

VII/2. Hazardous waste minimization

The Conference of the Parties,

Reaffirming the fundamental aims of the Basel Convention, namely, the reduction of transboundary movements of hazardous and other wastes subject to the Basel Convention, the prevention and minimization of their generation, the environmentally sound management of such wastes and the active promotion of the transfer and use of cleaner technologies,

Recalling the ministerial declaration made at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which it states that, despite the concerted efforts made during the first decade of the Basel Convention, hazardous waste generation has continued to grow at the global level and transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes are still of concern,

Referring to the Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention, which aims to assist Parties to the Basel Convention to achieve the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes, emphasizing the minimization of such wastes,

Recognizing the challenges that Parties face in developing and implementing hazardous waste minimization strategies, including the development of technologies, materials and products to that end,

Noting with appreciation the work done so far by the Basel Convention regional centres and recognizing their essential role in building partnerships to meet the global waste challenge,

Calls upon all Parties and other States to increase their efforts to take steps to reduce the generation and transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes subject to the Basel Convention;

Encourages Parties to select at least one hazardous waste stream of particular concern to it or, in collaboration with the Basel Convention regional centres, to prepare regional pilot projects, for special efforts to be made regarding hazardous waste generation prevention or reduction and, in the interest of sharing experiences for the benefit of all Parties, to submit information to the Secretariat on measures taken, results and experiences gained;

Also encourages Parties to support partnerships between governmental authorities, industry, environmental groups and other stakeholders;

Requests the Secretariat to make the information mentioned above available on the Convention web site (www.basel.int) and, on request, by mail to Parties for their consideration and to prepare for possible further considerations at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.