



Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Guidance and consolidated additional guidance to the financial mechanism

The present document contains a complete set of guidance and consolidated additional guidance to the financial mechanism, which have been prepared pursuant to decision SC-6/20 on the basis of the annex to document UNEP/POPS/COP .6/INF/25, as at 5 June 2013.

The general guidance to the financial mechanism, as contained in the annex to decision SC-1/9, is reproduced in section I below. The consolidated additional guidance, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decisions SC-2/11, SC-3/16, SC-4/27, SC-4/28, SC-5/23 and SC-6/20, is contained in section II.

I. Guidance to the financial mechanism¹

This guidance is intended to assist the entity or entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism pursuant to paragraph 6 of Article 13 and in accordance with article 14 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

1. Eligibility

(a) *Country eligibility:* To be eligible to receive funding from the financial mechanism a country must be:

- (i) A developing country or country with an economy in transition; and
- (ii) A Party to the Convention.

For the preparation of the initial national implementation plan, developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are signatories or in the process of becoming Parties should also be eligible.

The entity or entities entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism should take full account of the specific needs and the special situation of the least developed countries and small island developing States in their actions with regard to funding;

(b) *Eligible activities:* Activities that are eligible for funding from the financial mechanism are those that seek to meet the objectives of the Convention, by assisting eligible Parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention, in accordance with guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties.

2. Policy and strategy

Timely, adequate and sustainable financial resources on a grant or concessional basis should be allocated to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing eligible activities:

- (a) That are country-driven and are endorsed by the Parties concerned;

¹ Annex to decision SC-1/9.

- (b) That assist eligible Parties in meeting their obligations under the Stockholm Convention and are in conformity with, and supportive of, the priorities identified in their respective national implementation plans;
- (c) That are in conformity with the programme priorities as reflected in the relevant guidance and guidelines developed and/or adopted by the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate;
- (d) That build capacity and promote the utilization of local and regional expertise;
- (e) That promote multiple-source funding approaches, mechanisms and arrangements; and
- (f) That promote sustainable national socio-economic development, poverty reduction and activities consistent with existing national sound environmental management programmes geared towards the protection of human health and the environment.

3. Programme priorities

Priority should be given to the funding of activities that enable eligible Parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention, in particular with:

- (a) Development, review and updating, as appropriate, of national implementation plans, pursuant to Article 7 of the Convention;
- (b) Development and implementation of activities identified in national implementation plan as national or regional priorities;
- (c) Reducing the need for specific exemptions by eligible Parties;
- (d) Activities that support or promote capacity-building, including human resource development and institutional development and/or strengthening; including those from centres for regional and subregional capacity-building and technology assistance, e.g.:
 - (i) Institutional strengthening and capacity-building;
 - (ii) Capacity improvement for designing, developing and enforcing action plans, strategies and policies, including measures to minimize negative impacts on workers and local communities;
- (e) Activities that promote and provide access to technical assistance through appropriate arrangements, including those from centres for regional and subregional capacity-building and technology assistance;
- (f) Assistance with needs assessment and information on available sources on funding;
- (g) Activities that promote transfer of technology adapted to local conditions, to eligible Parties, including best available techniques and best environmental practices;
- (h) Activities that promote education, training, public participation and awareness-raising of stakeholders and the general public;
- (i) Projects that are responsive to priorities identified in the national implementation plans of eligible Parties and take fully into account the relevant guidance of the Conference of the Parties;
- (j) Activities that enhance information exchange and management;
- (k) Development and promotion of alternatives to persistent organic pollutants, including non-chemical alternatives.

4. Determination of funding

In accordance with paragraph 7 (d) of article 13, the Conference of the Parties will regularly provide the entity or entities entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism pursuant to paragraph 6 of article 13 of the Convention assessments of the funding needed to ensure effective implementation of the Convention.

5. Updating the guidance

The Conference of the Parties shall review, in consultation, as appropriate, with the entity or entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism, the effectiveness of the present guidance on a regular basis and update and prioritize it as necessary.² Such reviews will coincide with the schedule of reviews for the effectiveness of the financial mechanism.

² In determining the length of time between updates of the guidance, the Conference of the Parties may wish to take into account the schedule for the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism.

II. Consolidated additional guidance to the financial mechanism

A. Priority areas for the programming of areas of work for 2014 to 2017

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-6	SC-6/20	4	<p>Also requests the entities entrusted with the financial mechanism of the Convention, taking into account specific deadlines set forth in the Convention, to continue to consider in their programming of areas of work for the forthcoming two bienniums, from 2014 to 2017, the following priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Elimination of the use of polychlorinated biphenyls in equipment by 2025; (b) Environmentally sound waste management of liquids containing polychlorinated biphenyls and equipment contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, having a polychlorinated biphenyls content above 0.005 per cent, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 6 and part II of Annex A of the Convention, as soon as possible and no later than 2028; (c) Elimination or restriction of the production and use of newly listed persistent organic pollutants; (d) Elimination of the production and use of DDT, except for parties that have notified the Secretariat of their intention to produce and/or use it; (e) For parties that produce and/or use DDT, restriction of such production and/or use for disease vector control in accordance with World Health Organization recommendations and guidelines on the use of DDT and when locally safe, effective and affordable alternatives are not available to the party in question; (f) Use of best available techniques for new sources in the categories listed in part II of Annex C of the Convention as soon as practicable but no later than four years after the entry into force of the Convention for a party.

B. Article 3 - Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use

i) DDT

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-1	SC-1/25	8(b)	Concludes that sufficient capacity at the national and subnational levels is necessary for effective implementation, monitoring and impact evaluation (including associated data management) of the use of DDT and its alternatives in disease vector control, and recommends that the financial mechanism of the Convention support activities to build and strengthen such capacity as well as measures to strengthen relevant public health systems.
	SC-1/25	8(f)	Requests the financial mechanism of the Convention, and invites other international financial institutions, to support ongoing processes to develop global partnerships on long-term strategies for developing and deploying cost-effective alternatives to DDT, including the development of insecticides for indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide treated materials and non-chemical alternatives.
COP-3	SC-3/16	4	Invites Governments, non-governmental organizations, industry and intergovernmental organizations to participate in the development of the business plan for promoting a global partnership on the development and deployment of alternative products, methods and strategies to DDT for disease vector control and encourages the Global Environment Facility, donors and other funding agencies to provide financial and other resources to support the creation and implementation of the business plan.
COP-4	SC-4/28	4	Requests the Global Environment Facility to provide, within its mandate, financial support for country-driven activities of the global alliance for the development and deployment of products, methods and strategies as alternatives to DDT for disease vector control ³ and invites developed country Parties, funding agencies and other financial institutions to support the alliance.
COP-5	SC-5/23	12	Requests the financial mechanism of the Convention and invites parties and observers and other financial institutions in a position to do so to provide financial support to the development and deployment of products, methods and strategies as alternatives to DDT.

ii) PCB

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-5	SC-5/23	3	Requests the financial mechanism of the Convention and invites parties and observers and other financial institutions in a position to do so to provide financial support for country-driven training and capacity-building activities related to activities of the polychlorinated biphenyls elimination network.

iii) Endosulfan

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-5	SC-5/23	5	Recognizes that financial and technical support is required to facilitate the replacement of the use of endosulfan in developing countries.

³ See decision SC-4/2.

C. Article 5 - Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production

i) Best available techniques and best environmental practices

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-3	SC-3/16	5	Urges the Global Environment Facility to incorporate best available techniques and best environmental practices and demonstration as one of its priorities for providing financial support.
COP-5	SC-5/23	6	Requests the financial mechanism of the Convention to provide funding to parties to enable them to implement best available techniques and best environmental practices to support the reduction or elimination of unintentional releases of persistent organic pollutants.

D. Article 7 - Implementation plans

i) Preparation and updating of national implementation plans

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-1	SC-1/12	9	Requests the financial mechanism of the Convention, recognizing the importance of national implementation plans to a Party's ability to implement its obligations under the Convention, to support the regular review and updating of national implementation plans in accordance with the guidance adopted under paragraph 1 above.
COP-4	SC-4/28	1	Requests the Global Environment Facility to provide the necessary financial and technical assistance to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in accordance with Articles 13 and 14 of the Convention, especially least developed countries and small island developing States, to help them to prepare or update their national implementation plans and to comply with the requirements of the Stockholm Convention.
COP-6	SC-6/20	3	Requests the entities entrusted with the financial mechanism of the Convention, taking into account the general guidance to the financial mechanism set out in the annex to decision SC-1/9, to continue to support eligible parties to the Convention in their efforts to develop a plan for the implementation of their obligations under the Stockholm Convention and to review and update, as appropriate, this implementation plan on a periodic basis.

ii) Funding of priorities listed in national implementation plans

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-3	SC-3/16	11	Requests the Global Environment Facility as the principal entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism on an interim basis to give special consideration to those activities relevant to the sound management of chemicals identified as priorities in national implementation plans when deciding on the funding of activities under the Convention.
	SC-3/16	12	Requests the Global Environment Facility to give special consideration to support for those activities identified as priorities in national implementation plans which promote capacity-building in sound chemicals management, so as to enhance synergies in the implementation of different multilateral environment agreements and further strengthen the links between environment and development objectives.

E. Article 8 - Listing of chemicals in Annexes A, B and C

i) Listing of new chemicals

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-5	SC-5/23	4	Also requests the financial mechanism of the Convention to support activities in respect of the newly listed chemicals and invites other international financial institutions to do so.

F. Article 9 - Information exchange

i) Clearing-house mechanism

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-4	SC-4/28	5	Requests the financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention, including its principal entity the Global Environment Facility, and invites other relevant international financial institutions and others from the donor community to provide the financial resources, within their mandates, necessary for Parties that are developing countries or countries with economies in transition, Stockholm Convention regional centres and other interested stakeholders to carry out projects aimed at improving information exchange at the regional and national levels and to set up clearing-house mechanism nodes as described in the note by the Secretariat on the possible role of the clearing-house mechanism at the national and regional levels. ⁴

G. Article 12 - Technical assistance

i) Technical assistance and technology transfer

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-1	SC-1/15	1	Adopts the guidance on technical assistance contained in the annex to the present decision and recommends its use by Parties and the financial mechanism of the Convention.
COP-5	SC-5/23	11	Encourages the Global Environment Facility and parties in a position to do so to provide funds necessary to facilitate the technical assistance and technology transfer to be provided to developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition.

⁴ UNEP/POPS/COP.4/20.

ii) **Regional Centres**

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-3	SC-3/16	10	Requests the Global Environment Facility, in its support for the delivery of technical assistance on a regional basis, to give consideration to the proposals that may be developed by nominated Stockholm Convention centres and to prioritize such support to those centres situated in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in accordance with paragraph 31 of the terms of reference for regional and subregional centres contained in the annex to decision SC-2/9 and paragraph 5 (e) of the annex to decision SC-3/12.
COP-5	SC-5/23	7	Also requests the financial mechanism of the Convention and invites parties and observers and other financial institutions in a position to do so to provide financial support to enable regional centres to implement their work plans.
COP-6	SC-6/20	6	Reiterates its request to the Global Environment Facility, in its support for the delivery of technical assistance on a regional basis, to give consideration to the proposals that may be developed by nominated Stockholm Convention centres and to prioritize such support to those centres situated in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in accordance with paragraph 31 of the terms of reference for regional and subregional centres contained in the annex to decision SC-2/9 and paragraph 5 (e) of the annex to decision SC-3/12.

iii) **Needs Assessment**

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-2	SC-2/12	Annex, 5 (a)	The Global Environment Facility, as the principal entity entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism on an interim basis, is invited to provide information gathered through its operations relevant to assistance needs in eligible Parties.
COP-3	SC-3/15	Annex, 7 (a)	The Global Environment Facility, which, as the principal entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism on an interim basis, is invited to provide information gathered through its operations relevant to assistance needs in eligible Parties.
	SC-3/16	13	Also requests the Global Environment Facility to support, within its project activities, the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to estimate the costs and funding needs of activities in their national implementation plans.

H. Article 13 - Financial resources and mechanisms

i) General additional guidance to the Financial Mechanism

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-3	SC-3/16	1	Reaffirms its decisions SC-1/9 and SC-2/11.
COP-4	SC-4/27	1	Reaffirms its decisions SC-1/9, SC-2/11 and SC-3/16.
	SC-4/28	3	Requests the entity or entities entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism of the Convention, including the Global Environment Facility, when implementing the guidance to the financial mechanism adopted by the Conference in decision SC-1/9, to take into account the priorities identified by Parties in their implementation plans transmitted to the Conference of the Parties.
COP-5	SC-5/23	2	Decides to update the consolidated guidance every four years starting from the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties as an input of the Conference of the Parties to the negotiations on the replenishment of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility.
	SC-5/23	10	Also requests the financial mechanism of the Convention, when providing financial support, to give priority to countries that have not yet received funding for the implementation of activities contained in their national implementation plans.
COP-6	SC-6/20	2	Reaffirms the guidance to the financial mechanism, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention in decisions SC-1/9 and SC-4/27, and the additional guidance, as adopted by the Conference of the Parties in decisions SC-2/11, SC-3/16, SC-4/28 and SC-5/23
	SC-6/20	5(a)	Requests the Global Environment Facility to respond to the rapidly evolving chemicals and wastes agenda and the changing needs of developing country parties and parties with economies in transition, including, among other measures, through the Small Grants Programme.
	SC-6/20	5(b)	Requests the Global Environment Facility, when providing financial support, to give priority to countries that have not yet received funding for the implementation of activities contained in their national implementation plans.
	SC-6/20	5(c)	Requests the Global Environment Facility to take into account the changing needs of developing country parties and parties with economies in transition when updating their national implementation plans to include newly listed persistent organic pollutants.
	SC-6/20	5(d)	Requests the Global Environment Facility to continue to provide adequate financial resources to activities to implement obligations under the Stockholm Convention, while within its mandate exploring how to mobilize further financial resources for chemicals and wastes.
	SC-6/20	5(e)	Requests the Global Environment Facility to consider increasing, in the sixth replenishment of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility, the overall amount of funding accorded to the chemicals focal area.
	SC-6/20	8	Requests the Global Environment Facility to include, in its regular reports to the Conference of the Parties, as set forth in paragraph 9 (a) of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility, information on the implementation of the complete set of guidance referred to in paragraph 7 (a) of the present decision.

I. Article 14 - Interim financial arrangements

i) General additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-2	SC-2/11	1	Requests the Global Environment Facility to continue to work with the Secretariat of the Convention to finalize Operational Programme 14 incorporating the guidance by the Conference of the Parties as soon as possible.
	SC-2/11	2	Also requests the Global Environment Facility to exercise any necessary flexibility in applying its criteria for access in order to ensure compatibility with the country eligibility criteria established by the Conference of the Parties in decision SC-1/9 in accordance with the specific priorities and needs of eligible countries.
	SC-2/11	3	Further requests the Global Environment Facility to include in its regular reports to the Conference of the Parties a more in-depth analysis of its financing, including co-financing, in its persistent organic pollutants portfolio, which includes sources, mechanisms, arrangements and trends.
	SC-2/11	4	Invites the Global Environment Facility to use its network in identifying other sources of finance for persistent organic pollutant activities and to continue to develop operational requirements which facilitate and guide the approach and actions of its implementing agencies and executing agencies to proactively assist in mobilizing other sources of financing for persistent organic pollutants projects from multilateral and bilateral sources and non-governmental organizations, including the private sector.
	SC-2/11	5	Requests the Global Environment Facility to clarify its approach to the application of the concept of incremental costs in its activities in the persistent organic pollutants focal area.
	SC-2/11	6	Also requests the Global Environment Facility to dedicate a section of its website on Operational Programme 14 to guidance on how to apply for funding and to finalize as soon as possible its operations manual related to the Stockholm Convention.
	SC-2/11	7	Further requests the Global Environment Facility to consider the guidance from the Conference of the Parties on incremental costs.
	SC-2/11	8	Notes that the Resource Allocation Framework of the Global Environment Facility is not currently applied to the persistent organic pollutants focal area and invites the Global Environment Facility to consult with the Convention Secretariat with regard to its future work on the Resource Allocation Framework as it relates to the Convention without prejudice to any further decision on the application of the Resource Allocation Framework to the persistent organic pollutants focal area and to report on this issue to the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting.
	SC-2/11	10	Also requests the Global Environment Facility to inform the Conference of the Parties of the ways in which the Global Environment Facility might support the procurement of scientific equipment and the development of scientific and technical capacity necessary for specific project execution in developing countries and countries with economies in transition necessary to fulfil their obligations under the Convention.
COP-3	SC-3/16	3	Welcomes the ongoing policy reforms within the Global Environment Facility and also welcomes in particular the streamlining of its project cycle, its review of focal area strategies and priority setting and its increased emphasis on the sound management of chemicals.
	SC-3/16	8	Welcomes the Global Environment Facility's shift in emphasis from support for the preparation of national implementation plans to the implementation of those plans and requests the Global Environment Facility to continue to streamline its project cycle so that persistent organic pollutant projects can be developed and implemented on a priority basis.
	SC-3/16	9	Welcomes the co-financing analysis of the Global Environment Facility in its report to the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting and urges the Global Environment Facility to take into full consideration the different characteristics of projects when establishing its co-financing requirements.

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-4	SC-4/27	3	Requests the Global Environment Facility to ensure that the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties and the Convention Secretariat are appropriately informed and consulted in a timely manner on any further developments with regard to the Resource Allocation Framework that involve the persistent organic pollutant focal area.
	SC-4/27	4	Welcomes the continuing policy reforms within the Global Environment Facility as they relate to the streamlining of the project cycle and urges the Global Environment Facility to continue such efforts.

ii) **Replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund**

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-3	SC-3/16	2	Welcomes the successful fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility along with the increased level of the funding for persistent organic pollutants within that replenishment.
	SC-3/16	7	Decides that the outcomes of the periodic assessments of the funding necessary and available for the implementation of the convention shall be an input of the Conference of the Parties to the negotiations on the replenishment of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility.
COP-4	SC-4/27	2	Calls on developed countries, in the context of the fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility, being aware of the funding needs assessment ⁵ and in the light of the current and possible future listing of new persistent organic pollutants, to make all efforts to make adequate financial resources available in accordance with their obligations under Article 13 of the Convention to enable developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to fulfil their obligations under the Convention.

J. Article 16 - Effectiveness evaluation

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-2	SC-2/11	9	Requests the Global Environment Facility to work with the Convention Secretariat to determine an appropriate approach for capacity-building for developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in the process of effectiveness evaluation pursuant to Article 16 of the Convention.
	SC-2/13	10	Agrees that immediate actions for long-term funding arrangements, including capacity-building to implement the global monitoring plan, should be started, taking into account gaps in information between regions and their capabilities to implement monitoring activities to enable long-term evaluation of the Convention in accordance with the provisions of its Article 13 on the financial mechanism.
COP-3	SC-3/16	6	Invites the Global Environment Facility to incorporate activities related to the global monitoring plan and capacity-building in developing countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition as priorities for providing financial support.
COP-4	SC-4/28	2	Requests the financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention and invites other donors to provide sufficient financial support for further step-by-step capacity enhancement, including through strategic partnerships, to sustain the new monitoring initiatives which provided data for the global monitoring report prepared in connection with the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Convention. ⁶

⁵ UNEP/POPS/COP.4/27.

⁶ UNEP/POPS/COP.4/33.

COP	Decision	Paragraph	Text
COP-4	SC-4/31	9	Requests the financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention and invites other donors to provide sufficient financial support to further step-by-step capacity enhancement, including through strategic partnerships, to sustain the new monitoring initiatives which provided data for the first monitoring report.
COP-5	SC-5/23	8	Further requests the financial mechanism of the Convention and invites other donors to provide financial support to permit further step-by-step capacity enhancement, including through strategic partnerships, to enable the collection of data on all indicators stipulated in the effectiveness evaluation framework set out in the annex to the note by the Secretariat on effectiveness evaluation. ⁷
	SC-5/23	9	Requests the financial mechanism of the Convention and invites other donors to provide financial support to permit further step-by-step capacity enhancement, including through strategic partnerships, to sustain the new monitoring initiatives, which provided data for the first monitoring report.

⁷ UNEP/POPS/COP.5/31.