

CC-14/12: Submission regarding Gabon

The Committee,

Welcoming the submission by the Secretariat to the Committee regarding Gabon concerning possible difficulties faced by this Party to comply with its reporting obligation under paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention (CHW/CC/9c/2019/7),

Noting that the matter was not resolved within three months by consultation by the Secretariat with Gabon,

Without prejudice to future decisions by the Committee related to this or other specific submissions,

1. *Expresses* its appreciation for the cooperation of Gabon with the Committee during the fourteenth meeting of the Committee;¹

2. *Notes* that Gabon, a Party to the Convention since 2008, has yet to transmit a national report, as required under Article 13 paragraph 3 of the Basel Convention;

3. *Welcomes* the transmission by Gabon on 14 June 2017 of information on the difficulties faced in fulfilling its reporting obligation under the Convention,² as well as of information on its participation in the Chemicals Observatory project for the sound management of chemicals in Africa;

4. *Acknowledges* that Gabon is unable to comply with its reporting obligation under the Convention, and expresses its concern about this situation;

5. *Welcomes* the willingness of Gabon to transmit its national report for 2019 by the end of 2020 and its national report for 2020 by the end of 2021;

6. *Declares* its commitment to assist Gabon in addressing the difficulties that it experiences in complying with its reporting obligation;

7. *Welcomes* the willingness of Gabon to elaborate and transmit to the Secretariat by 30 June 2021 a voluntary compliance action plan to assist in resolving the matter of concern;

8. *Welcomes* also the steps taken by Gabon to ensure that its national authorities engaged in the sustainable development cooperation framework processes are informed of its difficulties in complying with its reporting obligation under the Convention with a view to ensuring that its needs, as communicated to the Committee, are integrated therein;

9. *Welcomes* further the willingness of Gabon to consider submitting a project proposal to 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, as a way to improve its implementation of the Basel Convention;

10. *Welcomes* also the efforts by Gabon to communicate with the Secretariat and to participate in training activities on national reporting in advance of the fifteenth meeting of the Committee;

11. *Requests* the Secretariat to communicate this decision to the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for French-speaking countries in Africa, the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for English-speaking countries in Africa, the United Nations Resident Coordinator, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization;

12. *Requests* also the Secretariat to continue its communications with and support to Gabon and to report to the Committee as appropriate;

13. *Decides* to keep the matter relevant to the submission CHW/CC/9c/2019/7 under review.

¹ Online, 21-25 September 2020.

² UNEP/CHW/CC.14/INF/13.