



**Basel Convention on the Control of  
Transboundary Movements of  
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

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**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior  
Informed Consent Procedure for  
Certain Hazardous Chemicals and  
Pesticides in International Trade**



**Stockholm Convention on Persistent  
Organic Pollutants**

**Conference of the Parties to the  
Basel Convention on the Control  
of Transboundary Movements  
of Hazardous Wastes and  
Their Disposal  
Thirteenth meeting**  
Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017  
Item 4 (f) of the provisional agenda\*  
**Matters related to the  
implementation of the Convention:  
financial resources**

**Conference of the Parties to the  
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Item 5 (g) of the provisional agenda\*\*\*  
**Matters related to the  
implementation of the Convention:  
financial resources and  
mechanisms**

**Implementation of the integrated approach to financing**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The annex to the present note sets out a report by the Secretariat on the implementation of the integrated approach to financing including its three mutually reinforcing components, mainstreaming, industry involvement and dedicated external finance. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

\* UNEP/CHW.13/1.

\*\* UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/1.

\*\*\* UNEP/POPS/COP.8/1.

## Annex

### Implementation of the integrated approach to financing

#### I. Introduction

1. By decisions BC-12/18, RC-7/8, and SC-7/22 on the implementation of the integrated approach to financing, the conferences of the Parties joined the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in welcoming an integrated approach to addressing the financing of the sound management of chemicals and wastes, underscoring that the three components of an integrated approach, mainstreaming, industry involvement and dedicated external finance, are mutually reinforcing and are all important for the financing of the sound management of chemicals and waste at all levels.
2. Furthermore, emphasizing the importance of implementing the three components, as agreed in decision 27/12 of the UNEP Governing Council, the conferences of the Parties requested the Secretariat to assist Parties in that respect, subject to the availability of resources, and recognized the importance of the joint programme of work to that end.
3. In the same decisions, the conferences of the Parties welcomed UNEA resolution 1/5, including the agreement to establish the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level. The conferences of the Parties also welcomed that according to the terms of reference of the special programme the Executive Secretary may participate as an observer in the meetings of the executive board of the special programme, requested him to attend such meetings and requested the Secretariat to cooperate, as appropriate, with the secretariat of the special programme.
4. In addition, the conferences of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to continue to ensure that the activities of the Secretariat and its support to Parties under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions take as reference the integrated approach and the programmes of work of the three conventions.
5. Section II of the present report provides information on the implementation of Secretariat-led activities and activities that are implemented by other entities with either a formal or informal involvement of the Secretariat. Examples of further mainstreaming and industry involvement approaches in the context of the integrated approach are outlined in Section III.

#### II. Implementation

##### A. Reference in the programme of work

6. In response to the request to ensure that the activities of the Secretariat and its support to Parties under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions take as reference the integrated approach, the Secretariat continued to use the checklist<sup>1</sup> developed by the Secretariat with a view to provide Secretariat staff with guidance on how conventions' activities may take as reference the various aspects of the integrated approach.
7. Accordingly, the factsheets<sup>2</sup> of the programmes of work and proposed budgets of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for the biennium 2018–2019 contain a specific section on the integrated approach.

##### B. Mainstreaming

8. The mainstreaming component of the integrated approach has been implemented particularly through the Secretariat's activities aimed at increasing synergies between the three conventions at the regional and national levels and to address specific issues linked to the obligations of the Parties under the conventions, such as reporting, monitoring, developing national implementation and action plans, phasing out chemicals, managing waste streams covered under the conventions and introducing alternatives to listed chemicals. This section provides some examples of mainstreaming activities in the context of the development of national plans and collaboration with other international entities.

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/33-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/18-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/34.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54.

## 1. Mainstreaming in the context of the development of national plans

9. The development, review, update and implementation of national implementation plans (NIPs) under the Stockholm Convention and national action plans (NAPs) under the Rotterdam Convention requires the consultation with and engagement of many stakeholders, including policy-making, law-making, environmental protection, agriculture, public health, industry, private sector, public and various interest groups. The calculation of action plan costs in a multi-stakeholder environment as required for the development of NIPs and NAPs can promote the integrations of the sound management of chemicals and wastes into national budgets and development plans for agriculture, health, environment, water, transport, industry, trade, energy, mining and other relevant sectors.

10. The inclusion of social indicators is an important aspect for the development and implementation of such plans. A thorough socio-economic assessment reveals the potential social impacts of the sound management of chemicals, such as persistent organic pollutants (POPs), on all stakeholders, including local communities and groups, civil society, private sector and government. It is also a means of analyzing and managing the intended and unintended social impacts of planned interventions at the national level and any social change processes invoked by those interventions.

## 2. Mainstreaming in collaboration with other international entities

11. The Secretariat contributes to several groups and initiatives that are led by other international entities that promote the mainstreaming of chemicals and wastes.

12. The Secretariat is a member of the United Nations Environmental Management Group (EMG) and participates in and provides input to several issue management groups (IMGs) and other EMG-related processes, in particular to the newly established IMG entitled “Tackling E-waste: Towards Eco-design and a Life-cycle Approach for E-products”. The IMG is tasked, among other things, to sketch modalities and prepare a work-plan/strategy for the development of a United Nations system-wide coordination mechanism on sustainable production, consumption and final disposal of electrical and electronic equipment, and to develop a system-wide approach and a related strategy for implementation within the United Nations system to address the global e-waste challenge.

13. The Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Development is a multi-stakeholder initiative to build capacity for the collection and dissemination of internationally comparable ICT statistics. Its overall goal is to help produce more and better statistical information in the area of ICT, which will allow governments and other stakeholders to make informed policy decisions for using ICT as a tool for social and economic development. Members of the partnership are Eurostat of the European Union, International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (UN ECLAC), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations University (UNU), World Bank and others. The Secretariat joined the partnership in July 2012 and initiated the establishment and work of a task group on measuring e-waste. The objective of the task group is to develop a framework for monitoring e-waste based on internationally defined indicators. Under the lead of the UNU, the task group developed guidelines on e-waste statistics<sup>3</sup> which were endorsed by all partnership members in 2015 following a public stakeholder consultation and partnership discussion.

14. Through the global agenda “Connect 2020 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/ICT Development”,<sup>4</sup> ITU Member States committed to work towards the shared vision of an information society, empowered by the interconnected world, where telecommunication/ICT enables and accelerates socially, economically and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone. Under Goal 3 “Sustainability – Manage challenges resulting from telecommunication/ICT development” of the agenda, renewed focus has been placed on environmental challenges and cybersecurity. Within this framework, target 3.2 calls for the reduction of the volume of redundant e-waste by 50% by the year 2020. The Secretariat actively contributes to the implementation of the Connect 2020 agenda by providing information on the environmentally sound management of e-waste in the related ITU study group and discussion fora, such as the ITU Green Standards Week, and advice on strategy documents and project proposals.

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/partnership/E-waste\\_Guidelines\\_Partnership\\_2015.pdf](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/partnership/E-waste_Guidelines_Partnership_2015.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.itu.int/en/connect2020/Pages/default.aspx>.

15. The partnership between the Green Customs Initiative<sup>5</sup> and the Secretariat, among others, focuses on awareness-raising on all the relevant international agreements as well as provision of assistance and tools to the enforcement community. The initiative was established to enhance the capacity of customs and other relevant enforcement personnel to monitor and facilitate the legal trade and to detect and prevent illegal trade in environmentally-sensitive commodities covered by the relevant conventions and multilateral environmental agreements. These include ozone depleting substances, toxic chemical products, hazardous wastes, endangered species and living-modified organisms. The Secretariat supported the Green Customs Initiative, for example by hosting the eleventh meeting of the Initiative partners in Geneva on 14 and 15 April 2016 and participating in the Green Customs Workshop in Asia-Pacific on Combating Environmental Crime held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 10 to 13 November 2015.

16. The Secretariat collaborates with the Joint UNEP/Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Environment Unit (JEU) on capacity-building activities relevant to the preparedness for and response to emergencies caused by hazardous chemicals and wastes and, in particular with regard to the Basel Convention, on emergencies caused by transboundary movements of hazardous and other wastes and their disposal. By pairing the technical expertise of UNEP, including the Secretariat, with OCHA's humanitarian response coordination structure, the JEU ensures an integrated approach in responding to environmental emergencies.

17. The Secretariat regularly participates in and contributes to the meetings of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) of the World Trade Organization (WTO), for example by providing briefings on the preparation and outcomes of the meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and on specific topics pertaining to the conventions such as trade and the environmentally sound management of e-waste. The CTE, among other things, contributes to identifying and understanding the relationship between trade and the environment between multilateral environmental agreements and the WTO agreements, in order to promote sustainable development. In this regard, the Secretariat provides input to the revised versions of the WTO "Matrix on Trade-related measures pursuant to selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements".<sup>6</sup> The Secretariat also regularly coordinates and cooperates with the WTO on other activities, for instance: training sessions such as the bi-yearly WTO advanced course on trade and environment for representatives of WTO members - the latest on 1 April 2014 and 5 July 2016 -, workshops, like the WTO workshop on "Trade and Public Health" organized by WTO in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the World Intellectual Property Organization held in Geneva from 24 to 28 November 2014, as well as in other technical assistance and capacity building workshops on trade and environment such as the one organized by WTO in cooperation with the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre in Kuwait for the Arabic speaking countries and the Middle-East region held in Kuwait from 27 to 29 January 2015. Together with the UNEP Executive Director, the WTO Director General and Executive Heads of other multilateral environmental agreements such as the Secretary General of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions participated in a High-Level Panel on "20 years of building pathways to sustainable development" held on 28 April 2015 for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marrakech Agreement establishing the WTO. They discussed the mutual supportiveness of trade and environment in the context of the relationship between the WTO regime and multilateral environmental agreements, taking stock of the discussions and the jurisprudence on trade and environment over the past 20 years and looking back and ahead at the role of the global trade and environment regimes to achieve sustainable development.

18. Recommendations for the management of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) in the Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines for Electric Power Transmission and Distribution of the World Bank include among others replacing existing transformers and other electrical equipment containing PCB, and ensuring appropriate storage, decontamination and disposal of contaminated units. The World Bank was invited to report on the implementation of the EHS Guidelines and to increase visibility of the bank's hazardous materials and wastes related project components that contribute to achieving the objectives of the Stockholm Convention.

### **C. Industry involvement**

19. The Secretariat has also undertaken activities that support the implementation of the component on industry involvement. The following paragraphs outline concrete examples implemented by the

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.greencustoms.org/>.

<sup>6</sup> See documents WT/CTE/W/160/Rev.7-TN/TE/S/5/Rev.5.

Secretariat as outreach activities at the meetings of the conferences of the Parties and through its programme of work. This section also provides general considerations regarding the involvement of industry in the context of the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

## 1. Partnership activities

### (a) Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE)

20. In 2008, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, by decision IX/9, established the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE) as a multi-stakeholder public-private partnership that provides a forum for representatives of personal computer manufacturers, recyclers, international organizations, associations, academia, environmental groups and governments to tackle environmentally sound refurbishment, repair, material recovery, recycling and disposal of used and end-of-life computing equipment.

21. PACE is open to governments, industry, civil society and academia to tackle the environmentally sound management, refurbishment, recycling and disposal of used and end-of-life computing equipment. A substantive number of stakeholders from industry participated in the Partnership.<sup>7</sup>

22. Financial contributions to PACE from the private sector from 2008 to 2015 have been significant and amounted to about USD 320,000. Its contributions in 2014 and 2015, for example, represented approximately 50% of all financial contributions to the Partnership.

23. Under PACE, a project group was established with the objective to implement pilot projects among others to test the guidelines developed by the Partnership in cooperation with governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) including the private sector and Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres. Three projects and four activities have been implemented during the period between 2012 and 2017. In most of the pilot projects, participation of the private sector was highlighted, and opened highly interesting avenues and commitments for e-waste management. Here the multinational producers and their representatives in the countries (importers, national associations), as well as the local private sector engaged in waste collection and recycling, all play crucial roles. Extended producer responsibility (EPR) has become part of the legislation of many countries, and, corporate social responsibility standards have become commonplace for many industries. The direct impact of the PACE on the developments in the countries is difficult to quantify, but many interlocutors mentioned their work with the private sector as innovative and effective. Even though the involvement of the private sector didn't substantiate in all projects and activities, the PACE projects and activities, by bringing seed funds and involving the national authorities, created an enabling environment to bring in the private sector, which is an integral part of the environmentally sound management of e-waste.<sup>8</sup>

24. The Partnership also developed a manual on "Steps to establish and implement environmentally sound management for used and end-of-life computing equipment"<sup>9</sup> which has received a lot of technical input from industry (e.g. recycling companies) in particular concerning the section related to the private sector.

### (b) Household waste

25. At its twelfth meeting in 2015, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention agreed to include in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group the development of a work plan on the environmentally sound management of household waste with a focus on the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition.<sup>10</sup> The work plan could include, but would not be limited to developing guidance documents and/or manuals on, inter alia, best practices, business models and innovative solutions for the circular economy in various socioeconomic contexts, as well as a concept for a partnership to assist municipalities.

26. The Conference of the Parties established an informal group to develop a work plan on the environmentally sound management of household waste. The group has proposed the establishment of a Household Waste Partnership and has developed a concept note and terms of reference for a respective partnership working group for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its

<sup>7</sup> For a list of all PACE members see: <http://www.basel.int/Portals/4/Download.aspx?d=UNEP-CHW-PART-PACEWorkingGroup-LOP20150812.English.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/31, annex III.

<sup>9</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/INF/27, annex I.

<sup>10</sup> Decision BC-12/13.

thirteenth meeting in 2017. As at 28 October 2016, 16 Parties, 4 intergovernmental organizations, 13 regional and coordinating centres of the Basel Convention and the Stockholm Convention on POPs, 2 industry associations and 3 NGOs were actively participating in the informal group.<sup>11</sup>

(c) **Partnerships led by other institutions**

27. The following partnerships are led by other institutions:

(a) **Mercury Partnership:** The overall goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership is to protect human health and the global environment from the release of mercury and its compounds by minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating global, anthropogenic mercury releases to air, water and land. The Partnership currently has eight identified partnership areas that are reflective of the major source categories. The Secretariat contributes to the partnership activities by providing information and expertise to the advisory group and three partnership areas, i.e. mercury waste management; mercury supply and storage; and mercury reduction in products;

(b) **PCB Elimination Network (PEN):** The objective of the PEN is to promote and encourage the environmentally sound management of PCB. Several thematic groups were established to facilitate information exchange, foster cooperation and collaboration between members and promote environmentally sound management practices and destruction techniques. The PEN is administered by the Chemicals and Waste Branch of UNEP.<sup>12</sup> The Secretariat is a member of the PEN Advisory Committee and contributed among others to the preliminary assessment developed by the Chemicals and Waste Branch and reviewed by the PEN advisory committee on efforts made toward the elimination of PCB;

(c) **Global Alliance for the Development and Deployment of Products, Methods and Strategies as Alternatives to DDT for Disease Vector Control:** The Global Alliance on DDT involves governments, the private sector, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, researchers and philanthropic institutions in the effort to achieve the dual aims of reducing reliance on DDT and reducing transmission of the malaria vector and other disease carriers now controlled by DDT. The alliance is administered by the Chemicals and Waste Branch of UNEP.<sup>13</sup> The Secretariat made contributions and facilitated the inputs of the DDT expert group to the preparation of a road map for the development of alternatives to DDT;

(d) **Global Partnership on Waste Management (GPWM):** The GPWM is an open-ended, voluntary and collaborative relationship between various international organizations, industry associations and other stakeholders, in which all participants agree to work together to coordinate activities on waste management in a systematic way. The partnership supports the development of work plans to facilitate the implementation of integrated waste management at national and local levels to overcome environmental, public health, social and economic issues inflicted by waste and its impact. UNEP launched the GPWM in 2010. The UNEP International Environmental Technology Center (IETC) hosts the secretariat of the GPWM. The Secretariat is member of the partnership steering committee and focuses on e-waste related issues;

(e) **Solving the e-waste problem (step) Initiative:** The aim of the partnership is to develop strategies to solve the e-waste problem. The initiative is coordinated by UNU. Together with members from industry, governments, international organizations, NGOs and the science sector, the initiative develops and facilitates approaches towards the sustainable handling of e-waste. In five task forces, feasible, just and environmentally safe solutions for the e-waste problem are developed through analysis, planning and pilot projects. The Secretariat cooperates with the step initiative to coordinate activities and to make use of synergies with the PACE under the Basel Convention. The Secretariat signed a memorandum of understanding with UNU in September 2008 to strengthen the cooperation on policy and projects related to end-of-life computing equipment.

2. **Work of subsidiary bodies**

28. At its twelfth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention mandated the expert working group on environmentally sound management (ESM) to develop an “ESM toolkit” including practical tools to be promoted and implemented by relevant stakeholders.<sup>14</sup> The group’s membership is comprised of representatives from Parties and is open to observers from other

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.basel.int/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-CHW-IMPL-Partnership-HouseholdWaste-InfomalGroup-Members-20160810.En.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/11.

<sup>13</sup> UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/9.

<sup>14</sup> Decision BC-12/1.

stakeholder groups, including Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres, NGOs, academia and industry. Among the tools developed by the group are a revised set of practical manuals for the promotion of the environmentally sound management of wastes<sup>15</sup> and draft practical manuals on extended producer responsibility and financing systems for environmentally sound management.<sup>16</sup> Revised draft fact sheets on specific waste streams<sup>17</sup> have also been developed, as has a checklist for self-assessment of national environmentally sound management capacity and a report assessing possible incentives to encourage the private sector to invest in environmentally sound management.<sup>18</sup> Industry observers have led and contributed technical inputs to many of the tools developed by the group, and have been instrumental in obtaining feedback from the private sector to further enhance tool development. In addition, one of the meetings of the expert working group was hosted by a private sector company, further facilitating the work of the group.

### 3. Technology fair at the meetings of the conferences of the Parties in 2017

29. A technology fair to be held during the meetings of the conferences of the Parties in 2017 seeks to highlight the importance of the role of external partners such as industry and the private sector in the successful implementation of the conventions. The objective of the fair is to promote the transfer of technology for the implementation of the conventions by providing an opportunity to engage the private sector and industry as well as other relevant partners such as academia, research institutions, NGOs as well as intergovernmental organizations in the implementation of the conventions. The fair provides a platform for showcasing available clean technologies for the sound management of chemicals and wastes; promoting opportunities for developing alternatives, including non-chemical alternatives, to chemicals listed under the conventions; and developing partnerships to deal with particular issues.

## D. Special programme

30. The executive board of the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level held its first meeting in Geneva on 2 and 3 February 2016. Significant progress was made with agreement reached on an interim basis on its rules of procedure, the application guidelines and related application forms and next steps. The deadline for the first round of applications was 30 June 2016. The second meeting of the executive board was held in Bangkok, from 11 to 13 October 2016. The executive board, among other things, approved seven projects for funding. Project implementation is expected to start in the second quarter of 2017. The Secretariat has participated as an observer in both meetings of executive board.

31. At the invitation of UNEP, the Secretariat also served as a member of the internal task team on the special programme, which has been initially established to, among other things, build on internal expertise and experience in the administration of similar programmes, identify lessons learned and best practices and prepare the operationalization of the special programme (see document UNEP/CHW.12/20-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/14-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/26). The Secretariat supported the initial screening of the applications received from developing countries and countries with economies in transition from perspective of the objectives of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

32. The team, which consisted of representatives from the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention, the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility, was formalized by the executive board at its second meeting to assist the secretariat of the special programme to undertake an appraisal of the applications received from developing countries and countries with economies in transition.<sup>19</sup>

33. Pursuant to decision BC-12/7 on the Committee for Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention, a report by the Committee on the review of the operation of the implementation fund in the light of the experience of the Committee and other developments, including with regard to the special programme, is presented in document UNEP/CHW.13/INF/25. Further information on the implementation of the special programme

<sup>15</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/4/Add.1.

<sup>16</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/8.

<sup>17</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/7.

<sup>18</sup> <http://basel.int/Implementation/CountryLedInitiative/EnvironmentallySoundManagement/Overview/tabid/3615/Default.aspx>

<sup>19</sup> The report of the second executive board meeting is available at: <http://web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/special-programme/meetings-and-events/Second%20meeting%20of%20the%20Executive%20Board>.

provided by UNEP is set out in document UNEP/CHW.13/INF/41-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/45-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/36.

### III. Examples of further mainstreaming and industry involvement approaches

34. The following paragraphs outline examples of potential approaches at the national level that focus on mainstreaming and the involvement of industry in the context of the integrated approach. All examples are based on existing projects implemented by international organizations, countries, and other entities (see footnotes for more information). They focus on national coordination, legislative and regulatory measures, partnerships, and incentives to implement best available techniques and green economy initiatives.

#### **Example 1: Mainstreaming chemicals and wastes through enhancing coordination at the national level**

35. The mainstreaming component of the integrated approach, among other things, seeks to enhance institutional and technical capacity for coordination, decision-making and monitoring with a view to promote the mainstreaming of chemicals and wastes priorities in national budgeting and planning processes.

36. The fragmentation of civil servants working on the implementation of the chemicals and waste conventions across different government entities or ministries often impedes the development of a coordinated national chemical and waste strategy. The lack of national coordination thus can be seen as a key barrier to achieve the objectives set out in the preceding paragraph.

37. A possible means to address these shortcomings can be the establishment of a governmental entity<sup>20</sup> that is mandated to ensure environmentally sound management of chemicals and waste and coordination of the implementation of the respective legally binding and voluntary instruments at the national level. The reorganization and regrouping of personnel within this new entity would strengthen the national institutional infrastructure, both in terms of legal and technical capacity.

38. The establishment of such an entity would need to be supported by measures to promote cooperation and coordination between key stakeholders at the national and regional levels, such as the private sector, civil society organization, jurisdictional authorities, and the convention's regional centres.

39. Such an entity could be tasked with the development of new or the updating of existing policies, legislation, enforcement measures, incentive structure, national tax system, and other programmes on the environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes. It could also assume responsibility for the accessing funding from existing funding mechanism at the national, regional and global levels and the private sector. It could also be responsible for overseeing the implementation of relevant activities.

40. Moreover, the entity could be instrumental for monitoring trends and emerging issues, identify lessons learned and best environmental practices, evaluate the impact of such activities, and share and disseminate information with other countries and stakeholders at the national, regional and global levels.

41. It can be expected that the enhanced cooperation and coordination at the national level would support countries in meeting their obligations under existing and future legally binding and voluntary instruments in the chemicals and waste cluster. Intra- and inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms, at the same time, would support the mainstreaming of chemicals and wastes priorities in national budgeting and planning processes.

42. UNEP guidance on the development of institutional infrastructures and measures for recovering costs of national administration for sound management of chemicals (LIRA guidance)<sup>21</sup> and the IOMC toolbox for decision making in chemicals management<sup>22</sup> can support the development of such national institutional capacity.

<sup>20</sup> See, for example, the project "Strengthening National Capacity for the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste" submitted by the Government of Argentina for the first round of project applications under the Special Programme.

<sup>21</sup> [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/12224/LIRA\\_Guidance%20Report\\_PRESS.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/12224/LIRA_Guidance%20Report_PRESS.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y).

<sup>22</sup> <http://iomctoolbox.oecd.org/default.aspx?idExec=516d64bf-3ae9-4bf9-b4b9-fad199d37e0e>.

**Example 2: Public-private partnerships on the environmentally sound management of PCB**

43. The development of national action plans on the environmentally sound management and disposal of PCB is a key aspect for meeting the 2025 and 2028 goals of the Stockholm Convention with regard to PCB.

44. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) can support the identification, decommissioning and final disposal of PCB. PPPs also facilitate the up-scaling of initiatives. As a result, they can increase the impact of funding provided for PCB management and disposal, for example, through the financial mechanism of the Convention. They can strengthen the role of industry as a capital investor through the transfer of technology, such as dechlorination facilities for PCB-containing mineral oils and other equipment.<sup>23</sup>

45. While the implementation of PPPs can be a catalyst for the environmentally sound management and disposal of PCB, they should be seconded by the development of national legislation that clearly defines the responsibilities of governments and industry in order to establish the authority and national capacity to regulate and monitor PCB and other chemicals of concern. This should also include the enforcement and monitoring of industry compliance.

46. Cost recovery measures at the national level that are based on the polluter pays principle can support the implementation of PPPs. Jurisdictions following this principle are likely able to recover the full costs of the environmentally sound management and disposal of PCB. This can include the cost to government to implement the PCB regulations and to oversee compliance; the cost to remove from in-service equipment that needs to be phased out; the cost of the clean-up and long-term monitoring of sites contaminated with PCB; and the cost of storage, decontamination, treatment and disposal of PCB waste.

47. Economic instruments to shift the costs to the polluter can include, among others, liability measures to require that polluters clean-up after spills or other discharges; bonds and other securities to require that potential polluters pay financial securities in advance where the risk of contamination is high and where there is the potential for the operator to abandon the site; and/or charges for the full costs of both administration and waste management.<sup>24</sup>

48. The regional and coordinating centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions play an important role in the development of action plans, inventories of PCB, and cost-recovery measures. They can also support the dissemination of information on best practices for the environmentally sound management of PCB and the strengthening of legal and regulatory frameworks.

**Example 3: Development of industrial zones**

49. The transfer of technology, best practices and expertise strengthens the role of industry as a capital investor and thus support the implementation of the integrated approach. Industrial zones in urban areas often provide an enabling environment for industry to transfer technologies and invest in environmentally sound technologies.

50. Initiatives that aim at the sustainable development of such zones<sup>25</sup> can support the adoption and diffusion of low-carbon technologies and practices that avoid the use of POPs and other hazardous chemicals. By promoting increased resource-efficiency and process optimization through best available techniques, they also support the shift towards a green economy.

51. Companies that are located in industrial zones in developing and transition economy countries, however, often lack basic capacity to ensure the environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes they use or produce. Inefficiently operated industrial processes and poor waste management practices often result in environmental contamination through releases of intentionally and unintentionally produced POPs, greenhouse gases, and other air pollutants. These barriers often impede the environmentally sound operations and sustainable development of these zones.

52. The development of policies on financial incentives, such as tax reductions, subsidies, and steering taxes, can facilitate the introduction of clean technologies and environmentally sound

<sup>23</sup> See, for example, the project “Best Practices for PCB Management in the Mining Sector of South America” (GEF project ID 3814).

<sup>24</sup> See final report on the assessment of the policy, regulatory and legislative framework of the GEF PCB Waste Management and Disposal Demonstration Project (P099460) available at: <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/714201468320076331/text/508760GWP0P0991nt0policy0regulatory.txt>.

<sup>25</sup> See, for example, the project “Sustainable Industrial Zone Development in Peru” (GEF project ID 9206).

industry standards and thus help to remove these barriers. The generation of hazardous wastes can be reduced or eliminated through the optimization of industrial processes. By promoting such sustainable production and consumption patterns, the economic success of companies can thus be decoupled from the use of POPs and other hazardous chemicals.

53. These measures would need to be seconded by the development of appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks that clearly defines the responsibilities of governments and industry. This can support establishing the authority and national capacity to control chemicals and wastes in a cost-efficient manner. For industrial zones that have been subject to environmental contamination by POPs and other hazardous chemicals, policy measures should be put in place to ensure the recovery of costs from the private sector for the identification and remediation of such contaminated sites.

54. These measures can also be supported by the adoption of environmental tax laws, which can create incentives for private sector entities to reduce pollutant emissions below existing standards.<sup>26</sup> Such laws could focus on entities that directly discharge air and water pollutants, solid waste and noise into the environment. In practical terms, concerned entities could be incentivized to provide information in their tax returns forms about pollutant categories, quantities and concentration. Flexibility could be ensured through exemptions for specific sectors or industrial activities.

#### **Example 4: Information exchange on chemicals used in the production of products**

55. The integrated approach also aims at increasing resource-efficiency and process optimization and to incorporate chemicals and wastes considerations into extended corporate responsibilities. Activities that take into account these measures can strengthen and complement existing efforts in various industry sectors to promote the exchange of information on the use of chemicals in production processes or in final products. This information exchange can target both up- and downstream users at the national, regional and global levels.<sup>27</sup>

56. Potential benefits of such an initiative could allow industry stakeholders to promote non-hazardous alternatives for POPs and other hazardous chemicals, thus optimizing production processes, minimizing wastes, and reducing the use of less desirable chemicals in their products. It can also support the dissemination of such information throughout the supply chains and other companies in the relevant industry sector.

57. Governments can support such activities by strengthening the cooperation on chemical and waste-related matters with national production bases in the respective industry sectors. At the same time, governments can facilitate the engagement with academia, supply chains, and institutions that oversee the export of relevant products.

58. Given the global setting of many supply chains, the exchange of information would need to be disseminated and replicated at the global level to ensure that best practices for chemicals information exchange are shared widely. This global outreach would, at the same time, promote increased resource-efficiency and process optimization within the entire industry sector.

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<sup>26</sup> See, for example, the Chinese Environmental Protection Tax Law adopted in December 2016 ([http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/xinwen/2016-12/25/content\\_2004993.htm](http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/xinwen/2016-12/25/content_2004993.htm)).

<sup>27</sup> See, for example, the project “Defining and Demonstrating Best Practices for Exchange of Information on Chemicals in Textile Products” (GEF project ID 5662).