

Decision II/19

Establishment of regional centres for training and
technology transfer

The Conference,

Recalling decision I/13 on the establishment of regional centres for training and technology transfer of the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in which it was decided that one of the functions of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee of the Conference would be to identify the specific needs of different regions and subregions for

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training and technology transfer and to report to the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties on ways and means for the establishment and functioning of such Centres, including considering appropriate funding mechanisms for this purpose,

Having considered the note of the Secretariat contained in document UNEP/CHW.2/19,

Having further considered the Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee recommendations contained in its decision I/5 on "Establishment of Regional Centres for Training and Technology Transfer", as annexed to the present decision,

Requests the Conference of the Parties to provide a strong mandate for the Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee at its second meeting, as already proposed in Committee decision I/5, to conclude the selection of sites for the establishment of regional centre(s) based on the results of the feasibility studies and taking into account the existence of any related regional centre and inform the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the decision taken to enable the initiation of activities for the establishment of the regional centre(s).

Annex

Committee decision I/5 on establishment of regional centres for training and technology transfer

The Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee.

Recalling decision I/13 on Establishment of Regional Centres for Training and Technology Transfer adopted by the Parties at their first meeting,

Also recalling Agenda 21 adopted by UNCED in June 1992 regarding the establishment of regional centres for training and technology transfer as outlined in paras 20.28(d) and 20.31(e) of Chapter 20 of Agenda 21,

Having considered the report by the Secretariat (UNEP/CHW/C.1/1/6 of 18 August 1993) on information received from the interested Parties to the Basel Convention in relation to the Establishment of Regional Centres for Training and Technology Transfer,

Convinced that States should cooperate to ensure the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and the minimization of their generation, according to the specific needs of different regions and sub-regions,

Recognizing that cooperation in the establishment of regional or subregional centres for training and technology transfer will facilitate the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and minimization of their generation,

1. Recommends that the following guidelines be used as a basis to determine the suitability of a potential pilot centre(s);

(a) Presence or potential use of an existing suitable facility, e.g. technology centre, university;

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(b) Having access to appropriately-qualified individuals suitable for a hazardous waste management training programme and who can act as future instructors or trainers;

(c) Availability of a personnel pool to implement a hazardous waste management system;

(d) Commitment to invest time and resources into the maintenance, continuation and advancement of the centre;

(e) Programme must be fully recognized and promoted by senior government authorities;

(f) Centres should be located in a reasonably accessible area within a candidate region;

2. Invites those countries in a position to do so, individually or collectively, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, to consider supplying financial resources and technically qualified person(s) recruited from either government or the private sector to collaborate in the preparation of the feasibility study(ies) in the candidate regions.

Each feasibility study should include:

(a) Identifying and prioritizing the needs of the region;

(b) Identifying the resources available in the region;

(c) Identifying the resources required to address the needs;

(d) Identifying the benefits to be gained through establishment of a pilot centre;

(e) Obtaining views from candidate regions as to the types of technical assistance or training they consider to be of the highest priority;

(f) Determining if a centre is immediately required to address the prioritized needs;

(g) Determining what resources are available from each candidate region and what resources would be required;

3. Invites the Secretariat of the Basel Convention to take the necessary steps for the preparation of feasibility studies in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Eastern Europe. This may involve acting as a liaison with individual host countries to provide for local support for the person(s) conducting the feasibility study. The candidate region should also provide, as appropriate, qualified person(s) to assist the technical representative in conducting the feasibility study;

4. Requests the Secretariat to prepare a report, based on a review of the feasibility studies, for distribution to all Parties and Signatories;

5. Requests the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties, based on the completion of the feasibility studies, to select sites for the establishment of regional centre(s). In case this is not possible, requests the Conference of the Parties to provide the mandate to the Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee to conclude the selection and inform the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the decision taken to initiate activities for the establishment of the regional centre(s).

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