

## BC-16/21: Cooperation and coordination with the Minamata Convention on Mercury<sup>1</sup>

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recognizing* that the sharing of services within a stable framework will enhance cooperation and coordination based on experience and proximity and can foster the effective implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Minamata Convention without undermining the autonomy of the secretariats or the accountability of their executive heads,

*Recalling* decisions BC-15/24, RC-10/13 and SC-10/20, on cooperation and coordination with the Minamata Convention on Mercury,

1. *Takes note* of the joint report on cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and of the Minamata Convention on Mercury,<sup>2</sup> and the outline of cooperation activities planned, including for the sharing and purchase of relevant services, between the two secretariats for the biennium 2024–2025;<sup>3</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued cooperation on programmatic synergies, of the use of the task force between the two secretariats and the United Nations Environment Programme Chemicals and Health Branch, and of the possibility for the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to provide secretariat support to the Minamata Convention on a cost recovery basis, in accordance with the programme of work and budget of the conventions for each biennium;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue, with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention and under the overall steering of the task force, inter-secretariat working groups, as appropriate, to cooperate on relevant administrative, programmatic, scientific and technical and technical assistance matters, in accordance with the programme of work and budget, and to explore ways to further strengthen cooperation and collaboration with the Minamata Convention;

(b) To continue to implement shared services and the purchase of relevant services with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on a cost recovery basis, as appropriate and in accordance with the programme of work and budget for each biennium;

(c) To report on the implementation of the present decision, including on a stable framework for cooperation and for the sharing of services, providing an outline of the cooperation activities planned under such a framework for the biennium 2026–2027, for the consideration of and, as necessary, further guidance by, the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> The conferences of the Parties to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions adopted, respectively, decisions RC-11/8 and SC-11/20, on cooperation and coordination with the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which are substantially identical to the present decision.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/CHW.16/INF/36–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/19–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/40, annex I.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.