

RC-9/9: International cooperation and coordination

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes* the ministerial declarations and the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its third and fourth sessions, and joins in the expression of deep concern that our planet is increasingly polluted and in the encouragement to Governments and all other stakeholders to contribute to the effective implementation of the plan “Towards a Pollution-Free Planet”;¹

2. *Joins* the Environment Assembly in emphasizing the need for urgent and resolute action to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development² on matters related to the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through relevant improvements to the current international framework for the sound management of chemicals and waste;

3. *Calls upon* all Parties and other stakeholders to intensify and prioritize efforts on the sound management of chemicals and waste towards the achievement by 2020 of target 12.4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in line with Environment Assembly resolution 4/8 on the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through technical assistance and capacity-building, to enable Parties to meet the relevant goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda as soon as possible;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to cooperate with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in fostering the implementation of Environment Assembly resolutions related to the sound management of chemicals and waste and of the plan “Towards a Pollution-Free Planet” in areas relevant to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;

5. *Takes note* of the report by the Secretariat on international cooperation and coordination during the period 1 January 2017–31 December 2018,³ the information provided by the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management on the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and wastes beyond 2020,⁴ and the information on activities undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme on programmatic matters pertaining to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;⁵

6. *Requests* the Secretariat:

(a) To continue to make available to the United Nations Environment Programme information relevant to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development submitted to it by Parties;

(b) To continue to cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme, the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and other relevant organizations in the development of methodologies for indicators relevant to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

(c) To continue, subject to the availability of resources, to assist Parties, upon request, in their efforts to integrate relevant elements of the conventions into their national plans and strategies for sustainable development and, as appropriate, legislation;

(d) To continue to work closely with other international organizations, within the scope of their mandates, on activities related to marine plastic litter and microplastics;

¹ UNEP/EA.3/HLS.1.

² General Assembly resolution 70/1.

³ UNEP/CHW.14/INF/36–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/29–UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/38.

⁴ UNEP/CHW.14/INF/54–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/44–UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/57.

⁵ UNEP/CHW.14/INF/37–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/30–UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/39.

(e) To continue to participate as an observer, upon invitation, at relevant meetings of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, pending the outcome of the actions mentioned in paragraph 8 of the present decision;

7. *Notes* the intention to establish an e-waste coalition composed of the International Labour Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the United Nations University, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the World Health Organization and the Secretariat that would provide a framework for coordination and collaboration on United Nations system-wide support for e-waste management, and requests the Secretariat, should the coalition be established, to cooperate, as appropriate and subject to the availability of resources, with those members of the coalition that belong to the United Nations system;

8. *Invites* the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals to consider inviting the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to become members of the Programme, and requests the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps for membership and participation in the Programme;

9. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in programmatic areas such as mercury wastes and their environmentally sound management, capacity-building and the provision of technical assistance, including through regional centres and in other relevant areas of mutual interest to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

10. *Also requests* the Secretariat to continue to enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Strategic Approach and with other international organizations in areas of relevance to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, including with the organizations and activities listed in the report by the Secretariat on international cooperation and coordination for the period 1 January 2017–31 December 2018;

11. *Further requests* the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.