

CC-15/6: Submission regarding Syrian Arab Republic

The Committee,

Recalling the submission by the Secretariat to the Committee regarding Syrian Arab Republic 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/2019/14),

Recalling also decisions CC-14/16 and CC-14/16/Add.1,

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

1. *Expresses* its appreciation for the commitment of Syrian Arab Republic and for its cooperation with the Committee during the fifteenth meeting of the Committee
2. *Welcomes* the transmission by Syrian Arab Republic of information on the difficulties faced by this Party in fulfilling its reporting obligation under the Basel Convention¹;
3. *Notes* that Syrian Arab Republic, a Party since 1992, remains in the situation of not having transmitted a national report since 2001 as required under Article 13 paragraph 3 of the Basel Convention;
4. *Acknowledges* that Syrian Arab Republic is unable to comply with its reporting obligation under the Convention, and expresses its concern about this situation;
5. *Declares* its commitment to assist Syrian Arab Republic in addressing the difficulties that it experiences in complying with its reporting obligation;
6. *Encourages* Syrian Arab Republic to participate in training activities on national reporting in advance of the sixteenth meeting of the Committee;
7. *Welcomes* the willingness of Syrian Arab Republic to transmit its national report for 2021 by the end of 2022, and its national report for 2022 by the end of 2023;
8. *Welcomes* also the willingness of Syrian Arab Republic to elaborate and transmit to the Secretariat by 15 February 2023 a voluntary compliance action plan to assist in resolving the matter of concern;
9. *Encourages* Syrian Arab Republic 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. *Encourages* Syrian Arab Republic 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;
11. *Requests* the Secretariat to communicate this decision to Syrian Arab Republic, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic, to the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Arab States and to the United Nations Resident Coordinator;
12. *Requests* also the Secretariat to continue its communications with and support to Syrian Arab Republic and to report to the Committee as appropriate;
13. *Decides* to keep the matter relevant to the submission CHW/CC/9c/2019/14 under review.

¹ UNEP/CHW/CC.15/INF/5.