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**Basel Convention on the Control of
Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

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**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior
Informed Consent Procedure for
Certain Hazardous Chemicals and
Pesticides in International Trade**



**Stockholm Convention on Persistent
Organic Pollutants**

**Conference of the Parties to the
Basel Convention on the Control
of Transboundary Movements
of Hazardous Wastes and
Their Disposal
Thirteenth meeting**
Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
**Enhancing cooperation and
coordination among the Basel,
Rotterdam and Stockholm
conventions**

**Conference of the Parties to the
Rotterdam Convention on the
Prior Informed Consent
Procedure for Certain
Hazardous Chemicals and
Pesticides in International Trade
Eighth meeting**
Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017
Item 6 of the provisional agenda**
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Mainstreaming gender

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In decisions BC-12/25, RC-7/15 and SC-7/33, on the programmes of work and budgets 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, respectively, the conferences of the Parties to the three conventions requested the executive secretaries of the conventions to include a section on the implementation of the gender action plan of the Secretariat in the next report on joint and convention-specific activities.

2. On 25 September 2015, in its resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, the General Assembly adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, including Sustainable Development Goal 5 (“Achieve gender equality and empower all women

* UNEP/CHW.13/1.

** UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/1.

*** UNEP/POPS/COP.8/1.

and girls”), and recognized that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda was crucial.¹

3. In its resolution 2/5, entitled “Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016, stressed the importance of respecting, protecting and promoting human rights and gender equality in delivering the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

II. Implementation

4. In accordance with applicable gender-related rules, regulations and policies of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of relevance to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions,² and consistent with the decisions of the three conventions’ respective conferences of the Parties, the executive secretaries of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, recognizing the need to promote gender equality, in July 2012 established a gender task team to develop targets and an approach to gender mainstreaming for the Secretariat’s internal operations as well as the mainstreaming of gender issues in all Secretariat-executed activities, projects and programmes.

5. In December 2013, the gender task team developed the “Gender Action Plan of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions”. The Gender Action Plan includes a list of expected short-term, medium-term and long-term goals such as baseline development, training and tools for gender-related issues in projects and programmes, as well as monitoring and reporting plans, and is aimed at ensuring that principles of gender equality are firmly embedded in the activities, projects and programmes undertaken by the Secretariat. The Secretariat last updated the plan in September 2016.³

6. The executive secretaries reported to the conferences of the Parties on the Secretariat’s gender mainstreaming efforts in 2013⁴ and 2015.⁵ An updated report on gender-related activities implemented by the Secretariat, including projects, programmes and the updated gender action plan, is provided in document UNEP/CHW.13/INF/46-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/32-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/49.

III. Proposed action

7. Based on the information outlined above, the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions may each wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality, adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015 in its resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Recalling also United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/5 of 27 May 2016, entitled “Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which among other things stresses the importance of respecting, protecting and promoting gender equality in delivering the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

1. *Takes note* of the Gender Action Plan of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the report on the implementation of the Gender Action Plan⁶ and welcomes the efforts of the Secretariat in respect of gender mainstreaming in its activities, projects and programmes;

2. *Recognizes* that, notwithstanding the efforts of Parties and the Secretariat to promote gender equality, efforts are still needed to ensure that women and men and girls and boys from all Parties are equally involved in the implementation of the three conventions and are represented in their bodies and processes and thus inform and participate in decision-making on gender-responsive hazardous chemicals and wastes policies;

¹ A/RES/70/1. See in particular paragraphs 20 and 54 and Goal 5.

² <http://synergies.pops.int/Gender/AdditionalResources/tabid/4462/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

³ <http://synergies.pops.int/Gender/BRSGenderActionPlan/tabid/3652/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

⁴ UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/INF/25.

⁵ UNEP/CHW.12/INF/49-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/33-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/54.

⁶ UNEP/CHW.13/INF/46-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/32-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/49.

3. *Requests* the Secretariat:

(a) To report on the implementation of the Gender Action Plan to the conferences of the Parties at their meetings in 2019;

(b) To develop for consideration by the conferences of the Parties in 2019 a plan of action under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for mainstreaming gender considerations in all aspects of the work under the conventions and clear indicators for monitoring progress.
