

BC-12/1: Follow-up to the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention

The Conference of the Parties

I

Addressing the entry into force of the Ban Amendment

1. *Acknowledges* the ratification or acceptance by further parties of the amendment contained in decision III/1, in particular since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
2. *Invites* parties to continue to take action towards encouraging and assisting parties to ratify the Amendment;
3. *Requests* the Secretariat, within available resources, to continue to assist parties, upon request, that are having difficulties in ratifying the Ban Amendment;

II

Developing guidelines for environmentally sound management

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the expert working group on environmentally sound management and its co-chairs for their work;
5. *Adopts* the work programme of the expert working group on environmentally sound management set out in the annex to the present decision;
6. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the expert working group on environmentally sound management and requests it to develop activities, subject to the availability of resources, to implement the work programme referred to in paragraph 5 above;
7. *Requests* each regional group to nominate through its Bureau representative, by 31 July 2015, one expert with specific knowledge and expertise in the field of waste prevention and minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes, bringing the total membership of the expert working group on environmentally sound management to 30 members;
8. *Recognizes* that the “ESM toolkit” to be developed under the work programme referred to in paragraph 5 above may be evaluated and, if appropriate, updated after the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
9. *Welcomes* the set of draft practical manuals for the promotion of the environmentally sound management of wastes¹ and the fact sheets on specific waste streams;²
10. *Invites* parties and others to submit comments on the set of draft practical manuals and the fact sheets referred to in paragraph 9 above to the Secretariat by 30 September 2015;
11. *Also invites* parties and others to test the set of draft practical manuals and the fact sheets referred to in paragraph 9 above and to provide comments to the Secretariat for consideration by the expert working group on environmentally sound management;
12. *Requests* the expert working group on environmentally sound management to revise the set of draft practical manuals and the fact sheets referred to in paragraph 9 above taking into account the comments received in accordance with paragraph 10 above and the outcomes of section III of the present decision and decision BC-12/7, as well as the results of the testing referred to in paragraph 11 above;
13. *Invites* parties and others to provide to the Secretariat information on activities undertaken to ensure the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes, including any examples of national waste prevention programmes, and requests the Secretariat to make that information available on the Basel Convention website;
14. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to undertake an inventory and categorize existing Basel Convention documents related to environmentally sound management, under

¹ UNEP/CHW.12/3/Add.2, annex.

² UNEP/CHW.12/INF/6, annex.

the guidance of the expert working group on environmentally sound management, for the consideration of the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;

15. *Requests* the expert working group on environmentally sound management to submit the revised set of draft practical manuals and revised fact sheets referred to in paragraph 12 above to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting and subsequently to the Conference of the Parties for consideration and possible adoption at its thirteenth meeting;

16. *Also requests* the expert working group on environmentally sound management to report on the activities undertaken according to its work programme to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting and subsequently to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its thirteenth meeting;

III

Providing further legal clarity

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to the small intersessional working group on legal clarity for its work;

18. *Takes note* of the draft glossary of terms and related explanations prepared by the small intersessional working group on legal clarity³ and decides that it shall serve as the basis for further work on the matter;

19. *Invites* the small intersessional working group on legal clarity to continue its work, including, subject to the availability of resources, through a face-to-face meeting, and to prepare a revised version of the draft glossary including explanations, taking into account the comments received from parties and observers,⁴ as well as the outcomes of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and to submit it to the Secretariat five months before the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group;

20. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit the revised version of the draft glossary including explanations to the Open-ended Working Group for consideration at its tenth meeting;

21. *Invites* the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting:

(a) To finalize the draft glossary and related explanations as a useful piece of guidance;

(b) To prepare a draft decision on these matters for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

22. *Takes note* of the options for further steps towards the consistent interpretation of terminology;⁵

23. *Decides* to initiate a process for the review of Annexes I, III and IV and related aspects of Annex IX to the Basel Convention, taking as a basis the legally binding options identified in section II of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52;

24. *Invites* parties and others to submit to the Secretariat by 30 November 2015 their views on the options identified in section II.A and section II.B of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52;

25. *Invites* parties to inform the Secretariat by 30 November 2015 of their interest in taking the lead on the review of Annex IV and related aspects of Annex IX to the Convention identified in section II.A of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52;

26. *Invites* the lead party, or in its absence requests the Secretariat subject to the availability of resources, to assess the views received from parties and others on options identified in section II.A of annex II to document UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52 and to prepare recommendations thereon for the consideration of the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting;

27. *Requests* the Secretariat to compile the views received from parties and others in relation to the review of Annexes I, III and IV and related aspects in Annex IX to the Convention pursuant to paragraph 24 above and to submit them to the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting.

³UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52, annex I.

⁴UNEP/CHW.12/INF/55.

⁵UNEP/CHW.12/INF/52, annex II.

Annex to decision BC-12/1

Work programme of the expert working group on environmentally sound management

I. Objective

1. The work programme of the expert working group on environmentally sound management (ESM) will support and implement the objectives of the framework for the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes.⁶ The work programme aims at developing an “ESM toolkit” that includes practical tools to be promoted and implemented by stakeholders.

II. ESM toolkit and its promotion

2. The activities described below to develop and implement the ESM toolkit would be conducted during the 2016–2017 biennium.

Topic	Activities
Manuals and fact sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalize existing manuals and fact sheets as required following COP 12• Test and verify manuals and fact sheets, e.g., through use in pilot projects and stakeholder/peer review• Develop and further test manuals (extended producer responsibility (EPR); financing systems)
Guidance on prevention and minimization ⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop guidance to assist parties, as appropriate, in developing efficient strategies for achieving the prevention and minimization of the generation of hazardous and other wastes and their disposal⁸
Training programme models	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify training programmes and activities to test, raise awareness of and demonstrate the toolkit
Internet portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize, with support from the Secretariat, webinars to raise awareness of the toolkit and the outcome of the work of the expert working group• Explore and engage possible partners to develop an e-learning course on ESM• Collect information, best practices and experiences related to ESM, to be made available on the Basel Convention website
Guide for self-assessment of national capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop draft guide for self-assessment and, with support from the Secretariat, engage interested parties to test it
Certification schemes to support ESM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyse existing certification schemes, with regard to their operational aspects, to support ESM
Promote ESM through tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further develop tools to promote ESM as described in the ESM framework• Develop a practical guide to assessing ESM
Analysis of benefits related to implementation of ESM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue and expand work on private sector incentives, to include an analysis of benefits related to implementation of ESM

⁶ Available on the Basel Convention website at: <http://www.basel.int/Implementation/CountryLedInitiative/EnvironmentallySoundManagement/ESMFramework/tabid/3616/Default.aspx>.

⁷ As requested in the road map for action on the implementation of the Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (decision BC-12/2).

⁸ Taking into account the prevention manual developed by the expert working group on environmentally sound management.

Topic	Activities
Pilot projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish working structure/steering committee for pilot projects • Continue to implement pilot projects and encourage use of the ESM toolkit in new pilot projects • Report on and evaluate pilot projects undertaken in the context of the expert working group
Exchange of information and experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request and consider information on public-private partnerships that relate to ESM and the work of the expert working group, in particular to the ESM toolkit • Develop and use a format for gathering and exchanging information and experiences related to ESM (e.g., through public-private partnerships, development of explanatory documents and case studies, secondments, etc.) • Make available information and experiences on the internet portal described above
Promotion of ESM in the informal sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify target audience • Collect and make available information on initiatives adopted by parties to promote ESM in the informal sector