

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Ref. 2.5.1 JVK

Geneva, 12 November 2010

Madam Chair, Members of the Committee,

Re: Submission by the Secretariat of the Basel Convention to the Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting the Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention regarding Guinea Bissau (CHW/CC/9c/2010/4)

I am writing with reference to paragraph 9 (c) of the terms of reference of the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention whereby the Secretariat may make a submission to the Committee administering the Mechanism "if, while acting pursuant to its functions under Articles 13 and 16, it becomes aware of possible difficulties of any Party in complying with its reporting obligations under Article 13, paragraph 3, of the Convention, provided that the matter has not been resolved within three months by consultation with the Party concerned".

With this letter, the Secretariat respectfully makes a submission to the Committee, on the basis of the aforementioned paragraph 9 (c), with respect to Guinea Bissau. As a Party to the Basel Convention since 2005, Guinea Bissau is among the Parties to the Convention that have never submitted a national report, as required under Article 13 paragraph 3 of the Basel Convention. On 7 September 2009, the Secretariat initiated consultations with Guinea Bissau in an effort to identify whether Guinea Bissau was facing difficulties in

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

Email: damien.hall@environment.gov.au, oalvarez@minrel.gov.cl, bubenikova@env.cz,
epa_ddg@ethionet.et, larsey.mensah@gmail.com, rasiosani@yahoo.com, fbouqartacha@gmail.com,
m.porycki@gios.gov.pl, mahlerchung@yahoo.com, biser1956@yahoo.com,
Gordana.Petkovic@ekoplan.gov.rs, padmini@menr.lk, rvw@rwecltd.com, emdmohe@yahoo.com,
martin.widstam@environment.ministry.se, pauline.davies@urugi.ch


complying with its reporting obligations under the Convention and to possibly resolve the matter by 7 December 2009. Attached to the letter sent to Guinea Bissau was a Questionnaire aimed at providing Guinea Bissau with the opportunity to communicate to the Secretariat the nature of the possible difficulties faced by this Party as well as its views on how best these difficulties might be addressed. Both documents, sent by postal mail, are attached to this letter.

On 12 October 2009, the Focal Point of the Basel Convention in Guinea Bissau sent a response to the Secretariat, attaching the filled Questionnaire on difficulties faced by Parties in fulfilling their reporting obligation. The filled Questionnaire is attached to this submission.

Despite the cooperation of Guinea Bissau, the matter remains unresolved. On the basis of the information provided by Guinea Bissau in the Questionnaire, the Secretariat trusts that this Party may be facing possible difficulties in complying with its reporting obligations under Article 13 paragraph 13 of the Convention.

The Secretariat thanks the Committee for its consideration of this submission and remains at the disposal of the Committee for further information.

Yours sincerely,



Katharina Kummer Peiry

Copy : Mr. Laurentino R. Cunha
Directeur de Service de l'Environnement Urbain
Bairro Santa Luzzia – Rua Ex QG-Bissau
Email: laurentinorufino@gmail.com

Copy: Permanent Mission of Guinea Bissau in New York, Email: gnbun@undp.org