

## BC-15/21: Technical assistance

### I

#### Technical assistance

##### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the report on the needs of developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition for technical assistance and technology transfer<sup>1</sup> as well as of the database summarizing the technical assistance needs;<sup>2</sup>
2. *Encourages* all relevant technical assistance providers to consider the information available in that database;
3. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare the next report on the needs of developing-country Parties and Parties with economies in transition for technical assistance and technology transfer for submission to the Conference of the Parties at its meeting in 2025;
4. *Takes note* of the report on the implementation of the technical assistance plan for the period 2018–2021,<sup>3</sup> including capacity-building activities for the implementation of 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;
5. *Welcomes* the technical assistance plan for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for the period 2022–2025;<sup>4</sup>
6. *Requests* the Secretariat to disseminate the plan by various means and to facilitate awareness of the plan by the relevant actors;
7. *Takes note* of the information provided in the report entitled “Environmental and health emergencies – the role of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in supporting Parties in prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery”;<sup>5</sup>
8. *Encourages* Parties, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Global Environment Facility, 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, and the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions to take into account the technical assistance plan for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for the period 2022–2025;
9. *Encourages* relevant Parties, in line with Article 10 of the Basel Convention, Article 16 of the Rotterdam Convention and Article 12 of the Stockholm Convention, and invites others in a position to do so, to support the implementation of the technical assistance plan for the period 2022–2025;
10. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to:
  - (a) Implement, in cooperation with relevant actors, the technical assistance plan for the period 2022–2025 in accordance with relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties;

---

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CHW.15/INF/30–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/18–UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/30.

<sup>2</sup> [www.brsmeas.org/tabid/4898](http://www.brsmeas.org/tabid/4898).

<sup>3</sup> UNEP/CHW.15/INF/28–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/16–UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/28.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/CHW.15/INF/29–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/17–UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/29.

<sup>5</sup> UNEP/CHW.15/INF/31–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/19–UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/68.

(b) Maintain the database referred to in paragraph 1 of the present decision and ensure that it remains accessible through the websites of the conventions;

(c) Continue to include information on the monitoring and evaluation of projects undertaken under the technical assistance plan for the period 2022–2025 in the report requested in paragraph 12 of the present decision;

11. *Emphasizes* the key role of the regional centres, as described in the provisions of the Basel and Stockholm conventions, as well as the regional, subregional and country offices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme and other participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, in delivering technical assistance upon request, particularly at the regional level, for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and providing capacity-building as well as facilitating technology transfer to eligible Parties;

12. *Requests* the Secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting on the implementation of the present decision.

## II

### Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres

13. *Emphasizes* the role of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres in enhancing the provision of technical assistance for capacity-building to support the national efforts of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement the chemicals and waste conventions, in accordance with their core functions;

14. *Also emphasizes* the role of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres in the promotion of technology transfer relating to the implementation of the Basel Convention, and invites them to cooperate and coordinate among themselves and with relevant partners in areas of expertise in which they are able to provide assistance;

15. *Takes note of:*

(a) The activity reports<sup>6</sup> for the period January 2019–December 2020 submitted by the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres and the available business plans<sup>7</sup> for the period January 2020–December 2023;

(b) The report on the activities of the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions;<sup>8</sup>

16. *Requests* the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to submit to the Secretariat:

(a) Their activity reports for the period 1 January 2021–31 December 2022, by 31 December 2022, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;

(b) Their business plans for the period 1 January 2024–31 December 2027, by 30 September 2023, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting;

17. *Requests* the Secretariat:

(a) 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 sixteenth meeting;

(b) To prepare the draft evaluation reports on the performance and sustainability of all 14 Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, in accordance with the interim criteria and

---

<sup>6</sup> [www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/ActivityReports/tabid/2992/Default.aspx](http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/ActivityReports/tabid/2992/Default.aspx).

<sup>7</sup> [www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/BusinessPlans/tabid/2336/Default.aspx](http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/BusinessPlans/tabid/2336/Default.aspx).

<sup>8</sup> UNEP/CHW.15/INF/32–UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/31.

interim methodology set out in annexes I and II to decision BC-11/13, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;

(c) To undertake the following activities to facilitate the work of the regional centres, subject to the availability of resources:

- (i) Organize two annual meetings of the coordinators of the Stockholm Convention regional centres under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the directors of the Basel Convention regional centres under the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, with a view to enhancing the performance of the regional centres and fostering cooperation and collaboration among them, and attend meetings of the regional centre steering committees;
- (ii) Continue to facilitate the implementation of national, subregional and regional projects, based on the business plans or workplans of regional centres, through the Small Grants Programme;
- (iii) Foster the activities of the regional centres to increase their visibility and to support them in fulfilling their mandate;

18. *Welcomes* the signing of a framework agreement between the Secretariat and the Government of Panama for the establishment of the Basel Convention regional centre for the Central America and Mexico subregion in Panama;

19. *Invites* Parties, observers and institutions in a position to do so to provide financial support to enable the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to implement their workplans, with the aim of supporting Parties in their efforts to meet their obligations under the Convention.