

BC-15/19: Providing further legal clarity

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the expert working group on the review of Annexes I, III and IV and entries A1180 in Annex VIII and B1110 in Annex IX to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;

2. *Takes note* of the information on the work of the expert working group;¹ of the group's recommendations on proposals for possible amendments to Annex IV and to entries A1180 in Annex VIII and B1110 in Annex IX to the Basel Convention and its findings on the consequential implications of the review of Annex IV to the Convention, reflecting the outcome of its fourth meeting;² of the draft versions of the notification document, the movement document, the instructions for completing both documents, the national reporting format and the manual for completing the format for national reporting, showing where adjustments may need to be made as a consequence of possible amendments to Annex IV;³ and of progress made in the review of Annexes I and III;⁴

3. *Recalls* the mandate of the expert working group as set out in decisions BC-13/2, BC-14/13 and BC-14/16 and decides to remove the review of entries A1180 in Annex VIII and B1110 in Annex IX from the mandate of the group;

4. *Acknowledges* the need for further discussion on amendments to Annex IV – for example, on the following issues, among others, which were discussed during the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

- (a) General introduction, captions and introductory text for sections A and B of Annex IV;
- (b) Keeping, deleting, merging or splitting existing operations;
- (c) Inclusion of new operations – for example, on preparing for reuse and catch-all operations;
- (d) Consideration of non-environmentally sound management operations – for example, open burning;
- (e) Inclusion of clarifying examples;
- (f) Ordering and numbering of the operations;

5. *Requests* the Open-ended Working Group to consider the proposals by the European Union to amend Annex IV and certain entries in Annexes II and IX to the Basel Convention⁵ and the recommendations and findings of the expert working group,⁶ taking into account the discussions at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as well as the progress made in the review of Annexes I and III, and to provide recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;

6. *Requests* the regional groups that have not yet nominated 10 experts with relevant expertise to serve as members of the expert working group to nominate the remaining experts by 31 July 2022 through their Bureau representatives, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate the nomination process;

¹ UNEP/CHW.15/13.

² UNEP/CHW.15/INF/18.

³ Set out in document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/20.

⁴ UNEP/CHW.15/INF/21.

⁵ UNEP/CHW.15/13/Add.1.

⁶ UNEP/CHW.15/INF/18.

7. *Requests* the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the Open-ended Working Group at its thirteenth meeting and to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting.