The comments on Review of the operation of the Basel Convention Regional and Coordinating Centres

It would be highly appreciated that the efforts of Secretariat of Basel Convention (SBC) to prepare the report of review of operation of the Basel Convention Regional and Coordinating Centres (BCRCs). Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Asia and the Pacific would kindly present the comments ordinal of Chapter in the report of this review as below taking into account the operating experience of BCRCs.

In Chapter 1 of the report of this review, the following points should be considered in order to ensure its feasibility and applicability for BCRCs:

1. The necessary financial assistance would be fully reflected in the workplan. For example, the financial assistances are also needed for training of director and staff in “Human resources” and for priority project in “Strategic area”, the same as “Training curricula” and “Databases of ESM” and “Regional network”.

2. It is very important for BCRCs to get the support and involvement of SBC to implement the resource mobilization. The sustainability of resource could be reflected for the sustainable development of BCRCs in “Resource mobilization” or “Financial strategy”.

3. Taking into account that “Institutional organizational model” have been specified in the Framework Agreement, the functioning effectiveness of BCRCs should be concerned in accordance with the Framework Agreement. It is recommended that the topic of “Functioning effectiveness” replaces “Institutional organizational model”.

In Chapter 2, to fully perform the core functions, the necessary elements are involved such as human resources, capacity building, technology, sustainable financial support, regional cooperation which were also mentioned as obstacles in the report on the operation of the Basel Convention Regional and Coordinating Centres (UNEP/CHW.9/INF/6), taking into account that BCRCs were established all in the developing countries and Article 14 of Basel Convention to assist Parties in developing countries in transition. It is recommended that all the related necessary elements would be listed to support the performance of the core functions of BCRCs. It is important to focus on the implementation of the whole framework.
agreement, but not limited to the individual elements listed in the report of review due to the difference of framework agreement on each BCRCs.

In Chapter 3, the source of all kinds of funds has been listed which is helpful for BCRCs to learn the information. It should be note that it is crucial to provide BCRCs with the sustainable financial support to ensure their development so it is recommended to develop the sustainable financial mechanism to support the development of BCRCs.

In Chapter 4, the specificities and characteristics of each region should be considered as the report on review of the Centres mentioned. There is no obvious relevance between “Elements necessary to ensure the functioning of BCRCs” and “Indicators to measure performance and impediments” in relation to the functions and impacts of BCRCs. It is not necessary to be mentioned in this Chapter because the elements have been specified in the Framework Agreement on BCRCs. In addition, the comparable indicators should be developed for all the Centres with the target of performance of BCRC core function. For example, it is difficult to identify the difference of performance only through the numbers of Business plan and List of project due to no indication on the difference of effectiveness such as the impacts and feedback from involved states.