

#### **4. Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes<sup>1</sup>**

**Decision:** RC-8/14: Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes

**Background:** In paragraph 6 of decision RC-8/14, the Conference of the Parties emphasized the importance of information provided under each convention by Parties to the Secretariat on the measures that they have adopted in order to implement the conventions and requested the Secretariat to make the information relevant to illegal traffic and trade, if not identified as confidential by Parties involved, available on the website of the conventions without duplication of related requests under each convention.

In paragraph 7 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties, encouraged Parties to two or more of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions: (a) To establish, where they do not yet exist, coordinating mechanisms at the national level with a view to facilitating the exchange of information among relevant authorities responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the conventions aimed at controlling the export and import of the chemicals and wastes covered under the conventions, other relevant institutions and the private sector; (b) To review, through those coordinating mechanisms, the lessons learned under each convention that could benefit the implementation and enforcement of the others, and, as appropriate, to adjust their legal and institutional frameworks accordingly.

In paragraph 8 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to share, through the Secretariat, their experiences pursuant to paragraph 7 and information on cases of illegal trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes. In paragraph 10 (a) of the decision, the Secretariat was requested to seek comments from Parties and others on further areas, including areas common to two or three conventions in which legal clarity could be improved as a means of preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, and, based on those comments, to prepare a report, including recommendations, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.

**Follow-up:**

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(a)	Parties are invited to provide information under each convention to the Secretariat on the measures relevant to illegal traffic and trade that they have adopted in order to implement the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by <b>31 August 2018</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
(b)	Parties are invited to share with other Parties, through the Secretariat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their experiences pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision BC-13/21,</li> <li>• Information on cases of illegal trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes.</li> </ul>	Parties	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision; please submit information by <b>31 August 2018</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
(c)	Parties and others are invited to provide comments on further areas, including areas common to two or three conventions in which legal clarity could be improved as a means of preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parties</li> <li>• Others</li> </ul>	Please make submissions to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline specified in the decision, please submit information by <b>31 August 2018</b> in order for it to be included in the report to be prepared by the Secretariat on this issue for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Contact point:**

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<sup>1</sup> The conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions adopted similar decisions, as contained in BC-13/22 and SC-8/24, which have been included in the follow-up letters relating to those conventions.