

## **VII/9. Basel Convention regional centres: report on progress**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* its decision VI/3 on the establishment and functioning of the Basel Convention regional centres for training and technology transfer,

*Recalling* also its decision VI/4 on the business plans of the Basel Convention regional centres,

*Recalling in addition* its decisions VI/1 and VI/2 and Open-ended Working Group decisions OEWG-I/1 and OEWG-II/1,

*Welcoming* progress in the conclusion of the framework agreements, implementation of the business plans and projects proposals under the Strategic Plan,

*Recognizing* the need for funding for the programme of activities of the Basel Convention regional centres,

1. *Requests* the Basel Convention regional centres and the Secretariat to ensure effective implementation of the project proposals contained in their business plans;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat and the Basel Convention regional centres and the Parties served by them to develop a strategy for funding the centres and the activities that they undertake;

3. *Urges* all Parties and signatories in a position to do so, as well as international organizations, including development banks, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and individuals, to make financial contributions to the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund of the Basel Convention or contributions directly to the Basel Convention regional centres on a bilateral basis, to allow the centres to continue to implement the Strategic Plan;

4. *Urges* host Governments of the Basel Convention regional centres and countries served by the centres, as appropriate, to provide adequate support to enable each centre to carry out its core operational activities;

5. *Requests* the Basel Convention regional centres to revise and update the new business plans for 2005–2006;

6. *Invites* the Basel Convention regional centres to continue to carry out capacity-building activities, technology transfer and projects on a regional basis for all the countries which they serve;

7. *Invites* the regional centres to carry out an evaluation of the technology transferred so far and requests the Secretariat to report on such evaluation to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting.