



**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**

**Conferences of the Parties to  
the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions  
Simultaneous extraordinary meetings  
Bali, 22–24 February 2010**

Item 4 (f) of the provisional agenda\*

**Matters for consideration or action by the  
conferences of the Parties: decisions on a review mechanism  
and follow-up of the work on enhancing coordination  
and cooperation processes between the three conventions**

**Reviewing the arrangements adopted pursuant to the decision on  
cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and  
Stockholm conventions**

**Note by the secretariats**

**Introduction**

1. By paragraphs 7 and 8 of section V on decision-making of their respective decisions on enhancing cooperation and coordination (known as the “synergies decisions”),<sup>1</sup> the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions decided that at their extraordinary meetings they should determine a mechanism and timetable for reviewing the arrangements adopted pursuant to those decisions.

\* UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.1/1.

1 Decision IX/10 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention; decision RC-4/11 of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention; decision SC-4/34 of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention.

## **I. Elements for consideration by the conferences of the Parties at their simultaneous extraordinary meetings**

2. The synergies decisions contain operational paragraphs addressed to Parties, the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in addition to other institutions, calling for increased cooperation and coordination on various issues aimed at strengthening the implementation of the three conventions at the national, regional and global levels, promoting coherent policy guidance, enhancing efficiency in the provision of support to Parties with a view to reducing their administrative burden and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels.

3. A sound institutional framework for assessing progress made towards the implementation of the synergies decisions could be provided through a joint UNEP-FAO evaluation of the impact of the implementation of these decisions and of the related decisions taken at the simultaneous extraordinary meetings, with a focus on how the synergies process among the chemicals and wastes-related conventions has contributed to improving cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels.

4. The evaluation could be conducted through a joint endeavour of the existing UNEP and FAO evaluation units, benefiting from their respective specific mandates for institutional independence, relevant experiences and existing infrastructures.

5. The evaluation could be undertaken within available resources by these two units during 2012. The resulting report could contain recommendations to all those that were invited or requested to take action by the conferences of the Parties in the synergies decisions and in the related decisions taken at the simultaneous extraordinary meetings. The report would then be considered by the conferences of the Parties to the three conventions at their ordinary meetings, in 2013.

## **II. Possible elements for the elaboration of terms of reference for reviewing the arrangements adopted pursuant to the synergies decisions**

6. By paragraph 7 of section V of the synergies decisions, the conferences of the Parties decided that they should determine at their extraordinary meetings a mechanism and timetable for reviewing the arrangements adopted pursuant to these decisions.

7. UNEP and FAO, through a joint endeavour of their respective evaluation units, will conduct a review to assess progress made towards the implementation of the synergies decisions with the objective of establishing how the synergies process among the chemicals and wastes-related conventions has contributed to enhancing cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels.

8. The review will take into account progress made by Parties, the secretariats, UNEP, FAO and other institutions mentioned in the synergies decisions towards the implementation of those decisions and relevant decisions emerging from the extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the Parties. The review will examine how actions taken have contributed to the achievement of the key overarching objectives of the synergies decisions, as reflected in their preambular recitals, namely:

(a) Have the processes for enhancing cooperation and coordination taken into account global concerns and responded to the specific needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition?

(b) Have actions taken to enhance coordination and cooperation helped to strengthen the implementation of the three conventions at the national, regional and global levels, helped to promote coherent policy guidance and enhanced efficiency in the provision of support to Parties with a view to reducing their administrative burden and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels?

(c) Have the enhanced coordination and cooperation among the three conventions contributed to the achievement of their ultimate common objectives: the protection of human health and the environment for the promotion of sustainable development?

9. The review should contain recommendations to Parties, the secretariats, UNEP, FAO and other institutions and stakeholders, as appropriate. It would take into account the progress assessment that may be undertaken in response to decisions by the conferences of the Parties at their meetings in 2011.

10. The timetable for reviewing the arrangements adopted pursuant to the synergies decisions is set out in the annex to the present note. The review will be completed by 30 June 2012 to allow sufficient time for its consideration by the conferences of the Parties at their respective ordinary meetings, in 2013.

### **III. Possible action by the conferences of the Parties**

11. The conferences of the Parties may wish:

(a) To assess at their ordinary meetings in 2011 progress made towards the implementation of the synergies decisions and related decisions taken at the simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

(b) To consider the possible elements for reviewing the arrangements adopted pursuant to the synergies decisions set out in paragraphs 7–10 of the present note and to request the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to prepare jointly, for consideration and adoption by their respective conferences of the Parties in 2011, detailed terms of reference for this review based on these elements;

(c) To invite the Executive Director of UNEP and the Director-General of FAO to conduct the proposed joint UNEP-FAO review of the implementation of the synergies decisions and related decisions taken during the simultaneous extraordinary meetings for consideration by the conferences of the Parties at their ordinary meetings, in 2013.

## Annex

### **Proposed timetable for reviewing the arrangements adopted pursuant to the decision on cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Preparation of the report	Development of initial report by UNEP and FAO	By 15 June 2012
Request comments from the Parties	Distribution of the report by UNEP and FAO for comments by the Parties	By 30 November 2012
Publication of final report	Publishing of the final report on the website	By 29 March 2013
Consideration of the review by the conferences of the Parties	Adoption of decision by the conferences of the Parties	2013