

CC-15/4: Submission regarding Gabon

The Committee,

Recalling 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),

Recalling also decisions CC-14/12 and CC-14/12/Add.1,

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

1. *Regrets* the lack of participation of Gabon during the fifteenth meeting of the Committee;
2. *Notes* that Gabon has yet to transmit a national report as required under Article 13 paragraph 3 of the Basel Convention;
3. *Recalls* the willingness expressed by 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 and 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 Convention¹;
4. *Takes note* that a voluntary compliance action plan was not put forward;
5. *Reiterates* its invitation for Gabon to restore communication with the Committee, through the Secretariat, with a view to enabling the Committee to determine the facts and root causes of the matter of concern and assist in its resolution;
6. *Decides* to consider at its sixteenth meeting, in accordance with paragraph 20 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance with the Basel Convention, whether it is necessary to consider, in the light of paragraphs 1 and 2 of the terms of reference, to pursue further measures to address the compliance difficulties of Gabon;
7. *Reiterates* its encouragement for Gabon to participate in training activities on national reporting in advance of the sixteenth meeting of the Committee;
8. *Requests* the Secretariat to communicate this decision to Gabon, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for French-speaking countries in Africa, to the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for English-speaking countries in Africa, to the United Nations Resident Coordinator, to the United Nations Environment Programme and to the World Health Organization;
9. *Requests* also the Secretariat to continue its communications with and support to Gabon and to report to the Committee as appropriate, and *invites* the Committee members from the African region to cooperate in reaching out to Gabon;
10. *Decides* to keep the matter relevant to the submission CHW/CC/9c/2019/7 under review.

¹ Decision CC-14/12.