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Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance Fifteenth meeting Geneva, 14–17 November 2022

Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

Work programme for 2024-2025

Work programme for 2024–2025¹

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

- 1. In accordance with paragraph 24 of the terms of reference of the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Basel Convention,² the Committee administering the mechanism (hereinafter "the Committee") shall report to each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties on its suggestions for any future work that may be required on general issues of compliance and implementation, for the consideration and approval of the Conference of the Parties. It is standing practice by the Committee to also include in its proposed work programme activities pertaining to specific submissions.
- 2. In accordance with paragraph 21 of the terms of reference, the Committee shall, as directed by the Conference of Parties, review general issues of compliance and implementation under the Convention relating to, among other things:
- (a) Ensuring the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous and other wastes:
 - (b) Training customs and other personnel;
- (c) Accessing technical and financial support, particularly for developing countries, including technology transfer and capacity-building;
- (d) Establishing and developing means of detecting and eradicating illegal traffic, including investigating, sampling and testing;
 - (e) Monitoring, assessing and facilitating reporting under article 13 of the Convention;
- (f) The implementation of, and compliance with, specified obligations under the Convention.
- 3. By its decision BC-15/17, the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, among other things, requested the Committee to consult Parties, in advance of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on a draft work programme for the biennium 2024–2025.

^{*} UNEP/CHW/CC.15/1.

¹ This document has not been formally edited.

² The terms of reference are set out in the annex II to document UNEP/CHW/CC.15/2.

II. Implementation

4. The annex to the present note sets out a draft work programme for 2024–2025 based on the 2022–2023 work programme of the Committee and reflecting in track change mode the action proposed for consideration by the Committee under the respective items on the provisional agenda of its fifteenth meeting.

III. Proposed action

- 5. The Committee may wish to:
- (a) Consider the draft work programme of the Committee for 2024–2025 set out in the annex to the present note and adjust it on the basis of the outcome of its consideration of the items on the agenda of its fifteenth meeting;
- (b) Request the Secretariat to make the draft work programme of the Committee for 2024–2025 reflecting the outcome of the meeting available to Parties for consultation, and to make comments received thereon available to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;
- (c) Request also the Secretariat to include the draft work programme of the Committee for 2024–2025 reflecting the outcome of its meeting and to be implemented building on the activities undertaken under its 2022–2023 work programme, in its report to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting for consideration and possible adoption, taking into account comments received thereon by Parties in advance of the meeting.

Annex

Draft work programme of the Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance for the biennium 2024–2025

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

1. National reporting Improve timely and complete national reporting under paragraph 3 of Article Objective Activity (a) Classify and, as appropriate with their annual national and 2021 based on the acconference of the Partie by the Conference of the appropriate by t

13 of the Convention

- a) Classify and, as appropriate, publish information on Parties' compliance with their annual national reporting obligations for 2018, and 2019, 2020 and 2021 based on the assumptions, criteria and categories adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting¹ and the targets adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;² as revised, as appropriate, by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;
- (b) Develop recommendations on the revision of the targets referred to in paragraph 10 of decision BC-15/17 for the reports due for 2020 and subsequent years;
- (c) In cooperation, as appropriate, with the Compliance Committee of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, monitor United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework processes with a view to assessing the extent to which Parties with national reporting needs are including actions to address them in their Cooperation Framework, identifying best practices and, on the basis of the assessment, developing recommendations for the consideration of Conference of the
- (d) Establish a dialogue with the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, the Executive Board of 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, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other entities such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the World Bank and regional development banks on their activities aimed at supporting Parties in the implementation of their obligation to transmit national reports, and develop recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;
- (e) Consider elaborating and further assessing measures not included under paragraphs 20 (a) and (b) of the terms of reference of the Committee that may be required when a Party has not submitted its national report for two or more years since the report due in 2016, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth isteenth-meeting.

2. Illegal traffic

Prevent and combat illegal traffic

Scoping exercise:

- (a) Review the information provided in table 9 of the national reports transmitted for the years 202018 and 202119 with a view to estimating: (i) how many cases of illegal traffic there were; (ii) with respect to which wastes; (iii) in which regions; and (iv) how they were resolved; and make recommendations based on the outcome of the review;
- (b) Assess the reasons for which Parties do not complete or have difficulties in completing table 9 of the reporting format and what measures could be recommended to the Conference of the Parties towards improving the rate

Decision BC-13/9, para. 12.

² Decision BC-15/17.

Objective

Activity

of completion of table 9 as well as the quality of information provided therein; Review table 9 of the national reporting format to ascertain whether it would benefit from adjustments to facilitate access to and analysis of the information transmitted by Parties about cases of illegal traffic;

- (c) Identify discrepancies in the information reported by Parties on cases that could constitute illegal traffic and make recommendations based on the outcome of the review:
- (d) Review the form for reporting confirmed cases of illegal traffic to ascertain whether it would benefit from adjustments and make recommendations based on the outcome of the review;³
- (e) Consider whether a review of the information provided in tables 45 and 65 of the national reports for the years 2020+8 and 2021+9, taking into account relevant experience of Parties and compliance bodies of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, could help identify discrepancies in the information reported by Parties that may constitute cases of illegal traffic and make recommendations accordingly.

National coordination mechanisms

- (fa) Monitor activities undertaken by the Secretariat, the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, the European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), UNEP, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Customs Organization (WCO) and other entities that are aimed at assisting Parties in enhancing coordination between their competent authorities and enforcement entities and make recommendations based on the outcome of the monitoring;
- (gb) Monitor activities undertaken by Parties to enhance coordination and increase the flow of information between their competent authorities and enforcement entities, and between themselves and the Secretariat;
- (he) Develop recommendations to improve implementation of and compliance with Article 9 of the Convention.

Responses to question $1\ (c)$ of the reporting format

- (in) Review the texts of national legislation and other measures adopted by Parties to implement and enforce the Convention, and their responses to question 1 (c) of the national reports for 2021, the outcome of Parties' selfreview of their legislation49 and, using the legislator's checklist, classify Parties' compliance performance in relation to the obligations set out in Article 9 of the Convention:
- (jb) [Identify best practices and case studies relating to the enforcement of legislation and punishment of illegal traffic and consider how to assess whether Parties' current efforts are on target to achieve best practice.]

Dialogue

(k) Establish a dialogue and coordinate with the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, relevant international organizations and compliance bodies of other multilateral environmental agreements on their activities aimed at supporting Parties in preventing and combating illegal traffic and develop recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

Cooperative arrangements including the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE)

(1) Maintain under review the activities of ENFORCE, particularly any developments that stem from any of the recommendations made by the Committee to the Conference of the Parties, subject to their adoption, and

³www.basel.int/Portals/4/Basel%20Convention/docs/legalmatters/illegtraffic/illegtrafform.pdf.

 $^{^4}$ The legislator's checklist is set out in annex I to the Manual for the Implementation of the Basel Convention, available in document UNEP/CHW.12/9/Add.4/Rev.1 and adopted by decision BC-12/7. It is also available as a publication at www.basel.int/Implementation/Publications/GuidanceManuals/tabid/2364/Default.aspx .

Objective

Activity

consider, at the next Committee meeting whether the arrangements pertaining to ENFORCE need to be strengthened further.

Dissemination of guidance and tools

- (m) Monitor activities undertaken by Parties, the Secretariat, the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, IMPEL, INTERPOL, UNEP, UNODC, WCO and other entities aimed at disseminating guidance and tools developed under the Convention that aim to prevent and combat illegal traffic.
- 3. National legislation
 Improve
 implementation of and
 compliance with
 paragraph 4 of Article
 4 and paragraph 5 of
 Article 9 of the
 Convention
- (a) Invite Parties that did not to undertake a self-review of their legislation for implementing the Convention, using the legislator's checklist, to do so and also provide information on their legislative implementation of the Ban Amendment, the Plastic Wastes Amendments and the E-waste Amendmentsand to consider general trends;
- b) Invite the 49 Parties that undertook a self-review of their legislation for implementing the Convention, using the legislator's checklist, to undertake a self-review as to whether their legislation reflects the amendments pursuant to decision BC-III/1 (Ban Amendment), decision BC-14/12 (Plastic Wastes Amendments) and decision BC-15/18 (E-waste Amendments)⁵:
- (a)(c) Consider general trends with the implementation and compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention;
- (b)(d) Monitor progress achieved by Parties in transmitting to the Secretariat texts of national legislation and other measures adopted by them to implement and enforce the Convention; giving adequate consideration to improving the implementation of and compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention with respect to the amendments pursuant to decision BC-III/1 (Ban Amendment), decision BC-14/12 (Plastic Wastes Amendments) and decision BC-15/18 (E-waste Amendments);
- (e)(e) Monitor requests from Parties received by the Secretariat for information aimed at facilitating the development and review of national legal frameworks and for the technical assistance activities of the Secretariat aimed at promoting the implementation of paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention including the amendments pursuant to decision BC-III/1 (Ban Amendment), decision BC-14/12 (Plastic Wastes Amendments) and decision BC-15/18 (E-waste Amendments);
- (d)(f) Monitor activities undertaken by or with the support of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, UNEP and other entities aimed at assisting Parties in developing legal frameworks for the implementation of the Basel Convention including the amendments pursuant to decision BC-III/1 (Ban Amendment), decision BC-14/12 (Plastic Wastes Amendments) and decision BC-15/18 (E-waste Amendments);
- (e) Develop recommendations on how to improve implementation of and compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention:
- (f) When undertaking the activities listed in subparagraphs (a) to (e) above, give adequate consideration to improving the implementation of and compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention with respect to the amendments pursuant to decision BC-III/1 (Ban Amendment) and decision BC-14/12 (plastic wastes amendments);

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⁵ The E-waste amendments will come into effect on 1 January 2025.

Objective

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- (g) Establish a dialogue and coordinate with the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, the Executive Board of 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, UNEP and other entities, such as FAO, GEF, UNDP, UNIDO, the World Bank and regional development banks, on their activities aimed at supporting Parties in performing their obligations related to the development of legal frameworks to implement and enforce the Convention, including the amendments pursuant to decision BC-III/1 (Ban Amendment), decision BC-14/12 (Plastic Wastes Amendments) and decision BC-15/18 (E-waste Amendments)and develop recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;
- (h) Review, subject to the availability of resources and according to the priorities established by the Conference of the Parties for the given biennium, Parties' implementation of the Convention in national law, starting with Parties that have not yet provided information to the Secretariat as to whether they have national legislation implementing the Convention,⁶ also taking into account the information received by three Parties under the 2022-2023 work programme of the Committee⁷, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth and subsequent meetings;⁸
- (h)(i) Develop recommendations on how to improve implementation of and compliance with paragraph 4 of Article 4 and paragraph 5 of Article 9 of the Convention.
- 4. Review and updating

Generally improve the implementation of and compliance with the Convention.

- a) Regularly review the guidance developed by the Committee on the basis of periodic feedback from users and suggestions from stakeholders and in the light of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties, and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties on the updating of the guidance;
- (b) Update, on behalf of the Conference of the Parties and subject to the availability of resources, the Guide to the Control System and the Manual for the Implementation of the Basel Convention by including, as relevant, references to Article 4A of the Convention, the plastic wastes amendments, the glossary of terms and technical guidelines and new guidance adopted since the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 5. Country contacts

Improve the implementation of and compliance with Article 5 of the Convention

Building on the activities undertaken under its 2022-2023 work programme, Rreview Parties' implementation of and compliance with the obligation to designate competent authorities and a focal point pursuant to Article 5, including any common difficulties or issues being faced by Parties with respect to the obligation to inform the Secretariat, within one month of the date of decision, of any changes made by them to the designation of such country contacts, and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties.

6. Enhanced coordination with the Compliance Committee of the Rotterdam Convention Explore the possibilities for Eenhanceing coordination with the Compliance Committee of the Rotterdam Convention to facilitate compliance through—for example, the provision of joint secretariat support for the committees, facilitation of—the exchange of information between the committees on activities, operations and processes of joint interest, including as appropriate during joint sessions of the meetings of the committees, including reports on the outcomes of each other's meetings, attendance by each chair at the meetings of the other committee and the appointment of committee members who have experience of the other compliance mechanism, and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties.

⁶ See document UNEP/CHW.1<u>65/[14]</u>.

⁷ UNEP/CHW/CC.15/INF/9

⁸ Appropriate allocations in the budget to provide support for the Committee to undertake this work are recommended, along with allocations in the technical assistance budget specifically to help individual Parties with implementation of the Basel Convention.

Objective	Activity
7. Integration in United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks	Provide guidance, <u>including through consultation with the Open-ended Working Group</u> , for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its <u>seventeenth</u> ixteenth-meeting, on how individual Parties can integrate action to address their needs under the Basel Convention into their United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

II. Specific submissions regarding Party implementation and compliance

153. 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.

254. In relation to the implementation fund, the Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive Secretary on the allocation of the available resources from the fund during the period between the sixteenth fifteenth and seventeenth sixteenth 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. The resources are intended to fund activities listed in the compliance action plans presented by Parties in relation to specific submissions and approved by the Committee.