

BASEL CONVENTION

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United Nations Environment Programme

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5 August 2021

Subject: Call for information in follow-up to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (online segment, 26-30 July 2021)

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

At the online segment of its fifteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted decision BC-15/2, on interim programme of work and budget of the Basel Convention for 2022, in which it took note of the information on the modalities for the continuation of the intersessional work and processes of the Basel Convention emanating from the decisions of the fourteenth and previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties until new decisions would be adopted at the face-to-face segment of its fifteenth meeting in 2022 (see document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/69–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/49–UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/71).

In line with modalities outlined in the abovementioned document, please find enclosed a summary of the individual invitations to Parties and observers for the provision of information and comments on relevant products in the extended intersessional period leading to the face-to-face segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2022. The information set out in this letter is also available on the Convention's website under: "<u>Call for information in follow-up to the online segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Parties to the Basel Convention</u>".

Please note that similar letters will also be sent to Parties and observers to the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions as a follow-up to the online segment of the tenth meeting of their respective Conference of the Parties. The invitations for information pertaining to joint issues of the three conventions have been included in each of the individual letters.

The decisions adopted at the online segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties are contained in the annex to the meeting report, which will be made available on the Basel Convention's website: www.basel.int.

Should you have any queries, please contact Ms. Marylene Beau, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (email: marylene.beau@un.org; Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 83 87).

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Yours sincerely, David Ogden for

Rolph Payet Executive Secretary

- Enc: Follow-up to the online segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention
- To: Basel Convention focal points Basel Convention competent authorities Members of the Bureau of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention Observers admitted to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention
- Cc: Representatives of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva

Follow-up to the online segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention

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I. Election of officers

- As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on elections (UNEP/CHW.15/2) and documents referenced therein, the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting is expected to proceed with various elections during its face-to-face segment in 2022: 10 officers of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, 5 officers of the Open-ended Working Group, 5 members of the Implementation and Compliance Committee (ICC) and 9 members of ENFORCE.
- 2. As agreed by the Bureau, which was mandated to facilitate, during the intersessional period preceding the 2021 meetings of the conferences of the Parties, the process for nominating candidates for elections with the support of the Secretariat, Parties were initially invited to transmit, by 19 April 2021, the names of candidates for election. Given that all elections under the Basel Convention were deferred to the face-to face segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held in 2022, the deadline is extended to I March 2022. This will also allow for further consultations on the matter to be facilitated by the respective regional focal points for election matters in advance of and during the regional preparatory meetings expected to be held in advance of the face-to face segment of the Farties.
- 3. The invitation for nomination of candidates in relation to the elections to take place during the face-toface segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties is summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Invitation to transmit the names of 10 candidates for election as officers of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties	UNEP/CHW.15/2 and UNEP/CHW.15/INF/3	Parties	19 April 2021	I March 2022
Invitation to transmit the names of 5 candidates for election as officers of the Open- ended Working Group	UNEP/CHW.15/2 and UNEP/CHW.15/INF/3	Parties	19 April 2021	I March 2022
Invitation to transmit the names of 5 candidates for election as members of the ICC	UNEP/CHW.15/12 and UNEP/CHW.15/INF/3	Parties	19 April 2021	I March 2022
Invitation to transmit the names of 9 candidates for election as members of ENFORCE	UNEP/CHW.15/18 and UNEP/CHW.15/INF/3	Parties	19 April 2021	I March 2022

Contact point:

Ms. Juliette Kohler (Email: juliette.kohler@un.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 82 19).

2. <u>Strategic framework</u>

- 1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on the strategic framework (UNEP/CHW.15/3), the Secretariat, in consultation with the small intersessional group on the strategic framework finalized the report on the final evaluation of the strategic framework which is set out in document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/5 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.
- 2. At the request of the small intersessional group on the strategic framework, through a communication sent on 27 November 2020, the Secretariat invited comments from Parties and observers on the final evaluation report (UNEP/CHW.15/INF/5) as well as views on whether to develop a future strategic framework and/or effectiveness evaluation pursuant to paragraph 7 of the Article 15 of the Convention by an original deadline of 17 March 2021.
- 3. Given that the strategic framework is to be considered by the Conference of the Parties during the faceto-face segment of its fifteenth meeting in 2022, the deadline for providing comments/views in response to the above-mentioned invitation is extended to **I December 2021**. The comments received by this extended deadline will be made available to the Conference of the Parties for its face-to-face segment in document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/6.

4.	The invitation for comments/views in relation to the strategic framework is summarized below:	

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Comments on the draft report on the final evaluation of the strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for 2012–2021 as well as views on whether to develop under the Convention a future strategic framework and/or effectiveness evaluation	UNEP/CHW.15/INF/5	Parties Observers	17 March 2021	I December 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Andrea Lechner (Email: <u>andrea.lechner@un.org</u>, + 41 (0) 22 917 88 53).

3. Development of guidelines for environmentally sound management

- 1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on developing guidelines for environmentally sound management (UNEP/CHW.15/5), the Secretariat prepared a further revision of the draft practical manual for stakeholders to ensure that notifications of transboundary movements meet environmentally sound management requirements for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, as contained in document UNEP/CHW.15/5/Add.1.
- 2. Given that the issue related to developing guidelines for environmentally sound management is to be considered by the Conference of the Parties during the face-to-face segment of its fifteenth meeting in 2022, Parties and others are invited to provide comments on the revised draft practical manual by 15 October 2021. The comments received by this deadline will be made available on the Convention's website for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its face-to-face segment.
- 3. The invitation for comments in relation to the development of guidelines for environmentally sound management is summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Comments on the revised draft practical manual for stakeholders to ensure that notifications of transboundary movements meet environmentally sound management requirements	UNEP/CHW.15/5/Add.1	Parties Others	N/A	15 October 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Susan Wingfield (Email: <u>susan.wingfield@un.org</u>, Tel: + 41 (0) 22 917 84 06)

4. <u>Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing</u> or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants

1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on technical guidelines (UNEP/CHW.15/6), the following technical guidelines have been prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with the small intersessional working group established by paragraph 9 of decision OEWG-I/4, for the consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting:

(a) General technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants (draft updated version of 4 March 2021) (UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.1);

(b) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds (draft updated version of 5 March 2021) (UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.2);

(c) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with the pesticides aldrin, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, chlordane, chlordecone, dicofol, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, lindane, mirex, pentachlorobenzene, pentachlorophenol and its salts, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride, technical endosulfan and its related isomers or toxaphene or with hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical (draft updated version of 12 March 2021) (UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.3).

2. Given that the issue related to the technical guidelines is to be considered by the Conference of the Parties during the face-to-face segment of its fifteenth meeting in 2022, Parties and observers are invited to provide comments on the above-mentioned technical guidelines by **I5 November 2021**. The comments received by those deadlines will be made available on the Convention's website for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its face-to-face segment.

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants	UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.1	Parties Observers	N/A	15 November 2021
Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds	UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.2	Parties Observers	N/A	15 November 2021

3. The invitations for comments in relation to the above-mentioned technical guidelines are summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with the pesticides aldrin, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, chlordane, chlordecone, dicofol, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorobenzene, pentachlorobenzene, pentachlorobenzene, pentachlorophenol and its salts, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride,technical endosulfan and its related isomers or toxaphene or with hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical	UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.3	Parties Observers	N/A	15 November 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Carla Valle-Klann (Email: <u>carla.valle@un.org</u>, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 86 86)

5. <u>Technical guidelines on incineration on land and on specially engineered landfill</u>

1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on technical guidelines (UNEP/CHW.15/6), the following technical guidelines have been updated by the co-lead countries, in consultation with the small intersessional working group established pursuant to paragraph 6 of decision BC-13/6, for the consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting:

(a) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound incineration of hazardous wastes and other wastes as covered by disposal operations D10 and R1 (draft updated version of 24 February 2021) (UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.4);

(b) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound disposal of hazardous wastes and other wastes in specially engineered landfill (D5) (draft updated version of 24 February 2021) (UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.5).

- 2. Given that the issue pertaining to the technical guidelines is to be considered by the Conference of the Parties during the face-to-face segment of its fifteenth meeting in 2022, Parties and others are invited to provide comments on the above-mentioned technical guidelines by **29 October 2021**. The comments received by those deadlines will be made available on the Convention's website for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its face-to-face segment.
- 3. The invitations for comments in relation to the above-mentioned technical guidelines are summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound incineration of hazardous wastes and other wastes as covered by disposal operations D10 and R1	UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.4	Parties Observers	N/A	29 October 2021
Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound disposal of hazardous wastes and other wastes in specially engineered landfill (D5)	UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.5	Parties Observers	N/A	29 October 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Carla Valle-Klann (Email: <u>carla.valle@un.org</u>, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 86 86)

6. <u>Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing</u> <u>or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds</u>

- 1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on technical guidelines (UNEP/CHW.15/6), draft updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds, were prepared by the lead country in consultation with the small intersessional working group established by decision BC-14/8, for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting (UNEP/CHW.15/6/Add.6).
- 2. Given that the issue related to the technical guidelines is to be considered by the Conference of the Parties during the face-to-face segment of its fifteenth meeting in 2022, Parties and observers are invited to provide comments on the above-mentioned technical guidelines by 15 October 2021. The comments received by this deadline will be made available on the Convention's website for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its face-to-face segment.
- 3. The invitation for comments in relation to the above-mentioned technical guidelines is summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Draft updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds	UNEP/CHW.15/6/ Add.6	Parties Observers	N/A	I5 October 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Melisa Lim (Email: melisa.lim@un.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 81 47).

7. <u>Technical guidelines for the identification and environmentally sound management</u> of plastic wastes and for their disposal

- 1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on technical guidelines (UNEP/CHW.15/6), technical guidelines for the identification and environmentally sound management of plastic wastes and for their disposal will be updated by the co-lead countries, in consultation with the small intersessional working group established by decision BC-14/13, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting (UNEP/CHW.15/6/INF/64).
- 2. In the intersessional period between the online segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and its face-to-face segment in 2022, the co-lead countries, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, will continue their work in updating the technical guidelines and plans to meet in the second half of 2021.
- 3. The final version of the draft updated technical guidelines for the identification and environmentally sound management of plastic wastes and for their disposal as prepared by the co-lead countries, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, during the additional intersessional period will be made available in document UNEP/CHW.15/6/INF/64. It is expected that an invitation for comments from Parties and observers on the technical guidelines as contained in UNEP/CHW.15/6/INF/64 will be made in due course. The comments received thereof will be made available on the Convention's website for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its face-to-face segment.

Contact point:

Ms. Carla Valle-Klann (Email: carla.valle@un.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 86 86).

8. <u>Further consideration of plastic waste</u>

- 1. As is mentioned in document on further consideration of plastic waste (UNEP/CHW.15/10), in paragraph 35 of decision BC-14/13, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties and others to submit to the Secretariat, by I June 2020, information on certain plastic wastes referred to in entry Y48 in Annex II and entry B3011 in Annex IX to the Convention.
- Given that the item related to further consideration of plastic waste is to be considered by the Conference of the Parties during the face-to-face segment of its fifteenth meeting in 2022, Parties and others are invited to submit the information described in paragraph I above by the extended deadline of 14 January 2022. A compilation of submissions by Parties and others will be made available to the Conference of the Parties for its face-to-face segment in document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/12.
- 3. The invitation for information on certain plastic wastes referred to in entry Y48 in Annex II and entry B3011 in Annex IX to the Convention is summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Information on certain plastic wastes referred to in entry Y48 in Annex II and entry B3011 in Annex IX to the Convention	UNEP/CHW.15/10	Parties Others	l June 2020	l 4 January 2022

Contact point:

Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall (Email: <u>kei.ohno@un.org</u>, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 82 01)

9. <u>Waste containing nanomaterials</u>

- 1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on waste containing nanomaterials (UNEP/CHW.15/11), during the online segment of its twelfth meeting, the Open-ended Working Group agreed to invite Parties and others to submit to the Secretariat further information about activities aimed at addressing issues related to waste containing nanomaterials, including case studies about, and best practices pertaining to, the management of such waste, by 30 November 2020.
- 2. Given that the issue related to waste containing nanomaterials will be considered by the Conference of the Parties during the face-to-face segment of its fifteenth meeting, Parties and others are invited to submit the information described in paragraph I above by the extended deadline of I December 2021. The information received by this extended deadline will be made available to the Conference of the Parties for its face-to-face segment in document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/52.
- 3. The invitation for information on waste containing nanomaterials is summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Information about activities aimed at addressing issues related to waste containing nanomaterials, including case studies about, and best practices pertaining to, the management of such waste	UNEP/CHW.15/11	Parties Others	30 November 2020	l December 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Melisa Lim (Email: melisa.lim@un.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 81 47)

10. <u>Providing further legal clarity</u>

- 1. As described in in the note by the Secretariat on providing further legal clarity (UNEP/CHW.15/13), the expert working group on the review of Annexes (EWG) has developed recommendations on the review of Annex IV and entries A1180 and B1110 in Annexes VIII and IX to the Basel Convention and is making progress with the review of Annexes I and III.
- 2. Between the online segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in July 2021 and its face-to-face segment in 2022, the EWG is expected to continue its work on the review of Annexes I and III, to further working on its recommended option for the review of the e-waste entries A1180 and B1110, and to develop rationales for its recommended options for possible amendment proposals to Annex IV. This may include an invitation for comments from Parties and observers.
- 3. As also described in document UNEP/CHW.15/13, two amendment proposals have been transmitted for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting: a proposal by the European Union to amend Annex IV and certain entries in Annexes II and IX to the Convention; a proposal by Ghana and Switzerland to amend Annexes II, VIII and IX to the Convention. Pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article 17 of the Convention, on 19 January 2021, six months before the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat communicated the proposals to the Parties and signatories to the Convention and, for information, to the Depositary. To facilitate discussions at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, views from Parties on both amendment proposals were initially invited by 17 March 2021. Given that the proposals will be considered by the Conference of the Parties during its face-to-face segment, the deadline for submitting views is extended to I December 2021. All comments received are available at:

http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Amendments/Proposedamendments/tabid/7906/Default.aspx. The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources and upon request by the proponents, will facilitate the exchange of information on the proposals in preparation for their consideration during the face-to-face segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

4. The invitations for comments on the proposed amendments submitted by Parties are summarized below. Any invitation for comments in relation to the work of the expert working group would be communicated separately.

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Proposal by the European Union to amend Annex IV and certain entries in Annexes II and IX to the Basel Convention	UNEP/CHW.15/13/ Add.1	Parties	17 March 2021	l December 2021
Proposal by Ghana and Switzerland to amend Annexes II, VIII and IX to the Basel Convention	UNEP/CHW.15/13/ Add.2	Parties	17 March 2021	l December 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Juliette Kohler (Email: juliette.kohler@un.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 82 19).

11. <u>Proposal by the Russian Federation to amend paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the Convention</u>

1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on proposal by the Russian Federation to amend paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the Convention (UNEP/CHW.15/15), the Russian Federation has transmitted a proposal to amend Article 6 paragraph 2 of the Basel Convention for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting. Pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article 17 of the Convention, on 19 January 2021, six months before the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat communicated the proposal to the Parties and signatories to the Convention and, for information, to the Depositary. To facilitate discussions at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, views from Parties on the amendment proposal were initially invited by 17 March 2021. Given that the proposal is to be considered by the Conference of the Parties during its face-to-face segment, the deadline for submitting views is extended to I December 2021. All comments received are available at: http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Amendments/Proposedamendments/tabid/7906/Default.aspx. The

Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources and upon request by the proponent, will facilitate the exchange of information on the proposal in preparation for its consideration during the face-to-face segment of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2. The invitation for comments in relation to the proposal by the Russian Federation to amend paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the Convention is summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Respondents	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
Proposal by the Russian Federation to amend paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the Basel Convention	UNEP/CHW.15/15	Parties	17 March 2021	I December 2021

Contact point:

Ms. Juliette Kohler (Email: juliette.kohler@un.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 82 19).

12. From science to action

- 1. As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on "From science to action" (UNEP/CHW.15/25– UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/21–UNEP/POPS/COP.10/25), in paragraph 4 of decisions BC-14/25, RC-9/13 and SC-9/23, the conferences of the Parties, among other things, invited Parties and others to submit to the Secretariat, by 30 November 2020, information on action being undertaken to promote the implementation of the road map for further engaging Parties and other stakeholders in informed dialogue for enhanced science-based action in the implementation of the conventions.¹
- Given that the above issue is be considered by the conferences of the Parties during their face-to-face segment in 2022, Parties and others are invited to submit information described in paragraph I above by the extended deadline of 14 January 2022. The information submitted by Parties and others will be compiled in annex II to document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/49–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/ INF/36– UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/54.
- 3. The above-mentioned invitation is summarized below:

Торіс	Document symbol	Responde nts	Initial deadline	Extended/new deadline
"From science to action" - information on action being undertaken to promote the implementation of the road map for further engaging Parties and other stakeholders in informed dialogue for enhanced science-based action in the implementation of the conventions	UNEP/CHW.15/25 – UNEP/FAO/RC/CO P.10/21– UNEP/POPS/COP. 10/25	Parties Others	30 November 2020	14 January 2022

Contact point:

Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall (Email: <u>kei.ohno@un.org</u>, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 82 01)

^I UNEP/CHW.14/INF/40–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/35–UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/44.