under the Convention and the manual for the implementation of the Convention, in documents UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.1–4. In addition, information on the operation of the implementation fund established under decision IX/2 and on classification of parties' compliance with their reporting obligations under the Convention was provided in two information documents (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/18 and 19).

122. Ms. Marie-Pierre Méganck (France), a member of the Committee, speaking on behalf of Ms. Jimena Nieto (Colombia), Chair of the Committee, reported on the work of the Committee during the 2014–2015 biennium. The Committee had held its tenth meeting in Paris in December 2013, an online supplementary session on 8 May 2014 and its eleventh meeting in Geneva in September 2014. The Committee had also for the first time consulted the Open-ended Working Group regarding activities in its work programme, namely, development of the four guidance documents. In-kind and financial resources had been provided by France, Japan and Switzerland to enable the Committee to hold its meetings. Colombia, Japan, Norway and Switzerland had made contributions to the implementation fund. She then described the activities of the Committee related to specific submissions and to the general review mandate pertaining to national reporting; national legislation; illegal traffic; insurance, bonds and other guarantees; the control system; and the manual for the implementation of the Convention. She also highlighted the recommendations the Committee had prepared for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

123. In the ensuing discussion, one representative expressed concern regarding some of the suggested provisions in the guidance on the implementation of the Basel Convention illegal traffic take-back provision (paragraph 2 of Article 9), for example that it did not adequately reflect that the Convention clearly stipulated that it was the responsibility of the exporter to take back hazardous wastes once illegal traffic had been attributed to the exporter. In addition, there was no guidance on how to proceed in cases where damaged or inadequate packaging had resulted in contamination of cargo other than the hazardous substance; no clear procedure in cases of dispute, for example when an exporting entity claimed that under its domestic law a substance was not as hazardous waste; and a lack of clarity on the provisions for repackaging hazardous wastes for re-export. Also, the timelines stipulated were in some cases rather short, given that national administrative arrangements took time and domestic capacity for the identification and environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes was often inadequate. The guidance was not ready for adoption, she said, and further intersessional work was required. There was also a need to analyse, review and update the criteria by which the Compliance Committee decided whether a party was in compliance with its national reporting obligations. Finally, guidance needed to be developed on paragraph 11 of Article 6 of the Convention, relating to insurance, bonds and other guarantees, to assist parties in the development of national legislation and related provisions.

124. One representative expressed support for adoption of the guidance on the implementation of the illegal traffic take-back provision, saying that it would help developing country parties and parties with economies in transition in tracking illegal transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and meeting their obligations under the Convention. Another representative said that implementation and compliance were crucial to the objectives of the Convention and that training and awareness-raising on the use of the guidance documents would be beneficial, including through the regional centres; in addition, developed countries should do more to assist developing countries in combating illegal traffic in hazardous wastes. Another representative said that the Basel Convention compliance mechanism demonstrated the value of an effective and efficient compliance mechanism, from which the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm might draw lessons. He suggested that the Compliance Committee further review the operation of the implementation fund in the light of its experience and other developments, including the UNEP special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals in doing so. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, welcomed the progress made under the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Basel Convention and expressed support for elements of the proposed draft decision, including with regard to broadening the Secretariat trigger, the consideration of the specific compliance difficulties of more individual parties, and the manuals, and she expressed the hope that the draft decision and guidance documents could be adopted at the current meeting with minor amendments. She expressed concern, however, about national reporting and the failure to reach the targets for 2011 and 2012. Several representatives outlined their countries' experience in matters related to compliance and identified challenges faced,

including with regard to data gaps, legislation and policy development, reporting obligations and training and capacity-building.

125. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties decided that the contact group on legal matters established as described above (see para. 56) would consider the matter further. Taking into account the discussions in plenary, the group would seek to prepare a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/9 and revised versions of the draft guidance set out in documents UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.1–4.

126. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties adopted the revised draft decision prepared by the contact group, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications, by which it adopted the guidance on the development of waste inventories and revised versions of the guide to the control system under the Convention, of the manual for the implementation of the Convention and of the Committee's programme of work prepared by the contact group.

127. Decision BC-12/7, on the Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

128. By paragraph 22 of the decision as adopted the Conference of the Parties elected the following 10 members of the Committee:

African States	Mr. Abderaman Mahamet Abderaman (Chad)
	Mr. Humphrey Kasiya Mwale (Zambia)
Asian-Pacific States:	Mr. Iftikhar-Ul-Hassan Shah Gilani (Pakistan)
	Mr. Geri Geronimo R. Sanz (Philippines)
Eastern European States:	Ms. Mari-Liis Ummik (Estonia)
	Ms. Tatiana Tugui (Moldova)
Latin American and Caribbean States:	Mr. Alberto Santos Capra (Argentina)
	Ms. Yocasta Valenzuela (Dominican Republic)
Western European and other States:	Mr. Marcus Schroeder (Germany)
	Ms. Fionna Cumming (New Zealand)

## **2. National legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic**

129. Introducing the sub-item, the President said that the effective implementation of the Convention required that parties have complete information regarding other parties' national legal frameworks. Activities pertaining to the agenda item sought to support cooperation, make information available and facilitate efforts in relation to national legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic. At the current meeting the Conference of the Parties was expected to welcome related activities and encourage further such activities, to take note of an analysis of possible synergies in preventing and combating illegal trade and to consider whether to request the Secretariat to develop recommendations on such synergies, building on lessons learned under the Basel Convention.

130. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat said that in accordance with decision BC-11/10 the Secretariat had provided legal and policy advice to parties; continued to collect national legislation and other measures transmitted by parties; continued to collect and translate notifications of national definitions of hazardous wastes and import/export restrictions and prohibitions; assisted parties in identifying illegal traffic and collected forms for confirmed cases of illegal traffic as well as information from parties on best practices in preventing and combating illegal traffic; and undertaken activities aimed at preventing and combating illegal traffic, including with a range of partners. Information on those activities (UNEP/CHW.12/11) was before the Conference of the Parties.

131. In the ensuing discussion one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed support for the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/11, proposing an amendment. Another representative stressed the importance of synergies between the three conventions with regard to preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes. Expressing

support for the draft decision, while also offering an amendment, she called for further study of situations in which products were damaged during shipment and arrived as waste.

132. The representative of INTERPOL reported on her organization's activities relevant to the goals and implementation of the Basel Convention, including capacity development related to pollution crime prevention, training manuals and e-learning modules, investigative manuals and a mandate from the INTERPOL General Assembly to assist countries in implementing national and international laws relevant to the Basel Convention. It might be beneficial, she suggested, for representatives of the Conference of the Parties to cooperate with the INTERPOL Pollution Crime Working Group and for Governments to consider increasing their financial support for INTERPOL activities in areas relevant to pollution-related crime.

133. The Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/11, as orally amended and pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

134. The decision as adopted among other things requested the Secretariat to transmit the analysis of possible synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, building on lessons learned under the Basel Convention, to the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. The decision also requested the Secretariat to prepare for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting recommendations on possible synergies between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, building on lessons learned under the Basel Convention. The Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to inform the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions of that request during the current meeting so that they could consider whether to make similar requests to the Secretariat.

135. Decision BC-12/8, on national legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## **D. Technical assistance**

136. The discussion summarized in the present section, on technical assistance (agenda item 4 (d)), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 137–144 and 148–161 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 138–145 and 149–162, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 161–168 and 172–186.

137. The parties discussed the delivery of technical assistance and capacity-building under the three conventions, the Basel and Stockholm convention regional centres and implementation of decision V/32 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, on enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in cases of emergencies caused by transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes and their disposal. Setting the stage for the discussions, the President observed that the timely delivery of technical assistance, in which the Basel and Stockholm convention regional centres played a key role, was essential to the successful implementation of the conventions and was one of the subjects that benefited most from being considered jointly for the three conventions, as many capacity-building activities for one convention yielded benefits and synergistic effects for the others.

### **1. Technical assistance**

138. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat described the Secretariat's common technical assistance and capacity-building programme for the three conventions, outlining the information provided in document UNEP/CHW.12/13-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/13-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/13. Aimed at increasing effectiveness by avoiding duplication, it built on the previous individual programmes of the three conventions and had four main components: tools and methodologies; capacity-building and training; partnerships; and regional centres and regional delivery. She then outlined a number of information documents on the technical assistance needs of developing country parties and the assistance available from developed countries, on guidance on technical assistance and technology transfer under the Stockholm Convention and on past and planned technical

assistance, training and capacity-building activities of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

139. In the ensuing discussion, many representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, welcomed the activities carried out by the Secretariat and its development of a joint approach to technical assistance, which a number of representatives said was an area where the benefits of increased synergies between the three conventions were evident. They also said that technical and financial assistance were essential to the implementation of the three conventions by developing country parties. One representative urged greater attention to activities regarding technology transfer, which he said was as important as technical assistance and capacity-building but was not addressed in the documents prepared by the Secretariat. Another representative said that there was a need to discuss what the concepts of technical assistance and capacity-building actually meant.

140. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries suggested that in order to make the best use of available resources, technical assistance should focus on those activities that had the highest impacts. Thus, webinars and other cost-effective options should be preferred to workshops, although on-site workplace training sessions could also deliver positive and sustainable results. She welcomed the development by the Secretariat of the database on the needs of parties in implementation of the conventions, while querying its cost and the possibility of finding more effective and efficient ways of gathering such information. Another representative said that the technical assistance programme should be realistic and take into account the roles of all relevant actors, including parties, United Nations partners, the Basel and Stockholm conventions regional centres, the private sector, financial institutions and the Secretariat, in the delivery of technical assistance.

141. Several developing country party representatives described the specific technical and financial assistance needs of their countries. Several others expressed appreciation to the Secretariat, the Basel and Stockholm convention regional centres, donors and other partners for the assistance already received by developing country parties and parties with economies in transition. One representative said that her country had in 2005 developed a database to facilitate the exchange of monitoring data on persistent organic pollutants in East Asia and had since 2011 continued to hold annual training workshops for laboratory personnel to build monitoring capacities in the region.

142. A number of representatives made suggestions regarding areas in which technical assistance should be provided. One suggested that under the Stockholm Convention priority be given to activities regarding chemicals newly listed in the annexes to the Convention, including the development of inventories, the assessment of socio-economic and cultural impacts and the links between persistent organic pollutants and climate change, and the building of synergies with other chemical-related conventions. Another urged a focus on the sustainable transfer of PCB destruction technologies to deal with existing PCB stockpiles.

143. One representative said that parties lacking experience with notifications under the prior informed consent procedure of the Basel Convention should receive technical support, suggesting the establishment of an electronic platform to facilitate information exchange and reduce costs. Another suggested that workshop materials be disseminated through the Secretariat website as soon as possible in order to increase the impact of workshops and that further data should be provided on the human health impacts of chemicals to persuade policymakers to take action.

144. Following the discussion, the conferences of the parties agreed that the joint contact group on financial resources and technical assistance established as described in section G.3 below should consider the sub-item further.

145. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications, the draft decision on technical assistance prepared by the contact group.

146. Decision BC-12/9, on technical assistance, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

147. In addition the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted decisions on technical assistance. Decisions RC-7/8 and SC-7/16, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.

## 2. Implementation of decision V/32

148. Regarding implementation of decision V/32, the representative of the Secretariat reported that as requested in the decision the Secretariat had continued to strengthen cooperation with the joint UNEP/Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) environment unit, organizing five webinars in English, French, Russian and Spanish to raise awareness of the support available in emergencies; and, as requested, was proposing an amendment to section IV of part I of the Interim Guidelines to provide for the UNEP/OCHA environment unit to become involved earlier in the process of providing emergency assistance. The Secretariat had also been asked in the decision to consider whether there was a need for changes to part 3 of the Interim Guidelines on the implementation of decision V/32,<sup>1</sup> under which the Secretariat was among other things to advise and assist in the preparation and submission of proposals for projects to be implemented by parties requesting assistance. No project proposals had been submitted to date, however, and the Secretariat was accordingly proposing no changes to part 3 beyond an amendment to provide for consultation with the UNEP/OCHA joint environment unit. Further information was provided in document UNEP/CHW.12/14.

149. In the ensuing discussion one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the action proposed in the report by the Secretariat on the implementation of decision V/32 (UNEP/CHW.12/14) fell significantly short of what was needed to ensure that the Secretariat's role in emergencies was consistent with its resources and expertise. The Secretariat, she said, should play an advisory role and leave on-the-ground action to specialized agencies, and emergency-related activities should be included in the technical assistance programme to help build the capacity of countries to prevent and respond to emergencies. She also noted that because no requests for emergency assistance had yet been submitted, the resources provided by a limited number of parties had not been utilized.

150. Another representative said that decision V/32 had been the result of a compromise between donors and those who preferred the establishment of a compensation fund to support developing countries during emergencies and, supported by another representative, said that a reserve for emergencies should be maintained in the trust fund. He also argued that it was necessary to improve the mechanisms through which countries could access those reserves, saying that the experience of Côte d'Ivoire in that regard had been unsatisfactory.

151. Following the discussion, the conferences of the parties agreed that the joint contact group on financial resources and technical assistance established as described in section G.3 below should consider the sub-item further.

152. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications, the draft decision on the implementation of decision V/32 on the enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention prepared by the contact group.

153. Decision BC-12/11, on the implementation of decision V/32 on the enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## 3. Regional centres

154. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat highlighted activities undertaken by the Secretariat to strengthen regional centres in response to the decisions adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions at their eleventh and sixth meetings, respectively, including two joint meetings of the directors of the Basel and Stockholm convention regional centres, at which a representative of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) had provided information on GEF funding available to the centres, and the evaluation of the centres' performance during 2013–2014. Further information on regional centres was provided in documents UNEP/CHW.12/12, UNEP/POPS/COP.7/11, UNEP/CHW.12/INF/21-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/13 and UNEP/CHW.12/INF/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/14.

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CHW.6/40, decision VI/14, appendix.

155. In the ensuing discussion, there was general agreement regarding the importance of regional and subregional centres for capacity-building, technical assistance, information exchange and other activities that assist parties in implementing the three conventions in a synergistic manner. A number of representatives described how particular centres had worked with their Governments and other actors on relevant activities and thanked donors for their support of specific programmes undertaken by the centres. Several host-country representatives described the financial and in-kind support that their Governments provided for centres located in their countries.

156. Many representatives, however, including two speaking on behalf of groups of countries, also said that it was necessary to increase the capacity of the regional centres, including their financial resources, technical expertise, technological ability and staffing levels, to enable them to fulfil their mandates, perform the tasks currently assigned to them and assume additional responsibilities. Several said that it was necessary to ensure predictable and adequate funding for each centre from sources in addition to the host country and other donors within the region where the centre was located. Representatives of several donor parties expressed agreement that it was important for all parties and relevant actors to support the work of the centres. One representative, noted that when the regional centres were established it was expected that host countries would fund their basic operations and that the centres themselves would seek additional external financial support for their activities. A number of representatives said that the regional centres' host countries made substantial in-kind and financial contributions to the functioning of the centres.

157. Many representatives suggested areas in which centres should develop more initiatives, including capacity-building, technical assistance, technology transfer, fundraising, technical training and support, research, demonstration projects, border controls, combating illegal trade, mobilizing private sector involvement, increasing operational efficiencies, strengthening reservoirs of regional expertise, conducting risk assessments, initiating community-based programmes, expanding the use of non-chemical alternatives to persistent organic pollutants, reducing the production of hazardous waste, addressing stockpiles of obsolete substances and hazardous waste including through the development of capacity for their environmentally sound management and destruction in developing countries, promoting south-south cooperation, developing closer links with universities and relevant scientific bodies, increasing transparency and fostering information exchange and improved coordination among centres on a regional and global basis. Several representatives said that the regional centres should be used as nodes for increased technology transfer, saying that technology transfer was a part of the centres' mandate that had been ignored.

158. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the process evaluation conducted by the Secretariat provided a useful overview of strengths and challenges faced by the centres and that it was essential to foster the efficiency and effectiveness of the centres so that they could serve their role as important instruments for supporting the implementation of the conventions. The draft decisions recommended by the Secretariat were generally acceptable and should be discussed in any contact group formed, as should the evaluation of the centres and their workplans and activities. Another representative said that the centres should play a role in strengthening project formulation capabilities and increasing fundraising capacity. In that regard the evaluation of the centres aided understanding of the activities undertaken by each centre and would help the centres to learn from one another and improve their operations. His Government was ready to consider assisting projects related to environmentally sound management and implementing technical guidelines in its region via voluntary contributions. Proposals for holding joint meetings of the centres in 2016 should be considered in a contact group on the budget and programme of work. Another representative called for an independent assessment to determine and evaluate the specific activities undertaken by each centre. Two representatives said that in the evaluation of the centres the quality of their activities was more important than the quantity.

159. A number of representatives expressed concerns regarding the operation of a particular subregional centre in their region, saying that it lacked relevant expertise, carried out few activities and communicated poorly. The representative of a country hosting another centre reported that the centre, which had withdrawn as a regional centre owing to problems with staffing and resources, had since been strengthened with assistance from the new Government. As the only regional centre in the region specializing in the protection of human health it had a vital role to play as a regional centre, and the host country hoped that it would be able to continue its work with support from the parties.

160. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, introduced a conference room paper on coordination between the regional and subregional centres and requested that it be considered by a contact group should one be created. A number of representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed support for the proposal and for its consideration by a contact group should one be established.



161. Following the discussion, the conferences of the parties agreed that the joint contact group on financial resources and technical assistance established as described in section G.3 below should consider the sub-item further.

162. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications, the draft decision on Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres prepared by the contact group.

163. Decision BC-12/10, on Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres for training and technology transfer, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

164. In addition, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention adopted a decision on Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres. Decision SC-7/17, on Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres for capacity-building and the transfer of technology, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, is set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36).

## **E. International cooperation, coordination and partnerships**

### **1. Basel Convention Partnership Programme**

165. Introducing the sub-item, the President observed that strategic partnerships had a multiplier effect for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions because convention-specific issues were taken up and strengthened in the work programmes of partners or in programmes of mutual interest to several partners. At the current meeting the parties would discuss the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE) and the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE). In addition, he drew attention to a conference room paper submitted by a number of delegations containing a draft decision aimed at initiating a partnership to tackle household waste which, he said, concerned all waste streams, including some toxic wastes covered under the Basel Convention.

#### **(a) Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment**

166. The Conference of the Parties began its consideration of the matter with a presentation by the PACE co-chairs, Mr. Marco Buletti (Switzerland) and Mr. Oladele Osibanjo, Director of the Basel Convention Coordinating Centre in Nigeria. Noting that at its eleventh meeting the Conference of the Parties had extended PACE through the end of 2015, they outlined the activities undertaken in response to decision BC-11/15, including the development of guidelines, manuals and reports and the conduct of pilot projects and awareness-raising activities, and described proposed next steps.

167. The guidelines, manuals and reports included a completed report on strategies, actions and incentives to promote the environmentally sound management of used and end of life computing equipment (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/27) and a soon-to-be-completed manual on steps for establishing and implementing the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment. In addition the Partnership had developed a draft concept note on strengthening the use of the PACE guidelines and reports at the regional and national levels, thus setting the scene for a “PACE after PACE”.

168. Pilot projects and awareness-raising activities included four completed waste surveys and three pilot projects launched in developing countries and countries with economies in transition on the collection and management of used and end-of-life computing equipment, to test the guidelines developed under PACE; in addition, four pilot activities on the collection and management of end of life computing equipment had been initiated. Basel Convention regional centres had held a number of workshops over the years, and PACE would provide co-funding for an additional workshop for Africa in 2015 and had organized 12 webinars in English, French and Spanish on extended producer responsibility, materials recovery and collection systems. In addition to completion of the pilot projects and activities mentioned above, work yet to be completed included the revision of section 3 of the PACE Guidance Document on Environmentally Sound Management of Used and End of life Computing Equipment, once the Conference of the Parties had adopted the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electronic and electrical waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste; the preparation of a report on experiences with the pilot projects; and the preparation of a “how-to” manual.

169. Regarding next steps, PACE was recommending the establishment of an ad hoc follow-up group to complete the outstanding tasks under the PACE work programme and to develop a strategy and work plan for a “PACE after PACE”.

170. In the ensuing discussion, general appreciation was expressed for the progress made in implementing the PACE work programme, with several speakers also expressing support for the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/15.

171. A number of representatives called for an emphasis on financial and technical assistance for developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and one representative urged parties to promote training on technical guidelines, adding that the role of regional centres should be emphasized in that regard.

172. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that since the partnership working group had yet to complete its work the Conference of the Parties should extend its mandate rather than replace it with an ad hoc follow-up group, and she suggested a number of amendments to the draft decision. She also pointed out that, in view of the links between that draft decision and the draft decision on the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of e-waste and used electrical and electronic equipment being discussed in the contact group on technical matters, the former should not be adopted until the work on the latter had been completed to ensure consistency.

173. Following the adoption of decision BC-12/5 on the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electronic and electrical waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste, the Conference of the Parties adopted a revised version of the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/15 to reflect the discussions in plenary.

174. Decision BC-12/12, on the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment, is set out in the annex to the present report.

**(b) Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic**

175. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat reported that in accordance with decision BC-11/8, ENFORCE had held its first meeting and elected its Chair, Ms. Leila Devia (Basel Convention Regional Centre, in Argentina), and Vice-Chair, Mr. Shunichi Honda (Asian Network for the Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes). Ms. Devia then reported on the work of ENFORCE to date, highlighting some of the information set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/28. She said that ENFORCE had held its first meeting in November 2013 with financial support from Japan and had held two teleconferences in 2014. Ms. Devia also reported that members of ENFORCE had adopted a road map including priority and supporting activities, pursuant to which it had conducted a gap analysis, which served as the basis for a report entitled “Overview of the Challenges and Needs of Parties and Various Stakeholders in Preventing and Combating Illegal Traffic in Line with the Requirements of the Basel Convention” and had initiated the creation of an information-sharing website, highlighting that both activities had been undertaken with financial support from the Netherlands. In addition, a series of regional webinars had been organized under ENFORCE to raise awareness of illegal traffic.

176. In the ensuing discussion one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed support for the work of ENFORCE and for the draft decision contained in document UNEP/CHW.12/16. The representative of INTERPOL gave an oral presentation on cooperation between INTERPOL and the Basel Convention on combating environmental crime, for example under the Green Customs Initiative, noting that such efforts would have to cease after August 2015 unless sufficient funds were made available.

177. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/16, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

178. Decision BC-12/14, on the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

179. By paragraph 4 of the decision the following five representatives of parties were elected to serve as members of ENFORCE:

African States:	Mr. Dany Mpolesha Kankonda (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
Asia-Pacific States:	Mr. Abbas Torabi (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Central and Eastern European States	Ms. Gordana Vesligaj (Croatia)
Latin American and Caribbean States:	Mr. Luis Espinosa Salas (Ecuador)
Western European and other States:	Mr. Helge Ziolkowski (Sweden)

180. By paragraph 5 of the decision the following four representatives of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres were designated to serve as members of ENFORCE:

African region: Basel Convention Regional Centre for French-speaking countries in Africa, Senegal

Asia-Pacific region: Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the South Pacific region (SPREP), Samoa

Central and Eastern European region: Basel Convention Regional Centre for Central Europe, Slovakia

Latin American and Caribbean region: Basel Convention Regional Centre for the South American Region, Argentina

**(c) Creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of household waste**

181. At the invitation of the President, the proponents of the draft decision on innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of household waste introduced the draft decision. They said that one of the key challenges faced by national and local governments, particularly in developing countries, was the handling, storage and disposal of increasing quantities of household waste, the content of which varied but nearly always included hazardous substances. Urban waste was not properly managed for many reasons including increasing consumption, new technologies and chemical products in daily life, political inertia, a lack of adequate technologies for processing, recycling and disposing of wastes and difficulty in attracting technological investment in smaller countries. Steps were needed to prevent and minimize the generation of hazardous wastes and to examine means for their improved collection, separation, recovery and final disposal.

182. The proposal was to begin the development of a concept for a partnership to assist Governments and municipalities in supporting a circular economy with the aim of reducing waste, recycling valuable materials, separating and safely handling hazardous wastes and creating green jobs. The partnership would rely on a broad dialogue with the private sector, civil society, the academic community, and Governments and local authorities with the aim of developing among other things guidance documents and manuals on best practices and business models for environmentally sound management of household waste as part of a circular economy in different socio-economic contexts. The draft decision would provide for an informal group to develop a draft work plan for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group.

183. In the ensuing discussion, all representatives who took the floor welcomed and supported the proposal as well as the proposed initiation of a partnership approach, saying that household wastes were important and challenging given that they could include such widely varied items as electronic wastes, batteries, medicines, used oils, paints and other hazardous substances. One representative stressed the importance of the issue for small island developing States. Many developing country representatives outlined challenges in their countries such as open burning of wastes that resulted in emissions of dioxins and furans; the need to coordinate local authorities to address the issue; inadequate strategies, facilities, equipment and systems for environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes; inability to identify the components of household wastes; lack of a classification system for household wastes; and transboundary movements of household wastes.

184. Many representatives stressed the need for proper separation and waste reduction at source and several outlined programmes in their countries to deal with solid waste management, including some that were designed to convert solid waste to energy. Attention was also drawn to the informal

sector, including waste dumpsite workers and the need to create safer working conditions for them. Another representative stressed the importance of training courses to emphasize the health risks of hazardous wastes in household wastes and awareness raising with regard to recycling and waste sorting at source. One representative drew attention to the Cartagena Declaration, saying that it should also be taken into consideration when dealing with the issue of household wastes as well as other work under UNEP. One representative proposed a minor amendment to the draft decision.

185. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to prepare for its consideration a revised version of the draft decision set out in the conference room paper, taking into account the discussions in plenary.

186. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties adopted the revised draft decision prepared by the Secretariat, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

187. Decision BC-12/13, on creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of household waste, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

## **2. Environmentally sound dismantling of ships**

188. Introducing the sub-item, the President recalled that at previous meetings the Conference of the Parties had invited the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to continue work to establish requirements to ensure the environmentally sound management of ship recycling. Subsequently, it had encouraged parties to ratify the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships which established obligations to ensure environmentally sound ship recycling, while acknowledging that the Basel Convention should continue to assist parties to apply the Basel Convention as it related to ships. At the current meeting the Conference of the Parties was to consider the continued need for inter-agency cooperation between the International Labour Organization, IMO and the Basel Convention and the development of implementation programmes on sustainable ship recycling.

189. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat drew attention to a note (UNEP/CHW.12/17) providing information on the development of the implementation programmes relating to sustainable ship recycling, with a focus on a project, undertaken in collaboration with the IMO Marine Environment Division and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation with funding from the European Union, on the environmentally sound management of waste from ship recycling in Bangladesh and Pakistan. The note also provided information on the continuing collaboration between the Secretariat and IMO on the Hong Kong Convention, particularly with regard to the further development of guidelines to support its implementation.

190. In the ensuing discussion, one representative speaking on behalf of a group of countries, welcomed the progress made, in particular the development by the Secretariat of sustainable ship recycling programmes and, with another representative, expressed support for the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/17.

191. One representative expressed appreciation to the Secretariat for its work on ship dismantling, which he said was very important to countries with sizeable shipbreaking sectors such as his own, and to the European Union for financial support that he said had enabled his country to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Secretariat aimed at addressing the environmental and occupational risks associated with ship dismantling. He expressed the hope that such work in the shipbreaking sector would be scaled up over the following years.

192. Another representative said that his country had robust laws and standard operating procedures on shipbreaking, including environmental laws that were strictly enforced.

193. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/17, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

194. Decision BC-12/15, on the environmentally sound dismantling of ships, is set out in the annex to the present report.

### 3. Cooperation with the International Maritime Organization

195. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat introduced a note on cooperation between the Basel Convention and IMO (UNEP/CHW.12/18) prepared in response to decision BC-11/17, which called for several activities to be undertaken on the issue of wastes generated on board ships and the relationship between the Basel Convention and the MARPOL Convention,<sup>2</sup> including an invitation to parties to undertake an assessment, in close consultation with IMO, on how far the current Basel Convention technical guidelines applied to wastes covered by the MARPOL Convention; a request to the Secretariat to develop, subject to the availability of resources, a guidance manual, in cooperation with IMO, on how to improve the sea-land interface to ensure that wastes falling within the scope of MARPOL, once offloaded from ships, were managed in an environmentally sound manner; and a request to the Secretariat to continue, as appropriate, its cooperation with IMO.

196. With regard to the assessment, the Public Waste Agency of Flanders (OVAM) had informed the Secretariat that it planned to undertake an assessment of how far Basel Convention technical guidelines applied to wastes covered by MARPOL, and a report on the status and methodology of that assessment had been presented to the Open-ended Working Group at its ninth meeting. A draft of the assessment taking into account comments from Argentina, the European Union and IMO (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/29) was before the Conference of the Parties at the current meeting. With regard to the guidance manual, the Secretariat, in cooperation with IMO and with financial support from the Government of Norway, would in 2015 develop guidance on how to improve the sea-land interface in accordance with the process set out in paragraph 17 of the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/18. As for cooperation with IMO, the Secretariat had communicated decision BC-11/17 to the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee and Maritime Safety Committee and had submitted comments on the revised version of the IMO Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities to the former with the aim of emphasizing the importance of the linkages between MARPOL and the Basel Convention in ensuring that wastes, once offloaded at ports, were managed in an environmentally sound manner.

197. In the ensuing discussion, most of the representatives who spoke expressed appreciation to the Government of Belgium and the Public Waste Agency of Flanders for the assessment set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/29 and expressed support for the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/18.

198. A number of representatives noted with thanks that the comments that they had provided were reflected in the assessment, with the one speaking on behalf of a group of countries indicating that they would provide additional comments that she hoped would be taken into account in the preparation of the final version. A number of representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, also proposed changes to the draft decision. In response to a question, the representative of the Secretariat said that the draft guidance manual was meant to complement but not duplicate the IMO Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities, and that in preparing the former it would take the latter into account. One representative said that it was essential that the draft guidance manual be developed from the perspective of the Basel Convention, rather than the MARPOL Convention, with a view to assisting the Basel Convention parties in their efforts to manage interface wastes in an environmentally sound manner. Another said that there was a need to provide assistance to parties in the management of black water regulated under Annex IV to the MARPOL Convention.

199. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to prepare for its consideration a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/18, taking into account the discussions in plenary.

200. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties adopted the revised draft decision prepared by the Secretariat, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications.

201. Decision BC-12/16, on cooperation between the Basel Convention and the International Maritime Organization, is set out in the annex to the present report.

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<sup>2</sup> International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto and as further amended by the Protocol of 1997 (MARPOL).

#### 4. Other international cooperation and coordination

202. The discussion summarized in the present section, on other international cooperation and coordination (agenda item 4 (e) (iv)), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 203–208 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 187–192, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 259–264.

203. Introducing the sub-items, the President noted that international cooperation and coordination enhanced the effectiveness of the conventions as well as efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources and expertise, adding that most of the Secretariat's work in the area was carried out jointly for the three conventions. The representative of the Secretariat then introduced the relevant documents, which discussed ongoing cooperation activities by the Secretariat, in particular with the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the Minamata Convention on Mercury; other international developments relevant to the conventions, such as the relevant outcomes of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the outcome document of the country-led consultative process on enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and wastes cluster, which had been welcomed by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its first session; and the post-2015 development agenda, including efforts by the Secretariat, in cooperation with UNEP and the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to integrate chemicals and wastes into the post-2015 development agenda.

204. The representative of UNEP, outlining the information contained in document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/56-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/40-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/60, reported, as requested by the United Nations Environment Assembly in its resolution 1/12, on the progress of the task team on the effectiveness of administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation and its two working groups since the first session of the Environment Assembly. She outlined a road map for the completion of the work of the task team and the submission of its report through the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP to the Environment Assembly for consideration at its second session, in May 2016. One representative, speaking on behalf of Mr. Richard Lesiyampe, President of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, spoke of how the synergies process had helped to enhance international chemicals and waste efforts, the links between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, and expectations for the forthcoming fourth session of the Conference, in September 2015.

205. In the ensuing discussion there was general agreement regarding the importance of enhancing international cooperation and coordination for the purposes of the conventions. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries and calling for an in-depth discussion of the sub-items, introduced a conference paper containing an amended version of the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/19-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/15-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/31 featuring, among other things, a greater emphasis on cooperation with the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the Minamata Convention and emphasizing the essential role of chemicals and wastes management for sustainable development. Another representative, however, questioned the need for the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/19-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/15-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/31, suggesting that it added nothing concrete to the mandate already conferred on the Secretariat by previous decisions; the amendments to the draft decision proposed in the conference room paper, however, were of potential interest. A number of other representatives highlighted issues to be taken into account in any further discussions, including the challenges faced by developing countries with regard to cooperative arrangements; cooperation with the Association of South-East Asian Nations, including with regard to pilot projects in member States; illegal trade; hazard and risk assessment; and results-sharing.

206. The Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes and representatives of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the Environment Management Group, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention then spoke on those organizations' roles, goals and actions on issues of common concern to partners to the conventions.

207. Following the discussion the conferences of the parties agreed that the contact group on cooperation and coordination established as described in section VII.D below would further consider the present sub-item.

208. Following the work of the contact group the Conference of the Parties adopted a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/19-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/15-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/31 prepared by the contact group.

209. Decision BC-12/17, on international cooperation and coordination, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

210. In addition the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted decisions on international cooperation and coordination that were substantially identical to the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. Decisions RC-7/9 and SC-7/27, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.

## **F. Financial resources**

211. The discussion summarized in the present section, on financial resources (agenda item 4 (f)), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 212–226, 230 and 231 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 166–180, 184 and 185, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 190–204, 208 and 209.

212. The parties discussed financial resources and the financial mechanism under the Stockholm Convention and facilitating financial resources for chemicals and wastes under all three conventions. Setting the stage for the discussions, the President noted that the aim of the parties to the three conventions at the current meetings was to ensure the effective implementation of the procedures and mechanisms put in place with regard to the financial mechanism under the Stockholm Convention and to consider efforts to implement the integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the context of the three conventions.

### **1. Financial resources and the financial mechanism under the Stockholm Convention**

213. Recalling that the Stockholm Convention was the only one of the three conventions to have a financial mechanism, and that GEF was on an interim basis the principal entity entrusted with the operations of that mechanism, the representative of the Secretariat introduced the issue by outlining the relevant documents, which dealt with the assessment of funding needs of developing country parties and parties with economies in transition, the effectiveness of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the GEF Council, the latest report by the GEF Council to the Conference of the Parties, the fourth review of the financial mechanism and consolidated guidance to the financial mechanism. The report on the assessment of funding needs to be undertaken at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, he said, would inform both the financial mechanism and the negotiations on the seventh replenishment of the GEF trust fund; at the current meeting the Conference of the Parties had before it for approval the terms of reference for the assessment, which would cover the period 2018–2022 and would be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting, as well as the terms of reference for the fourth review of the financial mechanism, which would also be undertaken at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Consolidated guidance to the financial mechanism had been adopted at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and would be updated following the eighth meeting of the Conference to reflect any additional guidance from the Conference adopted at its seventh and eighth meetings.

214. Following the Secretariat presentation the representative of GEF presented the GEF report to the Conference of the Parties. The report included the activities undertaken by GEF during the period 1 September 2012–30 June 2014 related to the implementation of the Stockholm Convention; an update on the conclusion of the sixth GEF replenishment and the fifth session of the GEF Assembly; and details on the wider work of GEF on chemicals. Providing details of the number of projects approved and quantities of chemicals disposed of during the reporting period, he said that GEF had invested \$200 million in the persistent organic pollutant portfolio and had leveraged over \$670 million

from other sources, giving a leverage ratio of 1:3. The total cumulative value of the GEF persistent organic pollutant portfolio as of 30 June 2014 was over \$3 billion. In May 2015 the sixth replenishment of GEF had been endorsed by the GEF assembly, with the chemicals and waste focal area receiving funding of \$554 million. In conclusion, he noted that at its fifth session the GEF Assembly had reformed the focal area structure of GEF, moving persistent organic pollutants and ozone-depleting substances into a new chemicals and waste focal area, which also included mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management. The long-term strategic vision of GEF had also been endorsed by the GEF Assembly.

215. In the ensuing discussion, a number of representatives welcomed the work being undertaken under the financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention and the leveraging of funds through GEF. One representative noted the significant evolution of financing governance for the sound management of chemicals and wastes in recent years, including through the expansion of the GEF focal area to, among others, the Basel and Rotterdam conventions, the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management adopted at the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the increased and stable funds available for the voluntary trust funds of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. On the special programme, he said that it had no institutional link with the three conventions and that specific guidance from the conventions to the special programme was therefore not needed and could create confusion.

216. Several representatives raised points that they said warranted further discussion in a contact group, including with regard to implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the GEF Council and the draft terms of reference for the fourth review of the financial mechanism. On the matter of consolidated guidance to the financial mechanism, one representative speaking on behalf of a group of countries said that the guidance should be clear, concrete and operational; should reflect the views of beneficiary countries; and should be in line with the GEF-6 chemicals and waste focal area strategy.

217. Some representatives said that while significant GEF funding had been made available in the chemicals and wastes focal area procedures needed revision to enable timely disbursement of funding. Several representatives said that while improvements had been made there was still a significant gap between available funding and the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including with regard to short-term funding. Developed countries, said one, were obliged to provide new and additional financial resources under Article 13 of the Stockholm Convention.

218. One representative introduced a conference room paper, on behalf of a group of countries, on coordinated joint guidance to GEF from the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. As GEF had expanded the focal area on chemicals and waste, implementation of the Basel and Rotterdam conventions could also be the subject of GEF support. Such guidance should be adopted at the current meetings, as the next meetings would take place too late to inform the seventh replenishment of the GEF trust fund.

219. Several representatives expressed support for the proposed joint guidance. Some expressed strong reservations, however, noting that only the Stockholm and Minamata conventions had formal financing arrangements with GEF and therefore the right to provide guidance; in addition, GEF procedures and strategy should be respected.

220. Following the discussion, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention agreed that the joint contact group on financial resources and technical assistance established as described in section 3 below should consider the sub-item further.

221. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention adopted, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decisions had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications, the draft decisions on the assessment of funding needs, on the effectiveness of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the GEF Council, on the fourth review of the financial mechanism and on additional guidance to the financial mechanism prepared by the contact group.

222. Decisions SC-7/18, on the assessment of funding needs, SC-7/19, on the effectiveness of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the GEF Council; SC 7/20, on the fourth review of the financial mechanism; and SC-7/21, on additional guidance to the financial mechanism, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, are set out in the



annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36).

## **2. Facilitating financial resources for chemicals and wastes under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

223. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat reported that the Secretariat had been actively involved in the implementation of decisions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme on financing the sound management of chemicals and wastes and institutional strengthening at the national level, including with regard to the integrated approach and the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, which had been welcomed and adopted by the Environment Assembly in its decision 1/5. As requested in decisions BC.Ex-2/1, RC.Ex-2/1 and SC.Ex-2/1 of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the three conventions (“the 2013 synergies decisions”), the Executive Secretary, among other things, was using the integrated approach as a reference in its reporting and planning, was participating in an internal task team set up by UNEP to develop the modalities for the special programme and was working to strengthen links and collaboration with regard to other entities and funding sources, including GEF, to ensure that the objectives of the Basel and Rotterdam conventions were taken into account in project planning and implementation.

224. In the ensuing discussion, one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that while dedicated external funding was basic to the aim of the integrated approach to ensure sustainable and adequate financing for management of chemicals and waste, the other two elements (industry involvement and mainstreaming of sound chemicals and waste management into national development plans) were equally important. Effective implementation required the involvement of all actors in developing effective frameworks and mechanisms on the ground, with industry meeting its responsibilities in line with national legislation.

225. Several representatives announced pledges by their parties in support of the special programme. The representative of the European Union said that her organization had committed 1 million euros to support the secretariat and for an initial contribution to the special programme trust fund, and that a further pledge of 10 million euros had been technically approved the previous week. The representative of Sweden announced an initial contribution of 1.4 million Swedish kronor to the special programme trust fund. The representative of Finland announced her country’s intention to provide financial support to the special programme.

226. Following the discussion, the conferences of the parties agreed that the joint contact group on financial resources and technical assistance established as described in section 3 below should consider the sub-item further.

227. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted, pending confirmation from the contact group on budget matters that any activities contemplated by the decision had been taken into account in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 or that they would have no budgetary implications, the draft decision on implementation of the integrated approach to financing prepared by the contact group.

228. Decision BC-12/18, on implementation of the integrated approach to financing, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

229. In addition the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted decisions on implementation of the integrated approach to financing that were substantially identical to the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. Decisions RC-7/8 and SC-7/22, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.

## **3. Establishment of a contact group**

230. Following the discussion summarized above in section V.D and in the present section, on technical assistance and financial resources, the parties agreed to establish a joint contact group on technical assistance and financial resources for the three conventions, co-chaired by Mr. Greg Filyk (Canada) and Mr. Luis Espinosa (Ecuador).

231. Taking into account the discussions in plenary, the group was to prepare draft decisions for separate consideration by each conference of the parties using as a starting point the draft decision text set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/13-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/13-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/13, with regard to technical assistance; documents UNEP/CHW.12/12 and UNEP/POPS/COP.7/11, with regard to regional centres and the conference room paper on coordination between the regional and subregional centres of the Basel Convention and the Stockholm Convention; document UNEP/POPS/COP.7/22, with regard to the effectiveness of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the GEF Council; documents UNEP/POPS/COP.7/21, UNEP/POPS/COP.7/24 and UNEP/POPS/COP.7/25, with regard to financial resources and the financial mechanism under the Stockholm Convention; document UNEP/CHW.12/20/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/14/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/26/Rev.1, with regard to facilitating financial resources for chemicals and wastes; and the conference room paper on joint guidance to GEF from the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. The group was also asked to address convention-specific issues during each meeting of the three conferences and to report to each conference of the parties during its separate meeting.

## **G. Operations and work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2016–2017**

232. The President introduced the item, recalling the mandate of the Open-ended Working Group, which he said included assisting the Conference of the Parties in developing and keeping under continuous review the implementation of the Convention and considering and advising the Conference on issues relating to policy, technical, scientific, legal, institutional, administrative, financial, budgetary and other aspects of the implementation of the Convention within the approved budget. At the current meeting the Conference of the Parties was expected to adopt the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2016–2017 and to decide on the future operations of the Working Group.

233. Continuing the introduction, the representative of the Secretariat recalled that following the eighth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, at which the Working Group had used less than half of the available interpretation capacity, the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting had considered three options for the future operations of the Working Group: option A, the status quo; option B, providing that each meeting of the Working Group would feature a reduced number of plenary sessions with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations, with the balance of the meeting conducted in contact and other groups in English only; and option C, the replacement of the Working Group with a technical subsidiary body and the distribution of the work currently performed by the Working Group among the new subsidiary body, the Implementation and Compliance Committee and the Conference of the Parties. In decision BC-11/19, the Conference of the Parties had decided that the ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group should be conducted in accordance with option B, with the meeting lasting four days, including two days of interpretation. At its ninth meeting the Open-ended Working Group had adopted decision OEWG-9/2, by which it recommended that the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision on future institutional arrangements for the operations of the Open-ended Working Group taking into account an analysis prepared by the Secretariat and the views of the parties. The Secretariat's analysis setting out the three options (UNEP/CHW.12/21) was before the Conference of the Parties at the current meeting, along with a compilation of the views of the parties regarding the various options (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/35).

234. In the ensuing discussion, several representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed support for option B, with one saying that its use at the ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group had been a success and another that option B would ensure effective use of the budget.

235. Several other representatives expressed strong support for option A, which one said would best promote the effective participation of non-English-speaking parties in the work of the Open-ended Working Group. One representative, supported by several others, said that the problem with the Open-ended Working Group lay not in its functioning but in a reduction in the frequency and duration of its meetings. He said that the Open-ended Working Group was the only subsidiary body under the Basel Convention in which parties could debate technical, legal, administrative and other important issues in an open and transparent manner with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations, yet its meetings had been reduced over the years from the originally envisaged three meetings between ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties – totalling up to 18 days – to a single four-day meeting with only two days of interpretation. He also said that executive summaries of English only information documents should be prepared in the six official languages of the United Nations to enable all parties to make informed decisions. Another representative noted that the reduction in the frequency and duration of meetings of the Open-ended Working Group had occurred

even as the Group's mandate and workload had expanded. Another representative said that non-English-speaking parties sometimes had difficulty participating in contact group discussions conducted in English only. One representative who supported option A suggested that concerns about cost could be addressed by ensuring that meetings were not longer than necessary to address the items on their agendas.

236. A number of representatives said that they preferred option A but could accept option B if resource limitations made option A unfeasible. Another, however, said that the budget implications of option A were not dramatic, and another said that while it was important to achieve cost savings the functioning of any convention depended on the effective participation of all regions and all parties. Two other representatives said that the issue required a fundamental choice between saving money and ensuring participatory and transparent meetings, with one saying that the budget was a means to an end and not an end in itself.

237. No representative expressed support for option C, and two representatives said that they could not support it.

238. With regard to the proposed work programme of the Open-ended Working Group, one representative suggested that it be revised to include the updating of the technical guidelines on incineration on land, specially engineered landfills and physico-chemical treatment, which he said were outdated. Another representative said that the work programme should be further streamlined to avoid duplication of work and that collaboration between the Working Group and other relevant groups should be improved.

239. Following the discussion the Conference of the Parties decided that the contact group on strategic matters (see para. 51 above) should further consider options A and B for the operation of the Open-ended Working Group and, taking into account the discussion in plenary, seek to prepare a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/21 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties. In addition, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to revise the work programme for the biennium 2016–2017 set out in the annex to the draft decision in accordance with the discussion in plenary.

240. Following the work of the contact group the representative of the Secretariat presented a conference room paper setting out a draft decision on the operations of the Open-ended Working Group reflecting the discussions of the group, as well as a conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat setting out a draft work programme of the Open-ended Working Group taking into account the discussions in plenary, further developments during the meeting and a conference room paper submitted by a party, on behalf of a group of countries, setting out a revised version of the draft work programme.

241. With regard to the operations of the Open-ended Working Group, one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of parties, objected to text in the draft decision providing that the tenth meeting of the Working Group would feature between 1.5 and 2.5 days of interpretation, saying that it should have four days. The representative of Japan said that if the parties could agree to having up to three days of interpretation, applied flexibly by the Executive Secretary, her Government would defray the cost of interpretation for one of those days. The parties agreed to Japan's proposal with thanks for its generosity.

242. Regarding the work programme, one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, objected that the revised draft work programme before the parties did not include work on the updating of the technical guidelines on incineration on land, specially engineered landfills and physico-chemical treatment. As a compromise, it was agreed that the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting would consider, as a matter of high priority, whether the technical guidelines should be updated.

243. Following the discussion, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, together with the draft work programme as orally amended.

244. Decision BC-12/19, on the work programme and operations of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2016–2017, is set out in the annex to the present report.

245. The Conference of the Parties elected the following representatives as members of the Bureau of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2016–2017:

Co-Chairs: Mr. Jahisiah Benoit (Dominica) (Technical)  
 Mr. Santiago Dávila Sena (Spain) (Legal)  
 Vice-Chairs: Mr. Bishwanath Sinha (India) (Technical)  
 Ms. Gordana Petkovic (Serbia) (Legal)  
 Rapporteur: Ms. Petronella Rumbidzai Shoko (Zimbabwe)

## **VI. Programme of work and budget (agenda item 5)**

246. The discussion summarized in the present section, on the programme of work and budget (agenda item 5), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 246–256, 260–267, 271–274 and 277 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 196–206, 210–217, 221–224 and 227, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 268–278, 282–289, 293–296 and 299.

247. Introducing the item, the President said that it would encompass three broad subjects: the programmes of work and budgets of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions; enhancing cooperation and coordination among the three conventions; and the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange. The items to be discussed, he said, were important to ensuring that the 2016–2017 programmes of work included the activities and resources required to support the implementation of the three conventions, while ensuring a continuation of the activities implemented in the previous biennium, and that the Secretariat's staff and financial resources were managed efficiently and effectively in a way that responded to the needs of the three conventions and in conformity with United Nations policies and procedures.

### **A. Programmes of work and budgets**

248. Introducing the sub-item, the Executive Secretary said that as requested in decisions BC-11/26, RC-6/16 and SC-6/30, the Secretariat was presenting two budget scenarios for consideration by the conferences of the parties. The first assumed zero nominal growth of the budget compared with the budget for 2014–2015, while the second represented the executive secretaries' assessment of the amount necessary to finance all proposals before the conferences of the parties with budget implications. While the first scenario would, he said, allow for the full functioning of the Secretariat, the second included additional activities aimed at improving certain services promoting implementation of the conventions and administrative actions to improve the efficiency of the Secretariat and reduce the risk of budget shortfalls.

249. Another representative of the Secretariat then continued the presentation, drawing attention to a note by the Secretariat (UNEP/CHW.12/22-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/16-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/32) outlining the proposed budgets and programmes of work for the three conventions, which had been prepared in a harmonized format presenting both joint and convention-specific activities in a single document with the aim of providing an overview of the total resources required and highlighting activities that related to two or more conventions. She also drew attention to activity fact sheets (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/38-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/24-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/44) that provided, for each activity in the programme of work, information on legislative mandates, objectives, indicators, expected outputs, methods of implementation, partners, resources approved for 2014–2015 and resources required for 2016–2017. Outlining the arrangement of the budgets and programmes of work and the assumptions underlying them, she said that if adopted the zero nominal growth scenario would in fact result in an estimated drop in assessed contributions of 1.3 per cent compared to 2014–2015 owing to the adoption of new standard salary costs by the United Nations, while the second scenario would require an increase of 5.5 per cent. A comparison of the two scenarios was available in an information document (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/36-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/22-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/42). Following up on a recommendation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services that the Secretariat establish a streamlined funding mechanism for staff costs and pool the funds of the three conventions in a single operational account, the Secretariat was proposing the establishment of a joint general trust fund for the three conventions to cover all costs related to the operation of the Secretariat, including staff costs. She then went on to outline the financial reports for

the conventions, providing information on income and expenditures, arrears and funding of participant travel for meetings under the conventions.

250. In the discussion that followed, most of the representatives who spoke welcomed the harmonized presentation by the Secretariat of the programmes of work and budgets of the three conventions. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, welcomed the very detailed and transparent budget fact sheets provided but suggested that more information on the rationale behind the various Secretariat proposals and its plan to implement the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services would have been desirable.

251. Regarding the two budget scenarios prepared by the Secretariat, a number of representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed support for the zero nominal growth scenario. Another representative expressed support for the second scenario – the executive secretaries' assessment of required funding – as a starting point for discussion.

252. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the budget should reflect realistic expectations about voluntary contributions, noting that in 2014 donors had provided 70 per cent of the voluntary resources budgeted for the Stockholm Convention, 60 per cent of those budgeted for the Basel Convention, and only 31 per cent of those budgeted for the Rotterdam Convention; unrealistic expectations about contributions had thus forced the Secretariat to make choices that the parties should have made in setting the budgets.

253. A number of representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, urged parties who were in arrears on their assessed contributions to meet their responsibilities without delay, with one suggesting that methods used in the past to deal with arrears be formalized to ensure that assessed contributions were paid on time and another suggesting that the savings achieved from building synergies should be applied towards the implementation of the three conventions rather than to offset budget shortfalls owing to arrears.

254. A number of representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, welcomed the proposal to establish a single joint general trust fund for the three conventions, which one said would free up secretariat staff time for the implementation of the conventions. Two representatives, however, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the implications of creating a single fund would need to be explored further.

255. Following the discussion the parties agreed to establish a joint contact group on budget matters for the three conventions, co-chaired by Mr. Vaitoti Tupa (Cook Islands) and Mr. Reginald Hernaus (Netherlands).

256. Taking into account the discussions in plenary, the group was asked to prepare for consideration and separate adoption by the respective conferences of the parties draft programmes of work and budgets for the biennium 2016–2017, and related draft decisions, using as a starting point the draft programmes and budgets set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/36–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/22–UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/42 and the draft decision texts set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/22–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/16–UNEP/POPS/COP.7/32.

257. The co-chair of the joint contact group on budget matters subsequently reported that the group had reached agreement on the 2016–2017 programmes of work and budgets for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, and he introduced conference room papers setting out separate draft decisions on the budget and programme of work for each of the three conventions.

258. The Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention then adopted the draft decision prepared by the contact group on the programme of work and budget for the Basel Convention.

259. Decision BC-12/25, on the programme of work and budget for the Basel Convention for the biennium 2016–2017, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

260. In addition, the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted decisions on the programmes of work and budgets for those conventions for the biennium 2016–2017. Decisions RC-7/15 and SC-7/33, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.

## **B. Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

261. Introducing the sub-item, the President said that in addition to changing the operations of the secretariats, the synergies process begun in 2005 was also changing the way that the conventions were implemented at the national and regional levels. The main task of the parties in respect of synergies at the current meetings was to adopt terms of reference for the further review of the synergies arrangements to take place at the 2017 meetings of the conferences of the parties. The Executive Secretary then outlined the documents for the sub-item, including a note describing the activities of the Secretariat in implementing the 2013 synergies decisions, which had been adopted by the conferences of the parties at their second simultaneous extraordinary meetings (UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1), and notes on the Secretariat's efforts to improve gender balance in the Secretariat (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/49-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/33-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/54) and to mainstream science into the work of the three conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/53-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/38-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/57).

262. The parties were invited to take note of the information presented and to consider adopting the draft terms of reference for the review of the synergies arrangements, which had been revised to take into account comments by members of the bureaux at their November 2014 joint meetings and circulated to parties in advance of the regional meetings held in preparation for the 2015 meetings.

263. In the ensuing discussion, several representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed appreciation for the Secretariat's efforts to enhance synergies in the implementation of the conventions and their overall support for the process proposed by the Secretariat for further review of the synergies arrangements. One representative urged that an in-depth review be completed as soon as possible.

264. One representative, supported by a number of others, suggested that the scope of the review should be defined by the stated aims of the synergies process, which, he recalled, were to strengthen implementation of three conventions at the national, regional and global levels; promote coherent policy guidance; enhance efficiency in the provision of support to parties; reduce administrative burden; and maximize the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels. As such, the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and its potential for contributing to synergies in the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions should not be part of the review, as that programme had been developed under the guidance of the United Nations Environment Assembly and thus had no direct institutional link to the conventions. In addition, the omnibus decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the three conventions did not call for the review of the special programme. Moreover, the special programme was not yet in operation, an additional reason that it should not be part of a review of past activities.

265. Another representative suggested that the scope of the review be broadened to include the organization of activities such as the meetings of the conferences of the parties, side events and regional seminars and workshops, as such events provided parties with valuable opportunities to share information and lessons learned. A second representative also stressed the importance of sharing lessons learned.

266. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed the group's appreciation for the theme of the 2015 meetings and welcomed the science fair as a means of raising public awareness of the conventions and bridging the science-policy gap at the regional and national levels. He called for decisions arising from the current meetings to be linked to the theme where relevant, and said that his group had prepared a conference room paper on the matter for discussion in a contact group.

267. A number of representatives, one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, indicated that they wished to propose changes to the terms of reference and the draft decision in document UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1.

268. Following the discussion the parties agreed that the contact group on cooperation and coordination established as described in section D below should consider the present sub-item further.

269. Subsequently the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1 prepared by the contact group, as well as a draft decision on the theme "from science to action".

270. Decisions BC-12/20, on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, and BC-12/22, entitled “From science to action”, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, are set out in the annex to the present report.

271. In addition, the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted decisions on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, as well as decisions entitled “From science to action”, that were substantially identical to the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Decisions RC-7/10 and RC-7/12 and decisions SC-7/28 and SC-7/30, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.

### **C. Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange**

272. Introducing the sub-item, the President noted that the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had several provisions calling for information exchange between parties and other stakeholders and recalled that the parties to the three conventions had adopted decisions calling for the development of common websites and information exchange systems, including a clearing-house mechanism, serving all three conventions. The task at the current meeting, he said, was to take note of a proposed joint clearing-house mechanism strategy for 2016–2019 that had been developed by the Secretariat for consideration during the 2017 meetings of the conferences of the parties. Continuing the presentation, the representative of the Secretariat said that progress in the establishment of the joint clearing-house mechanism was described in the relevant note by the Secretariat (UNEP/CHW.12/26-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/35) and then described the proposed strategy for continuing that progress over the period 2016–2019.

273. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, suggested that the joint clearing-house mechanism be discussed further in a contact group.

274. The parties then agreed that the contact group on cooperation and coordination established as described in section D below should consider the present sub-item further.

275. Following the work of the contact group the representative of the Secretariat reported that the group had produced a revised version of the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/26-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/35, containing two sets of square brackets around text that the group had not finalized. Following further discussion in plenary the Conference of the Parties reached agreement and adopted the revised draft decision as orally amended.

276. Decision BC-12/21, on the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

277. In addition, the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted decisions on the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange that were substantially identical to the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. Decisions RC-7/11 and SC-7/29, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.

### **D. Establishment of a contact group on cooperation and coordination**

278. As alluded to in sections VI, VII.B and VII.C above, the conferences of the parties established a joint contact group on cooperation and coordination, co-chaired by Ms. Carolina Tinangon (Indonesia) and Ms. Jane Stratford (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) to further consider international cooperation and coordination, enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange. Taking into account the discussions in plenary, the group would seek to prepare for separate consideration by each of the conferences of the parties a draft decision on international cooperation and coordination, using as a starting point the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/19-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/15-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/31 and taking into account the conference room paper setting out proposed amendments thereto; draft terms of reference for the review of the synergies arrangements and a draft decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, taking as its starting point the draft terms of reference and draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-

UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1; and a draft decision on the clearing-house mechanism, taking as its starting point the draft decision set out in document UNEP/CHW.12/26-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/35.

## **VII. Venue and date of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (agenda item 6)**

279. The discussion summarized in the present section, on the venue and date of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (agenda item 6), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 279–284 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 229–234, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 301–306.

280. Introducing the item, the representative of the Secretariat said that the conference facilities at the Geneva International Conference Centre had been tentatively reserved for 23 April to 5 May 2017 for back-to-back meetings of the three conferences of the parties.

281. In the ensuing discussion there was general support for holding the three meetings of the conferences of the parties back to back. There was considerable debate, however, about whether the meetings should feature a high-level segment and, if so, whether the products of the meeting should include a high-level declaration.

282. Several representatives said that the involvement of ministers and other high-level delegates could help to raise political awareness of and support for the conventions and give a boost to their implementation. Others, while recognizing the potential benefits, expressed concern that a high-level segment and declaration would consume a significant part of the time needed to address the important technical and other issues on the parties' agendas.

283. It was also suggested that any high-level segment should be structured both to avoid impeding the substantive negotiations and to contribute meaningfully to the objectives of the conventions, for example by limiting the length of the segment, by scheduling it at the beginning of the three meetings so that its outcomes could feed into the negotiations, by holding it simultaneously with the regular sessions of the meetings to avoid extending the length of the meetings, by holding it in the form of interactive dialogues rather than serial statements and by carefully choosing a theme for the segment that would be of interest and relevance to ministers. It was also said that the question of whether a ministerial declaration would be adopted should be left to the ministers themselves and that the final arrangements for the meetings would have to be left to the bureaux, who would make their decision bearing in mind the discussion at the current meeting.

284. One representative noted that early May was a national holiday period in his country, and it was agreed that the Secretariat and bureaux should to the extent practicable take national holidays into account in scheduling meetings. It was also recognized, however, that given the number of parties to the conventions and the number of national holidays throughout the year their ability to do so was limited.

285. Following their discussion the conferences of the parties requested the Secretariat to prepare draft decisions for their separate consideration, which they subsequently adopted as orally amended.

286. Decision BC-12/23, on the venue and date of the next meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, is set out in the annex to the present report.

287. In addition, the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted decisions on the date and venue of the next meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions that were substantially identical to the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. Decisions RC-7/13 and SC-7/31, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.



## VIII. Other matters (agenda item 7)

### A. Memorandums of understanding between UNEP and the conferences of the parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions and memorandum of understanding between FAO and UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention

288. The discussion summarized in the present section, on memorandums of understanding between UNEP and the conferences of the parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions and a memorandum of understanding between FAO and UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (agenda item 7), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 288–294 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 238–244, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 310–316.

289. The President of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention introduced the matters, recalling that UNEP performed the secretariat functions for the Basel and Stockholm conventions, while UNEP and FAO together performed those functions for the Rotterdam Convention. The purpose of memorandums of understanding was to clarify the responsibilities of UNEP, FAO and the conventions with regard to administrative and programmatic matters, recognizing that the efficient and cost effective operation of the Secretariat was of paramount importance for the effective implementation of the conventions.

290. Continuing the introduction, the Executive Secretary recalled that at their previous meetings the conferences of the parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions had reviewed draft memorandums of understanding with UNEP regarding the provision of secretariat services, while the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention had in its decision RC-6/15 requested the Secretariat to prepare a first draft of such an agreement for consideration at its seventh meeting. Revised versions of the agreements for the Basel and Stockholm conventions and a first draft of the agreement for the Rotterdam Convention had been prepared in consultation with UNEP and were before the respective conferences of the parties for consideration at the current meetings. He noted that a memorandum of understanding between UNEP and FAO regarding the provision of secretariat services for the Rotterdam Convention, which had been approved by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention in its decision RC-2/5, was still in effect and that the operative text of decision RC-6/15 referred only to UNEP. The draft memorandum of understanding for the Rotterdam Convention was accordingly between the Conference of the Parties and UNEP only; FAO was not a party to the agreement.

291. In requesting the Secretariat to prepare memorandums of understanding the conferences of the parties had taken note of decision 27/13 of the Governing Council of UNEP, requesting the UNEP Executive Director to deepen consultations with the multilateral environmental agreements for which UNEP provided secretariat services. The Secretariat was participating in a task team established by the Executive Director in response to decision 27/13 on the effectiveness of the administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation between UNEP and a number of multilateral environmental agreements, including the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. At its first session, in its resolution 1/12, the United Nations Environment Assembly had requested that a final report on the work of the task team be submitted to it at its second session and that information on the progress of the task team be provided to the relevant multilateral environmental agreements at their meetings preceding the second session of the Environment Assembly.

292. Following the introduction the representative of UNEP provided additional information on the development of the memorandums of understanding, as well as relevant information on progress in the implementation of resolution 1/12 of the United Nations Environment Assembly. In 2016 the Environment Assembly at its second session would review the work undertaken by UNEP in response to resolution 1/12 with regard to the relationships between UNEP and the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements that it administered. The conferences of the parties might therefore, she suggested, wish to defer further consideration of the memorandums of understanding in order to take into account the relevant outcomes of that session.

293. In the ensuing discussion, one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the conferences of the parties should note their regret that the delay in completing the relevant

work would prevent the completion of the memorandums of understanding as foreseen in decisions reached during their previous meetings. The incoming presidents of the three conferences of parties should write a joint letter to the Executive Director of UNEP noting that it would be important to consult with the bureaux once the UNEP multilateral environmental agreement task team had completed its work. She expressed concern that FAO did not yet appear as part of the draft memorandum of understanding for the Rotterdam Convention. Another representative suggested that further development of the memorandums of understanding include examinations of comparable agreements developed under other multilateral environmental agreements.

294. In response to a question, the representative of UNEP clarified that the provision in the draft memorandums of understanding for their signature by the presidents of the conferences of the parties reflected the role of a president as the representative of all the parties to a convention.

295. Following the discussions, the President requested the Secretariat to prepare a draft decision for separate consideration by each of the conferences of the parties, taking into account the discussion in plenary.

296. Subsequently, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted the draft decision prepared by the Secretariat for that Convention.

297. Decision BC-12/24, on the draft memorandum of understanding between UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, is set out in the annex to the present report.

298. In addition, the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention adopted a decision on a draft memorandum of understanding between FAO, UNEP and that Conference of the Parties, and the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention adopted a decision on a draft memorandum of understanding between UNEP and that Conference of the Parties. Decisions RC-7/14 and SC-7/32, as adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, are set out in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21) and in the annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), respectively.

## **B. Admission of observers**

299. The discussion summarized in the present section, on the admission of observers (agenda item 7), took place during joint sessions of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. Paragraphs 299–302 below are replicated in the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/21), paragraphs 249–252, and the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on the work of its seventh meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/36), paragraphs 321–324.

300. Introducing the matter, the President recalled that at their last meetings the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions had adopted revised application forms to be used by bodies or agencies wishing to be represented as observers in meetings under the conventions. At the current meetings the parties were to consider a report by the Secretariat on experiences with using the revised forms and the practices followed regarding the admission of observers to meetings of the bodies of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. In accordance with decisions BC-11/22, RC-6/14 and SC-6/28 the Secretariat had examined requests of bodies or agencies seeking admission as observers to confirm that they met the relevant criteria. The bodies or agencies meeting the criteria were listed in documents UNEP/CHW/COP.12/INF/47/Rev.1; UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/23/Rev.1 and UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/43/Rev.1. Three further bodies or agencies had met the relevant criteria since the finalization of these documents.

301. In the ensuing discussion several representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, highlighted the importance of observers. It was also recognized that the Secretariat encountered considerable difficulties and spent considerable time responding to requests for admission by observers that provided incomplete information. Several representatives underscored the importance of observers submitting reliable, accurate and sufficient information, saying that the proposed changes were a positive step in that regard. One representative said that in line with the synergies process, it was important for the three conventions to have the same practices regarding the admission of observers.

302. With regard to the proposal to revise the forms used to apply for observer status, many representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, noted that the issue had been extensively discussed in 2013, and that consensus had been reached, during those meetings of the conferences of the parties. In their view, no further action was needed at the current time and the Secretariat should continue the current practices, including the use of the forms approved at the previous meetings.

303. Following the discussion, the conferences of the parties took note of the information provided by the Secretariat, particularly regarding the challenges faced, and agreed that the Secretariat should maintain its current practices with regard to the admission of observers, including the use of the previously approved forms.

### **C. Official communications**

304. Introducing the sub-item, the representative of the Secretariat recalled the role of competent authorities and focal points as set out in Articles 2 and 5 of the Convention. She added that in decision BC-11/21 the Conference of the Parties had adopted a revised harmonized form for use by parties to nominate their competent authorities and focal points. The Conference had also urged both parties and non-party States to nominate focal points and competent authorities, as well as to notify the Secretariat of the contact details of their competent authorities and focal points, using the revised form. It also requested the Secretariat to maintain an updated list of competent authorities and focal points on the Convention website. To date, 181 parties had nominated their focal points and 179 parties had designated one or more competent authorities. In addition, two non-parties had designated competent authorities and focal points.

305. The Conference of the Parties took note of the information provided and urged parties to nominate their focal points and competent authorities, as well as to provide updated information to the Secretariat when necessary on a timely basis.

### **D. Basel Waste Solutions Circle**

306. Introducing the item, the President recalled the establishment of the Basel Waste Solutions Circle in 2009, saying that since its inception it had inducted its founding members and formed admissions and awards committees. In the light of changed circumstances since its founding, however, in particular the initiation of the synergies process for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, including awareness-raising and outreach activities covering all three conventions, it had been discontinued.

307. The Conference of the Parties took note of the information presented.

### **E. Global summit and fair on chemical safety and security**

308. One representative drew attention to a global summit and fair on chemical safety and security to be held in Kielce, Poland, from 16 to 18 November 2015. The summit and fair would be dedicated to promoting practical, measurable ways to enhance chemical safety and security at all levels, to fostering a global culture of chemical safety and security and to addressing issues relevant to environmental conventions.

## **IX. Adoption of the report (agenda item 8)**

309. The Conference of the Parties adopted the present report on the basis of the draft report set out in documents UNEP/CHW.12/L.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/L.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/L.1 and UNEP/CHW.12/L.1/Add.1, as orally amended, on the understanding that the finalization of the report would be entrusted to the Rapporteur, in cooperation with the Secretariat, under the authority of the President of the Conference of the Parties.

## **X. Closure of the meeting (agenda item 9)**

310. Following the customary exchange of courtesies the meeting was declared closed at 3.45 a.m. on Saturday, 16 May 2015.

## Annex

### Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting

- BC-12/1: Follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention
- BC-12/2: Road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration
- BC-12/3: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants
- BC-12/4: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury
- BC-12/5: Technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention
- BC-12/6: National reporting
- BC-12/7: Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention
- BC-12/8: National legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic
- BC-12/9: Technical assistance
- BC-12/10: Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres for training and technology transfer
- BC-12/11: Implementation of decision V/32 on the enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention
- BC-12/12: Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment
- BC-12/13: Creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of household waste
- BC-12/14: Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic
- BC-12/15: Environmentally sound dismantling of ships
- BC-12/16: Cooperation between the Basel Convention and the International Maritime Organization
- BC-12/17: International cooperation and coordination
- BC-12/18: Implementation of the integrated approach to financing
- BC-12/19: Work programme and operations of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2016–2017
- BC-12/20: Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
- BC-12/21: Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange
- BC-12/22: From science to action
- BC-12/23: Venue and date of the next meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
- BC-12/24: Draft memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
- BC-12/25: Programme of work and proposed budget for the Basel Convention for the biennium 2016–2017

## BC-12/1: Follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention

*The Conference of the Parties*

### I

#### Addressing the entry into force of the Ban Amendment

1. *Acknowledges* the ratification or acceptance by further parties of the amendment contained in decision III/1, in particular since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
2. *Invites* parties to continue to take action towards encouraging and assisting parties to ratify the Amendment;
3. *Requests* the Secretariat, within available resources, to continue to assist parties, upon request, that are having difficulties in ratifying the Ban Amendment;

### II

#### Developing guidelines for environmentally sound management

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the expert working group on environmentally sound management and its co-chairs for their work;
5. *Adopts* the work programme of the expert working group on environmentally sound management set out in the annex to the present decision;
6. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the expert working group on environmentally sound management and requests it to develop activities, subject to the availability of resources, to implement the work programme referred to in paragraph 5 above;
7. *Requests* each regional group to nominate through its Bureau representative, by 31 July 2015, one expert with specific knowledge and expertise in the field of waste prevention and minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes, bringing the total membership of the expert working group on environmentally sound management to 30 members;
8. *Recognizes* that the “ESM toolkit” to be developed under the work programme referred to in paragraph 5 above may be evaluated and, if appropriate, updated after the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
9. *Welcomes* the set of draft practical manuals for the promotion of the environmentally sound management of wastes<sup>1</sup> and the fact sheets on specific waste streams;<sup>2</sup>
10. *Invites* parties and others to submit comments on the set of draft practical manuals and the fact sheets referred to in paragraph 9 above to the Secretariat by 30 September 2015;
11. *Also invites* parties and others to test the set of draft practical manuals and the fact sheets referred to in paragraph 9 above and to provide comments to the Secretariat for consideration by the expert working group on environmentally sound management;
12. *Requests* the expert working group on environmentally sound management to revise the set of draft practical manuals and the fact sheets referred to in paragraph 9 above taking into account the comments received in accordance with paragraph 10 above and the outcomes of section III of the present decision and decision BC-12/7, as well as the results of the testing referred to in paragraph 11 above;
13. *Invites* parties and others to provide to the Secretariat information on activities undertaken to ensure the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes, including any examples of national waste prevention programmes, and requests the Secretariat to make that information available on the Basel Convention website;
14. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to undertake an inventory and categorize existing Basel Convention documents related to environmentally sound management, under

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/3/Add.2, annex.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/6, annex.

the guidance of the expert working group on environmentally sound management, for the consideration of the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;

15. *Requests* the expert working group on environmentally sound management to submit the revised set of draft practical manuals and revised fact sheets referred to in paragraph 12 above to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting and subsequently to the Conference of the Parties for consideration and possible adoption at its thirteenth meeting;

16. *Also requests* the expert working group on environmentally sound management to report on the activities undertaken according to its work programme to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting and subsequently to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its thirteenth meeting;

### III

#### Providing further legal clarity

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to the small intersessional working group on legal clarity for its work;

18. *Takes note* of the draft glossary of terms and related explanations prepared by the small intersessional working group on legal clarity<sup>3</sup> and decides that it shall serve as the basis for further work on the matter;

19. *Invites* the small intersessional working group on legal clarity to continue its work, including, subject to the availability of resources, through a face-to-face meeting, and to prepare a revised version of the draft glossary including explanations, taking into account the comments received from parties and observers,<sup>4</sup> as well as the outcomes of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and to submit it to the Secretariat five months before the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group;

20. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit the revised version of the draft glossary including explanations to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting;

21. *Invites* the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting:

(a) To finalize the draft glossary and related explanations as a useful piece of guidance;

(b) To prepare a draft decision on these matters for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

22. *Takes note* of the options for further steps towards the consistent interpretation of terminology;<sup>5</sup>

23. *Decides* to initiate a process for the review of Annexes I, III and IV and related aspects of Annex IX to the Basel Convention, taking as a basis the legally binding options identified in section II of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52;

24. *Invites* parties and others to submit to the Secretariat by 30 November 2015 their views on the options identified in section II.A and section II.B of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52;

25. *Invites* parties to inform the Secretariat by 30 November 2015 of their interest in taking the lead on the review of Annex IV and related aspects of Annex IX to the Convention identified in section II.A of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52;

26. *Invites* the lead party, or in its absence requests the Secretariat subject to the availability of resources, to assess the views received from parties and others on options identified in section II.A of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52 and to prepare recommendations thereon for the consideration of the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;

27. *Requests* the Secretariat to compile the views received from parties and others in relation to the review of Annexes I, III and IV and related aspects in Annex IX to the Convention pursuant to paragraph 24 above and to submit them to the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting.

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<sup>3</sup>UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52, annex I.

<sup>4</sup>UNEP/CHW.12/INF/55.

<sup>5</sup>UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52, annex II.

## Annex to decision BC-12/1

### Work programme of the expert working group on environmentally sound management

#### I. Objective

1. The work programme of the expert working group on environmentally sound management (ESM) will support and implement the objectives of the framework for the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes.<sup>6</sup> The work programme aims at developing an “ESM toolkit” that includes practical tools to be promoted and implemented by stakeholders.

#### II. ESM toolkit and its promotion

2. The activities described below to develop and implement the ESM toolkit would be conducted during the 2016–2017 biennium.

Topic	Activities
Manuals and fact sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize existing manuals and fact sheets as required following COP 12</li> <li>Test and verify manuals and fact sheets, e.g., through use in pilot projects and stakeholder/peer review</li> <li>Develop and further test manuals (extended producer responsibility (EPR); financing systems)</li> </ul>
Guidance on prevention and minimization <sup>7</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop guidance to assist parties, as appropriate, in developing efficient strategies for achieving the prevention and minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes and their disposal<sup>8</sup></li> </ul>
Training programme models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify training programmes and activities to test, raise awareness of and demonstrate the toolkit</li> </ul>
Internet portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organize, with support from the Secretariat, webinars to raise awareness of the toolkit and the outcome of the work of the expert working group</li> <li>Explore and engage possible partners to develop an e-learning course on ESM</li> <li>Collect information, best practices and experiences related to ESM, to be made available on the Basel Convention website</li> </ul>
Guide for self-assessment of national capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop draft guide for self-assessment and, with support from the Secretariat, engage interested parties to test it</li> </ul>
Certification schemes to support ESM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse existing certification schemes, with regard to their operational aspects, to support ESM</li> </ul>
Promote ESM through tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further develop tools to promote ESM as described in the ESM framework</li> <li>Develop a practical guide to assessing ESM</li> </ul>
Analysis of benefits related to implementation of ESM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue and expand work on private sector incentives, to include an analysis of benefits related to implementation of ESM</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> Available on the Basel Convention website at: <http://www.basel.int/Implementation/CountryLedInitiative/EnvironmentallySoundManagement/ESMFramework/tabid/3616/Default.aspx>.

<sup>7</sup> As requested in the road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (decision BC-12/2).

<sup>8</sup> Taking into account the prevention manual developed by the expert working group on environmentally sound management.

Topic	Activities
Pilot projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish working structure/steering committee for pilot projects</li> <li>• Continue to implement pilot projects and encourage use of the ESM toolkit in new pilot projects</li> <li>• Report on and evaluate pilot projects undertaken in the context of the expert working group</li> </ul>
Exchange of information and experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request and consider information on public-private partnerships that relate to ESM and the work of the expert working group, in particular to the ESM toolkit</li> <li>• Develop and use a format for gathering and exchanging information and experiences related to ESM (e.g., through public-private partnerships, development of explanatory documents and case studies, secondments, etc.)</li> <li>• Make available information and experiences on the internet portal described above</li> </ul>
Promotion of ESM in the informal sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify target audience</li> <li>• Collect and make available information on initiatives adopted by parties to promote ESM in the informal sector</li> </ul>



## **BC-12/2: Road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration**

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Adopts* the road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes set out in the annex to the present decision;
2. *Invites* parties and other stakeholders to undertake activities to implement the road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration and to provide information on such activities to the Secretariat;
3. *Decides* to mandate the expert working group on environmentally sound management to develop guidance to assist parties in developing efficient strategies for achieving prevention and minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes and invites parties to consider serving as a lead country within the group to carry out the work on the development of the guidance;
4. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit a report on progress made in implementation of the road map to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting and subsequently to the Conference of the Parties for consideration and possible adoption at its thirteenth meeting.

### **Annex to decision BC-12/2**

#### **Road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes**

1. The road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes set out in the table below contributes to the achievement of the key objectives of the strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal for 2012–2021.
2. The information-gathering activity in the road map may assist parties and others in identifying specific activities for implementing the Cartagena Declaration. The activities will be developed and implemented in cooperation with and with the support of relevant initiatives under the auspices of the Basel Convention and other entities such as the expert working group on environmentally sound management.

<i>Areas for action</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Responsible actors</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Information gathering	1. Submit to the Secretariat information on experiences in implementing the Cartagena Declaration such as information on strategies and programmes on waste prevention, minimization and recovery and measuring their progress and on technology transfer and capacity-building. <sup>9</sup>	Parties, signatories, Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres and others	Information request issued at COP-12 <sup>10</sup> (decision BC-12/2) and information to be provided on an ongoing basis Prior to COP-13 <sup>11</sup>
	2. Compile all relevant information provided by parties, signatories and others with regard to the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration and make it available on the Basel Convention website.	Secretariat	Prior to COP-13
Development of strategies (paragraph 1 of the Cartagena Declaration)	Develop guidance to assist parties, as appropriate, in developing efficient strategies to achieve the prevention and minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes and their disposal, taking into account the prevention manual developed by the expert working group on environmentally sound management.	Parties and expert working group on environmentally sound management	COP-13
Enhancement of waste prevention (paragraphs 5, 7, 8, 12 and 13 of the Cartagena Declaration)	Encourage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Development of synergistic national and regional pilot projects on waste prevention for specific waste streams of concern</li> <li>– Improvement of access to cleaner production methods and to information on less hazardous substitutes for and alternatives to hazardous chemicals and materials</li> </ul>	Parties, Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Global Environment Facility, cleaner production centres and the private sector	Ongoing
	– Implementation of waste prevention awareness campaigns that include information on waste prevention techniques	Parties, Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres and non-governmental organizations	Ongoing
Engagement with relevant stakeholders (paragraph 11 of the Cartagena Declaration)	Encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, engagement with other bodies, non-governmental organizations, cleaner production centres and the private sector to advance work on the prevention, minimization and recovery of hazardous and other wastes and to develop and implement projects, waste prevention programmes and partnerships to that end, taking into account the information compiled through the information-gathering activity.	Parties, Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres and Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres	

<sup>9</sup> See paragraphs 1, 4, 5, 7, 11 and 12 of the Cartagena Declaration.

<sup>10</sup> Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

<sup>11</sup> Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

## BC-12/3: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* with appreciation the contribution made by Canada in chairing the small intersessional working group and expresses its appreciation to the lead countries – Canada, China and Japan – the lead organizations – the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – and the small intersessional working group for their contributions to the tasks pertaining to technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants and to the Government of Norway for its financial contribution;

2. *Adopts* the following technical guidelines:

(a) General technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants;<sup>12</sup>

(b) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonfyl fluoride;<sup>13</sup>

(c) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes containing or contaminated with unintentionally produced polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, hexachlorobenzene, polychlorinated biphenyls or pentachlorobenzene;<sup>14</sup>

(d) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated terphenyls or polybrominated biphenyls including hexabromobiphenyl;<sup>15</sup>

(e) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, or tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether;<sup>16</sup>

(f) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with hexabromocyclododecane;<sup>17</sup>

(g) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with the pesticides aldrin, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, chlordane, chlordane, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, lindane, mirex, pentachlorobenzene, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, technical endosulfan and its related isomers or toxaphene or with hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical;<sup>18</sup>

3. *Requests* the Secretariat to disseminate the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 above to parties and others in the six official languages of the United Nations;

4. *Invites* parties and others to use the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 above and to submit, not later than two months before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, through the Secretariat, comments on their experience in so doing;

5. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a compilation of the comments referred to in paragraph 4 above for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

6. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the small intersessional working group established by paragraph 9 of decision OEWG-I/4 to provide that the group shall monitor and assist in the review, updating and preparation, as appropriate, of technical guidelines regarding persistent organic pollutants, working in particular by electronic means;

<sup>12</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.2/Rev.1.

<sup>13</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.3/Rev.1.

<sup>14</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.4/Rev.1.

<sup>15</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.5/Rev.1.

<sup>16</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.6/Rev.1.

<sup>17</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.7/Rev.1.

<sup>18</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.9.

7. *Recognizes* that in some cases provisional low persistent organic pollutant content values were established at the seventh and eighth meetings of the Conference of the Parties and that, in other cases, knowledge limitations have posed challenges to the setting of such values and that therefore a review of all provisional low persistent organic pollutant content values would be timely;

8. *Decides* to undertake work towards a review of all provisional low persistent organic pollutant content values in the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 above before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

9. *Invites* parties and others to submit to the Secretariat, three months in advance of the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, comments on the low persistent organic pollutant content values included in the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 above and related information, including on studies, taking into account relevant information available from the Stockholm Convention;

10. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a compilation of the comments and information referred to in paragraph 9 above for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;

11. *Decides* that the updating of the general technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 (a) above and the preparation or updating of specific technical guidelines with regard to the chemicals listed in Annexes A and C to the Stockholm Convention by decisions SC-7/12–SC-7/14 of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention should be included in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2016–2017, including with regard to the following:

(a) Establishment of levels of destruction and irreversible transformation for the chemicals necessary to ensure that when disposed of they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants specified in paragraph 1 of Annex D to the Stockholm Convention;

(b) Determination of which disposal methods constitute environmentally sound disposal as referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention;

(c) Establishment, as appropriate, of the concentration levels of the chemicals in order to define for them low persistent organic pollutant content as referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention;

12. *Invites* parties and organizations to indicate to the Secretariat by 15 August 2015 their willingness to take the lead in updating or preparing technical guidelines in accordance with paragraph 11 above, taking into account the following tentative tasks:

(a) Updating the general technical guidelines referred in paragraph 2 (a) above;

(b) Updating the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 (d) or 2 (g) above and/or developing new technical guidelines, as appropriate, taking into account decisions SC-/12, SC-7/13 and SC-7/14, by which the Stockholm Convention listed the following new chemicals in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention:

(i) Hexachlorobutadiene;

(ii) Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters;

(iii) Polychlorinated naphthalenes, including dichlorinated naphthalenes, trichlorinated naphthalenes, tetrachlorinated naphthalenes, pentachlorinated naphthalenes, hexachlorinated naphthalenes, heptachlorinated naphthalenes, octachlorinated naphthalene;

(c) Updating the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 (c) above taking into account decision SC-7/14, by which the Stockholm Convention listed new chemicals in Annex C to the Stockholm Convention;

13. *Invites* the lead countries or organizations, if selected, and requests the Secretariat, if no lead country or organization is selected and subject to the availability of funding, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, to prepare draft revised technical guidelines as outlined in paragraph 12 above for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;

14. *Welcomes* the involvement of experts working under the Stockholm Convention, including members and observers of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, in the work referred to in paragraphs 8 and 11 above;

15. *Invites* parties and others to submit waste-related information on decabromodiphenyl ether to the secretariat and Norway by 30 August 2016;

16. *Welcomes* the intention of Norway to analyse the information received in accordance with paragraph 15 above and to share its analysis with the intersessional working group;

17. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit the information received in accordance with paragraph 15 above and the analysis conducted by Norway described in paragraph 16 above to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its thirteenth meeting;

18. *Also requests* the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting and to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

## **BC-12/4: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury**

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the contribution made by Japan as lead country in the updating of the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of elemental mercury and wastes containing or contaminated with mercury and by the small intersessional working group established in accordance with decision IX/15 of the Conference of the Parties;
2. *Adopts* the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds;<sup>19</sup>
3. *Requests* the Secretariat to disseminate the technical guidelines to parties and others, including the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, in the six official languages of the United Nations;
4. *Invites* parties and others to use the technical guidelines and to submit, not later than two months before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, through the Secretariat, comments on their experience in so doing and on any developments regarding methods for the environmentally sound disposal of mercury wastes, including the long-term effectiveness of the stabilization and solidification of wastes consisting of mercury;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a compilation of the comments and information referred to in paragraph 4 above for the consideration of next actions, including the possible updating of the technical guidelines, by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

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<sup>19</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.8/Rev.1.

## **BC-12/5: Technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention**

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Adopts*, on an interim basis, the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention,<sup>20</sup> on the understanding that the technical guidelines are of a non-legally binding nature and that the national legislation of a party prevails over the guidance provided within the technical guidelines, in particular in paragraphs 31, 42 and 43 thereof;
2. *Requests* the Secretariat to disseminate the technical guidelines to parties and others in the six official languages of the United Nations;
3. *Invites* parties and others to use the technical guidelines and to submit, not later than two months before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, through the Secretariat, comments on their experience in so doing;
4. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a compilation of the comments referred to in paragraph 3 above for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;
5. *Acknowledges* the need to look further into the guidance on the distinction between waste and non-waste and agrees to include the further elaboration of work on that issue in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2016–2017 in order to prepare draft revised guidelines for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, in particular with reference to paragraphs 31 a and 31 b of the technical guidelines on the following issues:
  - (a) Residual lifetime and age of used equipment;
  - (b) Management of hazardous wastes from failure analysis, repair and refurbishment operations in developing countries;
  - (c) Obsolete technologies, including cathode ray tubes;
  - (d) Presence of hazardous components in used equipment;
6. *Invites* parties and others to provide comments on the issues mentioned in paragraph 5 above to the Secretariat five months before the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at that meeting;
7. *Requests* the Secretariat to publish the comments received pursuant to paragraph 6 above on the website of the Basel Convention;
8. *Encourages* parties to inform the Secretariat about any conditions they apply in relation to used equipment that should normally be considered waste or non-waste and requests the Secretariat to publish any information provided by parties in that regard on the Basel Convention website;
9. *Requests* the Secretariat to report on the progress of the implementation of the present decision to the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting and to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

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<sup>20</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.1/Rev.1.

## BC-12/6: National reporting

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to Germany as the lead country of the small intersessional working group on national reporting established by paragraph 5 of decision BC-11/7 and welcomes the work undertaken by the group;
2. *Takes note* of the summary of proposed changes to the national reporting format<sup>21</sup> and adopts the revised format for national reporting as submitted by the small intersessional working group on national reporting for use by parties in reporting for the year 2016 and later years;<sup>22</sup>
3. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the small intersessional working group on national reporting to the development of an electronic user manual for the electronic reporting system and the revised format for national reporting, as adopted in paragraph 2 above, in the six official languages of the United Nations;
4. *Invites* parties to nominate additional experts to participate in the small intersessional working group on national reporting and to inform the Secretariat of their nominations by 30 June 2015;
5. *Invites* parties that have not yet done so to transmit to the Secretariat their completed questionnaires on the transmission of information for 2013 and for previous years as soon as possible, using the electronic reporting system;
6. *Recognizes* the need to develop additional practical guidance on the development of inventories of specific waste streams;
7. *Decides* to mandate the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting to consider and agree on a list of waste streams for which additional practical guidance on the development of inventories should be developed, based on the report prepared by the Secretariat referred to in paragraph 8 (d) below;
8. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To continue to develop the electronic reporting system, including the required adaptations of the system to support the new reporting format as adopted in paragraph 2 above;<sup>23</sup>
  - (b) To support the small intersessional working group on national reporting;
  - (c) To translate into English, subject to the availability of resources, any information submitted by parties in their national reports in the official languages of the United Nations other than English and to incorporate such information into the electronic reporting system;
  - (d) To prepare a report, for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting, taking into account, inter alia, current guidance and guidelines on the development of inventories developed under the Convention and, based on it and on the views from parties on the matter, including the methodological guide for the development of inventories of hazardous wastes and other wastes under the Basel Convention<sup>24</sup> adopted by decision BC-12/7, containing a proposal for a list of hazardous wastes streams for which more detailed practical guidance on developing inventories could be developed;
  - (e) To develop, following the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and within available resources, practical guidance on the development of inventories for the waste streams agreed upon by the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;
  - (f) To develop an analytical report on transboundary movements and generation of hazardous wastes and other wastes based on the information reported by parties;

<sup>21</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/8/Rev.1, annex.

<sup>22</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/16/Rev.1, annex I.

<sup>23</sup> Parties should be aware that small adaptations of the electronic reporting system, without changing its content, will be required to allow for the reporting format to be available on the electronic reporting system.

<sup>24</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.1.



(g) To continue to provide, subject to the availability of resources, training to developing countries and other countries that are in need of assistance to meet their reporting obligations by organizing training activities in cooperation with the Basel Convention regional centres or by other appropriate means;

9. *Requests* the Basel Convention regional centres to continue to provide assistance to parties to assist them in meeting their reporting obligations with a view to transmitting to the Secretariat national reports that are, to the extent possible, complete and on time;

10. *Requests* the Secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting on the progress of work on national reporting.

## BC-12/7: Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretariat on the work of the Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention and the recommendations therein<sup>25</sup> and welcomes the work undertaken by the Committee since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

### I

#### **Specific submissions regarding party implementation and compliance**

2. *Encourages* parties concerned by any submission covered by the decisions adopted by the Committee at its tenth and eleventh meetings to continue to cooperate with the Committee with a view to resolving their concerns;

3. *Confirms* the amendment to paragraph 9 (c) of the terms of reference of the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Basel Convention adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting<sup>26</sup> and extended by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting<sup>27</sup> with regard to possible difficulties encountered by any party in complying with its obligations under Article 5 and paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention;

4. *Extends*, for the period between the twelfth and fourteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the amendment to paragraph 9 (c) of the terms of reference adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting<sup>28</sup> and extended by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting<sup>29</sup> with regard to possible difficulties encountered by any party in complying with its obligations under paragraph 1 of Article 3, paragraph 1 of Article 4 and paragraph 2 of Article 13 of the Convention;

5. *Discontinues* the legal framework programme established by decision BC-10/11 given that the terms of reference of the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Basel Convention provide a sufficient basis for the Committee to consider and assist in the resolution of implementation and compliance difficulties associated with a party's lack of an adequate legal framework;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretariat on the operation of the implementation fund;<sup>30</sup>

### II

#### **Review of general issues of compliance and implementation under the Convention**

7. *Adopts*:

(a) The methodological guide for the development of inventories of hazardous wastes and other wastes under the Basel Convention<sup>31</sup> with the understanding that the Committee will reflect therein, as appropriate, the relevant elements of the revised reporting format adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting;<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/9.

<sup>26</sup> Decision BC-10/11.

<sup>27</sup> Decision BC-11/8.

<sup>28</sup> Decision BC-10/11.

<sup>29</sup> Decision BC-11/8.

<sup>30</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/18.

<sup>31</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.1.

<sup>32</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/9/INF/16/Rev.1.

- (b) The revised guide to the control system;<sup>33</sup>
- (c) The updated manual for the implementation of the Basel Convention;<sup>34</sup>

### National reporting

8. *Notes with concern* that the national reporting targets for the years 2011 and 2012 approved by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting have not been met;
9. *Also notes with concern* that, as at 21 November 2014, 89 parties had not submitted their reports for the year 2011 and 97 parties had not submitted their reports for the year 2012;
10. *Acknowledges* that the problem of non-reporting, incomplete reporting or late reporting is serious because of the close link between the core obligations of the Convention and the obligation to submit national reports in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention;
11. *Takes note* that in 2011, 6 per cent of the parties submitted reports on time and 0.5 per cent of the parties submitted complete reports<sup>35</sup> and that in 2012 6 per cent of the parties submitted reports on time and 5 per cent of the parties submitted complete reports;<sup>36</sup>
12. *Sets*, as a way of measuring progress in the overall implementation of and compliance with paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention, the following interim targets: 30 per cent<sup>37</sup> of reports due for 2013 and for subsequent years are submitted on time and 20 per cent<sup>38</sup> of reports due for 2013 and for subsequent years are submitted complete;
13. *Urges* parties to submit their reports complete and on time;
14. *Decides* that, in undertaking the classification of compliance performance with the national reporting obligation for the years 2016 and beyond, the Committee will:
  - (a) Classify parties on the basis of two criteria (timeliness and completeness of their reports) and in the five following categories:
    - (i) Fully reported and on time;
    - (ii) Fully reported (but late);
    - (iii) Reporting incomplete (but on time);
    - (iv) Reporting incomplete (and late);
    - (v) Not reported;
  - (b) Classify parties on the basis of the following assumptions:
    - (i) Information reported by parties is presumed to reflect reality, without prejudice to quality control by the Secretariat;
    - (ii) The completeness of national reports is reviewed on the basis of the answers provided by parties to all questions and sub-questions of the revised reporting format,<sup>39</sup> with the exception of questions and tables that are designated optional therein;
    - (iii) Should a report contain answers that do not provide the information sought (such as “estimated data”, “in preparation”, “no data available” or “no information”), the party providing such answers will not be considered to have fully reported;

### National legislation

15. *Invites* parties to use as appropriate, when evaluating their legislation, the updated manual for the implementation of the Basel Convention, including its checklist for the legislator;<sup>40</sup>

<sup>33</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.3/Rev.1.

<sup>34</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.4/Rev.1.

<sup>35</sup> As of 2 September 2013. See document UNEP/CHW/CC.10/5.

<sup>36</sup> As of 24 June 2014. See document UNEP/CHW/CC.11/6.

<sup>37</sup> Baseline: 15 per cent for the reports due for 2010.

<sup>38</sup> Baseline: 0.6 per cent for the reports due for 2010.

<sup>39</sup> Adopted by decision BC-12/6.

<sup>40</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.4/Rev.1.

16. *Withdraws* the Model National Legislation;<sup>41</sup>

17. *Reminds* parties to share, through the Secretariat, texts of national legislation and other regulatory measures adopted by them to implement and enforce the provisions of the Basel Convention or to make use of the revised reporting format to transmit such texts to the Secretariat;

18. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to provide advice to parties, upon request, on the enactment and review of implementing legislation and to provide technical assistance in accordance with the rules and procedures of the technical assistance programme;

### III

#### Work programme for the biennium 2016–2017

19. *Approves* the work programme of the Committee for the biennium 2016–2017 set out in the annex to the present decision;

20. *Requests* the Committee to establish priorities, work methods and schedules with regard to the issues identified in the work programme and to coordinate with the Open-ended Working Group, the Secretariat and the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to avoid duplication of activities;

21. *Also requests* the Committee to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, in accordance with paragraphs 23 and 24 of the terms of reference of the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Basel Convention, on the work that it has carried out to fulfil its functions;

### IV

#### Election of members of the Committee

22. *Elects*, in accordance with the terms of reference set out in the appendix to decision VI/12, the following members to serve on the Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention until the close of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

African States:	Mr. Abderaman Mahamet Abderaman (Chad) Mr. Humphrey Kasiya Mwale (Zambia)
Asia-Pacific States:	Mr. Iftikhar-Ul-Hassan Shah Gilani (Pakistan) Mr. Geri Geronimo R. Sanz (Philippines)
Central and Eastern European States:	Ms. Mari-Liis Ummik (Estonia) Ms. Tatiana Tugui (Moldova)
Latin American and Caribbean States:	Mr. Alberto Santos Capra (Argentina) Ms. Yocasta Valenzuela (Dominican Republic)
Western European and other States:	Ms. Fionna Cumming (New Zealand) Mr. Marcus Schroeder (Germany)

<sup>41</sup> Adopted by decision III/6.

## Annex to decision BC-12/7

### Work programme of the Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance for the biennium 2016–2017

#### I. Review of general issues of compliance and implementation under the Convention

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Activity</i>
<b>1. National reporting</b> Improve timely and complete national reporting under paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention.	(a) Classify and, as appropriate, publish parties' individual compliance performance with regard to their annual national reporting obligations for 2013, 2014 and 2015 as available based on the criteria and categories adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting <sup>42</sup> and using the targets set by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting; (b) Consider what additional steps could be taken to improve the timeliness and completeness of national reporting (such as face-to-face meetings and webinars) and, on the basis of that consideration, elaborate a plan recommending actions, incentives and other measures towards that end; (c) Revise the Committee's guidance on improving national reporting in the light of the revised reporting format.
<b>2. Illegal traffic</b> Prevent and combat illegal traffic.	Continue to develop, including through consultations with the Open-ended Working Group, guidance on the take-back provision under paragraph 2 of Article 9 of the Convention <sup>43</sup> and develop guidance on the implementation of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 9 of the Convention, integrating the two sets of guidance into one document, for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.
<b>3. National legislation</b> Improve implementation of and compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention.	Consider what additional steps could be taken to improve implementation and compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention.
<b>4. Insurance, bond or other guarantee</b> Improve the implementation of and compliance with paragraph 11 of Article 6 of the Convention.	Taking into account the report on the implementation of paragraph 11 of Article 6 of the Convention, <sup>44</sup> develop, including through consultation with the expert working group on environmentally sound management, guidance to improve the implementation of paragraph 11 of Article 6 of the Convention for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.
<b>5. Control system</b> Improve the implementation of and compliance with Article 6 of the Convention.	Consider what additional steps could be taken to improve the implementation of and compliance with Article 6 of the Convention.
<b>6. Improve the implementation of and compliance with obligations under the Convention</b>	Regularly update the guidance on legal matters the Committee has developed (e.g., manual for the implementation of the Basel Convention, guide to the control system, guidance on the illegal traffic take-back provision), based on periodic feedback from users and suggestions from stakeholders and in the light of decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties, for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

<sup>42</sup> Decision BC-10/11, paragraph 18, which refers to paragraph 26 of document UNEP/CHW.10/9/Rev.1.

<sup>43</sup> Document UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.2.

<sup>44</sup> Document UNEP/CHW/CC.11/11.

## **II. Specific submissions regarding party implementation and compliance**

1. The Committee shall accord priority to dealing with specific submissions regarding party implementation and compliance received or initiated in accordance with paragraph 9 of the terms of reference of the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Basel Convention.

2. In relation to the implementation fund, the Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive Secretary on the allocation of the available resources from the implementation fund in the 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 of the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Basel Convention. The resources are intended to fund activities listed in the compliance action plans elaborated by the party concerned in its submission and approved by the Committee. In addition, the Committee shall review the operation of the implementation fund in the light of the experience of the Committee and other developments, including with regard to the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals.

3. In relation to the amendment of paragraph 9 (c) of the terms of reference, the Committee shall provide to the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting a report on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the amendment mentioned in paragraph 4 of decision BC-12/7, including recommendations.

## BC-12/8: National legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Welcomes* the implementation and enforcement activities undertaken by the Secretariat<sup>45</sup> and encourages the Secretariat to further develop those activities;
2. *Also welcomes* the active engagement of enforcement organizations and networks in preventing and combating illegal traffic in hazardous wastes and other wastes and invites those organizations and networks to continue their collaboration with the Secretariat on activities aimed at assisting parties to prevent and combat illegal traffic;
3. *Urges* parties to fulfil their obligations set out in paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention, including by updating or developing stringent legislation on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and by incorporating into their national legislation appropriate sanctions or penalties for illegal traffic in hazardous wastes and other wastes;
4. *Encourages* parties to continue to provide the Secretariat with the texts of national legislation and other measures adopted by them to implement and enforce the Convention;
5. *Invites* parties to share information, through the Secretariat, on best practices in preventing and combating illegal traffic and to report confirmed cases of illegal traffic to the Secretariat using the prescribed form for confirmed cases of illegal traffic;
6. *Also invites* parties that have not yet provided the Secretariat with any of the information on national definitions of hazardous wastes required under Article 3 and paragraph 2 (b) of Article 13 of the Convention, including national lists, as well as any of the information on import or export restrictions or prohibitions required under subparagraphs 1 (a) and 1 (b) of Article 4 of the Convention and subparagraphs 2 (c) and 2 (d) of Article 13 of the Convention to do so as soon as possible and to report any subsequent significant change in that information using the standardized reporting format;
7. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To continue to maintain a collection of national legislation and other measures adopted by parties to implement the Convention, including measures or best practices for preventing and punishing illegal traffic, forms for reporting confirmed cases of illegal traffic, information on national definitions of hazardous wastes, including national lists, as well as information on import or export restrictions or prohibitions, and to continue to make that information available on the Convention website;
  - (b) To make information on national definitions of hazardous wastes, including national lists, as well as the information on import or export restrictions or prohibitions available in the six official languages of the United Nations, subject to the availability of resources;
  - (c) To provide parties, upon request, with information on matters pertaining to the implementation and enforcement of the Convention, including on the development and updating of national legislation or other measures, such as measures to protect themselves from unwanted imports of wastes, and assistance in the identification of cases of illegal traffic;
  - (d) To continue to cooperate with enforcement organizations and networks;
  - (e) To develop tools and organize enforcement training activities, subject to the availability of resources, in collaboration with the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, the secretariats of other relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other international organizations, agencies or programmes and to assist parties, particularly developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition, to develop national legislation and other measures to implement and enforce the Convention and to prevent and punish illegal traffic;

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<sup>45</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/11.

8. *Takes note* of the analysis on possible synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, building on lessons learned under the Basel Convention,<sup>46</sup> and requests the Secretariat to transmit the analysis to the conferences of the parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;

9. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare, for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, recommendations on possible synergies between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, building on lessons learned under the Basel Convention;

10. *Also requests* the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

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<sup>46</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/51.



## BC-12/9: Technical assistance

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the information provided by the Secretariat on technical assistance for the implementation of the Convention;<sup>47</sup>
2. *Welcomes* the development of a database for the collection of information pertaining to the needs of parties for the implementation of the Convention, as well as information on available assistance;
3. *Invites* developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition to provide information to the Secretariat on their needs in terms of technical assistance and technology transfer, according to the provisions of the Convention, their difficulties in implementing the Convention and any other views in this regard;
4. *Invites* developed-country parties and others with the capacity to do so to continue to provide information to the Secretariat, according to the provisions of the Convention, on the technical assistance and technology that they have available to be transferred to developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to collect the information pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 above through tailored electronic questionnaires, making full use of the database for the collection of the needs of parties in implementing their obligations under the Convention, and also requests the Secretariat to analyse such information and to identify the gaps and barriers regarding technical assistance and technology transfer and to propose recommendations and take action to address those problems;
6. *Welcomes* the technical assistance programme,<sup>48</sup> and requests the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to implement it in cooperation with relevant actors and to take into account the elements contained therein when carrying out its work to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance and capacity-building for the implementation of the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and urges parties and others in a position to do so to provide funding and other resources to support the implementation of the activities contained in the technical assistance programme;
7. *Authorizes* the Secretariat to contract independent financial audits of capacity-building and technical assistance projects and other related activities undertaken at the regional and/or national level in the implementation of the conventions, subject to the availability of resources, in cases where such audits appear necessary;
8. *Emphasizes* the key role of the regional centres, as contained in the provisions of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, as well as the regional and subregional offices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in delivering technical assistance upon request at the regional level regarding the implementation of the technical assistance programme and facilitating technology transfer to eligible parties;
9. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To submit a report to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting on progress made in providing technical assistance for capacity-building and the promotion of technology transfer to parties, taking into account the information collected pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 above;
  - (b) To prepare a technical assistance programme for the biennium 2018–2019 based on the information collected pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 above, taking into account the synergies process as well as the evaluation of the technical assistance programme.

<sup>47</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/13-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/13-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/13.

<sup>48</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/25-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/17-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/16.

## BC-12/10: Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres for training and technology transfer

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Emphasizes* the role of the regional and coordinating centres as one of the main institutions for enhancing the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building as well as supporting the national efforts of developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of the chemicals and waste conventions;
2. *Emphasizes* the role of the regional centres in the promotion of technology transfer relating to the implementation of the Basel Convention and requests them to cooperate and coordinate among themselves on areas of expertise in which they are able to provide assistance;
3. *Recalls* the omnibus decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their 2013 simultaneous extraordinary meetings,<sup>49</sup> by which the conferences of the parties made recommendations on follow-up to the review of the synergies arrangements which, among others, underline that synergies should be enhanced at the national and regional levels, with particular attention to reinforcing cooperation and coordination and rationalization of the Stockholm Convention and Basel Convention regional centres;
4. *Welcomes* United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/5 on chemicals and waste, by which the Assembly acknowledged the role of the Basel and Stockholm convention regional centres to support the implementation of those conventions;
5. *Takes into account* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, “The future we want”, that highlights the critical role that the sound management of chemicals and waste can play in promoting sustainable development and emphasizes its great relevance to the post-2015 development agenda;
6. *Takes note of:*
  - (a) The information provided in the note by the Secretariat on the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres;<sup>50</sup>
  - (b) The activity reports for the period 2013–2014<sup>51</sup> and business plans for the biennium 2014–2015<sup>52</sup> submitted by the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres;
  - (c) The framework agreements between the centres and the Secretariat referred to in paragraph 6 of the note by the Secretariat and the validity of all existing framework agreements listed in the annex to the present decision;
  - (d) The full draft evaluation report on the performance and sustainability of the 14 Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres<sup>53</sup> and the summary of the draft evaluation report;<sup>54</sup>
  - (e) The report on the activities of the regional centres;<sup>55</sup>
7. *Notes* that it has evaluated, in accordance with the interim criteria set out in annex I and the interim methodology set out in annex II to decision BC-11/13, the performance and sustainability of the 14 Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres established in accordance with decisions III/19, VI/6, VI/8 and VII/10;
8. *Notes* the performance of the regional and coordinating centres and calls for sustained efforts to enhance their performance and actions in supporting developing-country parties;

<sup>49</sup> Decisions BC.Ex-2/1, RC.Ex-2/1 and SC.Ex-2/1, annex I.

<sup>50</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/12.

<sup>51</sup> Available at [www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/ActivityReports/tabid/2992/Default.aspx](http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/ActivityReports/tabid/2992/Default.aspx).

<sup>52</sup> Available at [www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/BusinessPlans/tabid/2336/Default.aspx](http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/BusinessPlans/tabid/2336/Default.aspx).

<sup>53</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/21-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/13.

<sup>54</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/12, annex II.

<sup>55</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/14.

9. *Underlines* the need to have an efficient and effective network of centres through greater institutional coordination and the promotion of the exchange of information, lessons learned and cooperation among them on areas of expertise in which they provide assistance, through regular communication, including meetings of the centres and increased use of other means of communication;
10. *Requests* the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to submit to the Secretariat:
  - (a) Their business plans for the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2019 by 30 September 2015;
  - (b) Their activity reports for the period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2016 by 31 December 2016 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;
11. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To prepare a report on the evaluation of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, based on the interim criteria and the interim methodology referred to in paragraph 7 above, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting;
  - (b) To prepare a report on the activities of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, including an assessment of how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the network of centres;
  - (c) To consider possible adjustments to the interim criteria and interim methodology for evaluating the regional and coordinating centres set out in annexes I and II, respectively, of decision BC-11/13, taking into account lessons learned, the views of the centres, as well as the views of parties, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, and invites the centres and parties to provide their views on these by 30 June 2016;
12. *Decides* to evaluate, in accordance with the interim criteria set out in annex I to decision BC-11/13, taking into account the possible adjustments referred to in paragraph 11 (c) above, the performance and sustainability of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres at its fourteenth meeting and every four years thereafter;
13. *Invites* developed country parties and other parties, in accordance with their capabilities, to consider ways to strengthen the regional delivery of technical assistance and the promotion of technology transfer under the Convention to promote the sound management of chemicals and wastes, sustainable development and the protection of human health and the environment and further invites them to consider opportunities for effective and efficient cooperation with the regional and coordinating centres in implementing the regional sound management of chemicals and wastes projects;
14. *Takes note* of the challenges faced by some regional centres and invites parties, as well as other regional centres in a position to do so, to cooperate with and support those regional centres through the exchange of best practices, the provision of technical assistance and the promotion of technology transfer;
15. *Recalls* that sustainable financial and technical resources are necessary for the centres to succeed in their work under the Convention and invites parties, observers and others in a position to do so, including industry and the wider private sector as well as relevant financial institutions, to provide financial support to enable the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to implement their workplans aimed at supporting parties in implementing their obligations under the Convention;
16. *Invites* all regional centres and coordinating centres undertaking activities on mercury-related issues under the Convention, including projects and activities about the dissemination of information, capacity-building and technology transfer, to provide the relevant information, which will be taken into account by the Secretariat for the evaluation, in accordance with the applicable synergy criterion, and requests the Secretariat to forward that information to the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury for possible consideration by the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury at its seventh session;
17. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To continue to recommend concrete activities on synergies between the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions and the regional offices of the United Nations

Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other related centres to the Conference of the Parties for possible decision;

(b) To continue to foster a synergistic approach in its relations with the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions and the regional offices of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other related centres, while recognizing the specificities and mandate of each centre;

(c) To continue to organize meetings every two years between the directors of regional centres and the Secretariat, including possible observers as appropriate, and if possible to consider additional meetings, subject to the availability of resources;

(d) To submit a report on progress made in the implementation of the present decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.

## Annex to decision BC-12/10

### List of existing framework agreements between the Secretariat and host Governments and their validity

<i>Region</i>	<i>Regional centre</i>	<i>Date of validity of framework agreement</i>
<b>Africa</b>	Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Arab States, Egypt (BCRC Egypt)	Extended until 29 October 2018
	Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for the African Region, Nigeria (BCCC Nigeria)	Valid until 7 March 2017
	Basel Convention Regional Centre for French-speaking countries in Africa, Senegal (BCRC Senegal)	Valid until 1 March 2015
	Basel Convention Regional Centre for the English-Speaking African countries, South Africa (BCRC South Africa)	Valid until 17 April 2017
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>	Basel Convention Regional Centre for the Asia and Pacific Region, China (BCRC China)	Valid until 20 May 2016
	Basel Convention Regional Centre for South-East Asia, Indonesia (BCRC SEA)	Extended until 29 October 2018
	Basel Convention Regional Centre, Tehran (BCRC Iran)	Valid until 27 July 2015
	Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the South Pacific Region (SPREP)	Extended until 12 June 2018
<b>Central and Eastern Europe</b>	Basel Convention Regional Centre for Commonwealth of Independent States countries, Russian Federation (BCRC Russian Federation)	Not yet signed
	Basel Convention Regional Centre for Central Europe, Slovakia (BCRC Slovakia)	Not yet signed
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>	Basel Convention Regional Centre for the South American Region, Argentina (BCRC Argentina)	Valid until 8 July 2015*
	Basel Convention Regional Centre for the Central America Subregion, including Mexico, El Salvador (BCRC CAM)	Valid until 8 February 2017
	Basel Convention Regional Centre for the Caribbean Region, Trinidad and Tobago (BCRC Caribbean)	Extended until 29 October 2018
	Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Latin America and the Caribbean Region, Uruguay (BCCC Uruguay)	Extended until 29 January 2018

\* Renewal is currently being negotiated.

## **BC-12/11: Implementation of decision V/32 on the enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention**

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the information on activities carried out by the Secretariat pursuant to decision BC-11/14;<sup>56</sup>
2. *Welcomes* the active engagement of the Joint United Nations Environment Programme/Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Environment Unit, which should work jointly with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention in order to decide on the coordinating role with regard to emergency situations in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;
3. *Decides* to amend chapter IV of part 1 of the Interim Guidelines for the implementation of decision V/32 on enlargement of the scope of the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund<sup>57</sup> in line with the annex to the present decision;
4. *Also decides* to amend the section entitled “Role of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention” in chapter III of part 3 of the Interim Guidelines for the implementation of decision V/32 on enlargement of the scope of the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to read as follows:  

“Role of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention

The Secretariat of the Basel Convention in advising parties on the preparation and submissions of requests for emergency assistance should consult with the Joint United Nations Environment Programme/Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Environment Unit and may, if requested, also provide assistance on technical cooperation for the prevention of accidents and damage.”
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to reflect the amendments adopted in the preceding paragraphs in the text of the Interim Guidelines and make the amended version of the guidelines publicly available;
6. *Also requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to carry out, in particular, capacity-building activities with relevant partners, such as the Joint United Nations Environment Programme/Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Environment Unit, relevant to the prevention of incidents and enhancing the preparedness of countries to deal with emergencies caused by transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes and their disposal, in line with part 3 of the interim guidelines, and as part of the technical assistance programme;
7. *Further requests* the Secretariat to continue its cooperation and collaboration with the Joint United Nations Environment Programme/Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Environment Unit;
8. *Requests* the Secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting on the implementation of the present decision.

<sup>56</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/14, sect. II.

<sup>57</sup> Decision VI/14, appendix.

## Annex to decision BC-12/11

### **Amendments to part 1 of the Interim Guidelines for the implementation of decision V/32 so as to enhance effective rapid access to expertise following emergencies by strengthening cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Environment Programme**

The amendments are shown in tracked changes below:

[...]

#### **IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

##### ***Procedure***

Requests submitted to the secretariat are dealt with promptly.

On the basis of the present Interim Guidelines, the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Bureau, using a quick procedure, may provide assistance to a Party to the Convention from the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund.

~~The Executive Secretary will also consult with contributors, especially in cases where contributions to the Trust Fund are earmarked with conditions.~~

Upon receiving a request for emergency assistance, the Secretariat shall ~~consult with~~

- consult with experts, through the national focal point, in order to clarify the urgency, the imminence of the threat or the type of measures necessary to be taken for that specific incident;

- Inform UNEP/OCHA of the incident and seek the services provided by the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit in offering its emergency assistance (see details of services provided by UNEP/OCHA further down);

All decisions taken should be reported to the Bureau, the Open-ended Working Group and to the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

##### ***Task Force***

A task force may be established to organize the coordination between UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit, the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, and any other relevant organization.

[...]

##### ***Service provided by UNEP/OCHA***

The mandate of UNEP/OCHA is to improve the international response to environmental emergencies by serving as a clearing-house for information and a switchboard for disaster notification, and alerting and acting as a broker between affected and donor countries.

The secretariat should use the services provided by the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit in offering its emergency assistance. These services could include rapid assessment through international experts, the implementation of emergency measures, and the broker function between the affected country and donor countries that are ready and willing to assist.

The secretariat will seek the support of the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit in particular through its global network of National Focal Points, consisting of governmental organizations responsible for environmental emergencies at the national level, and its other partners worldwide, for the provision of emergency assistance.

The secretariat will invite the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit to cooperate in the preparation of framework contracts with interested national experts in order to create a "stand-by situation", ensuring the immediate operability of an expert in an emergency situation without bureaucratic delay.

These stand-by contracts will be consultancy contracts prepared in advance for the stand-by period (e.g. for one/two year(s)). The framework contracts will be at no cost to the organization during the stand-by period, if no actual operation is undertaken.

Experts shall be selected according to expertise, language and geographical criteria. Regional centres under the Basel Convention could provide experts on issues pertaining to management of hazardous wastes and other wastes under the Basel Convention. The experts shall be selected by the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Basel Convention and nominated to the UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit.

A ~~letter of agreement~~ Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the secretariat of the Basel Convention and the UNEP/OCHA Environmental Unit, identifying the areas and the methodology for cooperation.

[...]

## BC-12/12: Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the progress made in the implementation of the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment and welcomes the report submitted by the co-chairs of the Partnership Working Group;<sup>58</sup>
2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the financial and in-kind contributions made to the Partnership by parties, signatories, industry, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders;
3. *Recognizes* the significant role of the Partnership as a public-private partnership within the framework of the Basel Convention in achieving successful outputs in respect of the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment;
4. *Emphasizes* the need to further develop and implement strategies for the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment in particular, but also electronic and electrical waste in general, at the regional and national levels;
5. *Invites* parties and signatories to use sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment<sup>59</sup> and the guidelines and reports produced by the Partnership;
6. *Requests* the Partnership Working Group to complete the outstanding tasks from the 2014–2015 work programme including:
  - (a) Revision of section 3 of the guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment, which deals with transboundary movements of such equipment, following the adoption by the Conference of the Parties of the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electronic and electrical waste, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste. The Partnership Working Group should take into account the adopted technical guidelines and any additional information provided and should submit the revised section 3 of the guidance document to the Open-ended Working Group for its consideration;
  - (b) The development of a strategy and workplan for the implementation of concrete actions at the regional and national levels taking into account, inter alia, the draft concept note on strengthening the use of the guidelines and reports developed by the Partnership;<sup>60</sup>
  - (c) The finalization of ongoing pilot projects and the development of a report on lessons learned;
7. *Requests* the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting to consider the revised section 3 of the guidance document developed in accordance with paragraph 6 (a) above and to submit it, amended as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting for its consideration and possible adoption;
8. *Requests* the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to disseminate the guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment, and the guidelines and reports produced by the Partnership, and, subject to the availability of funding, to initiate training and outreach activities and to take the lead in the implementation of actions as identified according to paragraph 6 (b) above;
9. *Encourages* parties and other stakeholders to make financial and/or in-kind contributions:
  - (a) To support the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres in their efforts to implement the activities identified in paragraph 8 above;
  - (b) To facilitate the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of activities as identified in the strategy and workplan described in paragraph 6 (b) above;

<sup>58</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/26.

<sup>59</sup> UNEP/CHW.11/6/Add.1/Rev.1.

<sup>60</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/27, annex II.



(c) To facilitate the implementation of projects on the collection and management of end-of-life computing equipment from the informal sector in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(d) To facilitate the identification of actions and incentives that can be taken to promote the environmentally sound reuse, refurbishment, repair, material recovery and recycling of used and end-of life computing equipment;

10. *Requests* the Secretariat:

(a) To facilitate and provide expertise to the Partnership Working Group;

(b) To report on progress in the activities undertaken by the Partnership Working Group to the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting and to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

## **BC-12/13: Creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of household waste**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Aware* of the challenges that national and local governments are facing with regard to the handling and disposal of household waste,

*Mindful* of the strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for 2012–2021 and the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention at its tenth meeting,

1. *Recalls* the Technical Guidelines on Wastes Collected from Households, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting;
2. *Emphasizes* that measures should be undertaken to achieve the prevention and minimization of hazardous wastes and other wastes generated at source, to enable the decoupling of economic growth and the environmental impacts associated with waste generation and to improve the collection, separation, recycling, recovery and final disposal of such wastes, including the sound handling of hazardous objects or substances contained in household waste;
3. *Agrees* to include in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group the development of a workplan on the environmentally sound management of household waste with a focus on the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and also agrees that such a workplan could include, but would not be limited to, the development of guidance documents and/or manuals on, inter alia, best practices, business models and innovative solutions for the circular economy in various socioeconomic contexts as well as a concept for a partnership to assist municipalities;
4. *Invites* parties and others to indicate to the Secretariat by 30 September 2015 their interest in actively participating in an informal group to develop the workplan described in paragraph 3 above;
5. *Requests* the informal group to develop a workplan for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;
6. *Requests* the Secretariat to facilitate work, subject to the availability of funds, on the activities referred to in paragraph 5 above;
7. *Also requests* the Secretariat to report on progress in the implementation of the present decision to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

## BC-12/14: Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE) on its work<sup>61</sup> and acknowledges the progress made by the network since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Expresses* its appreciation to parties and others that have made financial and in-kind contributions to ENFORCE;

3. *Encourages* members of ENFORCE to continue collaborating by exchanging experiences, providing relevant information and undertaking capacity-building activities to prevent and combat illegal traffic;

4. *Elects* the following representatives of five parties to the Basel Convention to serve as members of ENFORCE:

From African States:	Mr. Dany Mpolesha Kankonda (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
From Asia-Pacific States:	Mr. Abbas Torabi (Islamic Republic of Iran)
From Central and Eastern European States:	Ms. Gordana Vesligaj (Croatia)
From Latin American and Caribbean States:	Mr. Luis Espinosa Salas (Ecuador)
From Western European and other States:	Mr. Helge Ziolkowski (Sweden)

5. *Designates* the following four representatives of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to serve as members of ENFORCE:

From the African region:	Basel Convention Regional Centre for French-speaking countries in Africa located in Senegal
From the Asia-Pacific region:	Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the South Pacific region (SPREP) located in Samoa
From the Central and Eastern European region:	Basel Convention Regional Centre for Central Europe located in Slovakia
From the Latin American and Caribbean region:	Basel Convention Regional Centre for the South American Region located in Argentina

6. *Takes note*, in accordance with the ENFORCE terms of reference, of the organizations or entities that have become additional members of ENFORCE;<sup>62</sup>

7. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to organize annual meetings of ENFORCE and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting on the activities of ENFORCE.

<sup>61</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/28.

<sup>62</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/16.

**BC-12/15: Environmentally sound dismantling of ships***The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Underlines* the importance of continued inter-agency cooperation between the International Labour Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal on issues related to ship dismantling;
2. *Welcomes* the development of implementation programmes relating to sustainable ship recycling;
3. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To continue, subject to the availability of funding, its work and to develop further the programmes for sustainable ship recycling in conjunction with other bodies, in particular the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization, and to report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;
  - (b) To continue to follow developments in relation to the Hong Kong Convention and to report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;
  - (c) To transmit the present decision to the International Maritime Organization.

## BC-12/16: Cooperation between the Basel Convention and the International Maritime Organization

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the information contained in the note by the Secretariat on cooperation between the Basel Convention and the International Maritime Organization;<sup>63</sup>
2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the assessment, prepared by the Public Waste Agency of Flanders, on how far the current Basel Convention technical guidelines address wastes covered by the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto and as further amended by the Protocol of 1997,<sup>64</sup> and encourages parties and others to use it;
3. *Requests* the Secretariat to transmit the assessment referred to in paragraph 2 above to the International Maritime Organization;
4. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To prepare a first draft of the guidance manual on how to improve the sea-land interface, taking into account the revised version of the *IMO Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities*,<sup>65</sup> and to make it available on the Convention website by 31 December 2015;
  - (b) To invite parties and others to comment on the draft guidance manual by 31 March 2016;
  - (c) To submit a revised draft guidance manual, taking into account the comments received, to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting;
  - (d) To keep the International Maritime Organization informed of any developments on the subject of the present decision arising in the context of the Basel Convention and to monitor any consideration by the Marine Environment Protection Committee and the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization of issues of relevance to the Basel Convention;
  - (e) To continue, as appropriate, its cooperation with the International Organization for Standardization;
5. *Requests* the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting to finalize the guidance manual on how to improve the sea-land interface for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;
6. *Requests* the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.

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<sup>63</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/18.

<sup>64</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/29/Rev.1.

<sup>65</sup> International Maritime Organization, MEPC 67/11.

## BC-12/17: International cooperation and coordination

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the report by the Secretariat on international cooperation and coordination;<sup>66</sup>
2. *Joins* with the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme in emphasizing that the sound management of chemicals and wastes is an essential and cross-cutting element of sustainable development and is of great relevance to the sustainable development agenda;
3. *Highlights* the contribution of the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to the protection of human health and the environment from hazardous chemicals and wastes through the sound management of chemicals and wastes;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to inform the co-facilitators for the consultations on the post-2015 development agenda under the United Nations General Assembly about the relevance of the conventions and the contribution that they can make to the implementation of that agenda and to provide input (for example information transmitted to the Secretariat in the national reports under the Basel and Stockholm conventions and scientific data prepared by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, the Chemical Review Committee and the Global Monitoring Plan under the Stockholm Convention) to the United Nations Statistical Commission and other relevant forums for the development of indicators relevant to the sound management of chemicals and wastes;
5. *Emphasizes* the importance of enhancing cooperation and coordination with other international bodies to facilitate the fulfilment of the objectives of the conventions, in particular within the chemicals and wastes cluster;
6. *Invites* the Environment Management Group to look at how the United Nations system can deliver in meeting the 2020 goal for the sound management of chemicals and wastes;
7. *Welcomes* United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/5 on chemicals and waste and requests the Executive Secretary to cooperate with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in fostering the implementation of that resolution and, more generally, on the continued and coordinated strengthening of the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term;
8. *Joins* the United Nations Environment Assembly in emphasizing the need for continued and strengthened multisectoral and multi-stakeholder involvement and requests the Executive Secretary to participate in the fourth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management and to ensure, within available resources, the effective involvement of the Secretariat in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;
9. *Also joins* the United Nations Environment Assembly in recognizing the continued relevance of the sound management of chemicals and wastes beyond 2020 and joins with the International Conference on Chemicals Management and others in stressing the importance of considering long-term policies, building on United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/5 and its annex, on strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term;
10. *Encourages* the organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals to present for consideration by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fourth session specific policies and actions planned by each organization, within their own mandates, to meet the 2020 goal;
11. *Welcomes* cooperation and coordination between the Secretariat and the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention and requests the Secretariat to continue and enhance such cooperation and coordination in areas of mutual interest with a view to fostering policy coherence, where appropriate, and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels;

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<sup>66</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/31-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/41.

12. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue:

(a) To enhance cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and wastes cluster, in particular to facilitate activities at the regional and country levels that would support the implementation of the agreements in the cluster in areas of mutual interest, and to consider which activities of the programmes of work may be effectively implemented in cooperation with other entities within the cluster;

(b) To enhance cooperation and coordination with other international bodies in areas of relevance to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, including in the areas and with the organizations listed in the aforementioned report;

(c) To report on the implementation of the present decision to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.

## BC-12/18: Implementation of the integrated approach to financing

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the information presented in the note by the Secretariat;<sup>67</sup>
2. *Joins* the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme in welcoming an integrated approach to addressing the financing of the sound management of chemicals and wastes, underscoring that the three components of an integrated approach, mainstreaming, industry involvement and dedicated external finance, are mutually reinforcing and are all important for the financing of the sound management of chemicals and waste at all levels and emphasizing the importance of implementing the three components, as agreed in decision 27/12 of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council, requests the Secretariat to assist parties in that respect, subject to the availability of resources, and recognizes the importance of the joint programme of work to that end;
3. *Welcomes* paragraphs 5 and 8 of decision SC-7/21 on the Stockholm Convention guidance to the Global Environment Facility, which encourages the Facility to continue to enhance synergies of its activities taking into account co-benefits for the Basel Convention on the Control of the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;
4. *Welcomes* United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/5, including the agreement to establish the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for the implementation of the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, and looks forward to the early start of the special programme's operations;
5. *Welcomes* that according to the terms of reference of the special programme the Executive Secretary may participate as an observer in the meetings of the executive board of the special programme, requests him to attend such meetings and requests the Secretariat to cooperate, as appropriate, with the secretariat of the special programme;
6. *Joins* the United Nations Environment Assembly in encouraging Governments in a position to do so, as well as the private sector, including industry, foundations, other non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, to mobilize financial resources for the fast and effective establishment and start of the implementation of the special programme;
7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to ensure that the activities of the Secretariat and its support to parties under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions take as reference the integrated approach and the programmes of work of the three conventions;
8. *Also requests* the Secretariat to report back to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting on the implementation of the elements of the present decision.

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<sup>67</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/20/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/14/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/26/Rev.1.



## BC-12/19: Work programme and operations of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2016-2017

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Noting* the desire of parties to ensure a transparent, inclusive and efficient decision-making process in the Open-ended Working Group allowing for all regions to participate effectively in discussions, and also noting the importance for non-English-speaking countries of interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations,

1. *Adopts* the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2016–2017 set out in the annex to the present decision;
2. *Decides* that the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group will be of four days' duration, with up to three days of plenary sessions with simultaneous interpretation provided to be applied flexibly by the Executive Secretary;
3. *Invites* those in a position to do so to provide voluntary funding for further interpretation and translation of information documents if considered necessary by the Bureau;
4. *Invites* parties and others to submit to the Secretariat, within two months of the end of the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, comments on experiences with regard to the arrangements for that meeting;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to compile any comments received from parties and others pursuant to paragraph 4 above as well as comments made during the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and to submit them to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting for its consideration;
6. *Resolves* to adopt at its thirteenth meeting a decision on future institutional arrangements for the operations of the Open-ended Working Group, taking into account the comments received from parties and others pursuant to paragraph 4 above.

### Annex to decision BC-12/19

#### Work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2016–2017

<i>Topics</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<b>I. Strategic issues</b>			
A. Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes	Review the progress that parties and others have made in implementation of the road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration.	Decision BC-12/2 Annex IV to the report of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties	High
B. Development of guidelines for environmentally sound management	1. Review the inventory and categorization of existing Basel Convention documents related to environmentally sound management referred to in paragraph 14 of decision BC-12/1.	Decision BC-12/1	High
	2. Review the revised set of draft practical manuals and revised fact sheets referred to in paragraph 15 of decision BC-12/1.		High
	3. Review the progress made in the implementation of the work programme of the expert working group on environmentally sound management.		High

Topics	Activities	Mandate	Priority
C. Strategic framework	Review the progress report on the preparation of the mid-term evaluation of the strategic framework.	Decision BC-10/2 Report of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties	Medium
II. Scientific and technical matters			
A. Technical guidelines	1. Undertake work towards a review of all provisional low persistent organic pollutant content values in the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 of decision BC-12/3. 2. Update the general technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants and prepare or update specific technical guidelines with regard to the chemicals listed in Annexes A and C to the Stockholm Convention by decisions SC-7/12–SC-7/14 of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, including the following:  (a) Establishment of levels of destruction and irreversible transformation for the chemicals necessary to ensure that when disposed of they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants specified in paragraph 1 of Annex D to the Stockholm Convention;  (b) Determination of which disposal methods constitute environmentally sound disposal as referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention;  (c) Establishment, as appropriate, of the concentration levels of the chemicals in order to define for the Stockholm Convention low persistent organic pollutant content as referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Convention.	Decision BC-12/3	High  High
	3. Further elaboration of work on guidance on the distinction between waste and non-waste in order to prepare draft revised technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention.	Decision BC-12/5	High
	4. Consider whether the technical guidelines on incineration on land (D10), on specially engineered landfill (D5), and on hazardous waste physico-chemical treatment (D9) and biological treatment (D8) should be updated.	Report of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties	High
B. Amendments to the annexes to the Basel Convention	Consider and review any applications for changes and any corrections to the list of wastes in Annexes VIII and IX to the Convention.	Decision VIII/15	High
C. National reporting	Consider and agree on a list of waste streams for which additional practical guidance on the development of inventories should be developed, based on the report prepared by the Secretariat.	Decision BC-12/6	Medium

Topics	Activities	Mandate	Priority
III. Legal, governance and enforcement matters			
A. Consultation with the Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention	Consult the Committee on the development of guidance on the take-back provision under paragraph 2 of Article 9 and the implementation of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 9 of the Convention.	Decision BC-12/7	High
B. Providing further legal clarity (country-led initiative)	1. Consider the revised version of the draft glossary including explanations prepared by the small intersessional working group on legal clarity, finalize the glossary and prepare a draft decision for the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting for its consideration and possible adoption.	Decision BC-12/1	High
	2. Consider recommendations on the review of Annex IV and related issues under Annex IX to the Convention.		High
	3. Consider views from parties and others on the review of Annexes I and III to the Convention.		Medium
IV. International cooperation and coordination			
A. Basel Convention Partnership Programme	1. Consider the report of the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE) Working Group.	Decision BC-12/12	Medium
	2. Consider the revised section 3 of the guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment and submit it, amended as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting for its consideration and possible adoption.		Medium
	3. Develop a work plan on the environmentally sound management of household wastes, with a focus on the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including but not limited to the development of guidance documents and/or manuals on matters such as best practices, business models and innovative solutions for a circular economy in various socio-economic contexts and a concept for a partnership that will assist municipalities.	Decision BC-12/13	High
B. Cooperation between the Basel Convention and the International Maritime Organization	Consider and finalize the revised draft guidance manual on how to improve the sea-land interface to ensure that wastes falling within the scope of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, once offloaded from ships, are managed in an environmentally sound manner, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.	Decision BC-12/16	Medium
V. Programme of work and budget			
Financing and budget for the biennium 2016–2017	Consider the reports by the Secretariat on all sources of income received, including the reserve and fund balances and interest, together with actual, provisional and projected expenditures and commitments, and by the Executive Secretary on all expenditures against the agreed budget lines.	Decision BC-12/25	Medium

## BC-12/20: Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Mindful* of the legal autonomy of, respectively, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,

*Reaffirming* that actions taken to enhance coordination and cooperation should be aimed at strengthening the implementation of the three conventions at the national, regional and global levels, promoting coherent policy guidance and enhancing efficiency in the provision of support to parties with a view to reducing their administrative burden and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretariat on the implementation of the 2013 omnibus decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions<sup>68</sup> and the progress made in the implementation of the decision;
2. *Recalls* the invitation to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in consultation with the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary, to undertake a review of the matrix-based management approach and organization and to advise the conference of the parties of any follow-up action necessary at their meetings in 2017;
3. *Also recalls* the request in paragraph 10 of the omnibus decision to the Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to review the proposals set out in the note by the Secretariat on the organization and operation of the part of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to enhance synergies arrangements<sup>69</sup> and requests that the Executive Secretary submit a report thereon to the conferences of the parties at their meetings in 2017;
4. *Adopts* the terms of reference for the review of the synergies arrangements;<sup>70</sup>
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit the report on the review of the synergies arrangements by the independent assessor and to make proposals on follow-up actions in response to the conclusions and recommendations resulting from the review for consideration by the conferences of the parties at their meetings in 2017.

### Annex to decision BC-12/20

#### Terms of reference for the review of the synergies arrangements

##### I. Objective

1. Actions taken to enhance coordination and cooperation should be aimed at strengthening the implementation of the three conventions at the national, regional and global levels, promoting coherent policy guidance, enhancing efficiency in the provision of support to parties, reducing administrative burden and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels.
2. The present document outlines the terms of reference for the review of the synergies arrangements to be carried out pursuant to paragraph 5 of the 2013 omnibus decision. The review will be carried out through an independent assessment of the implementation and impact of the joint activities and joint managerial functions, including services, at all levels.
3. The review aims to help the conferences of the parties to analyse the synergies processes, and their overall objectives, in a comprehensive manner. As such, the report on the results of the review should indicate the positive results achieved, the challenges and gaps as well as the lessons learned and

<sup>68</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1, annex I.

<sup>69</sup> UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/INF/9.

<sup>70</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1, annex II.

the impact that those results had at all levels. As well as the assessment of the various elements of the synergies processes, the review should recommend any follow-up actions necessary. The conferences of the parties should be able to define how the synergies arrangements could be enhanced and what needs to be adapted or modified in the future based on the recommendations highlighted in this assessment to increase the impact of the conventions.

## II. Methodology

4. The Secretariat will hire an independent assessor to carry out the review work. The assessor will collect information from parties on their experiences regarding the synergies arrangements. The assessor will use various methods for that purpose such as questionnaires and interviews with parties, taking into account regional and gender balance, as well as with members of the bureaux and subsidiary bodies, Secretariat staff based in Geneva and in Rome, the Basel and Stockholm regional centres and relevant stakeholders.

5. The report on the results of the review will consider the synergies arrangements from the viewpoint of the parties, the Secretariat and other stakeholders at the national, regional and global levels.

6. The review will cover the period from the adoption of the first synergies decisions in 2005 to 2015.

7. The assessor will also consider the following reports and, when relevant, the actions taken by the conferences of the parties in furtherance of the recommendations set out therein:

- (a) Synergies decisions of the conferences of the parties and the associated meeting reports;
- (b) Executive Secretary's proposal for the organization of the secretariats of the three conventions as of 22 December 2011;<sup>71</sup>
- (c) Background documents and thought starters of the Ad Hoc Joint Working Group on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination Among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions;
- (d) The report on the survey on the joint and back-to-back meetings of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and the Chemical Review Committee;
- (e) Reports on the implementation of joint activities presented to the conferences of the parties;<sup>72</sup>
- (f) Report by the consultant on the review of job descriptions;
- (g) Reports on the review of the synergies arrangements presented to the conference of the parties in 2013,<sup>73</sup> including a compilation of country comments;
- (h) Final report of the audit by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services on coordination and cooperation among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;<sup>74</sup>
- (i) Relevant reports from the regional centres;
- (j) Relevant reports published on the websites of the conventions;
- (k) Relevant reports provided by parties and other stakeholders.

## III. Report on the results of the review

8. A report on the results of the review of the synergies arrangements will be presented to the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their meetings in 2017. The report will include the following elements:

- (a) Executive summary;
- (b) Introduction;

<sup>71</sup> UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/INF/7.

<sup>72</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/45-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/31-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/51.

<sup>73</sup> UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/INF/5 and UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/INF/6.

<sup>74</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/43-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/49.

- (c) Review of implementation and impact at all levels of the following joint activities:
    - (i) Technical assistance;
    - (ii) Scientific and technical activities, including the engagement of parties and other stakeholders in informed dialogue to trigger increased integration of science in the implementation of the conventions at the regional and national levels;
    - (iii) Regional centres;
    - (iv) Clearing-house mechanism;
    - (v) Public awareness, outreach and publications;
    - (vi) Reporting;
  - (d) Review of the implementation and impact of joint managerial functions;
  - (e) Overall impacts of the synergies arrangements on:
    - (i) Political visibility of the conventions;
    - (ii) Effectiveness of financing and technical assistance for the implementation of the conventions;
    - (iii) Policy coherence;
    - (iv) Cost-efficiency;
    - (v) Administrative procedures;
    - (vi) Parties' ability to implement the conventions;
  - (f) Conclusions and recommendations on follow-up actions.
9. As part of the review of the joint activities, the report will also include certain specific assessments:
- (a) Regarding joint activities on technical assistance, it will include an assessment of partnerships and of the technical assistance programme of the Secretariat;
  - (b) Regarding scientific and technical activities, it will include an assessment of the cooperation and coordination between the technical bodies of the three conventions;
  - (c) Regarding overall management, it will include an assessment of international cooperation and coordination activities undertaken jointly for the conventions and of the experience in organizing back-to-back meetings of the conferences of the parties to the three conventions.
10. The report will be focused and succinct and its executive summary will be made available in the six official languages of the United Nations.
11. The Secretariat will submit the report to the conferences of the parties for consideration at their meetings in 2017.

## BC-12/21: Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Notes* the progress made in the implementation of the joint clearing-house mechanism, which should serve as a platform for the exchange and dissemination of information;
2. *Takes note* of the proposed joint clearing-house mechanism strategy<sup>75</sup> and invites parties and others to provide comments on the strategy, in particular its scope, on national and regional priorities and needs in respect of the clearing-house mechanism and on the goals described in section IV of the strategy, to the Secretariat by 31 October 2015;
3. *Acknowledges* the role that the joint clearing-house mechanism can play in facilitating the exchange of information in relation to the sound management of chemicals and wastes among parties and other stakeholders and in promoting the understanding of scientific, technical and legal aspects of the three conventions;
4. *Recognizes* the gaps in access to scientific information and knowledge, the inadequate capacity of developing countries to provide scientific inputs for the various processes under the conventions and the need for scientific and technical advice in relation to implementation and notes the role that the clearing-house mechanism strategy could play in addressing those issues;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To provide for the biennium 2016–2017, within available resources, access to thematic information relevant to the conventions through the clearing-house mechanism, including from parties and other stakeholders, on the following priority areas:
    - (i) National plans and strategies, such as national action plans under the Rotterdam Convention and national implementation plans under the Stockholm Convention;
    - (ii) Environmentally sound management of chemicals and of hazardous and other wastes;
    - (iii) Priority waste stream inventories, for wastes such as e-wastes, mercury wastes and persistent organic pollutant wastes, and related technical guidelines;
    - (iv) Illegal traffic, in accordance with the conventions;
    - (v) Persistent organic pollutants listed under the Stockholm Convention, including related information on inventories, exemptions, best available techniques and best environmental practices, risk evaluations and risk profiles;
    - (vi) Chemicals listed under the Rotterdam Convention, including information contained in decision guidance documents;
    - (vii) National reporting, the prior informed consent procedure and other notification procedures under the conventions;
    - (viii) Legal matters, such as final regulatory actions, importing country responses and export notifications under the Rotterdam Convention and national definitions of wastes, national legislation, bilateral and multilateral agreements and import/export restrictions under the Basel Convention;
    - (ix) Technology transfer and transfer of know-how;
    - (x) Available financial and technical assistance;
    - (xi) Regional centres;
  - (b) To prepare, for consideration by the conferences of the parties at their meetings in 2017, a revised joint clearing-house mechanism strategy, taking into account the challenges referred to in paragraph 4 above, including capacity-building to facilitate the use of the joint clearing-house mechanism, and the comments received from parties and others pursuant to paragraph 2 above and the report of the independent assessor who will carry out the synergies review assessment.

<sup>75</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/50-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/36-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/56.

## BC-12/22: From science to action

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the science-policy interface for the effectiveness of the conventions;
2. *Stresses* the need for scientific underpinning for decision-making and policy-making in the sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes at the national and regional levels;
3. *Recognizes* the need for greater access to scientific understanding in developing countries to enhance informed decision-making on the implementation of the conventions;
4. *Requests* the Secretariat, taking into account the roles of the scientific bodies of the conventions, within available resources, to develop and present to the conferences of the parties at their meetings in 2017 a road map for further engaging parties and other stakeholders in informed dialogue for enhanced science-based action in the implementation of the conventions at the regional and national levels, noting that the road map should consider:
  - (a) Exploring new activities within the mandates of the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to enhance science-based action to implement the conventions;
  - (b) Addressing the gaps in access to scientific information and knowledge, the lack of capacity to provide scientific inputs to the various processes under the conventions and the need for scientific and technical advice in relation to the implementation of the conventions;
  - (c) Facilitating the exchange of scientific and technical information among parties and other stakeholders and promoting the understanding of the scientific and technical aspects of the three conventions;
  - (d) Possibilities for cooperation and coordination with the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organizations, scientific bodies and stakeholders.



## **BC-12/23: Venue and date of the next meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

### *The Conference of the Parties,*

1. *Decides* to convene its thirteenth meeting in Geneva from 24 April to 5 May 2017, back to back with the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; that will include joint sessions, where appropriate, on joint issues;
2. *Also decides* that the meeting will include a high-level segment, which will be no more than one day's duration;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in order to assist parties in preparing for the back-to-back meetings, to support, within available resources, regional meetings to assist regional preparatory processes, coordinated with other regional meetings.

## **BC-12/24: Draft memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Noting* the legal autonomy of the Conference of the Parties and noting that the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme and the conferences of the parties to the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants have equal decision-making authority within their respective mandates,

1. *Takes note* of the proposed draft memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the provision of secretariat functions for the Basel Convention by the Programme;<sup>76</sup>
2. *Welcomes* the establishment by the Executive Director of a task team on the effectiveness of administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which the Programme provides the secretariat;
3. *Takes note* of the progress report by the Executive Director on the work of the task team pursuant to United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/12, on the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements;<sup>77</sup>
4. *Notes* that many of the issues addressed in the draft memorandum of understanding are currently being discussed by the task team and decides to wait for the task team to finalize its work before taking a final decision on the memorandum of understanding;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to engage actively in the work of the task team and to inform and consult the bureaux of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on the work of the task team during the intersessional period;
6. *Invites* the Executive Director to keep the bureaux of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions informed when preparing meeting documents for the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly on the relationship between the Programme and the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;
7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultation with the Executive Director and taking into account the outcome of the deliberations of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session on the relationship between the Programme and multilateral environmental agreements, for consideration and possible adoption at its thirteenth meeting, a revised draft memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention and the Executive Director concerning the provision of secretariat functions for the Basel Convention by the Programme.

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<sup>76</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/25, annex.

<sup>77</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/56.

## BC-12/25: Programme of work and budget for the Basel Convention for the biennium 2016-2017

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Taking note* of the financial reports on the Basel Convention trust funds for 2014 and estimated expenditures for 2015 from the Trust Fund for the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (Basel Convention Trust Fund),<sup>78</sup>

*Also taking note* of the Office of Internal Oversight Services audit report (number 2014/024), entitled “Provision of efficient and effective Secretariat support to the conventions” and of the efforts made by the Secretariat to quantify the results achieved in implementing joint activities in accordance with the recommendation of the report,

*Further taking note* of General Assembly resolution 60/283, by which the Assembly approved the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations,

*Recognizing* that the International Public Sector Accounting Standards require that full provision be made for doubtful debt in respect of debt that is more than four years in arrears and that proportionate provision be made for more recent arrears and that, as a result, an amount, estimated at 186,984 United States dollars, will have to be deducted from the end 2014 fund balance of the Basel Convention Trust Fund to cover doubtful debt and cannot be used for the benefit of all parties during the biennium 2016–2017,

### I

#### **Trust Fund for the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

1. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to establish a single operational account for staff costs, and in this regard invites the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide additional information, which will be immediately made available through the bureaux of the conferences of the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, on the practical implications of such a measure and on the establishment of a single joint general trust fund for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and to make proposals on any required changes to the financial rules, which will inform a decision at the next meetings of the conferences of the parties;
2. *Invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to explore the possibility of establishing a single joint voluntary trust fund for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, to provide information to the bureaux as soon as possible and to present proposals at the next meetings of the conferences of the parties;
3. *Approves* the programme budget for the Basel Convention for the biennium 2016–2017 of 4,800,854 United States dollars for 2016 and 4,603,990 United States dollars for 2017 for the purposes set out in table 1 of the present decision, which are presented by budget code line in table 2 of the present decision;
4. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention to make commitments in an amount up to the approved operational budget, drawing upon available cash resources;
5. *Decides* to maintain the working capital reserve at the level of 15 per cent of the annual average of the biennial operational budgets for 2016–2017;
6. *Adopts* the indicative scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses for the biennium 2016–2017 set out in table 4 of the present decision, and authorizes the Executive Secretary, consistent with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, to adjust the scale to

<sup>78</sup> See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/39.

include all parties for which the Convention enters into force before 1 January 2016 for 2016 and before 1 January 2017 for 2017;

7. *Recognizes* that contributions to the Basel Convention Trust Fund are due by or on 1 January of the year for which those contributions have been budgeted, requests parties to pay their contributions promptly, encourages parties in a position to do so to pay their contributions by 16 October 2015 for the calendar year 2016 and by 16 October 2016 for the calendar year 2017, and requests the Secretariat to notify parties of the amount of their contributions as early as possible in the year preceding the year in which they are due;

8. *Notes with concern* that a number of parties have not paid their contributions to the Basel Convention Trust Fund for 2014 and prior years, contrary to the provisions of paragraph 3 (a) of rule 5 of the financial rules, and urges parties to pay their contributions promptly, by or on 1 January of the year to which the contributions apply;

9. *Decides*, with regard to contributions due from 1 January 2010 onwards, that no representative of any party whose contributions are in arrears for two or more years shall be eligible to become a member of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties or a member of any subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, provided, however, that this shall not apply to parties that are least developed countries or small island developing States or to parties that have agreed on and are respecting a schedule of payments in accordance with the financial rules;

10. *Recalls* the provisions of paragraph 3 (e) of rule 5 of the financial rules on outstanding contributions due from 1 January 2001 onwards, and decides that no representative of any party whose contributions are in arrears for four or more years and that has not agreed on or is not respecting a schedule of payments implemented in accordance with paragraph 3 (d) of rule 5 of the financial rules shall be eligible to receive financial support to attend intersessional workshops and other informal meetings, as arrears that have been outstanding for more than four years have to be treated as 100 per cent doubtful debts under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, and invites the President of the Conference of the Parties, to notify, through a jointly signed letter, the ministers of foreign affairs of those parties whose contributions are in arrears, inviting them to take timely action, and to thank those parties that have responded in a positive manner in paying their outstanding contributions;

12. *Decides* to further consider additional incentives and measures to address arrears in core budget contributions to the Convention in an effective and efficient manner at its next meeting;

13. *Takes note* of the indicative staffing table for the Secretariat for the biennium 2016–2017 used for costing purposes to set the overall budget, which is set out in table 5 of the present decision;

14. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary to continue to determine the staffing levels, numbers and structure of the Secretariat in a flexible manner, provided that he remain within the overall cost of the staff numbers set out in table 5 of the present decision for the biennium 2016–2017 as recommended by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in its audit report;

15. *Invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to ensure that staff training to comply with United Nations mandatory training for staff members is financed from programme support costs since it represents an overhead cost in the operations of the Secretariat;

## II

### **Trust Fund to Assist Developing Countries and other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention**

16. *Takes note* of the funding estimates included in table 3 of the present decision for activities under the Convention to be financed from the Trust Fund to Assist Developing Countries and other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (Technical Cooperation Trust Fund) in the amount of 4,719,210 United States dollars for 2016 and 4,333,947 United States dollars for 2017;

17. *Notes* that the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund requirement presented in the budget represents its best efforts to be realistic and reflects priorities agreed by all parties and urges parties and invites non-parties and others to make voluntary contributions to the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund so as to encourage contributions from donors;

18. *Also notes* the importance of having funding available in the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the participation in the meetings of the Convention of developing-country parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and parties with economies in transition;

19. *Urges* parties, and invites others in a position to do so, to contribute urgently to the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund with a view to ensuring the full and effective participation of developing-country parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, and parties with economies in transition, in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties;

### III

#### Preparations for the next biennium

20. *Decides* that the two trust funds for the Convention shall be continued until 31 December 2017 and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to extend them for the biennium 2016–2017, subject to the approval of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

21. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in the context of the report on the implementation of joint and convention-specific activities, to include a section on the gender action plan;

22. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, bearing in mind decision BC.Ex-2/1 on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, further to enhance efficiency in the use of financial and human resources in accordance with the priorities set by the Conference of the Parties and to report on the outcome of his efforts in that regard;

23. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a budget for the biennium 2018–2019, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, explaining the key principles, assumptions and programmatic strategy on which the budget is based and presenting expenditures for the 2018–2019 period in both a programmatic format and by budget code line;

24. *Notes* the need to facilitate priority-setting by providing parties with timely information on the financial consequences of various options and, to that end, requests the Executive Secretary to include in the proposed operational budget for the biennium 2018–2019 two alternative funding scenarios that take account of any efficiencies identified as a result of paragraph 22 above and are based on:

(a) The Executive Secretary's assessment of the required changes in the operational budget, which should not exceed a 5 per cent increase on the 2016–2017 level in nominal terms, to finance all proposals before the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary implications;

(b) Maintaining the operational budget at the 2016–2017 level in nominal terms;

25. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Open-ended Working Group and to the Bureau on all sources of income received, including the reserve and fund balances and interest, together with actual, provisional and projected expenditures and commitments, and to report on all expenditures against the agreed budget lines;

26. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary at the thirteenth ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to provide, where relevant, cost estimates for actions that have budgetary implications that are not foreseen in the draft programme of work but are included in proposed draft decisions before the adoption of those decisions by the Conference of the Parties;

27. *Stresses* the need to ensure that the proposal for the 2018–2019 Technical Cooperation Trust Fund requirement presented in the budget is realistic and represents agreed priorities of all parties so as to encourage voluntary contributions from all sources.

Table 1

## Programme budget for 2016–2017 (in United States dollars)

## Activities related to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

		2016								2017									
		Source of funding								Source of funding									
Activities		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Biennium	
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
1 (BC)	Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (including high-level segment of 1 day)	50 000						50 000		507 575	978 163					507 575	978 163	557 575	978 163
2 (RC)	Eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (including high-level segment of 1 day)			422 000				422 000				135 575	978 163			135 575	978 163	557 575	978 163
3 (SC)	Eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention including high-level segment of 1 day)					30 000		30 000						527 575	978 163	527 575	978 163	557 575	978 163
4 (BC)	Tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group to the Basel Convention	347 982	669 512					347 982	669 512									347 982	669 512
5 (RC)	Twelfth and thirteenth meetings of the Chemical Review Committee (CRC) and orientation workshop for CRC members			258 604	89 535	—		258 604	89 535			258 604				258 604		517 208	89 535
6 (SC)	Twelfth and thirteenth meetings of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC)					431 481	20 632	431 481	20 632					431 481	85 102	431 481	85 102	862 962	105 734
7 (BC)	Meeting of the Bureau of the conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention and joint meetings of the bureaux to	50 900						50 900										50 900	

		2016								2017									
		Source of funding								Source of funding									
Activities		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Biennium	
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
8 (RC)	the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions Meeting of the Bureau of the conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and joint meetings of the bureaux to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions			30 200				30 200										30 200	
9 (SC)	conventions Meeting of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and joint meetings of the bureaux to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions					44 000		44 000										44 000	
10 (BC)	Meeting of the Basel Convention Implementation and Compliance Committee	42 680	30 280					42 680	30 280									42 680	30 280
11 (RC)	Orientation workshop for CRC members-included under activity 5																		
12 (S6)	Support the work of and coordination between the scientific bodies of the conventions		4 000		4 000		4 000		12 000										12 000
2016–2017 totals (non-staff cost)		491 562	703 792	710 804	93 535	505 481	24 632	1 707 847	821 959	507 575	978 163	394 179	978 163	959 056	1 063 265	1 860 810	3 019 591	3 568 657	3 841 550
2016–2017 totals (staff cost)		851 254	197 120	988 973	82 500	1 156 685	136 016	2 996 912	415 636	891 401	232 960	1 067 888	85 800	1 200 052	141 457	3 159 341	460 217	6 156 253	6 571 889

## 2. Technical assistance and capacity-building

### a. Development of tools and methodologies

Activity No. 2016–2017	Activities	2016								2017									
		Source of funding								Source of funding									
		Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm Convention	Annual	Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm	Annual	Biennium									
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
13 (S1)	Tools and methodologies for training and capacity-building	15 000	307 000	15 000	284 000	15 000	313 000	45 000	904 000	15 000	225 000	15 000	226 000	15 000	245 000	45 000	696 000	90 000	1 600 000
	<b>2016–2017 total technical assistance and capacity-building a)</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>307 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>284 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>313 000</b>	<b>45 000</b>	<b>904 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>225 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>226 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>245 000</b>	<b>45 000</b>	<b>696 000</b>	<b>90 000</b>	<b>1 600 000</b>

### b. Capacity-building and training

14 (BC)	Training and capacity-building activities to enhance the implementation of the Basel Convention at the regional level	870 000								870 000 600 000 600 000 1 470 000									
15 (RC)	Training and capacity-building activities to enhance the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention at national and regional levels	1 178 600								1 178 600 778 400 778 400 1 957 000									
16 (SC)	Training and capacity-building activities to enhance the implementation of the Stockholm Convention at the regional level	1 190 800 - 1 190 800								616 200 - 616 200 1 807 000									



Activity No. 2016–2017	Activities	2016								2017							
		Source of funding				Source of funding				Source of funding				Source of funding			
		Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm Convention	Annual	Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm	Annual	Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm	Annual	Basel Convention	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm	Biennium
17 (S2/S3)	Training and capacity-building activities to enhance the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at the regional and national levels	532 000	540 000	530 000	1 602 000	341 000	354 000	368 000	1 063 000								2 665 000
	<b>2016–2017 total assistance and capacity building b)</b>	<b>1 402 000</b>	<b>1 718 600</b>	<b>1 720 800</b>	<b>4 841 400</b>	<b>941 000</b>	<b>1 132 400</b>	<b>984 200</b>	<b>3 057 600</b>								<b>7 899 000</b>
<b>c. Partnerships</b>																	
18 (S4)	Partnerships for technical assistance	150 000	190 000	70 000	410 000	122 000	147 000	26 000	295 000	-							705 000
	<b>2016–2017 total assistance and capacity building c)</b>	<b>44 150</b>	<b>311 500</b>	<b>44 150</b>	<b>237 500</b>	<b>88 300</b>	<b>549 000</b>	<b>205 000</b>	<b>279 000</b>	<b>484 000</b>	<b>88 300</b>	<b>1 033 000</b>					
<b>d. Regional centres</b>																	
19 (S8/9)	Coordination of and support to the Basel and Stockholm Convention regional centres and cooperation and coordination between regional centres	44 150	311 500	44 150	237 500	88 300	549 000	-	205 000			279 000					1 033 000
	<b>2016–2017 total assistance and capacity building d)</b>	<b>44 150</b>	<b>311 500</b>	<b>44 150</b>	<b>237 500</b>	<b>88 300</b>	<b>549 000</b>					<b>279 000</b>					<b>1 033 000</b>
	<b>2016–2017 totals (non-staff cost)</b>	<b>59 150</b>	<b>2 170 500</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>2 192 600</b>	<b>59 150</b>	<b>2 341 300</b>	<b>133 300</b>	<b>6 704 400</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>1 493 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>1 505 400</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>1 534 200</b>	<b>45 000</b>	<b>11 237 000</b>
	<b>2016–2017 totals (staff cost)</b>	<b>408 590</b>	<b>232 960</b>	<b>496 261</b>	<b>178 750</b>	<b>415 913</b>	<b>374 044</b>	<b>1 320 764</b>	<b>785 754</b>	<b>430 656</b>	<b>293 530</b>	<b>555 654</b>	<b>185 900</b>	<b>429 604</b>	<b>389 006</b>	<b>1 415 914</b>	<b>1 654 189</b>

### 3. Scientific and technical activities

Activity No. 2016–2017	Activities	2016								2017									
		Source of funding								Source of funding									
		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm		Annual		Biennium	
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
<b>20 (S7)</b>	Scientific support to parties to the Basel Convention	224 875	285 000				20 000	224 875	305 000	25 000	205 000				10 000	25 000	215 000	249 875	520 000
<b>21 (RC)</b>	Scientific support to parties to the Rotterdam Convention			30 000	202 500			30 000	202 500			30 000	52 500			30 000	52 500	60 000	255 000
<b>22 (SC)</b>	Scientific support to parties to the Stockholm Convention					75 000	206 000	75 000	206 000					65 000	102 000	65 000	102 000	140 000	308 000
<b>23 (SC)</b>	Effectiveness evaluation and the Global Monitoring Plan					135 000	224 000	135 000	224 000					-	204 000		204 000	135 000	428 000
<b>24 (S15)</b>	National reporting	48 000	10 000			78 000		126 000	10 000	10 000	50 000			20 000		30 000	50 000	156 000	60 000
<b>2016–2017 totals (non–staff cost)</b>		<b>272 875</b>	<b>295 000</b>	<b>30 000</b>	<b>202 500</b>	<b>288 000</b>	<b>450 000</b>	<b>590 875</b>	<b>947 500</b>	<b>35 000</b>	<b>255 000</b>	<b>30 000</b>	<b>52 500</b>	<b>85 000</b>	<b>316 000</b>	<b>150 000</b>	<b>623 500</b>	<b>740 875</b>	<b>1 571 000</b>
<b>2016–2017 totals (staff cost)</b>		<b>323 558</b>		<b>232 116</b>		<b>431 817</b>	<b>127 515</b>	<b>987 490</b>	<b>127 515</b>	<b>341 032</b>		<b>255 217</b>		<b>446 030</b>	<b>132 616</b>	<b>1 042 279</b>	<b>132 616</b>	<b>2 029 769</b>	<b>260 131</b>

#### 4. Knowledge and information management and outreach

Activity No. 2016–2017	Activities	2016								2017									
		Source of funding								Source of funding									
		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm		Annual		Biennium	
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
<b>25 (S10)</b>	Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange, including PIC database and Rotterdam Convention website in English, French and Spanish Publications	45 600	42 400	14 400	31 700	61 600	42 400	121 600	116 500	45 600	42 400	14 400	31 700	61 600	42 400	121 600	116 500	243 200	233 000
<b>26 (S14)</b>	Joint communication, outreach and public awareness	26 700		26 600		26 700		80 000		6 700		6 600		6 700		20 000		100 000	
<b>27 (S12/S13)</b>	Joint communication, outreach and public awareness	1 000		1 000		1 000		3 000		1 000	17 500	1 000	15 000	1 000	17 500	3 000	50 000	6 000	50 000
<b>2016–2017 totals (non-staff cost)</b>		<b>73 300</b>	<b>42 400</b>	<b>42 000</b>	<b>31 700</b>	<b>89 300</b>	<b>42 400</b>	<b>204 600</b>	<b>116 500</b>	<b>53 300</b>	<b>59 900</b>	<b>22 000</b>	<b>46 700</b>	<b>69 300</b>	<b>59 900</b>	<b>144 600</b>	<b>166 500</b>	<b>349 200</b>	<b>283 000</b>
<b>2016–2017 totals (staff cost)</b>		<b>373 661</b>		<b>566 050</b>	<b>13 750</b>	<b>556 234</b>	<b>34 004</b>	<b>1 495 945</b>	<b>47 754</b>	<b>393 841</b>	<b>9 318</b>	<b>632 389</b>	<b>14 300</b>	<b>574 543</b>	<b>35 364</b>	<b>1 600 773</b>	<b>58 983</b>	<b>3 096 718</b>	<b>106 737</b>

## 5. Overall management

Activity No. 2016–2017	Activities	2016								2017									
		Source of funding								Source of funding									
		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm		Annual		Biennium	
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
28 (S18)	Executive direction and management	64 400		144 081		106 434		314 915		57 900		81 346		98 434		237 680		552 595	
29 (S19)	International cooperation and coordination																		
30 (S16)	Resource mobilization	9 000		9 000		166 500	20 000	184 500	20 000	9 000		9 000	-	40 500	-	58 500		243 000	20 000
31 (S17)	Support for the review of the synergies decisions	45 200		30 300		45 200		120 700										120 700	
	2016–2017 totals (non-staff cost)	118 600		183 381		318 134	20 000	620 115	20 000	66 900		90 346		138 934		296 180		916 295	20 000
	2016–2017 totals (staff cost)	367 775		288 894		631 385	170 020	1 288 054	170 020	396 555	-	317 645	-	652 168	176 821	1 366 368	176 821	2 654 423	346 841

## 6. Legal and policy

Activity No. 2016–2017	Activities	2016								2017									
		Source of funding								Source of funding									
		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm		Annual		Biennium	
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
32 (BC)	Legal and policy activities specific to the Basel Convention		190 000						190 000		190 000						190 000		380 000
33 (S20)	Legal and policy activities under the Basel Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions; national legislation, illegal traffic and trade and enforcement under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions		20 000					20 000											20 000
34 (BC)	Coordinate and provide support to parties in follow-up to the country led initiative on environmentally sound management and further legal clarity		217 000						217 000		207 000						207 000		424 000
<b>2016–2017 totals (non-staff cost)</b>			<b>427 000</b>					<b>427 000</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>397 000</b>					<b>397 000</b>		<b>824 000</b>	
<b>2016–2017 totals (staff cost)</b>		<b>391 080</b>	<b>107 520</b>	<b>27 934</b>		<b>236 423</b>	<b>8 501</b>	<b>655 437</b>	<b>116 021</b>	<b>409 098</b>	<b>116 480</b>	<b>30 214</b>		<b>238 913</b>	<b>8 841</b>	<b>678 225</b>	<b>125 321</b>	<b>1 333 662</b>	<b>241 342</b>

## 7. Office maintenance and services

Activity No. 2016–2017	Activities	2016								2017									
		Source of funding				Source of funding				Source of funding				Source of funding				Biennium	
		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm Convention		Annual		Basel Convention		Rotterdam Convention		Stockholm		Annual			
		BCTF budget	BDTF budget	ROTF budget	RVTF budget	SCTF budget	SVTF budget	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF	Total funding General TF	Total funding Special TF
35 (S21)	Office maintenance and services	153 000		74 100		243 000		470 100		153 000		74 100		243 000		470 100		940 200	
36 (S11)	Joint information technology services	52 500		32 500		72 500		157 500		52 500		32 500		72 500		157 500		315 000	
	2016–2017 totals (non-staff cost)	205 500		106 600		315 500		627 600		205 500		106 600		315 500		627 600		1 255 200	
	2016–2017 totals (staff cost)	311 639		2 093		33 059		346 790		328 469		2 301		34 147		364 917		711 708	
	2016–2017 totals (non-staff cost)	1 220 978	3 638 692	1 087 785	2 520 335	1 575 565	2 878 332	3 884 337	9 037 359	883 275	3 183 063	658 125	2 582 763	1 582 790	2 973 365	3 124 190	8 739 191	7 008 527	17 776 550
	2016–2017 totals (staff cost)	3 027 556	537 600	2 602 320	275 000	3 461 516	850 100	9 091 393	1 662 700	3 191 053	652 288	2 861 307	286 000	3 575 458	884 104	9 627 818	1 822 392	18 719 210	3 485 092
	2016–2017 Grand totals	4 248 543	4 176 292	3 690 105	2 795 335	5 037 081	3 728 432	12 975 730	10 700 059	4 074 328	3 835 351	3 519 432	2 868 763	5 158 248	3 857 469	12 752 008	10 561 583	25 727 737	21 261 642

## Summary of the Programme budget for 2016–2017 by heading (in United States dollars)

	2016								2017							
	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total Gen TF	Total Vol TF	BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF	Total Gen TF	Total Vol TF
Conferences and meetings	491 562	703 792	710 804	93 535	505 481	24 632	1 707 847	821 959	507 575	978 163	394 179	978 163	959 056	1 063 265	1 860 810	3 019 591
Technical assistance and capacity-building	59 150	2 170 500	15 000	2 192 600	59 150	2 341 300	133 300	6 704 400	15 000	1 493 000	15 000	1 505 400	15 000	1 534 200	45 000	4 532 600
Scientific and technical activities	272 875	295 000	30 000	202 500	288 000	450 000	590 875	947 500	35 000	255 000	30 000	52 500	85 000	316 000	150 000	623 500
Knowledge and information management and outreach	73 300	42 400	42 000	31 700	89 300	42 400	204 600	116 500	53 300	59 900	22 000	46 700	69 300	59 900	144 600	166 500
Overall management	118 600		183 381	-	318 134	20 000	620 115	20 000	66 900		90 346		138 934		296 180	
Legal and policy		427 000						427 000		397 000						397 000
Office maintenance and services	205 500		106 600		315 500		627 600		205 500		106 600		315 500		627 600	
Total non-staff costs	1 220 987	3 638 692	1 087 785	2 520 335	1 575 565	2 878 332	3 884 337	9 037 359	883 275	3 183 063	658 125	2 582 763	1 582 790	2 973 365	3 124 190	8 739 191
Total staff costs	3 027 547	537 600	2 602 320	275 000	3 461 516	850 100	9 091 384	1 662 700	3 191 053	652 288	2 861 307	286 000	3 575 458	884 104	9 627 818	1 822 392
Total programme requirements	4 248 543	4 176 292	3 690 105	2 795 335	5 037 081	3 728 432	12 975 730	10 700 059	4 074 328	3 835 351	3 519 432	2 868 763	5 158 248	3 857 469	12 752 008	10 561 583
	General TF	Special TF		BCTF	BDTF	ROTF	RVTF	SCTF	SVTF							
BRS total budget	25 727 737	21 261 642		8 322 871	8 011 643	7 209 538	5 664 098	10 195 329	7 585 901							
Increase from biennium to biennium	-0.11%	7.02%		-2.89%	24.67%	6.66%	-11.55%	-2.21%	7.79%							

Table 2

**Programme of work for 2016–2017 funded via the general trust funds of the Basel (BC) Rotterdam (RO) and Stockholm (SC) conventions****Operational budget for 2016–2017 (in United States dollars)****Summary table of total costs per budget code level and by convention trust fund**

		Year 2016				Year 2017				2016-2017
		BC	RC	SC	Total	BC	RC	SC	Total	Total
<b>10 Project personnel component</b>										
<b>1100</b>	<b>Professional staff</b>									
1101	Executive Secretary (D-2)	125 091	15 255	164 754	<b>305 100</b>	126 922	31 730	158 652	<b>317 304</b>	<b>622 404</b>
1111	Executive Secretary (D-2) (0.25 in kind by FAO)									
1131	Deputy Executive Secretary (D-1)	116 563	14 215	153 522	<b>284 300</b>	118 269	29 567	147 836	<b>295 672</b>	<b>579 972</b>
1135	Chief of Branch (P-5) SSB	103 320	12 600	136 080	<b>252 000</b>	107 453	13 104	141 523	<b>262 080</b>	<b>514 080</b>
1133	Chief of Branch (P-5) COB	103 320	12 600	136 080	<b>252 000</b>	107 453	13 104	141 523	<b>262 080</b>	<b>514 080</b>
1134	Chief of Branch (P-5) TAB	103 320	12 600	136 080	<b>252 000</b>	107 453	13 104	141 523	<b>262 080</b>	<b>514 080</b>
1132	Chief of Branch (P-5) ASB									
1112	Senior Programme Officer - FAO (P-5)		263 309		<b>263 309</b>		273 841		<b>273 841</b>	<b>537 150</b>
1103	Programme Officer (P-3) (replacing retired P-5 in 2015)	59 733			<b>59 733</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>	<b>246 101</b>
1104	Senior Programme Officer (P-5) (only for 2016)	252 000			<b>252 000</b>					<b>252 000</b>
1108	Programme Officer (P-3) (replacing retired P-5 in 2015)					186 368			<b>186 368</b>	<b>186 368</b>
1105	Senior Programme Officer (P-5)	252 000			<b>252 000</b>	262 080			<b>262 080</b>	<b>514 080</b>
1106	Policy and Legal Adviser (P-4)	216 700			<b>216 700</b>	225 368			<b>225 368</b>	<b>442 068</b>
1107	Programme Officer (P-4)	216 700			<b>216 700</b>	225 368			<b>225 368</b>	<b>442 068</b>
OTA	Administrative Officer (P-4) (by UNEP OTL)									
1109	Programme Officer - National Reporting (P-3)	179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1110	Programme Officer - Information Officer (P-3)	179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1111	Programme Officer (P-3)	179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1112	Associate Programme Officer - Computer Systems (P-2)	146 600			<b>146 600</b>	152 464			<b>152 464</b>	<b>299 064</b>
1113	Associate Legal Officer (upgrade to P-3)	179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
	Transitional adjustment									



		<i>Subtotal BC staff</i>	<i>2 412 147</i>	<i>330 579</i>	<i>726 516</i>	<i>2 551 037</i>	<i>374 451</i>	<i>731 058</i>		
1105	Programme Officer (P-4)				216 700	<b>216 700</b>		225 368	<b>225 368</b>	<b>442 068</b>
1106	Programme Officer (P-4)				216 700	<b>216 700</b>		225 368	<b>225 368</b>	<b>442 068</b>
1107	Senior Programme Officer (P-5)				252 000	<b>252 000</b>		262 080	<b>262 080</b>	<b>514 080</b>
1108	Programme Officer (P-3)		-		179 200	<b>179 200</b>	-	186 368	<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
OTA	Administrative Officer (P-4) (0.5 by UNEP OTL)		━							
1111	Legal Officer (P-3)		━		179 200	<b>179 200</b>		186 368	<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1112	Associate Programme Officer (upgrade to P-3)		━		179 200	<b>179 200</b>		186 368	<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1114	Project Information System Officer (P-3)		━		179 200	<b>179 200</b>		186 368	<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1116	Programme Officer (upgrade to P-4)		━		216 700	<b>216 700</b>		225 368	<b>225 368</b>	<b>442 068</b>
1117	Programme Officer (P-3)		━		179 200	<b>179 200</b>		186 368	<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1118	Programme Officer (P-4)		━		216 700	<b>216 700</b>		225 368	<b>225 368</b>	<b>442 068</b>
	Transitional adjustment									
	<i>Subtotal SC staff</i>				<b>2 741 316</b>			<b>2 826 450</b>		
1102	Programme Officer (P-3) (replacing retired P-5 in 2014)		59 733			<b>59 733</b>	186 368		<b>186 368</b>	<b>246 101</b>
1103	Programme Officer (P-4)		216 700			<b>216 700</b>	225 368		<b>225 368</b>	<b>442 068</b>
OTA	Administrative Officer (P-4) (0.5 by UNEP OTL)		━		━					
1105	Programme Officer (P-3)		179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368		<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1104	Programme Officer (P-3)		179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368		<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1106	Public Awareness Officer (P-3)		179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368		<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1108	Programme Officer (P-3)		179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368		<b>186 368</b>	<b>365 568</b>
1113	Programme Officer - FAO (P-4)		229 551			<b>229 551</b>	238 733		<b>238 733</b>	<b>468 285</b>
1114	Programme Officer (P-3) (in kind by FAO)		━				━			
1116	Programme Officer - FAO (P-3)		183 242			<b>183 242</b>	190 572		<b>190 572</b>	<b>373 814</b>
1117	Programme Officer - FAO (P-3)		183 242			<b>183 242</b>	190 572		<b>190 572</b>	<b>373 814</b>
1118	Programme Officer - FAO (P-2)		138 226			<b>138 226</b>	143 755		<b>143 755</b>	<b>281 981</b>
	Transitional adjustment									
	<i>Subtotal RC staff</i>				<b>2 058 074</b>		<b>2 295 291</b>			
<b>1199</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>2 412 147</b>	<b>2 058 074</b>	<b>2 741 316</b>	<b>7 211 538</b>	<b>2 551 037</b>	<b>2 295 291</b>	<b>2 826 450</b>	<b>7 672 778</b>
<b>1200</b>	<b>Consultants</b>									<b>14 884 315</b>

1203	Consultant (PACE)									
1201	Consultant (HSC codes)	25 000			25 000	25 000			25 000	50 000
1202	Consultant (e-waste technical guidelines)									
1204	Consultant to develop generic inventory tool for collection of data on hazardous wastes									
1205	Consultant for resource mobilization database (funded from fund balance)	1 500	1 500	1 500	4 500	1 500	1 500	1 500	4 500	9 000
1204	Consultants for resource kit									
1206	Consultants (scientific support for SC)			20 000	20 000			5 000	5 000	25 000
1207	Consultants (effectiveness evaluation for SC)			50 000	50 000					50 000
1208	Consultants (GMP for SC)			20 000	20 000					20 000
1209	Consultant (fourth review of financial mechanism SC)		—	105 000	105 000					105 000
1210	Consultant (needs assessment SC)		—	52 500	52 500			31 500	31 500	84 000
1211	Consultant (POPRC review)			10 000	10 000					10 000
1281	Consultant (national reporting BC and SC)	48 000	—	78 000	126 000	10 000		20 000	30 000	156 000
1282	Consultants (clearing- house mechanism)									
1283	Consultant (synergies review)	40 200	26 800	40 200	107 200					107 200
1290	Staff training - language									
1291	Staff training - management and communication									
<b>1299</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>114 700</b>	<b>28 300</b>	<b>377 200</b>	<b>520 200</b>	<b>36 500</b>	<b>1 500</b>	<b>58 000</b>	<b>96 000</b>	<b>616 200</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Administrative support</b>									
<b>1300</b>	<b>General Service staff</b>									
OTA	Administrative Assistant (by UNEP OTL)		—				—			
1302	Senior Team Assistant	170 200	—		170 200	177 008	—		177 008	347 208
1303	Meetings/Documents Assistant	170 200	—		170 200	177 008	—		177 008	347 208
1306	Information Assistant	137 500	—		137 500	143 000	—		143 000	280 500
OTA	Finance and Budget Assistant (by UNEP OTL)		—				—			
1307	Programme Assistant	137 500	—		137 500	143 000	—		143 000	280 500
	<i>Subtotal BC staff</i>	<b>615 400</b>				<b>640 016</b>				



1331	Chemical Review Committee		143 466		143 466		143 466		143 466	
1387	Donor round table meetings	2 500	2 500	2 500	7 500	2 500	2 500	2 500	7 500	15 000
1388	Conference servicing (Regional Centres)									
1389	Conference servicing (Partnerships)									
	<i>Conference servicing subtotal</i>	<b>400 482</b>	<b>567 966</b>	<b>349 347</b>	<b>1 317 795</b>	<b>510 075</b>	<b>281 541</b>	<b>846 922</b>	<b>1 638 538</b>	<b>2 956 333</b>
<b>1399</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1 015 882</b>	<b>1 112 212</b>	<b>1 069 547</b>	<b>3 197 641</b>	<b>1 150 091</b>	<b>847 557</b>	<b>1 595 930</b>	<b>3 593 578</b>	<b>6 791 219</b>
<b>1600</b>	<b>Travel on official business</b>									
1601	Official travel	59 400	139 081	101 434	299 915	52 900	76 346	93 434	222 680	522 595
<b>1699</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>59 400</b>	<b>139 081</b>	<b>101 434</b>	<b>299 915</b>	<b>52 900</b>	<b>76 346</b>	<b>93 434</b>	<b>222 680</b>	<b>522 595</b>
<b>1999</b>	<b>Component total</b>	<b>3 602 129</b>	<b>3 337 667</b>	<b>4 289 497</b>	<b>11 229 294</b>	<b>3 790 528</b>	<b>3 220 694</b>	<b>4 573 814</b>	<b>11 585 036</b>	<b>22 814 329</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Subcontract component</b>									
<b>2200</b>	<b>Subcontracts</b>									
2203	Resource kit									
2202	Pilot activities (regional centres)									
2204	Subcontracts (information management of the Secretariat)	15 675	4 650	15 675	36 000	15 675	4 650	15 675	36 000	72 000
2201	Subcontracts (clearing-house mechanism based on priorities)	13 225	4 650	23 225	41 100	13 225	4 650	23 225	41 100	82 200
<b>2299</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>28 900</b>	<b>9 300</b>	<b>38 900</b>	<b>77 100</b>	<b>28 900</b>	<b>9 300</b>	<b>38 900</b>	<b>77 100</b>	<b>154 200</b>
<b>2999</b>	<b>Component total</b>	<b>28 900</b>	<b>9 300</b>	<b>38 900</b>	<b>77 100</b>	<b>28 900</b>	<b>9 300</b>	<b>38 900</b>	<b>77 100</b>	<b>154 200</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>Training component</b>									
<b>3300</b>	<b>Meetings: participant travel and DSA</b>									
3303	Bureau of BC	38 100			38 100					38 100
3305	Joint Bureau of BC	12 800			12 800					12 800
3304	Implementation and Compliance Committee	42 680			42 680					42 680
3307	Intersessional meeting (technical guidelines BC) additional	30 000	—		30 000					30 000
3308	Technical Expert Group									
3309	Annual meeting of the Basel Convention regional centres									
3304	Bureau of SC			31 200	31 200					31 200
3313	Joint Bureau of SC			12 800	12 800					12 800
3302	POPs Review Committee			114 634	114 634			114 634	114 634	229 268
3309	Annual meeting of the Stockholm Convention regional centres									

3310	Joint meeting of the Basel and Stockholm convention regional centres	44 150		44 150	88 300					88 300
3305	DDT Expert Group						60 000	60 000		60 000
3311	GMP Global Coordination Group			40 000	40 000					40 000
3312	Effectiveness Evaluation Committee (2 meetings)			70 000	70 000					70 000
3314	Implementation and Compliance Committee									
3301	Bureau of RC		17 400		17 400					17 400
3313	Joint Bureau of RC		12 800		12 800					12 800
3302	Chemicals Review Committee		115 138		115 138		115 138		115 138	230 276
3314	Implementation and Compliance Committee									
3387	Donor round table meetings	4 000	4 000	4 000	12 000	4 000	4 000	4 000	12 000	24 000
<b>3399</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>171 730</b>	<b>149 338</b>	<b>316 784</b>	<b>637 852</b>	<b>4 000</b>	<b>119 138</b>	<b>178 634</b>	<b>301 772</b>	<b>939 624</b>
<b>3999</b>	<b>Component total</b>	<b>171 730</b>	<b>149 338</b>	<b>316 784</b>	<b>637 852</b>	<b>4 000</b>	<b>119 138</b>	<b>178 634</b>	<b>301 772</b>	<b>939 624</b>
<b>40</b>	<b>Equipment and premises component</b>									
<b>4100</b>	<b>Expendable equipment</b>									
4101	Office supplies (Geneva)	7 000	4 250	7 000	18 250	7 000	4 250	7 000	18 250	36 500
4102	Office supplies (Rome)		4 250		4 250		4 250		4 250	8 500
4103	Software (Webinars)	15 000	15 000	15 000	45 000	15 000	15 000	15 000	45 000	90 000
4104	Software/hardware (information management of the Secretariat)	2 800	1 900	2 800	7 500	2 800	1 900	2 800	7 500	15 000
<b>4199</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>24 800</b>	<b>25 400</b>	<b>24 800</b>	<b>75 000</b>	<b>24 800</b>	<b>25 400</b>	<b>24 800</b>	<b>75 000</b>	<b>150 000</b>
<b>4200</b>	<b>Non-expendable equipment</b>									
4201	Non-expendable equipment (Geneva)	5 000	2 500	5 000	12 500	5 000	2 500	5 000	12 500	25 000
4202	Non-expendable equipment (Rome)		2 500		2 500		2 500		2 500	5 000
4203	IT equipment (Geneva)	42 200	8 100	62 200	112 500	42 200	8 100	62 200	112 500	225 000
4204	IT equipment (Rome)		17 500		17 500		17 500		17 500	35 000
<b>4299</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>47 200</b>	<b>30 600</b>	<b>67 200</b>	<b>145 000</b>	<b>47 200</b>	<b>30 600</b>	<b>67 200</b>	<b>145 000</b>	<b>290 000</b>
<b>4300</b>	<b>Premises</b>									
4301	Office space, maintenance, utilities (Geneva)	75 000	35 000	145 000	255 000	75 000	35 000	145 000	255 000	510 000
<b>4399</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>75 000</b>	<b>35 000</b>	<b>145 000</b>	<b>255 000</b>	<b>75 000</b>	<b>35 000</b>	<b>145 000</b>	<b>255 000</b>	<b>510 000</b>
<b>4999</b>	<b>Component total</b>	<b>147 000</b>	<b>91 000</b>	<b>237 000</b>	<b>475 000</b>	<b>147 000</b>	<b>91 000</b>	<b>237 000</b>	<b>475 000</b>	<b>950 000</b>
<b>50</b>	<b>Miscellaneous component</b>									
<b>5100</b>	<b>Operation and maintenance of equipment</b>									

5101	Maintenance of office equipment (Geneva)	5 000	2 500	5 000	12 500	5 000	2 500	5 000	12 500	25 000
<b>5102</b>	Maintenance of office equipment (Rome)		2 500		2 500		2 500		2 500	5 000
<b>5199</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>30 000</b>
<b>5200</b>	<b>Reporting costs</b>									
5201	Publications (core publications)	26 700	26 600	26 700	80 000	6 700	6 600	6 700	20 000	100 000
5202	Printing and translation (information management of the Secretariat)	13 900	3 200	19 900	37 000	13 900	3 200	19 900	37 000	74 000
5203	Information/public awareness materials (regional centres)									
5204	Printing and translation (technical guidelines BC)	101 000			101 000					101 000
	Printing and translation (technical guidelines BC) additional	68 875			68 875					68 875
5205	Printing/translation (joint communication)	1 000	1 000	1 000	3 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	3 000	6 000
5212	PIC circular		30 000		30 000		30 000		30 000	60 000
5283	Printing/translation (Synergies review)	5 000	3 500	5 000	13 500					13 500
5287	Printing/translation (outreach material for funding partners)	1 000	1 000	1 000	3 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	3 000	6 000
<b>5299</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>217 475</b>	<b>65 300</b>	<b>53 600</b>	<b>336 375</b>	<b>22 600</b>	<b>41 800</b>	<b>28 600</b>	<b>93 000</b>	<b>429 375</b>
<b>5300</b>	<b>Sundry</b>									
5301	Communications (Geneva)	61 000	15 600	81 000	157 600	61 000	15 600	81 000	157 600	315 200
5302	Communications (Rome)		5 000		5 000		5 000		5 000	10 000
5303	Communications (internet line)	10 300	6 900	10 300	27 500	10 300	6 900	10 300	27 500	55 000
<b>5399</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>71 300</b>	<b>27 500</b>	<b>91 300</b>	<b>190 100</b>	<b>71 300</b>	<b>27 500</b>	<b>91 300</b>	<b>190 100</b>	<b>380 200</b>
<b>5400</b>	<b>Hospitality</b>									
5401	Hospitality	5 000	5 000	5 000	15 000	5 000	5 000	5 000	15 000	30 000
<b>5499</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>5 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>30 000</b>
<b>5999</b>	<b>Component total</b>	<b>298 775</b>	<b>102 800</b>	<b>154 900</b>	<b>556 475</b>	<b>103 900</b>	<b>79 300</b>	<b>129 900</b>	<b>313 100</b>	<b>869 575</b>
<b>Direct project cost operational budget</b>		<b>4 248 543</b>	<b>3 690 105</b>	<b>5 037 081</b>	<b>12 975 730</b>	<b>4 074 328</b>	<b>3 519 432</b>	<b>5 158 248</b>	<b>12 752 008</b>	<b>25 727 737</b>
<b>UNEP programme support costs 13%</b>		<b>552 311</b>	<b>479 714</b>	<b>654 821</b>	<b>1 686 845</b>	<b>529 663</b>	<b>457 526</b>	<b>670 572</b>	<b>1 657 761</b>	<b>3 344 606</b>
<b>Total operational budget</b>		<b>4 800 854</b>	<b>4 169 819</b>	<b>5 691 902</b>	<b>14 662 575</b>	<b>4 603 990</b>	<b>3 976 959</b>	<b>5 828 820</b>	<b>14 409 769</b>	<b>29 072 343</b>

<b>Basel Convention Trust Fund</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014–2015 Total</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016–2017 Total</b>
Approved budget for the biennium 2014–2015 (Decision BC-11/26)	4 846 783	4 838 057	9 684 840			
Proposed budget for the biennium 2016–2017				4 800 854	4 603 990	9 404 844
Approved average annual budget for the biennium 2014–2015			4 842 420			
Proposed average annual budget for the biennium 2016–2017						4 702 422
<b>Increase in the average annual budget</b>						<b>-2.89%</b>
Deduction from reserve and fund balance	2 000	2 000	4 000			
Increase in working capital reserve	25 525		25 525	(21 000)		(21 000)
<b>Covered by parties</b>	<b>4 870 308</b>	<b>4 836 057</b>	<b>9 706 365</b>	<b>4 779 854</b>	<b>4 603 990</b>	<b>9 383 845</b>
Percentage increase in contributions from year to year	<b>9.73%</b>	<b>-0.70%</b>		<b>-1.16%</b>	<b>-3.68%</b>	
Average annual contributions for the biennium 2014–2015			4 853 183			
Average annual contributions for the biennium 2016–2017						4 691 922
<b>Increase in average annual contributions</b>						<b>-3.32%</b>
<b>Working capital reserve based on average operational budget for 2014–2015 (15%)</b>			<b>726 363</b>			
<b>Working capital reserve based on average operational budget for 2016–2017 (15%)</b>						<b>705 363</b>
<b>Rotterdam Convention Trust Fund</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014–2015 Total</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016–2017 Total</b>
Approved budget for the biennium 2014–2015 (Decision RC-6/16)	3 727 472	3 910 302	7 637 774			
Proposed budget for the biennium 2016–2017				4 169 819	3 976 959	8 146 778
Approved average annual budget for the biennium 2014–2015			3 818 887			
Proposed average annual budget for the biennium 2016–2017						4 073 389
<b>Increase in the average annual budget</b>						<b>6.66%</b>
Deduction from reserve and fund balance	2 000	2 000	4 000	161 216	161 216	322 431
Increase in working capital reserve	9 168		9 168	38 175		38 175
Deduction from special contingency reserve				189 015		189 015
Increment to the special contingency reserve: index to fluctuations in salary scales		25 078	25 078			
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>3 734 640</b>	<b>3 933 380</b>	<b>7 668 020</b>	<b>3 857 764</b>	<b>3 815 743</b>	<b>7 673 507</b>
Host country contributions*	1 358 344	1 358 344	2 716 688	1 320 000	1 200 000	2 520 000
<b>Covered by parties</b>	<b>2 376 296</b>	<b>2 575 036</b>	<b>4 951 332</b>	<b>2 537 764</b>	<b>2 615 743</b>	<b>5 153 507</b>
Percentage increase in contributions from year to year	<b>8.70%</b>	<b>8.36%</b>		<b>-1.45%</b>	<b>3.07%</b>	

Average annual contributions for the biennium 2014–2015	2 475 666	
Average annual contributions for the biennium 2016–2017		2 576 753
<b>Increase in the average annual contributions</b>		<b>4.08%</b>
<b>Working capital reserve based on the average operational budget for 2014–2015 (15%)</b>	<b>572 833</b>	
<b>Working capital reserve based on the average operational budget for 2016–2017 (15%)</b>		<b>611 008</b>

\* EUR 1,200,000 per annum for the biennium 2016–2017 equal US\$ 1,513,241 based on the United Nations exchange rate of 1 November 2014 – US\$ 1.00 = EUR 0.793. Calculated by using the average United Nations exchange rate between January 2013 and November 2014 (23 months), it is US\$ 1.00 = EUR 0.75 EUR - equal to US\$1,600,000 (calculated at the same level for both years). Of the Swiss portion of the host country contribution, 35 per cent is re-allocated to RVL for 2016 and 50 per cent for 2017, equal to US\$ US\$280,000 in 2016 and US\$400,000 in 2017.

<b>Stockholm Convention Trust Fund</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014–2015 Total</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016–2017 Total</b>
Approved budget for the biennium 2014–2015 (Decision SC-6/30)	5 732 172	6 048 917	11 781 089			
Proposed budget for the biennium 2016–2017				5 691 902	5 828 820	11 520 721
Approved average annual budget for the biennium 2014–2015			5 890 545			
Proposed average annual budget for the biennium 2016–2017						5 760 361
<b>Increase in the average annual budget</b>						<b>-2.21%</b>
Deduction from reserve and fund balance	2 000	2 000	4 000			
Increase in working capital reserve	(2 708)		(2 708)	259 932		259 932
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>5 727 464</b>	<b>6 046 917</b>	<b>11 774 381</b>	<b>5 951 833</b>	<b>5 828 820</b>	<b>11 780 653</b>
Host country contributions*	1 004 489	995 615	2 000 104	1 025 155	1 020 775	2 045 930
<b>Covered by parties</b>	<b>4 722 975</b>	<b>5 051 302</b>	<b>9 774 277</b>	<b>4 926 678</b>	<b>4 808 045</b>	<b>9 734 723</b>
Percentage increase in contributions from year to year	7.22%	6.95%		-2.47%	-2.41%	
Average annual contributions for the biennium 2014–2015			4 887 139			
Average annual contributions for the biennium 2016–2017						4 867 361
<b>Increase in average annual contributions</b>						<b>-0.40%</b>
<b>Working capital reserve based on average operational budget for 2014–2015 (8.3%)</b>			<b>488 915</b>			
<b>Working capital reserve based on average operational budget for 2016–2017 (13%)</b>						<b>748 847</b>

\* Swiss contributions of CHF 1,000,000 per annum for the biennium 2016–2017 equal US\$1,046,025 based on the United Nations exchange rate of 1 November 2014 – US\$ 1.00 = CHF 0.956. Calculated by using the average United Nations exchange rate between January 2013 and November 2014 (23 months) it is US\$ 1.00 = CHF 0.916 - equal to US\$1,091,703 (calculated at the same level for both years).

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Host country contributions	1 004 489	995 615	1 025 155	1 020 775
Assessed contributions	65 030	73 904	66 548	70 928
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 069 519</b>	<b>1 069 519</b>	<b>1 091 703</b>	<b>1 091 703</b>



Table 3

**Programme of work for 2016–2017 funded via the voluntary special and technical cooperation trust funds of the Basel (BD), Rotterdam (RV) and Stockholm (SV) conventions**

**Voluntary budget for 2016–2017 (in United States dollars)**

**Summary table of total costs per budget code level and by convention trust fund**

		2016				2017			2016–2017
		BD	RV	SV	Total	BD	RV	SV	Total
<b>10 Project personnel component</b>									
<b>1100</b>	<b>Professional staff</b>								
1101	Programme Officer P-3	179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>
1114	Programme Officer P-3	179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>
1115	Programme Officer P-3	179 200			<b>179 200</b>	186 368			<b>186 368</b>
1116	Programme Officer P-3 (new)					93 184			<b>93 184</b>
	<i>Subtotal BC staff</i>	<i>537 600</i>				<i>652 288</i>			<i>652 288</i>
1124	Programme Officer P-4 (new)			216 700	<b>216 700</b>			225 368	<b>225 368</b>
1121	Programme Officer P-3			179 200	<b>179 200</b>			186 368	<b>186 368</b>
1126	Programme Officer P-3			179 200	<b>179 200</b>			186 368	<b>186 368</b>
	<i>Subtotal SC staff</i>			<i>575 100</i>	<i>575 100</i>			<i>598 104</i>	<i>598 104</i>
<b>1199</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>537 600</b>		<b>575 100</b>	<b>1 112 700</b>	<b>652 288</b>		<b>598 104</b>	<b>1 250 392</b>
<b>1200</b>	<b>Consultants</b>								
1201	Consultants - development of tools and modules	41 000	42 000	42 000	<b>125 000</b>	10 000	10 000	10 000	<b>30 000</b>
1202	Consultants – capacity-building and training (BC)	30 000			<b>30 000</b>	20 000			<b>20 000</b>
1203	Consultants – capacity-building and training (RC)		67 000		<b>67 000</b>		38 000		<b>38 000</b>
1204	Consultants – capacity-building and training (SC)			60 000	<b>60 000</b>			30 000	<b>30 000</b>
1205	Consultants – capacity-building and training (BC RC SC)	8 000	10 000	8 000	<b>26 000</b>	5 000	5 000	4 000	<b>14 000</b>
1206	Consultants- partnerships	60 000	30 000	30 000	<b>120 000</b>	10 000			<b>10 000</b>
1207	Consultants- technical guidelines								
1208	Consultants- technical guidelines (E-waste)	70 000			<b>70 000</b>	70 000			<b>70 000</b>
	Consultants- technical guidelines (E-waste) - additional	60 000			<b>60 000</b>	50 000			<b>50 000</b>

		2016				2017			2016–2017	
		BD	RV	SV	Total	BD	RV	SV	Total	Total
1209	Consultant (ESM household waste)	40 000			40 000					40 000
1210	Consultants - scientific support to RC		30 000		30 000					30 000
1211	Consultants- technical guidelines (E-waste)			10 000	10 000			10 000	10 000	20 000
	Consultants- technical guidelines (E-waste) - additional			10 000	10 000					10 000
1210	Consultants - scientific support to SC			150 000	150 000			50 000	50 000	200 000
1212	Consultants - support for development and maintenance of national reporting tools (BC SC)	10 000			10 000	50 000			50 000	60 000
1213	Support for further work on ESM	50 000			50 000	50 000			50 000	100 000
1214	Consultants – CLI-related activities	27 000			27 000	27 000			27 000	54 000
1215	Consultants - Strategic framework (mid-term evaluation report)	20 000			20 000	20 000			20 000	40 000
1216	Consultant (online questionnaire)			20 000	20 000					20 000
1283	Consultant (scientific bodies)	4 000	4 000	4 000	12 000					12 000
1285	Consultants (webinars & online training)	40 000	40 000	50 000	130 000	20 000	20 000	20 000	60 000	190 000
1286	Consultants (technical assistance needs assessment)		10 000		10 000					10 000
1287	Consultants (Resource Kit & e-library)	20 000	20 000	20 000	60 000	15 000	15 000	15 000	45 000	105 000
1289	Consultants - regional centres	12 500		12 500	25 000					25 000
1284	Consultant (illegal traffic)	20 000			20 000					20 000
1282	Consultants (information management of the Secretariat)	14 400	11 200	14 400	40 000	14 400	11 200	14 400	40 000	80 000
1285	Consultants (clearing-house mechanism based on priorities)	28 000	20 500	28 000	76 500	28 000	20 500	28 000	76 500	153 000
<b>1299</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>554 900</b>	<b>284 700</b>	<b>458 900</b>	<b>1 298 500</b>	<b>389 400</b>	<b>119 700</b>	<b>181 400</b>	<b>690 500</b>	<b>1 989 000</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Administrative support</b>									
<b>1300</b>	<b>General Service staff</b>									
1323	GTA Conference Clerk		137 500		137 500		143 000		143 000	280 500
1306	GTA Public Information Clerk		137 500		137 500		143 000		143 000	280 500
	<i>Subtotal RO staff</i>		<i>275 000</i>				<i>286 000</i>		<i>286 000</i>	<i>286 000</i>

		2016				2017			2016–2017	
		BD	RV	SV	Total	BD	RV	SV	Total	Total
1322	GTA Programme Clerk			137 500	137 500			143 000	143 000	280 500
1323	Team Assistant (new)			137 500	137 500			143 000	143 000	280 500
	<i>Subtotal SC staff</i>			275 000	275 000			286 000	286 000	561 000
	<i>General Service staff subtotal</i>		275 000	275 000	550 000		286 000	286 000	572 000	1 122 000
<b>1330</b>	<b>Conference servicing</b>									
1322	BC Open-ended Working Group (1 day extra interpretation)	25 960			25 960					25 960
1380	Conference servicing (regional centres)	7 000			7 000			7 000	7 000	14 000
	<i>Conference servicing subtotal</i>	32 960			32 960			7 000	7 000	39 960
<b>1399</b>	<b>Total</b>	32 960	275 000	275 000	582 960		286 000	293 000	579 000	1 161 960
<b>1600</b>	<b>Travel on official business</b>									
1601	Staff travel - orientation workshop for members of CRC		2 480		2 480					2 480
1602	Staff travel – capacity-building and training BC	56 000			56 000	34 000			34 000	90 000
1603	Staff travel – capacity-building and training RC		30 000		30 000		10 000		10 000	40 000
1604	Staff travel - capacity building and training SC			30 000	30 000			20 000	20 000	50 000
1680	Staff travel – capacity-building and training (BC, RC, SC)	13 000	12 000	13 000	38 000	12 000	15 000	15 000	42 000	80 000
1681	Staff travel -regional centres	15 000		15 000	30 000	5 000		5 000	10 000	40 000
1607	Staff travel - scientific support to BC	15 000			15 000	15 000			15 000	30 000
1608	Staff travel - scientific support to RO		2 500		2 500		2 500		2 500	5 000
1609	Staff travel - scientific support to SC			16 000	16 000			12 000	12 000	28 000
1610	Staff travel – SC GMP			4 000	4 000			4 000	4 000	8 000
1611	Staff travel - CLI and legal clarity	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000	10 000
1683	Staff travel - regional preparatory meetings					10 977	10 977	10 977	32 931	32 931
<b>1699</b>	<b>Total</b>	104 000	46 980	78 000	228 980	81 977	38 477	66 977	187 431	416 411
<b>1999</b>	<b>Component total</b>	1 229 460	606 680	1 387 000	3 223 140	1 123 665	444 177	1 139 481	2 707 323	5 930 463
<b>20</b>	<b>Subcontract component</b>									
<b>2200</b>	<b>Subcontracts</b>									
2201	Development of tools and modules	40 000	40 000	40 000	120 000	80 000	80 000	80 000	240 000	360 000

		2016				2017			2016–2017	
		BD	RV	SV	Total	BD	RV	SV	Total	Total
2202	Capacity-building and training (BC)	160 000			160 000	100 000			100 000	260 000
2203	Capacity-building and training (RC)		318 000		318 000		222 000		222 000	540 000
2204	Capacity-building and training (SC)			340 000	340 000			235 000	235 000	575 000
2280	Development of massive open online courses (MOOCs)	45 000	45 000	50 000	140 000	20 000	20 000	20 000	60 000	200 000
2282	Capacity-building and training (BC, RC, SC)	81 000	83 000	77 000	241 000	26 000	27 000	56 000	109 000	350 000
2284	Financial audit of technical assistance projects at national and regional levels	35 000	35 000	35 000	105 000	35 000	35 000	35 000	105 000	210 000
2283	Partnerships	20 000	140 000	20 000	180 000	7 000	127 000	6 000	140 000	320 000
2281	Pilot joint activities (regional centres)	200 000		200 000	400 000	200 000		200 000	400 000	800 000
2287	Resource Kit and e-library	20 000	20 000	20 000	60 000	15 000	15 000	15 000	45 000	105 000
2207	Global Monitoring Plan			220 000	220 000			200 000	200 000	420 000
2208	Work programme of ICC	60 000			60 000	60 000			60 000	120 000
2209	Implementation Fund	75 000			75 000	75 000			75 000	150 000
2212	Support for further work on ESM	50 000			50 000	50 000			50 000	100 000
2199	<b>Total</b>	<b>786 000</b>	<b>681 000</b>	<b>1 002 000</b>	<b>2 469 000</b>	<b>668 000</b>	<b>526 000</b>	<b>847 000</b>	<b>2 041 000</b>	<b>4 510 000</b>
2999	<b>Component total</b>	<b>786 000</b>	<b>681 000</b>	<b>1 002 000</b>	<b>2 469 000</b>	<b>668 000</b>	<b>526 000</b>	<b>847 000</b>	<b>2 041 000</b>	<b>4 510 000</b>
<b>30 Training component</b>										
3200	<b>Training</b>									
3201	Training and capacity-building BC	563 000			563 000	421 000			421 000	984 000
3303	Training and workshops (RC)		741 600		741 600		494 400		494 400	1 236 000
3203	Training and workshops (SC)			736 800	736 800			319 200	319 200	1 056 000
3283	Training and workshops (BC, RC, SC)	365 000	368 000	365 000	1 098 000	245 000	259 000	248 000	752 000	1 850 000
3282	Training modules						40 000		40 000	40 000
3280	Video training									
3299	<b>Total</b>	<b>998 000</b>	<b>1 129 600</b>	<b>1 121 800</b>	<b>3 249 400</b>	<b>736 000</b>	<b>813 400</b>	<b>587 200</b>	<b>2 136 600</b>	<b>5 386 000</b>
3300	<b>Meetings: participant travel and DSA</b>									
3301	Conference of the Parties to BC					814 000			814 000	814 000
3302	BC Open-ended Working Group	643 552			643 552					643 552
3303	Implementation and Compliance Committee	30 280			30 280					30 280

		2016				2017			2016–2017	
		BD	RV	SV	Total	BD	RV	SV	Total	Total
3305	Technical expert group (ESM)	50 000			50 000	50 000			50 000	100 000
3306	Meetings of SIWG	35 000			35 000	25 000			25 000	60 000
3307	Intersessional meeting (technical guidelines, BC) additional	30 000			30 000					30 000
3308	Meeting (ESM household waste)	70 000			70 000	70 000			70 000	140 000
3309	Annual meeting of Basel Convention regional centres	67 000			67 000					67 000
3301	Conference of the Parties to SC							814 000	814 000	814 000
3302	POPs Review Committee			20 632	20 632			85 102	85 102	105 734
3305	Expert group meetings (SC)			40 000	40 000			40 000	40 000	80 000
3314	Implementation and Compliance Committee									
3309	Annual meeting of Stockholm Convention regional centres							67 000	67 000	67 000
3311	Conference of the Parties to RC						814 000		814 000	814 000
3309	Orientation workshop for members of Chemical Review Committee		87 055		87 055					87 055
3310	Meetings: training and capacity-building RC		50 000		50 000		50 000		50 000	100 000
3313	Workshop on listings not adopted by COP		120 000		120 000					120 000
3314	Implementation and Compliance Committee									
3386	Massive open online courses (MOOCs)	10 000	10 000	10 000	30 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	30 000	60 000
3382	Joint meetings of Basel and Stockholm regional centres									
3384	Outreach and public awareness (joint media workshop)					17 500	15 000	17 500	50 000	50 000
3385	Conference servicing (regional preparatory meetings)					153 186	153 186	153 186	459 558	459 558
3399	<b>Total</b>	<b>935 832</b>	<b>267 055</b>	<b>70 632</b>	<b>1 273 519</b>	<b>1 139 686</b>	<b>1 042 186</b>	<b>1 186 788</b>	<b>3 368 660</b>	<b>4 642 179</b>
3999	<b>Component total</b>	<b>1 933 832</b>	<b>1 396 655</b>	<b>1 192 432</b>	<b>4 522 919</b>	<b>1 875 686</b>	<b>1 855 586</b>	<b>1 773 988</b>	<b>5 505 260</b>	<b>10 028 179</b>
<b>40 EQUIPMENT AND PREMISES COMPONENT</b>										
4100	<b>Expendable equipment</b>									
4101	Software (development of training tools and modules)	20 000		20 000	40 000					40 000
4199	<b>Total</b>	<b>20 000</b>		<b>20 000</b>	<b>40 000</b>					<b>40 000</b>
4999	<b>Component total</b>									

		2016				2017			2016–2017
		BD	RV	SV	Total	BD	RV	SV	Total
<b>50</b>	<b>Miscellaneous component</b>								
<b>5200</b>	<b>Reporting costs</b>								
<b>5201</b>	Information/public awareness materials (capacity-building BC)								
<b>5201</b>	Information/public awareness materials (capacity-building RC)	61 000			<b>61 000</b>	25 000			25 000
<b>5201</b>	Information/public awareness materials (capacity-building SC)		22 000		<b>22 000</b>		14 000		14 000
<b>5202</b>	Information/public awareness materials (partnerships)			24 000	<b>24 000</b>			12 000	12 000
<b>5203</b>	Translation of notifications					35 000			35 000
<b>5210</b>	Printing/translation (training tools and modules)	35 000			<b>35 000</b>	35 000			35 000
<b>5212</b>	Information/public awareness materials (regional centres)	63 000	43 000	53 000	<b>159 000</b>	42 000	2 000	62 000	106 000
<b>5213</b>	Information/public awareness materials (capacity building BC, RC, SC)	10 000		10 000	<b>20 000</b>				20 000
<b>5215</b>	Information/public awareness materials (Newsletter)	30 000	32 000	32 000	<b>94 000</b>	18 000	13 000	10 000	41 000
<b>5221</b>	Printing/translation (technical assistance needs assessment)		5 000		<b>5 000</b>		5 000		5 000
<b>5222</b>	Resource Kit and e-library	4 000	4 500	4 000	<b>12 500</b>	4 000	4 500	4 000	12 500
<b>5299</b>	<b>Total</b>	4 000	4 500	4 000	<b>12 500</b>	9 000	4 500	9 000	22 500
<b>5999</b>	<b>Component total</b>	<b>207 000</b>	<b>111 000</b>	<b>127 000</b>	<b>445 000</b>	<b>168 000</b>	<b>43 000</b>	<b>97 000</b>	<b>308 000</b>
<b>Direct project cost operational budget</b>		<b>4 176 292</b>	<b>2 795 335</b>	<b>3 728 432</b>	<b>10 700 059</b>	<b>3 835 351</b>	<b>2 868 763</b>	<b>3 857 469</b>	<b>10 561 583</b>
<b>UNEP programme support costs 13%</b>		<b>542 918</b>	<b>363 394</b>	<b>484 696</b>	<b>1 391 008</b>	<b>498 596</b>	<b>372 939</b>	<b>501 471</b>	<b>1 373 006</b>
<b>Total operational budget</b>		<b>4 719 210</b>	<b>3 158 729</b>	<b>4 213 128</b>	<b>12 091 067</b>	<b>4 333 947</b>	<b>3 241 702</b>	<b>4 358 940</b>	<b>24 025 655</b>

<b>Basel Convention Technical Cooperation Trust Fund (BD)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014–2015 total</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016–2017 total</b>
Programme requirements approved for the biennium 2014–2015 (Decision BC-11/26)	3 620 847	3 640 605	7 261 452			
Programme requirements for 2016–2017				4 719 210	4 333 947	9 053 157
Approved average annual budget for 2014–2015			3 630 726			
Proposed average annual budget for 2016–2017						4 526 578
<b>Decrease in the average annual budget</b>						<b>24.67%</b>
<b>Voluntary Special Trust Fund for the Rotterdam Convention (RV)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014–2015 total</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016–2017 total</b>
Programme requirements approved for the biennium 2014–2015 (Decision RC-6/16)	3 195 442	4 041 011	7 236 453			
Programme requirements for the biennium 2016–2017				3 158 729	3 241 702	6 400 431
Approved average annual budget for the biennium 2014–2015			3 618 227			
Proposed average annual budget for the biennium 2016–2017						3 200 215
<b>Increase in the average annual budget</b>						<b>-11.55%</b>
<b>Special Trust Fund for the Stockholm Convention (SV)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014–2015 total</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016–2017 total</b>
Programme requirements approved for the biennium 2014–2015 (Decision SC- 6/30)	3 765 550	4 186 982	7 952 532			
Programme requirements for the biennium 2016–2017				4 213 128	4 358 940	8 572 068
Approved average annual budget for the biennium 2014–2015			3 976 266			
Proposed average annual budget for the biennium 2016–2017						4 286 034
<b>Increase in the average annual budget</b>						<b>7.79%</b>

Table 4

**Indicative scale of assessments for the General Trust Fund of the Basel Convention (BC) for the operational budget for the biennium 2016–2017 (in United States dollars)**

<b>Portion of operational budget to be covered by assessed contributions:</b>		<b>2016</b>	<b>4 777 854<sup>79</sup></b>		
		<b>2017</b>	<b>4 601 990<sup>80</sup></b>		
<b>Party</b>		<b>United Nations scale of assessments 2013***</b>	<b>Adjusted scale of contributions with 22% ceiling and no least developed country paying more than 0.01%</b>	<b>Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2016</b>	<b>Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2017</b>
<b>No.</b>		<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>US dollars</i>	<i>US dollars</i>
1	Afghanistan *	0.005	0.0063	299	288
2	Albania	0.010	0.0125	597	575
3	Algeria	0.137	0.1713	8 185	7 884
4	Andorra	0.008	0.0100	478	460
5	Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.0025	119	115
6	Argentina	0.432	0.5402	25 811	24 861
7	Armenia	0.007	0.0088	418	403
8	Australia	2.074	2.5935	123 915	119 354
9	Austria	0.798	0.9979	47 678	45 923
10	Azerbaijan	0.040	0.0500	2 390	2 302
11	Bahamas	0.017	0.0213	1 016	978
12	Bahrain	0.039	0.0488	2 330	2 244
13	Bangladesh	0.010	0.0125	597	575
14	Barbados	0.008	0.0100	478	460
15	Belarus	0.056	0.0700	3 346	3 223
16	Belgium	0.998	1.2480	59 627	57 433
17	Belize	0.001	0.0013	60	58
18	Benin	0.003	0.0038	179	173
19	Bhutan	0.001	0.0013	60	58
20	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.009	0.0113	538	518
21	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.017	0.0213	1 016	978
22	Botswana	0.017	0.0213	1 016	978
23	Brazil	2.934	3.6690	175 297	168 845
24	Brunei Darussalam	0.026	0.0325	1 553	1 496
25	Bulgaria	0.047	0.0588	2 808	2 705
26	Burkina Faso	0.003	0.0038	179	173
27	Burundi	0.001	0.0013	60	58
28	Cabo Verde	0.001	0.0013	60	58
29	Cambodia	0.004	0.0050	239	230
30	Cameroon	0.012	0.0150	717	691

<sup>79</sup> The 2016 and 2017 costs apportioned among parties have been reduced by US\$2,000 annually to correct an error in the calculation of parties' contributions for the 2014–2015 biennium arising from the fact that costs that should have been funded from the Fund Balance were inadvertently apportioned among parties.

<sup>80</sup> Ibid.



Party		United Nations scale of assessments 2013***	Adjusted scale of contributions with 22% ceiling and no least developed country paying more than 0.01%	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2016	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2017
31	Canada	2.984	3.7315	178 285	171 722
32	Central African Republic	0.001	0.0013	60	58
33	Chad	0.002	0.0025	119	115
34	Chile	0.334	0.4177	19 955	19 221
35	China	5.148	6.4376	307 577	296 256
36	Colombia	0.259	0.3239	15 474	14 905
37	Comoros	0.001	0.0013	60	58
38	Congo	0.005	0.0063	299	288
39	Cook Islands	0.001	0.0013	60	58
40	Costa Rica	0.038	0.0475	2 270	2 187
41	Côte d'Ivoire	0.011	0.0138	657	633
42	Croatia	0.126	0.1576	7 528	7 251
43	Cuba	0.069	0.0863	4 123	3 971
44	Cyprus	0.047	0.0588	2 808	2 705
45	Czech Republic	0.386	0.4827	23 062	22 213
46	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.006	0.0075	358	345
47	Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.003	0.0038	179	173
48	Denmark	0.675	0.8441	40 329	38 845
49	Djibouti	0.001	0.0013	60	58
50	Dominica	0.001	0.0013	60	58
51	Dominican Republic	0.045	0.0563	2 689	2 590
52	Ecuador	0.044	0.0550	2 629	2 532
53	Egypt	0.134	0.1676	8 006	7 711
54	El Salvador	0.016	0.0200	956	921
55	Equatorial Guinea	0.010	0.0125	597	575
56	Eritrea	0.001	0.0013	60	58
57	Estonia	0.040	0.0500	2 390	2 302
58	Ethiopia	0.010	0.0125	597	575
59	European Community	2.500	2.5000	119 446	115 050
60	Finland	0.519	0.6490	31 009	29 867
61	France	5.593	6.9940	334 165	321 865
62	Gabon	0.020	0.0250	1 195	1 151
63	Gambia	0.001	0.0013	60	58
64	Georgia	0.007	0.0088	418	403
65	Germany	7.141	8.9298	426 653	410 948
66	Ghana	0.014	0.0175	836	806
67	Greece	0.638	0.7978	38 119	36 715
68	Guatemala	0.027	0.0338	1 613	1 554
69	Guinea	0.001	0.0013	60	58
70	Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.0013	60	58
71	Guyana	0.001	0.0013	60	58
72	Honduras	0.008	0.0100	478	460

Party		United Nations scale of assessments 2013***	Adjusted scale of contributions with 22% ceiling and no least developed country paying more than 0.01%	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2016	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2017
73	Hungary	0.266	0.3326	15 893	15 308
74	Iceland	0.027	0.0338	1 613	1 554
75	India	0.666	0.8328	39 791	38 327
76	Indonesia	0.346	0.4327	20 672	19 912
77	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.356	0.4452	21 270	20 487
78	Iraq	0.068	0.0850	4 063	3 913
79	Ireland	0.418	0.5227	24 974	24 055
80	Israel	0.396	0.4952	23 660	22 789
81	Italy	4.448	5.5622	265 754	255 972
82	Jamaica	0.011	0.0138	657	633
83	Japan	10.833	13.5466	647 238	623 415
84	Jordan	0.022	0.0275	1 314	1 266
85	Kazakhstan	0.121	0.1513	7 229	6 963
86	Kenya	0.013	0.0163	777	748
87	Kiribati	0.001	0.0013	60	58
88	Kuwait	0.273	0.3414	16 311	15 711
89	Kyrgyzstan	0.002	0.0025	119	115
90	Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.002	0.0025	119	115
91	Latvia	0.047	0.0588	2 808	2 705
92	Lebanon	0.042	0.0525	2 509	2 417
93	Lesotho	0.001	0.0013	60	58
94	Liberia	0.001	0.0013	60	58
95	Libya	0.142	0.1776	8 484	8 172
96	Liechtenstein	0.009	0.0113	538	518
97	Lithuania	0.073	0.0913	4 362	4 201
98	Luxembourg	0.081	0.1013	4 840	4 661
99	Madagascar	0.003	0.0038	179	173
100	Malawi	0.002	0.0025	119	115
101	Malaysia	0.281	0.3514	16 789	16 171
102	Maldives	0.001	0.0013	60	58
103	Mali	0.004	0.0050	239	230
104	Malta	0.016	0.0200	956	921
105	Marshall Islands	0.001	0.0013	60	58
106	Mauritania	0.002	0.0025	119	115
107	Mauritius	0.013	0.0163	777	748
108	Mexico	1.842	2.3034	110 054	106 003
109	Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001	0.0013	60	58
110	Monaco	0.012	0.0150	717	691
111	Mongolia	0.003	0.0038	179	173
112	Montenegro	0.005	0.0063	299	288
113	Morocco	0.062	0.0775	3 704	3 568
114	Mozambique	0.003	0.0038	179	173

Party		United Nations scale of assessments 2013***	Adjusted scale of contributions with 22% ceiling and no least developed country paying more than 0.01%	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2016	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2017
115	Myanmar **	0.010	0.0125	597	575
116	Namibia	0.010	0.0125	597	575
117	Nauru	0.001	0.0013	60	58
118	Nepal	0.006	0.0075	358	345
119	Netherlands	1.654	2.0683	98 821	95 184
120	New Zealand	0.253	0.3164	15 116	14 560
121	Nicaragua	0.003	0.0038	179	173
122	Niger	0.002	0.0025	119	115
123	Nigeria	0.090	0.1125	5 377	5 179
124	Norway	0.851	1.0642	50 845	48 973
125	Oman	0.102	0.1276	6 094	5 870
126	Pakistan	0.085	0.1063	5 078	4 892
127	Palau	0.001	0.0013	60	58
128	Panama	0.026	0.0325	1 553	1 496
129	Papua New Guinea	0.004	0.0050	239	230
130	Paraguay	0.010	0.0125	597	575
131	Peru	0.117	0.1463	6 990	6 733
132	Philippines	0.154	0.1926	9 201	8 862
133	Poland	0.921	1.1517	55 027	53 001
134	Portugal	0.474	0.5927	28 320	27 278
135	Qatar	0.209	0.2614	12 487	12 027
136	Republic of Korea	1.994	2.4935	119 135	114 750
137	Republic of Moldova	0.003	0.0038	179	173
138	Romania	0.226	0.2826	13 503	13 006
139	Russian Federation	2.438	3.0487	145 663	140 301
140	Rwanda	0.002	0.0025	119	115
141	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	0.0013	60	58
142	Saint Lucia	0.001	0.0013	60	58
143	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.0013	60	58
144	Samoa	0.001	0.0013	60	58
145	Sao Tome and Principe *	0.001	0.0013	60	58
146	Saudi Arabia	0.864	1.0804	51 621	49 721
147	Senegal	0.006	0.0075	358	345
148	Serbia	0.040	0.0500	2 390	2 302
149	Seychelles	0.001	0.0013	60	58
150	Singapore	0.384	0.4802	22 943	22 098
151	Slovakia	0.171	0.2138	10 217	9 841
152	Slovenia	0.100	0.1250	5 975	5 755
153	Somalia	0.001	0.0013	60	58
154	South Africa	0.372	0.4652	22 226	21 408
155	Spain	2.973	3.7177	177 628	171 089
156	Sri Lanka	0.025	0.0313	1 494	1 439

Party		United Nations scale of assessments 2013***	Adjusted scale of contributions with 22% ceiling and no least developed country paying more than 0.01%	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2016	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties 2017
157	State of Palestine **	0.001	0.0013	60	58
158	Sudan	0.010	0.0125	597	575
159	Suriname	0.004	0.0050	239	230
160	Swaziland	0.003	0.0038	179	173
161	Sweden	0.960	1.2005	57 357	55 246
162	Switzerland	1.047	1.3093	62 555	60 252
163	Syrian Arab Republic	0.036	0.0450	2 151	2 072
164	Thailand	0.239	0.2989	14 280	13 754
165	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.008	0.0100	478	460
166	Togo	0.001	0.0013	60	58
167	Tonga	0.001	0.0013	60	58
168	Trinidad and Tobago	0.044	0.0550	2 629	2 532
169	Tunisia	0.036	0.0450	2 151	2 072
170	Turkey	1.328	1.6607	79 344	76 423
171	Turkmenistan	0.019	0.0238	1 135	1 093
172	Uganda	0.006	0.0075	358	345
173	Ukraine	0.099	0.1238	5 915	5 697
174	United Arab Emirates	0.595	0.7440	35 549	34 241
175	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	5.179	6.4763	309 429	298 040
176	United Republic of Tanzania	0.009	0.0113	538	518
177	Uruguay	0.052	0.0650	3 107	2 992
178	Uzbekistan	0.015	0.0188	896	863
179	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.627	0.7841	37 461	36 082
180	Viet Nam	0.042	0.0525	2 509	2 417
181	Yemen	0.010	0.0125	597	575
182	Zambia	0.006	0.0075	358	345
183	Zimbabwe	0.002	0.0025	119	115
<b>Total</b>		<b>80.4690</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4 777 854<sup>81</sup></b>	<b>4 601 990<sup>82</sup></b>

\* New parties that have ratified the Convention.

\*\* New parties that have ratified the Convention after posting of the proposed programmes of work and budgets for 2016–2017.

\*\*\* United Nations scale of assessments for the 2016–2017 period per resolution 67/238 adopted at the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015 on 24 December 2012.

<sup>81</sup> Ibid.

<sup>82</sup> Ibid.

Table 5

**Indicative staffing table for the BRS Secretariat for the biennium 2016–2017****Funded from the general trust funds (used for costing purposes)**

Staff category and level	Approved 2014–2015				Total proposed 2016–2017				Remarks
	Core funded	FAO	UNEP PSC	Total	Core funded	FAO	UNEP PSC	Total	
<b>A. Prof. category</b>	-			-	-				
D-2	1.00	0.25		1.25	1.00	0.25		1.25	
D-1	1.00			1.00	1.00			1.00	
P-5	7.00	1.00		8.00	7.50			7.50	(1)
P-4	7.00		2.00	9.00	8.00		2.00	10.00	(2)
P-3	14.00	1.00		15.00	17.50	1.00		18.50	
P-2	4.00			4.00	2.00			2.00	
<b>Subtotal A</b>	<b>34.00</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>38.25</b>	<b>37.00</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>40.25</b>	
<b>B. General Service category</b>					-	-	-		
GS	14.00	1.25	6.00	21.25	13.00	1.25	6.00	20.25	(3)
<b>Subtotal B</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>21.25</b>	<b>13.00</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>20.25</b>	
<b>Total (A+B)</b>	<b>48.00</b>	<b>3.50</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>59.50</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>60.50</b>	

*Remarks*

- (1) Including 0.5 P-5 retiring December 2016 (BC), one P-5 retiring July 2017 (BC) and one P-5 post for FAO coordinator.
- (2) Two administrative officers funded via programme support costs (PSC) (1 BC, 0.5 RC and 0.5 SC).
- (3) Six General Service positions funded from programme support costs (2 BC and 4 shared between RC and SC).

**Funded from the voluntary special and technical cooperation trust funds (used for costing purposes)**

Staff category and level	Approved 2014–2015	Total proposed 2016–2017
<b>A. Professional category</b>		
D-2		
D-1		
P-5		
P-4		1.00
P-3	8.00	5.25
P-2		
<i>Subtotal A</i>	<i>8.00</i>	<i>6.25</i>
<b>B. General Service category</b>		
GS	3.00	4.00
<i>Subtotal B</i>	<i>3.00</i>	<i>4.00</i>
<b>Total (A+B)</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>10.25</b>

**Standard amounts used for calculating salary costs for Geneva and Rome for the biennium 2016–2017 (in United States dollars)**

**Duty station: Geneva**

Staff category and level	2012	2013	2014*	2015**	2016***	2017***
<b>A. Professional category</b>						
D-2	297 336	309 400	309 400	321 776	<b>305 100</b>	<b>317 304</b>
D-1	273 416	288 500	288 500	300 040	<b>284 300</b>	<b>295 672</b>
P-5	244 088	254 800	254 800	264 992	<b>252 000</b>	<b>262 080</b>
P-4	206 336	216 400	216 400	225 056	<b>216 700</b>	<b>225 368</b>
P-3	172 432	180 300	180 300	187 512	<b>179 200</b>	<b>186 368</b>
P-2	135 928	144 800	144 800	150 592	<b>146 600</b>	<b>152 464</b>
<b>B. General Service category</b>						
GS-6	162 240	170 400	170 400	177 216	<b>170 200</b>	<b>177 008</b>
GS-5	125 216	136 300	136 300	141 752	<b>137 500</b>	<b>143 000</b>

\* United Nations standard salary costs for Geneva for the year 2013 were used to calculate the staff costs in 2014 (United Nations standard salary costs, version 21, dated 17 January 2013).

\*\* Staff costs for 2015 were estimated by increasing the figures for 2014 by 4 per cent.

\*\*\* United Nations standard salary costs for Geneva for the year 2014 were used to calculate the staff costs in 2016 (United Nations standard salary costs, version 13, dated December 2014). Staff costs for 2017 were estimated by increasing the figures for 2016 by 4 per cent.

**Duty station: Rome**

Staff category and level	2012	2013	2014*	2015**	2016**	2017**
<b>A. Professional category</b>						
D-2	278 796	289 948	289 948	301 546	319 638	332 424
D-1	264 036	274 597	274 597	285 581	302 716	314 825
P-5	229 664	238 851	238 851	248 405	263 309	273 841
P-4	200 220	208 229	208 229	216 558	229 551	238 733
P-3	159 828	166 221	166 221	172 870	183 242	190 572
P-2	120 564	125 387	125 387	130 402	138 226	143 755
<b>B. General Service category</b>						
GS-5	114 912	119 508	119 508	124 289	131 746	137 016

\* FAO standard salary costs for Rome for the year 2012 (version June 2012) were used to calculate the staff costs in 2014.

\*\* Staff costs for 2015 were estimated by increasing the figure for 2014 by 4 per cent.

\*\*\* FAO standard salary costs for Rome for the year 2014 were used to calculate the staff costs in 2016 (calculated by increasing the 2014 amount by 6 per cent for improved cost recovery uplift (ICRU) and then adding another 4 per cent). Staff costs for 2017 were estimated by using the figures for 2016 plus 4 per cent. Subject to revision by FAO during 2014–2015.