

SC-5/7: Polychlorinated biphenyls

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the Secretariat's report on progress in establishing the polychlorinated biphenyls elimination network;¹
2. *Welcomes* the publication of the first issue of the network magazine and the establishment of awards by the network;
3. *Takes note* of the information relevant to polychlorinated biphenyls in the reports provided by parties pursuant to paragraph (g) of part II of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;²
4. *Recognizes* that the Secretariat has performed excellent work to date in facilitating the work of the network but notes that the secretariat is limited, both by its mandate and by its resources, which may restrict its ability to implement substantive technical activities effectively;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to facilitate a transition of the leadership of the network, in a sustainable manner, from the Secretariat to one or more United Nations agencies whose mandate is better suited to the implementation of a major project such as the network, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting on the progress of the transition;
6. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, together with the relevant member organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, and the regional centres of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Stockholm Convention, to consider taking over the administration and implementation of the network;
7. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research institutions, industry bodies and other stakeholders to join the network and to contribute technical and financial resources to its activities;
8. *Decides* to undertake at its seventh meeting a review of progress towards the elimination of polychlorinated biphenyls in accordance with paragraph (h) of part II of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention, taking into account the third reports to be submitted by parties pursuant to Article 15.

1 UNEP/POPS/COP.5/9.

2 UNEP/POPS/COP.5/INF/23 and UNEP/POPS/COP.5/29.