

Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention

Main outcomes and decisions

24 April - 5 May 2017
Geneva, Switzerland



Key highlights



Third joint and back-to-back meetings of COPs



Theme: 'A future detoxified: sound management of chemicals and waste'



Largest ever meetings to-date with 1,400 participants



71 Ministers took part in the high-level segment



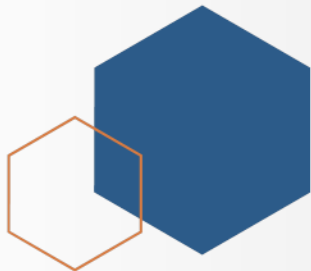
Outcome of HLS: Key messages



Technology Fair and more than 50 side events



More than 60 decisions adopted by the three COPs



Joint issues: POPs wastes (BS)



BC COP

- Adopted 6 updated or new technical guidelines on POPs wastes
- At the SC COP invitation, decided to develop new technical guidelines for POPs listed at SC COP-8

SC COP

- Noted that the updated general technical guidelines adopted by BC COP-13 establish provisional definitions of low POP content

Joint issues: Technical assistance (BRS)



Technical assistance

- Welcomed the TA plan for 2018-2021, requesting the Secretariat to implement it with relevant actors
- Emphasized the role of regional centres, FAO offices, UNEP and other IOMC organizations



Regional centres

- Encouraged interested centres to work on the impact and ESM of plastic wastes, marine plastic litter and microplastics
- New centre to operate BC centre function in Russia
- El Salvador terminated the framework agreement on hosting a BC centre; Brazil and Panama expressed interest in hosting a new BC centre for the region



Emergency

- Requested Secretariat and centres to carry out capacity-building with partners on emergency prevention and preparedness

Joint issues: Synergies, CHM and gender (BRS)



Enhancing cooperation among conventions

- Welcomed reports on synergies reviews
- Invited further suggestions for actions to enhance conventions' cooperation

Clearing-house mechanism

- Requested Secretariat to start the work to implement strategy and workplan, to continue to enhance cooperation with existing partners
- Requested Secretariat to keep strategy under review, taking into account lessons learned and relevant developments

Gender

- Welcomed Secretariat's gender action plan and requested Secretariat to continue its gender mainstreaming efforts

Joint issues: From science to action, International cooperation



From science to action

- Encouraged Parties and others to initiate action to promote science-based action in the implementation of the conventions at the national level
- Requested Secretariat to revise the draft roadmap on science to action, with the assistance of an expert group established for that purpose



International cooperation

- Requested Secretariat to make available to UNEP information submitted by Parties for 2030 Agenda review, to continue to work with relevant agencies on development of methodologies for relevant indicators
- Welcomed ICCM-4 resolutions and requested Secretariat to cooperate with SAICM and participate in its intersessional process

Joint issues: synergies in combating illegal trade (1)



- Builds on 2008-2009 initial mandates
- Documents UNEP/CHW.13/24-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/23-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/27, and documents UNEP/CHW.13/INF/49 UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/34 UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/51 (Analysis on possible synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, building on lessons learned under the Basel Convention)
- <http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/Meetings/COP13/tabid/5310/Default.aspx>
- **1st set of BRS joint decisions on the matter**, building on BC approach

Joint issues: synergies in combating illegal trade (2)

- Underlines the importance of *adequate legal and institutional frameworks* at the national level in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes



- **Parties to:**
 - strengthen *action* under the conventions to combat illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes;
 - establish *national coordinating mechanisms* with a view to facilitating the exchange of information among relevant authorities responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the conventions aimed at controlling the export and import of the chemicals and wastes covered under the conventions;
- **IOMC, regional centres, INTERPOL, WCO, Montreal Protocol, and relevant global and regional enforcement networks** to provide the COP with *information on their activities* aimed at preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade as well as lessons learned from those activities;

Joint issues: synergies in combating illegal trade (3)



- **Secretariat to:**
 - *support Parties* on matters pertaining to the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the conventions aimed at controlling the export and import of chemicals and wastes
 - seek, subject to the availability of resources, comments from Parties and others on *further areas, including areas common to two or three conventions in which legal clarity could be improved* as a means of preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, and, based on those comments, to prepare a report, including recommendations, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting
 - develop *examples of the integration of the provisions of conventions into national legal frameworks* and to organize *training* activities.

Basel issues: Strategic matters



Strategic framework

- Established intersessional group to conduct the final evaluation of the framework on the implementation of the Convention for 2012-2021
- Three nominations received: Canada and two from Asia and Pacific States: Thailand and State of Palestine



Cartagena Declaration on prevention, minimization and recovery

- Adopted guidance on developing strategies for achieving prevention and minimization of waste generation
- Requested EWG on ESM to continue its work, incl. on gathering good practices in that area, based on submissions received

Basel issues: Follow-up to country-led initiative



Ban amendment:

- Parties called upon to ratify
- Secretariat to continue to support Parties wishign to ratify



EWG on ESM

- Adopted practical manuals on ESM and welcomed waste stream factsheets, and encouraged their use
- Welcomed manuals on extended producer responsibility and financing systems, and invited comments
- Adopted new work programme:
 - Practical manual on insurance and liability
 - Practical manual on EPR
 - Practical manual on TBM with ESM
 - Guidance document on recycling and recovery
 - Guidance on how to address ESM in the informal sector
 - exchange of experiences on the operational aspects of certification schemes to support ESM
- EWG on ESM-7: Ghana, 13-15 November 2017



Basel issues: Follow-up to country-led initiative



Providing further legal clarity

- Adopted glossary of terms aimed at clarifying distinction between wastes and non-wastes
- Established an expert working group to review Annex IV and related aspects of Annex IX as well as Annexes I and III
 - Co chairs: Jacinthe Seguin (Canada) and Joost Meijer (Chile)
 - 34 members (Asia and Pacific: State of Palestine, Afghanistan, Japan, Islamic Republic of Iran, and India), 15 observers
 - Approach agreed: priority to Annex IV and related aspects of Annex IV until OEWG-11
 - Workplan agreed
 - Possible face to face meeting during week of 19 March 2018

Basel issues: Technical guidelines



Technical guidelines on TBM of e-wastes

- Established expert group to further look into their finalization
- Lead country: China
- Meeting on 25th and 26th of January 2018, Beijing



Technical guidelines on ESM of mercury wastes

- Invited comments on experience in using the guidelines adopted at COP-12 and on any developments regarding disposal methods



Technical guidelines on incineration on land and on specially engineered landfill

- Established an intersessional working group for updating the guidelines
- Invited Parties to consider serving as lead countries

Basel issues: Implementation and Compliance Committee



Implementation and Compliance Committee

- Adopted guidance on implementation of the Convention provisions dealing with illegal traffic (paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of Article 9)
- Adopted revisions to the reporting format (transit)
- Elected 5 new members - members from Asia and Pacific: Mr. Ali Al-Ghamdi (Saudi Arabia), Mr. Iftikhar-Ul-Hassan Shah Gilani (Pakistan), Mr. Geri Geronimo R. Sañez (Philippines, Vice-Chair)
- Adopted work programme for 2018-2019: eg.
 - Guidance on transit TBM
 - Guidance on insurance , bond and guarantee
 - Guidance on improving national reporting
 - Guide on the development of legal frameworks
 - Specific submissions
- ICC-13 back to back and after OEWG-11 (tentative).

Basel issues: Partnerships



Household wastes

- Established a new partnership
- Workplan:
 - Develop guidance document on the environmentally sound management of household waste
 - Coordinate outreach activities and cooperation with other organizations
 - Collect case studies
 - Enhance awareness-raising and training



Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment

- PACE successfully completed its work
- Invited Parties to use the guidance on ESM of used and end-of-life equipment and other guidelines and manuals produced by PACE



ENFORCE

- Elected new members: from Asia and Pacific: Mr. Renato Tantoco Cruz (Philippines)

Basel issues: Reporting



National reporting

- Took note of manuals on developing inventories of ULAB, e-wastes and waste oils
- Initiated actions to consider developing additional inventory manuals
- Recognized importance of information submitted by Parties for SDG indicators 12.4.1, 12.4.2 and 12.5.1

Basel issues: OEWG






OEWG work programme 2018-2019

- New areas of work:
 - Waste containing nanomaterials
 - Marine plastic litter and micro-plastics
 - Electronic approaches to the notification and movement documents
 - Review of Annexes II, VIII and IX

OEWG-11: 4-7 September 2017, Geneva (tentative)

Basel issues: OTHER ISSUES



-  National legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic
-  Cooperation between the Basel Convention and the IMO
 - Adopted the guidance manual on how to improve the sea-land interface
-  Cooperation with WCO: Cooperation with WCO Harmonized System (HS) Committee
 - 2013 BC mandate to develop codes in the HS nomenclature to identify 15 waste types listed under BC, including:
 - A1160 – Waste lead-acid batteries, whole or crushed
 - B1110 and A1180 – Electrical and electronic assemblies
 - B1250 – Waste end-of-life motor vehicles, containing neither liquids nor other hazardous components
 - B3140 – Waste pneumatic tyres.
 - HS Review Subcommittee (RSC) initial focus on the identification of electrical and electronic equipment (e-waste).
 - If the HS RSC is able to agree on codes for e-waste by the end of 2018, it will recommend the inclusion of these codes in the next edition of the HS that will enter into force in January 2022.

High Level Segment (4-5 May 2017)



Participation

- 141 HLS participants representing 99 countries
- 71 Ministerial level participants



Objectives

- To provide an interactive, dynamic and inclusive platform for ministers and other high-level delegates to exchange experiences.
- To provide political leadership for renewed commitment towards implementation of the conventions.
- To raise political awareness of and support for the conventions, as well as promote a dialogue among ministers, and between ministers and other high-level delegates.



High Level Segment (4-5 May 2017)



Format

- Opening Plenary with speeches from:
 - Secretary of State for the Environment, Switzerland
 - UN Environment Executive Director
 - GEF Chair and Chief Executive Officer
 - FAO Deputy Director General
 - Key-note address by UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Ministerial round-table discussions (12 round tables)
- Ministerial dinner hosted by Switzerland
- Inter-active and moderated Ministerial Panel with 9 Ministers, followed by open discussion in Plenary



Outcomes

- Report of the High Level Segment (available along with COP meeting reports)
- Summary of key messages from Ministerial round-table discussions (annex to report)
- High Level Segment webpages:
<http://www.brsmeas.org/2017COPs/HighLevelSegment/Overview/tabid/5562/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

High Level Segment (4-5 May 2017)



Overall Key Messages Emerging from the High Level Segment


1. With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, the political momentum for a detoxified planet has increased, and this window of opportunity must be seized.
2. There can be no sustainable development without a commitment to a pollution-free planet, and this requires sound management of chemicals and waste.
3. The key to a detoxified future is by taking action now, and the implementation by all Parties of all the provisions of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, which should be translated into national legislation, policy and actions.



For more detail:

<http://www.brsmeas.org/Implementation/MediaResources/SpeechesandInterviews/2017HLSKeymessages/tabid/5920/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Follow-up

 **Follow-up letters for each Convention (including information requests from COPs) sent out to Parties and posted on the websites on 2 June 2017**

 **Meeting reports**

- Advance English: ~ mid-July;
- Final in all languages: ~ end-November.

Recent and forthcoming meetings:

- Bureau (tentative June 2018)
- OEWG-11 (tentative 4-7 September 2018)
- ICC-13: 2 days following OEWG-11 (tentative)
- EWG on ESM: 13-15 November 2017(Ghana), next meeting in 2019 TbD
- EWG on the review of Annexes: week of 19 March 2018 (tentative), next meeting in 2019 TbD
- EWG on e-waste (25-26 January 2018, China, one meeting in 2019 TbD)
- ENFORCE (one meeting in 2018, one meeting in 2019, TbD)
- Household wastes (one meeting in 2018, one meeting in 2019, TbD)





For more information

Visit our meetings website:

<http://www.brsmeas.org/2017COPs>

