



Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

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Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants Fourth meeting

Geneva, 4–8 May 2009

Item 5 (h) of the provisional agenda*

Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: financial resources

Mobilization of resources**

Note by the Secretariat

1. Paragraph 2 of Article 13 of the Stockholm Convention states that:

The developed country Parties shall provide new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfil their obligations under [the] Convention as agreed between a recipient Party and an entity participating in the mechanism described in paragraph 6. Other Parties may also on a voluntary basis and in accordance with their capabilities provide such financial resources. Contributions from other sources should also be encouraged. The implementation of these commitments shall take into account the need for adequacy, predictability, and the timely flow of funds and the importance of burden sharing among the contributing Parties.

2. Paragraph 3 of the same Article, states that:

Developed country Parties, and other Parties in accordance with their capabilities and in accordance with their national plans, priorities and programmes, may also provide and developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition avail themselves of financial resources to assist in their implementation of [the] Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels.

* UNEP/POPS/COP.4/1.

** Mandate for the action described in the present note contained in: Stockholm Convention, Article 13; report of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on the work of its first meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.1/31), annex I, decision SC-1/11, on the work of its second meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.2/29) annex I, decision SC-2/10 and on the work of its third meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.3/30), annex I, decision SC-3/13).

3. A report on other possible sources of funding or entities to facilitate the adequacy and sustainability of funding for activities relevant to the implementation of the Convention was made available to Conference of the Parties at its third meeting in document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/12.
4. In its decision SC-3/14, the Conference of the Parties:
 - (a) Took note of the information set out in the report on other possible sources of funding or entities to facilitate the adequacy and sustainability of funding for activities relevant to the implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) Invited, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 13 of the Convention, developed country Parties, other Parties and other possible sources, including relevant funding institutions and the private sector, to provide information to the Secretariat on ways and means in which they could support the Convention;
 - (c) Requested the Secretariat, based on the information provided pursuant to the above-mentioned invitation, to develop further the report on other possible sources of funding and to submit it for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting.
5. On 16 August 2007, the Secretariat wrote to Parties and other possible sources of funding, including relevant funding institutions and the private sector, and requested them to provide information on the ways and means in which they could support the Convention. As at 31 January 2009, the Secretariat had received no information in that regard.
6. Given the lack of information, a study may be needed on various options for mobilizing resources to enable Parties to implement the Convention. Such a study would cost an estimated \$50,000 to undertake. Although this activity is not included in the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2010–2011 set out in documents UNEP/POPS/COP.4/37 and UNEP/POPS/COP.4/37/Add.1, it could be added to the budget and funded through contributions to the Special Trust Fund of the Convention should the Conference of the Parties so decide.

Possible action by the Conference of the Parties

7. The Conference of the Parties may wish:
 - (a) To invite, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 13 of the Convention, developed country Parties, other Parties and other sources, including relevant funding institutions and the private sector, to provide information to the Secretariat on ways in which they can support the Convention, by 31 December 2009;
 - (b) To request the Secretariat:
 - (i) To hire an independent consultant to undertake the study referred to above, if resources are made available to do so, and prepare a report on the results of the study for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting;
 - (ii) To update and develop further the report set out in document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/12 based on information to be provided in response to the invitation made in paragraph (a) above for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.