

**Report of the meeting of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Geneva, Switzerland, 10-11 May 2012**

1. Opening of the meeting

1. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants met on Thursday, 10 May 2012 and Friday, 11 May 2012 at the International Environment House, Geneva.

2. The meeting was attended by the President of the Conference of the Parties, Mr. Osvaldo Patricio Álvarez Pérez (Chile) and Vice-Presidents: Ms. Anne Daniel (Canada), Mr. Karel Bláha (Czech Republic), Ms Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Mr. Nassereddin Heidari (Iran), Ms. Gillian Guthrie (Jamaica), Ms. Farah Bouqartacha (Morocco), Ms. Stella Uchenna Mojekwu (Nigeria), Ms. Hala Sultan Saif Al-Easa (Qatar) and Ms. Tatjana Markov Milinković (temporary replacement for Mr. Aleksandar Vesić from Serbia who was unable to attend). Ms. Meganck replaced Mr. Francois Lengrand (France) who was not able to complete his assigned term of office.

3. Mr. Reiner Arndt (Germany), chair of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, attended the meeting as an ex-officio member.

4. The meeting was opened by Mr. Álvarez Pérez at 10:10 am.

2. Adoption of the agenda

5. The agenda as adopted by the Bureau is contained in the Annex to the present report.

3. Update on the Executive Secretary's proposal for the organization of the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

6. The Bureau had before it the Executive Secretary's proposal for the organization of the secretariats of the three conventions, as well as the first quarterly report on cost savings, efficiencies and delivery improvements resulting from synergies (the process of cooperation and coordination) in the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm secretariat.

7. The Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, Mr. Jim Willis, reported that as requested by the decisions on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (taken by the conferences of the parties in 2011¹ the "2011 synergies decisions"), the proposal for the restructuring of the secretariats was sent to the Bureau in December 2011 and subsequently to all parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. The proposal included a shift from a programmatic structure to a matrix structure. A single integrated secretariat, consisting of four branches covering administrative services, convention operations, technical assistance and scientific support was to serve all three conventions equally.

8. The proposed structure had been put into effect as of 18 February 2012. The Executive Secretary reported that the formal selection process for the management positions was to be finalized by 31 December 2012. Several comments by countries had been received on the proposal to which the Executive Secretary was currently working on a response which would be posted on the web.

¹ Decision BC-10/29 taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, decision RC-5/12 taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and decision SC-5/27 taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

9. The proposal by the Executive Secretary also suggested that further management controls and reporting functions be installed. Correspondingly, the reports on the first quarter of 2012, including the quarterly report of the Executive Secretary, consultant and individual contractor report, reports on the trust funds of the three conventions, hospitality report, report on recruitment and contract extension, legal instruments report and report on staff travel were available on the new synergies website² to increase the openness, transparency and accountability of secretariat operations.

10. The Executive Secretary furthermore provided information on cost savings that had been identified when implementing synergies, including the consolidation of secretariat staff in reduced space, the continuation of the hiring freeze, reduction in staff travel and sharing resources with other multilateral environmental agreements located in the International Environment House, Geneva, Switzerland, for example on information and communication technologies. He added that a decision would need to be taken in the future about the re-allocation of costs savings resulting from synergies in the secretariat.

11. In the ensuing discussion the Bureau noted that the Basel and Stockholm Convention regional centres, as well as other agencies and intergovernmental organizations should also foster the coordinated implementation of the conventions when executing activities at the global, regional and national levels. If specific issues or new areas where synergies could be implemented were identified, these should be brought to the attention of the Conference of the Parties to address them. The Executive Secretary added that the secretariat was currently looking into developing a strategy to build a strong network of regional entities and reinforce sharing of best practices among relevant actors, including Basel and Stockholm Convention regional centres, FAO and UNEP regional offices and the UNEP multilateral environmental agreement focal points for chemicals and wastes to improve regional delivery.

12. The Bureau took note of the information provided, welcomed the report by the Executive Secretary and commended him on the progress made in implementing the synergies decisions.

4. Update on the Executive Secretary's proposal to hold the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in 2013

13. On this agenda item, the Bureau had before it a draft Executive Secretary's proposal to hold the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions back-to-back from 29 April to 10 May 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland.

14. The Executive Secretary recalled that in accordance with paragraph 17 of the 2011 synergies decisions, it was decided that the meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions should be held in a coordinated manner in 2013 and that the Executive Secretary should schedule them in a way that facilitates their coordination. Further to this, paragraph 18 of the same decisions agreed to convene, back-to-back with and at the same venue as the last ordinary meeting of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to take place in 2013, simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the three conferences of the parties.

15. The President informed the Bureau that he had met with the presidents of the conferences of the parties to the Basel and Rotterdam conventions the day before to discuss the proposal. In general, the presidents agreed with the Executive Secretary's proposal and would as a next step consult with their respective Bureau members to give all of them an equal opportunity to comment on the proposal. Consultations with other bureaux are important, bearing in mind that the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention endorsed holding its sixth meeting in Rome, subject to any decision taken by the bureaux of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. Since the bureaux of the conferences of the parties to the Basel and Rotterdam conventions would only meet later in the year, consultations would take place electronically with those bureaux members. All bureaux members were invited to submit written comments to their

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<http://synergies.pops.int/SynergiesProcess/JointManagerialFunctions/ManagementOversightReports/tabid/2714/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

respective president by 1 June 2012.

16. The Executive Secretary then outlined his proposal to hold the ordinary, as well as the extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties back-to-back and informed the Bureau about related operational and financial benefits. The main aim of holding the meetings back-to-back was to allow for better decision-making on issues of common concern and in particular to review the arrangements adopted pursuant to the synergies decisions. Other benefits would be increased visibility, public attention and awareness and the possibility of the conventions to learn from each other and apply best practices.

17. In the ensuing discussion some Bureau members raised questions about the practical organization of work of the meetings and over ensuring that the legal autonomy of the conventions is maintained. They felt that while some topics could be discussed jointly by the conferences of the parties to the three conventions, others, such as convention specific technical issues, should remain separate.

18. Other Bureau members voiced enthusiasm for the idea of holding the meetings of the conferences of the parties back-to-back, in particular to allow sharing of best practices from the other conventions, taking decisions on issues of common concern effectively, increasing coherence among the decisions taken by the conferences of the parties and taking stock of the achievements of the synergies process so far. It was also stated that holding the ordinary and extraordinary meetings back-to-back would carry the synergies process to the next level.

19. In response to a question from one Bureau member, the Executive Secretary explained that all efforts would be made by the secretariat to raise financial resources necessary to fund one participant per Convention for which an eligible country is party and that requested such assistance for the full two week duration of the meeting.

20. The Bureau members took note of the information provided and supported in general terms the Executive Secretary's proposal of holding the extraordinary and ordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties in 2013 back-to-back with the understanding that the details of the organization of work needed to be worked out. The Bureau members agree to provide feedback on the proposal to the President of the Conference of the Parties by 1 June.

5. Status of preparations for the extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

(a) Agenda

21. The Bureau had before it the draft provisional agenda of the second simultaneous extraordinary meeting of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. The secretariat explained that the agenda for the meeting would include only those substantive agenda items outlined in paragraph 18 of 2011 synergies decisions in accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure for the Stockholm Convention.

(b) Organization of work

22. To address concerns voiced by some Bureau members on the duration of the meetings, the daily flow of the meeting, the ability of national delegates to participate effectively in the discussions and the different party status of countries to the three conventions, the Executive Secretary committed to preparing a short document on the organization of work of the meetings by end of May 2012 for information of the Bureau members. The document would also be the basis for further discussions with the Bureau on the organization of work, the day-to-day flow of the meetings and the timelines for the different meetings of the conferences of the parties.

23. The President highlighted that the bureaux of the three conferences of the parties would play a crucial role in defining the modalities of the meetings, during the preparation phase and by approving the daily schedule of work every morning during the meetings.

24. The Bureau took note of the information provided and decided to discuss organization of work in more detail once the Executive Secretary had made the detailed programme of work of the meetings available to them and in particular during the joint meeting of the bureaux.

6. Report on the implementation of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its fifth meeting

25. The Bureau had before it a status report on the implementation of the decisions adopted by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention. The secretariat outlined the activities implemented in the current biennium and for which activities sufficient voluntary funding had not yet been received.

26. In the ensuing discussion the Bureau members asked for some further information and clarifications on some of the projects and requested the secretariat to prepare an updated version of the status report, in particular to indicate how much voluntary funding was pending in order to fully implement the decisions.

27. On the effectiveness evaluation under Article 16, one Bureau member noted that since new information, in particular under the second phase of the global monitoring programme, national reports submitted pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention and eventually a compliance mechanism, would only become available shortly before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, it would be more useful to evaluate the information after that meeting. At its sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties could take preparatory steps in this regard in order to set up the effectiveness evaluation mechanism at its seventh meeting.

28. On short-chained chlorinated paraffins, the chair of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee explained that the chemical had been discussed by the Committee at the Annex E stage for a couple of years, as the Committee could not reach consensus on whether “the chemical is likely as a result of its long-range environmental transport to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects such that global action is warranted” or whether the proposal should be set aside. The Bureau invited the chair of the Committee to raise the issue at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in case the Committee would again fail to reach agreement at its eighth meeting on the chemical.

29. The secretariat reported that it had received a new nomination of an institution to serve as a Stockholm Convention regional centre: the Basel Convention Regional Centre for South-East Asia (BCRC-SEA), in Jakarta, Indonesia. The secretariat had recently initiated the process of verifying whether the newly proposed centre met the criteria for selection contained in decisions SC-1/15 and SC-2/9 and to this end was planning a visit to the centre in July 2012. A status report on how the nominated centre met the criteria would be made available to the Bureau members after the visit. The Bureau members would have the opportunity to provide comments on the status report during a teleconference to be scheduled by the secretariat in September/October 2012. It was expected that further discussion on the regional centres would take place at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, particularly for evaluating the performance and sustainability of the regional centres that were endorsed by the Conference of the Parties four years ago.

30. On national implementation plans, in accordance with decisions SC-4/9 and SC-5/14, the secretariat reported on the development of guidance documents that will serve to assist parties in reviewing and updating their national implementation plans with information relating to the newly listed persistent organic pollutants. The set of guidance documents had been developed, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, and with the financial support of the Global Environment Facility. The guidance documents are composed of updated existing guidance³ as well as new guidance documents⁴. Draft versions would be made

³ These guidance documents are: Guidance for developing a National Implementation Plan; Guidance on social and economic assessment in the development and implementation of their national implementation plans; Guidance on the calculation of action plan costs, including incremental costs and action plans for specific persistent organic pollutants.

available for comments by parties beginning of June 2012 and then presented together with the comments to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. One Bureau member voiced concern about the mandate, scope and transparency of the process. The Bureau asked the secretariat to provide clear information on these matters when presenting the guidance to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

31. The Bureau took note of the information provided.

7. Status of preparations for the ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention

(a) Agenda

32. The secretariat introduced a draft provisional agenda that it had prepared. The secretariat suggested that the subitem on “information exchange” could be deleted since it is covered entirely under the agenda item on joint activities which is included in the agenda for the second extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties.

33. The President indicated that he agreed with the draft provisional agenda that had been prepared. The Bureau agreed to the deletion proposed by the secretariat and requested that a footnote be added to the agenda to indicate that information exchange will be discussed under the joint activities agenda item at the extraordinary meetings.

(b) Organization of work

34. The secretariat reported that the organization of work would be defined under the overall organization of work of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties.

35. The Bureau took note of the information provided and decided to discuss further details of the organization of work during the joint bureaux meeting.

(c) Election of the Bureau and subsidiary body members by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting

36. The secretariat summarized that at the sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties would need to elect a President to begin his term of office at the closure of that meeting. All regions had already nominated a president for a Conference of the Parties and the rotation had started its second round with the current President from the Latin American and the Caribbean region. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure, and for the purposes of regional rotation, the next President would be expected to come from any of the regions, except the Latin American and the Caribbean region. If the past order of rotation were to be followed, then the President would be elected from the Western Europe and Other States regional group.

37. The secretariat also informed the Bureau that a Rapporteur for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties would need to be chosen among the current Bureau members. All regions had already nominated a Rapporteur for ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties, except Central and Eastern Europe, who had provided the Rapporteur for the first extraordinary simultaneous meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

⁴ These guidance documents are: Guidance for the inventory of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) listed under the Stockholm Convention; Guidance for the inventory of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and related chemicals under the Stockholm Convention; Guidelines on Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practice for the recycling and disposal of articles containing polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) listed under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; Guidelines on best available techniques and best environmental practices for the production and use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and related chemicals listed under the Stockholm Convention; Guidance for the control of the import and export of POPs; Guidance for strengthening the regulatory framework/voluntary agreements regulating the monitoring of products/articles that contain or may contain new POPs; and the Guidance on labelling of products or articles that contain new POPs or use new POPs during manufacture.

38. On the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, the secretariat reported that half of the members of the Committee would need to be replaced in 2014 and thus needed to be appointed at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In addition, the Conference of the Parties would need to appoint a new chair of the Committee, since the current chair had already served for two consecutive terms on the Committee and his terms of office would end in May 2014.

39. The Bureau took note of the information provided and agreed to consult within their respective regions with a view to identifying the next President of the Conference of the Parties and the new members for the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, as well as a new chair, either among present or future members. It was noted that it was crucial that the new chair would not only be a technical expert, but also be well versed in chairing international meetings. The Bureau requested the secretariat to send out a reminder letter to all countries in advance of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties concerning the rotation of membership in the Committee and the nomination of a new chair.

40. The Bureau appointed Vice-President Mr. Karel Blaha from the Czech Republic to serve as Rapporteur at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

8. Specific mandates of the Bureau during the intersessional period:

(a) Facilitating work with regard to financial resources and mechanisms, as referred to in decision SC-5/26

41. The Bureau had before it a progress report on the implementation of decision SC-5/26 on facilitating work with regard to financial resources and mechanisms.

42. In introducing this item, the secretariat recalled that at its fifth meeting, the Conference of the Parties had decided by decision SC-5/26 to continue the discussion on exploring options for facilitating work with regard to financial resources and mechanisms and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake consultations with the Bureau with the objective of supporting discussions on finance-related issues during regular meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

43. The secretariat presented to the Bureau a report on the progress made in the implementation of decision SC-5/26 and noted that it had invited parties to submit their views on facilitating the work of the Conference of the Parties with regard to financial resources and mechanisms. It was noted that four parties have provided information to date, which are contained in the progress report of the secretariat on that agenda item. The report was made available to the Bureau.

44. The above decision also requested the Executive Secretary to take into account the outcomes of the consultative process on financing options on chemicals and wastes in his consultations on ways and means to improve the efficiency of the work of the Conference of the Parties with regard to financial resources and mechanisms.

45. The secretariat noted that the twelfth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in its decision SS.XII/4, requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, taking into consideration the outcome document of the process and his final report, to prepare a draft proposal, and to seek advice thereon through a consultative process, for consideration and possible decision at the third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, in 2012, and at the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, in 2013.

46. A meeting under the consultative process scheduled for the end of May had been postponed.

47. In the ensuing discussion the Bureau members expressed concern about the representation of countries in the consultative process, as well as how the outcome of the process would effectively address countries' financial needs to meet the specific objectives and requirements under the Stockholm Convention and under other legally and non-legally binding instruments in the chemicals and wastes cluster.

48. The Bureau took note of the information provided and asked the secretariat to continue collecting the views of parties on facilitating the work of the Conference of the Parties with regard to financial resources and mechanisms. It also asked the secretariat to circulate the documents that will be considered at the upcoming meeting of the consultative process and the final outcome of the process to all parties for their information.

(b) Compliance, as referred to in decision SC-5/19

49. The secretariat recalled the past discussion on compliance under the Stockholm Convention, and in particular the decision taken by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties that invited the Bureau to facilitate intersessional consultations among parties to promote a policy dialogue on major issues raised in the context of discussing adoption of a compliance mechanism, with a view to resolving the outstanding issues in a way to facilitate possible adoption of a compliance mechanism by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.

50. The President then informed the Bureau that he had requested Vice-President Ms. Anne Daniel from Canada to initiate consultations with parties. Ms. Daniel has begun taking up discussions with parties that had expressed strong positions on the topic in the past.

51. While expressing support for the approach initiated by the President, one Bureau member noted that the adoption of a compliance mechanism was for some countries linked closely to having a predictable and practical financial mechanism in place that would enable developing countries to comply with the obligations under the Convention.

52. The Bureau members took note of the information and asked Ms. Daniel to continue her consultations with parties and to report on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period at the sixth meeting of Conference of the Parties.

9. Report on the implementation of the synergies decisions adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their ordinary meetings in 2011⁵

53. On this agenda item, the Bureau had before it a status report on the implementation of joint activities as approved by the synergies decisions adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in 2011. The secretariat reported that the 17 approved joint activities were being implemented along the workplans adopted at the meetings of the conferences of the parties in 2011.

54. The Bureau took note of the information provided and requested the secretariat to update the status report on the implementation of joint activities along the lines of the status report on the implementation of the decisions adopted by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, namely to add more details on the amount of funding that was still needed in order to fully implement the synergies decisions.

10. Budget performance and update on contributions

55. The Bureau had before it the financial statement of the Stockholm Convention's General Trust Fund, as well as the financial statement of the Stockholm Convention's Special Voluntary Trust Fund.

56. In response to questions about delays in initiating many of the activities in the programme of work, the Executive Secretary outlined current delays in transferring certain donor funds from the United Nations Environment Programme to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund of the Stockholm Convention. As a result of these delays, many activities of the approved programme of work of the convention, and those synergy decisions which are partly funded through these contributions,

⁵ Decisions SC-5/27 of the Conference of the Parties to Stockholm Convention, RC-5/12 of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, BC-10/29 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

could not be initiated. The Executive Secretary also highlighted a few other administrative issues that had an impact on the delivery of the programme of work.

57. In the ensuing discussion the Bureau agreed that to address the issue in the long term, it would initiate the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Environment Programme in order to better formalize the relationship between the two organizations. In addition, to address the short-term funding problem, the Bureau decided to jointly send a letter to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to urge him to solve the fund transfer problem and to request the initiation of the development of the Memorandum of Understanding.

58. The secretariat then reported on the staffing and the status of the General Trust Fund. At the end of the biennium 2010-2011, USD 981,000 had remained unspent in the General Trust Fund. Since funds cannot be carried over into the next biennium, the Conference of the Parties would need to decide at its sixth meeting what to do with the unspent balance.

59. Thus far for 2012, 55 percent of assessed contributions had been received. As per the new financial rules, contributions for each calendar year had to be paid by 1 January of that same year. Invoices for 2012 were sent in September 2011 and reminders for payments of arrears had been sent in April 2012. 38 parties were in arrears of over two years, out of which 15 were least developed countries and 12 were small-island developing states. Those 38 parties will receive a letter requesting a status report on steps they would take to clear the outstanding amount.

60. The secretariat reported that, as of the end of 2011, contributions to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund amounted to approximately USD 2.1 million in support of the approved programme of work budget of approximately USD 3.4 million for the year 2011. The unspent balance from 2011 was estimated at approximately USD 65,000 and was carried over into 2012. As of April 2012, approximately USD 711,000 was available for use in accordance with the approved voluntary budget. It was to be noted, however that large part of those funds were earmarked by donors for specific projects or programmes. In addition, pledges for 2012 for approximately USD 1.8 million had been received and contributions were expected in the forthcoming months.

61. The secretariat noted that the transfer of funds approved by a donor was pending to support activities under the approved programme of work for the technical assistance programme, the global monitoring programme, unintentional persistent organic pollutants, endosulfan, new and candidate persistent organic pollutants and travel of representative of parties that are developing countries or countries with economies in transition to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention.

62. In the ensuing discussion one Bureau member indicated that the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM) would consider contacting its member States to remind them about their contributions in arrears. Based on information to be provided by the secretariat, the President agreed to contact CARICOM to request that they encourage their members to pay their assessed contributions that are in arrears.

63. The Bureau took note of the information provided.

11. Status of preparations for the joint bureaux meeting

64. The secretariat reported that the meeting was scheduled from 13 to 14 December 2012 in Geneva. The agenda of the meeting would be to discuss areas of the synergies decisions, an update on the consultative process, and the organization of work of the extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

65. The Bureau took note of the information provided and noted that the presidents of the three conferences of the parties would agree on the provisional agenda of the joint bureaux meeting, which would be adopted at the beginning of the actual meeting with any amendments that the bureaux might consider necessary.

12. Other matters

66. The Bureau asked the secretariat to update them on whether the secretariat was planning to organize specific events or activities at the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (“Rio+20”). The Executive Secretary replied that no secretariat events were planned, but he planned to attend the meeting.

13. Closure of the meeting

67. The meeting was declared closed at 13:45 p.m. on Friday, 11 May 2012.

Annex

Meeting of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants 10-11 May 2012, Geneva, Switzerland

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Update on the Executive Secretary's proposal for the organization of the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.
4. Update on the Executive Secretary's proposal to hold the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions back-to-back in 2013.
5. Status of preparations for the extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions:
 - (a) Agenda;
 - (b) Organization of work.
6. Report on the implementation of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its fifth meeting
7. Status of preparations for the ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention:
 - (a) Agenda;
 - (b) Organization of work;
 - (c) Election of the Bureau and subsidiary body members by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.
8. Specific mandates of the Bureau during the intersessional period:
 - (a) Facilitating work with regard to financial resources and mechanisms, as referred to in decision SC-5/26;
 - (b) Compliance, as referred to in decision SC-5/19.
9. Report on the implementation of the synergies decisions adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their ordinary meetings in 2011⁶.
10. Budget performance and update on contributions.
11. Status of preparations for the joint bureaux meeting.
12. Other matters.
13. Closure of the meeting.

⁶ Decisions SC-5/27 of the Conference of the Parties to Stockholm Convention, RC-5/12 of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, BC-10/29 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.