

**Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention  
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of  
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

**Thirteenth meeting**

Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017

Agenda item 4 (d) (ii)

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention:  
technical assistance: Basel Convention regional and  
coordinating centres**

**Draft decision BC-13/[ ]: Basel Convention regional and  
coordinating centres**

**Submission by the joint contact group on technical assistance and financial  
resources**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note of:*

(a) The business plans for the period from January 2016 to December 2019<sup>1</sup> and activity reports for the period from January 2015 to December 2016<sup>2</sup> submitted by the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres;

(b) The report on the activities of the regional and coordinating centres;<sup>3</sup>

(b *bis*) The report on the activities of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres and the Stockholm Convention regional and subregional centres in joint documents UNEP/CHW.13/INF/29/Rev.1 and UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/26/Rev.1;

(c) The newly signed framework agreement between the Secretariat on behalf of the Conference of the Parties and both the Government of Argentina<sup>4</sup> and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran;<sup>5</sup>

2. *Requests* the Secretariat to take the steps necessary to effect the signing, pursuant to decision VI/3, of framework agreements with the Government of Slovakia in order to formalize the establishment of the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Central and Eastern European Countries in Slovakia;

*2 bis. Takes note* of the end of activities of the existing Basel Convention Regional Centre and of the request of the Russian Federation to establish a new Basel Convention Regional Centre, and *authorizes* the Secretariat to take the steps necessary for the signing of a framework agreement, pursuant to decision VI/3 and in accordance with the criteria agreed in decision II/19, for the possible establishment of a new Basel Convention Regional Centre in the Russian Federation;

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<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/BusinessPlans/tabid/2336/Default.aspx>.

<sup>2</sup> Available at <http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/ActivityReports/tabid/2992/Default.aspx>.

<sup>3</sup> See UNEP/CHW.13/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/26.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/TheCentres/BCRCArgentina/tabid/4838/Default.aspx>.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.basel.int/Partners/RegionalCentres/TheCentres/SCRCIran/tabid/4846/Default.aspx>.

2 *ter.* Takes note of the requests of the Federative Republic of Brazil and of the Republic of Panama to establish a new Basel Convention Regional Centre to serve the Central America and Mexican sub-region, authorizes the Secretariat to initiate the process towards the signing of a framework agreement, pursuant to decision VI/3 and in accordance with the criteria agreed in decision II/19, for the possible establishment of a new Basel Convention Regional Centre to serve the Central America and Mexican subregion, taking into account the views of the Parties in the region on this matter as expressed at the latest at the next meeting of the Open-ended Working Group;

3. Requests the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to submit to the Secretariat for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting:

(a) Their business plans for the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2023 by 30 September 2019;

(b) Their activity reports for the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018 by 31 December 2018;

4. Requests the Secretariat to prepare a report on the activities of the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, including on technology transfer, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting;

4 *bis.* Encourages regional and coordinating centres interested to work, under the Convention, on the impact of plastic waste, marine plastic litter, microplastic, and measures for prevention and environmentally sound management, which should be reflected in the report requested in paragraph 4 above, and as appropriate in other relevant reporting;

5. Takes note of the notification by the Government of El Salvador of the termination of the framework agreement on the hosting of the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Central American subregion, including Mexico, which will become effective on 4 May 2017;<sup>6</sup>

6. Invites Parties, observers and other financial institutions in a position to do so to provide financial support to enable Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to implement their business plans with the aim of supporting Parties in their efforts to meet their obligations under the Convention.

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<sup>6</sup>See UNEP/CHW.13/11.