

of information on illegal traffic shared with the Secretariat, and identify measures to enhance coordination and increase the flow of information;

Establish a dialogue with other multilateral environmental agreements with international control regimes to learn from their experience;

Review the Basel Convention reporting format, with the aim to recommend measures to preventing and combating illegal traffic;

Explore modalities for further dissemination of existing guidance and technical assistance tools, in particular to enforcement entities; and

Recommend measures to enhance the implementation and compliance with the

12. In the current reporting period, the following technical guidelines are being updated or newly developed, under the lead of small intersessional working groups, for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting to be held in June 2022:

General technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants, and more specific related technical guidelines to take into account decisions SC-9/11 and SC-9/12 respectively listing dicofol and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds to the annexes of the Convention and decision SC-9/4 on perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOS-F) which cancelled a number of available specific exemptions for these chemicals;

Technical guidelines for the identification and environmentally sound management of plastic waste and their disposal;

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

Technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention;

Technical guidelines on incineration on land (D10) and on specially engineered landfill (D5);

Technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention.

(c) Household Waste Partnership

13. Established by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in 2017, the Household Waste Partnership aims at promoting the ESM of household waste, including its prevention and minimization, through the development of guidance, tools and manuals for governments, regional and local authorities and other stakeholders on, among other things, best practices, business models, policies and innovative solutions for the ESM of household waste.

14. The Partnership provides the necessary infrastructure to address the global household wastes challenge in an efficient and innovative way, through global information exchange, sharing of best practices by key stakeholders in the field, development and provision of technical guidance based on the latest science available, active engagement of the private sector for enhanced action to promote ESM of wastes, including issues such as extended producer responsibility, active engagement of the civil society and the general public through targeted awareness raising.

15. As mandated by the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the working group has prepared a revised draft of the overall guidance document on the ESM of household waste for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its twelfth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group in June 2020.⁴

(d) Follow up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment

16. At its fourteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention established a follow up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment.

partnership is preparing proposals to the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention to include new e-waste types in its programme of work for the biennium 2022-2023.

(e) Regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions

18. The Basel Convention benefits from a network of 14 regional and coordinatin

mixtures of polyethylene, polypropylene and/or polyethylene terephthalate, provided the waste is destined for recycling in an environmentally sound manner and almost free from contamination and other types of wastes.

30. With regard to the plastic waste listed in entries A3210 and Y48, each Party will also be required to implement the provisions of the Basel Convention pertaining to waste minimization and the environmentally sound management of such wastes. The amendments will make the global trade in plastic waste more transparent and better regulated, whilst also ensuring that its management is safer for human health and the environment. The amendments entered into force on 24 March 2020 and the new entries became effective as of 1 January 2021. You may find more information on the website regarding the [text of the amendments](#) and related [Frequently-Asked-Questions](#).

(b) Decision BC-14/13 on further actions to address plastic waste

31. The fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted several other decisions, including decision BC-14/13, on further action to address plastic waste under the Convention. These decisions have strengthened the Basel Convention as the only global legally binding instrument to specifically address plastic waste.

32. In section VI of decision BC-14/13, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the proposal to establish a Basel Convention partnership on plastic waste; decided to establish a working group of the Basel Convention partnership on plastic waste, adopted the terms of reference for the Partnership and requested the working group to implement the workplan for the biennium 2020-2021.

33. The Basel Convention partnership on plastic waste, established by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in May 2019, is a platform that unites stakeholders from governments, international organisations, NGOs and industry towards the common objective of eliminating the leakage of plastic waste into our environment. The Partnership seeks to mobilise its broad stakeholder base to tackle the issue of plastic pollution on multiple fronts: from stimulating the development of strategies to strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks within countries; to developing solutions to improve the collection, separation and sound management of plastic waste; and stimulating innovations for increasing the durability, reusability, reparability and recyclability of plastics. The Partnership creates a collaborative environment promoting the sharing of experiences, best practices and technologies towards this common objective. Membership is open to Parties and other stakeholders dealing with the different aspects of prevention, minimization and management of plastic waste. It currently stands at 210 representatives from Parties to the Convention, its regional centres, the private sector, civil society and intergovernmental organisations. This robust stakeholder base is representative of all UN geographic regions, from national to local levels of government, from multinational companies to grassroots NGOs.

34. Four project groups were established under the Basel Convention partnership on plastic waste on (1) plastic waste prevention and minimization; (2) plastic waste collection, recycling and other recovery, including financing and related markets; (3) transboundary movements of plastic waste; and (4) outreach, education and awareness-raising. Each project group has developed a workplan and commenced its work.

35. The working group also agreed on modalities for the submission, selection, implementation and evaluation of pilot projects of the Basel Convention partnership on plastic waste working group to undertake capacity building projects for the benefit of developing-country Parties or Parties with economies in transition. A call for pilot project proposals was issued on 24 July 2020 and 23 pilot projects were selected for implementation in 22 countries.⁹

(c) Cooperation with the World Customs Organization on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

36. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of decision BC-14/9, the Secretariat had also submitted a proposal for amending the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to allow for the identification of

⁹ <http://www.basel.int/Implementation/Plasticwaste/PlasticWastePartnership/CallforPWPpilotprojectproposals/tabid/8494/Default.aspx>

waste oils containing polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and prepared a draft proposal to allow for the identification of plastic waste.

37. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to invite Parties and observers to submit comments on the draft proposal on amendments to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System with respect to plastic waste set out in annex III to the Secretariat by 15 September 2020 and to request the Secretariat to take the comments received into account in submitting a proposal for amending the Harmonized System in respect of plastic waste to the World Customs Organization.

Paragraph 240: Cooperation in the fields of protection of the marine environment, human health and safety, prevention, emergency response and mitigation to better understand the consequences of marine oil spills or marine spills involving hazardous or noxious substances

38. The Secretariat continues to cooperate with the Joint Environment Unit of UNEP/OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) and with the International Maritime Organization to provide technical assistance to emergency prevention and response civil protection officers, port authorities and Basel Convention focal points to prevent and respond to environmental emergencies caused by hazardous chemicals and wastes in the scope of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. Capacity building activities are planned in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) sub-region, in Asia and in Latin America in the biennium 2022-2023.

Paragraph 289: Cooperation and coordination in research efforts to reduce harmful impacts on marine life; Paragraph 308: Regular scientific assessments of the state of the marine environment to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking

39. The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, through the work of the scientific subsidiary bodies, the prior informed consent procedure, and the national reporting obligations, play an important role in generating global data on chemicals and waste management, and making it available to Parties and stakeholders.

40. Under the Stockholm Plan, for instance, a number of activities are carried out to generate long-term and comparable monitoring data on the concentrations of persistent organic pollutants in humans, ambient air, and surface water for water-soluble persistent organic pollutants. This information is synthesized and made available in the global monitoring plan regional and global monitoring reports.¹⁰ The data on the monitoring of persistent organic pollutants is made widely available through the global monitoring plan data warehouse.¹¹ Information on concentrations of hydrophilic persistent organic pollutants in surface water, including changes over time, is available in the above-mentioned documents and resources.

41. The Secretariat cooperates

wastes or other wastes by insurance, bond or other guarantee as may be required by the State of import or any State of transit which is a Party to the Convention.

43. The Implementation and Compliance Committee is currently finalizing the guidance on the implementation of paragraph 4 of Article 6 of the Convention on the role of transit States in the prior informed consent procedure, taking into account additional comments received from Parties and observers including the World Customs Organization, and through targeted exchanges with the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting in June 2022. The Secretariat is grateful for the contributions made by the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in this context.
