

Outcomes of the joint meeting of the bureaus of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

26 March, Geneva



Basel Convention



Rotterdam Convention



Stockholm Convention

Geneva, 5 April 2011

Joint bureaus meeting



Update by UNEP on the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes

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- Pretoria Roadmap:
 - ▣ Comparative analysis of the elements of the four tracks identified as key options for financing chemicals/wastes
 - ▣ 4th meeting: 4-5 May 2011, New York (CSD-19)
 - ▣ Recommendations to be sent to 12th Special Session of the UNEP GC
- Important to raise awareness on this matter and ensure that all concerned stakeholders are aware of the process

Progress made on the implementation of the omnibus and synergies decisions (1)

- Progress reports contained in meeting documents (UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32 and its 6 Addenda)
- Document UNEP/POPS/COP.5/INF/14 contains the report on joint activities carried out by the three Secretariats during 2009 and 2010 to support the implementation by Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
- UNEP/POPS/COP.5/INF/15 contains reports by Parties, Basel and Stockholm convention's regional centres and non-governmental organizations
- UNEP/POPS/COP.5/INF/49 contains the efforts to promote implementation of the synergies decisions by 6 organizations FAO, UNITAR, WHO, WORLD BANK, OECD and UNDP

Progress made on the implementation of the omnibus and synergies decisions (2)

- Bureaus took note and recommended to receive progress reports at all relevant meetings
- Streamlining of national reporting not yet addressed sufficiently
 - Possibility of enhancing response rates
 - SBC to prepare recommendations for their COP, looking at lessons learned from the Stockholm system

Schedule of the discussion of the synergy issues at the three COPs (1)

- Decision on synergies to be taken first at the Stockholm COP → Rotterdam and Basel to take identical decisions at their COPs
- UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32 and six addenda (same document for all COPs) contain possible action by the COP as a starting point for discussions on decisions
- Contact group to be set up if required

Schedule of the discussion of the synergy issues at the three COPs (2)

- Schedules at the COP:
 - ▣ Stockholm: first to discuss synergies issues, discussions scheduled preliminarily for Tuesday afternoon
- Decisions from the Stockholm COP need to be acceptable to the Basel and Rotterdam COPs
- Bureau recommended that taking into account the legal autonomy of each convention to set up its agenda, synergies should be treated in a consistent manner at the three COPs

Issues on the substantive items relating to the omnibus and synergy decisions: **Joint activities**

- UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32/Add.1:
 - ▣ 21 proposed cross-cutting and joint activities for possible inclusion in the programmes of work of the three conventions for 2012–2013
 - ▣ Revised joint workplan for the development of a clearing house mechanism serving the three conventions
 - ▣ To be consulted in conjunction with budget documents for each COP
- Major influence on budget discussions → good communication with budget contact group required

Issues on the substantive items relating to the omnibus and synergy decisions: **Joint managerial functions**

- Mr. Jim Willis (US) appointed Joint Head
 - ▣ To start on 18 April 2011
- Currently preparing related document (UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32/Add.2) with his input
 - ▣ Document will be late but needs to be considered at Stockholm COP to not lose two years
- Joint Head to take note of bureau meeting report and discuss with the presidents of the three COPs if required

Issues on the substantive items relating to the omnibus and synergy decisions: **Joint services**

- Progress reports in UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32/Add.3
- Joint services established as requested on a permanent basis immediately after the ExCOPs
- Proposal to modify organization will be considered together with proposal to modify technical units (NEP/POPS/COP.5/32/Add.2)
- No funds received for the basic integration of the basic IT platform and services
- Bureau commended the progress on joint services

Issues on the substantive items relating to the omnibus and synergy decisions: **Synchronization of budget cycles**

- Progress report in UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32/Add.4
- Synchronization ongoing
- From the biennium 2012-2013, the budget cycles of the Basel and Rotterdam conventions will be in line with those of the Stockholm Convention, UNEP and FAO, enabling UNEP to produce coordinated financial statements for the three conventions
- Bureau took note of information provided

Issues on the substantive items relating to the omnibus and synergy decisions: **Joint audits**

- Progress report in UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32/Add.5
- UNEP Office of Internal Oversight Services had included in its workplan for 2011 an audit of the strategic management of UNEP-administered MEAs
- No information yet when exactly the audits will take place in 2011
- Bureau took note of information provided

Issues on the substantive items relating to the omnibus and synergy decisions: **Review arrangements**

- UNEP/POPS/COP.5/32/Add.6 contains ToR for 2 reports:
 - Secretariat's report
 - Basis of COP review
 - Based on a questionnaire
 - UNEP/FAO's report

- One of the issues requiring detailed discussions at the COP, in particular Parties' review

Communication and consultation with regions

- Bureau members to report back to the regions that they need to prepare for discussions on synergies
 - ▣ Rotterdam and Basel convention focal points to be aware of the implications of the discussions on synergies at the Stockholm COP
- Rotterdam and Basel secretariats to send out a letter to their focal points and the permanent missions to inform them
- Further activities to raise awareness recommended

Other matters

- Criteria for funding participants' travel
 - ▣ RC and SC have criteria, Bureau of BC adopted criteria
 - ▣ Similar criteria for the 3 COPs to be discussed at COPs in 2013
 - ▣ Difficult year due to many international meetings
- Future joint bureau meetings
 - ▣ 8 weeks before COPs to provide guidance
- Chairing joint bureau meetings
 - ▣ Chairmanship rotating among presidents (BC–RC–SC)



Thank You!

For further information please visit our
joint synergies website:

www.basel.int/synergies