

IX/3: Strategic Plan and new strategic framework

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision VIII/10 and decision VI/28 of the Open-ended Working Group,

Also recalling paragraph 7 of Article 15 of the Convention,

Recognizing that the preparation of a new strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention would benefit from an effectiveness evaluation of the implementation of the Convention,

Re-emphasizing the critical importance of the Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention for Parties and others,

Noting the concerted efforts undertaken by Parties in implementing the Strategic Plan and by the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, the Secretariat and other stakeholders in supporting their implementation,

Taking into consideration the ongoing review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the 2002–2010 period, the reports by the Secretariat on the implementation of the Strategic Plan¹ and the comments received from Parties to date on the developments and obstacles in the implementation of the Strategic Plan,

Recognizing the need for a new strategic framework for a ten-year period from the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in the light of the evolving needs of the Parties to the Convention,

Considering the changing scientific, environmental, technical and economic circumstances under which the Convention is working; the challenges faced by Parties in implementation and by the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, the Secretariat and others in supporting their implementation; and the need to ensure that appropriate and innovative approaches are used to meet the objectives of the Convention,

Noting that the Conference of the Parties can further consider the effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention,

Recognizing also the importance of gathering and analysing data and information required to provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention as a basis for the preparation of a new strategic framework,

1. *Decides* that a new strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention is required for a ten-year period so that the Basel Convention will promote the environmentally sound management of waste and will play a decisive role in highlighting the links between waste management and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and human health and livelihood;
2. *Decides* that the current Strategic Plan should continue to be implemented until a new strategic framework is adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting;
3. *Invites* Parties, non-Parties, intergovernmental organizations, members of the industry and business sectors and non-governmental organizations to provide financial resources or in-kind assistance to countries that need support in implementing the current Strategic Plan and developing a new strategic framework;
4. *Further decides* that a new strategic framework should:
 - (a) Be based on the objectives of article 4 of the Convention;
 - (b) Be based, among other things, on;

¹ UNEP/CHW.7/3, UNEP/CHW.7/4, UNEP/CHW.8/2Add.1 and Add.2 and UNEP/CHW.9/4.

- (i) Best possible knowledge on levels and trends of transboundary waste streams and the environmentally sound management of wastes;
 - (ii) Assessment of capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
 - (iii) Acknowledgement of specific challenges being faced by small island developing States and least developed countries in the environmentally sound management of wastes;
- (c) Consider the enhanced cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions;
- (d) Make full use of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres and take account of the capacities and role of the centres;
- (e) Acknowledge that resource mobilization should be seen as a very important element in consideration of the Basel Convention's new strategic framework and reinforce commitment to taking an active and comprehensive approach to resource mobilization, as set out in decision VIII/34;
- (f) Be attractive to partners beyond the Basel Convention, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the Global Environment Facility, the World Bank and donors, civil society and the private sector;
- (g) Continue collaboration with intergovernmental organizations;
- (h) Benefit from an understanding of the lessons learned from the previous Strategic Plan in meeting the objectives of the Convention and from other assessments on experiences of the Convention;
5. *Welcomes* the medium-term strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme, including the thematic priority areas related to harmful substances and hazardous waste and resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production, and considers that there should be a close relationship between the new strategic framework and the medium-term strategy;
6. *Urges* Parties, signatories, the regional and coordinating centres and others to submit further comments on the developments and obstacles in the implementation of the current Strategic Plan to the Secretariat by 30 November 2008 and also requests the secretariat to develop further options to engage better all Parties in this consultation process;
7. *Invites* each Party to nominate a contact person to facilitate liaison with the Secretariat in the review of the Strategic Plan, in the facilitation of the effectiveness evaluation and the development of a new strategic framework;
8. *Directs* the Secretariat to consult with the designated contacts at the key stages in the review of the Strategic Plan, in the facilitation of the effectiveness evaluation and in the development of a new strategic framework;
9. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a report, taking into account information gathered from consultations as described in paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 above, containing information and conclusions on the review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan and, among other things, a comparative assessment of the Plan and the results of the implementation of the Plan, with a view to its publication on the Basel Convention Secretariat website by 30 March 2009;
10. *Invites* Parties, signatories, the regional and coordinating centres and others to submit to the Secretariat by 30 June 2009, taking into account the report referred to in paragraph 9 above.:
- (a) Data and information required to facilitate an evaluation of the effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention as a basis for the preparation of a new strategic framework;

(b) Views on a new strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention, in particular with regard to potential elements of the framework, including indicators of achievement and performance, and also the respective roles of the Secretariat, the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres and other partners in its future implementation;

11. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare, based on the comments received, a first draft of a new strategic framework for publication on the Basel Convention website by 31 January 2010 and for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its seventh meeting;

12. *Invites* Parties, signatories, the regional and coordinating centres and others to submit comments on the first draft of a new strategic framework to the Secretariat by 30 April 2010;

13. *Decides* to establish an open-ended coordination group operating within the framework of and meeting back-to-back preceding the Open-ended Working Group and reporting to the Open-ended Working Group, in order to scrutinize the draft strategic framework prepared by the Secretariat and advise on and prepare elements for a new strategic framework, based on the work of the Secretariat and the consultative process outlined above in the present decision;

14. *Requests* the Open-ended Working Group, based on its consideration of the draft referred to in paragraphs 11, 12 and 13 above and the outputs of the coordination group referred to in paragraph 13 above, to prepare a draft strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting.