

**Contribution of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions to the second part of the Secretary General's report on oceans and the law of the sea**

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior In

With respect to the provision of further legal clarity, the Conference of the Parties adopted a glossary of terms which is intended to clarify the distinction between wastes and non-wastes in order to improve the implementation of the Convention and the application of technical guidelines and guidance documents developed under the Convention. The Conference of the Parties also mandated an expert working group to review Annexes I, III and IV and related aspects of Annex IX to the Basel Convention which pertain to the hazardous wastes and the disposal operations falling under the scope of the Convention.

### **Development and updating of technical guidelines under the Basel Convention**

The Convention stipulates that technical guidelines for the ESM of the waste falling under its scope should be developed and adopted by the Conference of the Parties. Although not legally-binding, technical guidelines provide for the foundation upon which countries can operate at a standard that is not less environmentally sound than that required by the Basel Convention. Some Parties have also transposed certain technical guidelines into their national legislation and regulations. These guidelines are developed for a variety of waste streams and disposal operations and are intended to assist Parties, in particular developing countries, in ensuring the ESM of hazardous and other wastes.

All the technical guidelines developed and adopted under the Basel Convention are available at:

<http://basel.int/Implementation/Publications/LatestTechnicalGuidelines/tabid/5875/Default.aspx>

Updating or developing new technical guidelines are always a priority under the Basel Convention. At its thirteenth meeting in May 2017, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted the following technical guidelines:

Updated general technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes

consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants;

Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with hexachlorobutadiene;

Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters;

Updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated terphenyls, polychlorinated naphthalenes or polybrominated biphenyls, including hexabromobiphenyl;

Updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes containing or contaminated with unintentionally produced polychlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, hexachlorobenzene, polychlorinated biphenyls, pentachlorobenzene or polychlorinated naphthalenes;

Updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with the pesticides aldrin, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, chlordane, chlordecone, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, lindane, mirex, pentachlorobenzene, pentachlorophenol and its salts, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, technical endosulfan and its related isomers or toxaphene, or with hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical;

Additionally, the Conference of the Parties also decided that technical guidelines should be developed or updated to address wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with the persistent organic pollutants listed in the annexes of the Stockholm Convention by the Conference of the Parties at its

eighth meeting in May 2017, i.e. decabromodiphenyl ether (commercial mixt



micro-plastics, taking into account the assessment requested by UNEA-2 in its resolution 2/11, any relevant decisions by UNEA-3, and existing guidance documents and activities under the Convention that address issues related to marine plastic litter and micro-plastics. In light of these options, the Working Group is to develop a proposal for possible further actions, within the scope of the Convention, while avote,T-8.27()5.7(yg-.54.00083(h)6.185olication wit)-7.9(hg-.54.acti)J1083446 0 TD.0013 Tc-.0001 Tw(v)4.7(

ic wastes and related toxic chemicals, in particular persistent

srupting chemicals, ending up as marine litter. The working group

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