

SC-11/21: International cooperation and coordination with other organizations¹

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the report by the Secretariat on international cooperation and coordination for the period 1 January–31 December 2022,² the information provided by the secretariat of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, on the work of the committee,³ the update provided by the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management on the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and wastes beyond 2020,⁴ the information on activities undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme on programmatic matters pertaining to the conventions⁵ and the information note provided by the secretariat of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;⁶

2. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Secretariat and the secretariat of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, pursuant to United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to closely cooperate and coordinate with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in the context of the mandate of the intergovernmental negotiating committee and to participate in the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee on issues relevant to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, including in relation to persistent organic pollutants in plastic products;

3. *Reiterates* its invitation to Parties participating in the intergovernmental negotiating committee to ensure that the international legally binding instrument is fully coherent with and complementary to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, that it avoids the duplication of actions set out in the relevant provisions of those conventions, and that it promotes cooperation and coordination with those conventions, and to ensure that the expertise of the Secretariat and the Parties and the experience built up in implementing the conventions is fully shared to help the intergovernmental negotiating committee in its deliberations; and its encouragement to the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions to participate in the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee and share their expertise;

4. *Takes note* of the report entitled “Global governance of plastics and associated chemicals”⁷ and requests the Secretariat to submit it to the intergovernmental negotiating committee, along with other information of relevance to the mandate of the committee and to promote its dissemination;

5. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme in the context of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution,

¹ The conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Rotterdam conventions adopted, respectively, decisions BC-16/22 and RC-11/9 on international cooperation and coordination with other organizations, which are substantially identical to the present decision.

² UNEP/CHW.16/INF/37–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/20–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/41.

³ UNEP/CHW.16/INF/40–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/23–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/45.

⁴ UNEP/CHW.16/INF/39–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/22–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/44.

⁵ UNEP/CHW.16/INF/38–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/21–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/43.

⁶ UNEP/CHW.16/INF/52–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/36–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/56.

⁷ UNEP/CHW.16/INF/58–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/41–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/59, annex.

pursuant to United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/8, and requests the Executive Secretary to continue contributing to the preparation of proposals for the science-policy panel and cooperating closely with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in the context of the mandate of the science-policy panel;

6. *Reiterates* its invitation to Parties participating in the ad hoc open-ended working group to promote cooperation and coordination with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, as well as complementarity and avoidance of duplication of effort between the work of the panel and that of the conventions, and to ensure close cooperation with the scientific and technical bodies under the conventions, as appropriate,⁸ and that the extensive experience of the science-based promotion of the sound management of chemicals and waste is made available to the ad hoc open-ended working group;

7. *Reiterates* its request to the Executive Secretary to cooperate with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in fostering the implementation of activities described in resolutions of the United Nations Environment Assembly that are relevant to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

8. *Welcomes* the inclusion of a supplementary item entitled “Cooperation with multilateral environmental agreements” on the provisional agenda of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly;

9. *Also welcomes* the programmatic cooperation between the Secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme on matters of mutual interest, including in the context of the United Nations Environment Assembly;

10. *Further welcomes* the programmatic cooperation between the Secretariat and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on matters of mutual interest;

11. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to continue such programmatic cooperation efforts as described in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the present decision;

12. *Welcomes* the invitation by the heads of the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, through their respective secretariat, to become a participating organization of the Programme;

13. *Decides* to accept the invitation mentioned in paragraph 12 of the present decision and requests the Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention, the executive secretaries of the Rotterdam Convention and the Executive Secretary of the Stockholm Convention to sign, on behalf of the relevant conventions, the memorandum of understanding concerning the establishment of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals;

14. *Requests* the executive secretaries, within their respective mandates, to represent the conventions in the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals;

15. *Reiterates* the requests contained in paragraphs 18 and 19 of decisions BC-15/25, RC-10/14 and SC-10/21 for the Secretariat to continue to cooperate with relevant organizations with regard to the contributions of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

16. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue:

(a) To work closely with other international organizations, within their mandates, on activities related to plastic pollution;

(b) To enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Strategic Approach and with other international bodies in areas of relevance to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm

⁸ See paras. 5 (c), 6 (d) and 8 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/8 on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.

conventions, including in the areas and with the organizations listed in the report by the Secretariat on international cooperation and coordination for the period 1 January–31 December 2022;⁹

17. *Also requests* the Secretariat to enhance its cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns on issues of common interest, subject to the availability of resources;

18. *Further requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to enhance communications related to the contributions of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions towards resolving the triple planetary crisis and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals, and their interlinkages with the processes and instruments of other intergovernmental bodies, and to report back to the conferences of the Parties to the conventions at their next meetings;

19. *Invites* Parties to strengthen the visibility of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, with the goal of raising awareness of the work of the conventions and their relevant interlinkages with the processes and instruments of other intergovernmental bodies, as appropriate;

20. *Takes note* of the information on the preparation by the Secretariat of a report on interlinkages between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer¹⁰ and requests the Secretariat to enhance its cooperation and coordination with the Ozone Secretariat on issues of common interest, subject to the availability of resources;

21. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen coherence and synergies across the chemicals and waste agenda at the international level, and calls on Parties to take into account the strategic objectives and targets of the global chemicals and waste framework for beyond 2020, once adopted, in their actions to implement the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

22. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare, subject to the availability of resources, a report, including possible recommendations, on how the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions could contribute to the global chemicals and waste framework for beyond 2020, once adopted, for consideration by the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their next meetings;

23. *Also requests* the Secretariat to develop a proposal for the inclusion in the programme of work for the biennium 2026–2027 of activities to support the implementation of the global chemicals and waste framework for beyond 2020, once adopted, in line with the objectives of the conventions, for consideration by the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their next meetings;

24. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and reiterates the call to Parties contained in paragraph 26 of decisions BC-15/25, RC-10/14 and SC-10/21 to take into account the objectives of the Framework in their actions to implement the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

25. *Reiterates* the requests contained in paragraph 27 of decisions BC-15/25, RC-10/14 and SC-10/21 to the Secretariat to prepare, subject to the availability of resources, a report, including possible recommendations, on how the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions could contribute to the implementation of the 2030 targets and 2050 goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, for consideration by the conferences of the Parties to the conventions at their next meetings;

26. *Welcomes* the adoption of General Assembly resolution 77/161 on promoting zero-waste initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and requests the Executive Secretary to cooperate with the Secretary-General in fostering the implementation of that resolution,

⁹ UNEP/CHW.16/INF/37–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/20–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/41.

¹⁰ UNEP/CHW.16/INF/59–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/37–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/42, annex.

and with the advisory board of eminent persons to be set up by the Secretary-General to promote local and national zero-waste initiatives;

27. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and processes in the chemicals and waste cluster, including the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, in the training of potential chairs and negotiators for meetings of various bodies, and requests the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to continue implementing such training;

28. *Notes* that actions under the conventions may contribute to achieving the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, decides to take this into account in its work, and encourages Parties to do the same when implementing the conventions;

29. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to enhance its cooperation with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on issues of common interest;

30. *Requests* the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the conferences of the Parties at their next meetings.