

## VII/5. Small island developing States

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recognizing* that the Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention adopted in decision VI/1 represents a useful way forward for implementing the objectives of the Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management, in particular in small island developing States,

*Welcoming* the holding of the international meeting to review the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to be held in Mauritius from 10 to 14 January 2005,

*Taking note* of the specific constraints facing small island developing States in the implementation of the Basel Convention, in particular their unique geographical characteristics, vulnerability, lack of adequate resources and expertise, as well as high costs of transport and disposal operations for hazardous waste,

*Conscious of* the need to take urgent action in small island developing States to meet the obligations of the Basel Convention as well as other related regional agreements,

1. *Draws the attention* of the participants at the international meeting to review the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action to the need to give due consideration to the issue of the environmentally sound management of hazardous waste in view of its importance in the implementation of and follow-up to the Barbados Programme of Action;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat, as part of its work on capacity-building, to cooperate closely with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs as organizer of the above-mentioned international meeting as well as other relevant stakeholders, including Basel Convention regional centres, in the development and implementation of specific activities targeted for small island developing States that support the implementation of the Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management, the Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention, and the follow-up to the Barbados Programme of Action. These activities shall take into consideration, wherever suitable, such principles as the promotion of integrated waste management and regional approaches for the environmentally sound management of hazardous waste.