

## SC-4/32: Effectiveness evaluation

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Having considered the note by the Secretariat on effectiveness evaluation,<sup>1</sup>*

*Recognizing that the work required for each effectiveness evaluation is conducted in two stages, the first stage consisting of the independent compilation of information on, first, environmental monitoring provided through the global monitoring plan, second, information from Parties provided through national reports pursuant to Article 15, and, third, information on non-compliance provided through procedures established under Article 17 and the second stage consisting of the evaluation of such information,*

1. *Acknowledges* that the first evaluation has been completed as described in the note by the Secretariat referred to above;
2. *Concludes* that the current compilation of information on environmental monitoring and on the limited information derived from national reports submitted by Parties under Article 15 can be used as a baseline for comparative purposes in future evaluations, recognizing that such comparisons will be possible only after the completion of the second evaluation period;
3. *Acknowledges* that the compilation should be enhanced with additional data from national reports;
4. *Notes* that procedures for the evaluation stage of effectiveness evaluation have not been defined;
5. *Concludes* that the arrangements for gathering information derived from national reports under Article 15 need to be revised to improve comparability and completeness of data;
6. *Establishes*, within available resources, an ad hoc working group with the mandate and terms of reference specified in the annex to the present decision and invites Parties, through their respective Bureau representatives, to nominate members of this group with expertise in programme evaluation by providing the names of nominees to the Secretariat;
7. *Invites* Parties to submit their national reports in a timely manner using the revised format proposed by the ad hoc working group;
8. *Requests* the ad hoc working group to report on its proposals to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting for its consideration and possible decision on procedures and arrangements for future evaluations;
9. *Agrees* that a six-year period is a suitable interval for effectiveness evaluations, while recognizing that it may need to be adjusted according to the decision on arrangements adopted at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties;
10. *Requests* the Secretariat to compile the additional information and to support the work described above.

## Annex to decision SC-4/32

### Terms of reference for the ad hoc working group

1. The evaluation of the effectiveness of the Convention seeks to assess whether the measures adopted by the Convention and implemented by the Parties have had the desired effect.
2. National implementation plans can provide data on the situation of a Party before the Convention's implementation by that Party, which could be used by the Party to report its baseline.
3. The Conference of the Parties established an ad hoc working group to develop cost-effective, streamlined and pragmatic proposals on:
  - (a) How information from national reports under Article 15 of the Convention could be compiled for the purpose of effectiveness evaluation;
  - (b) How information from the global monitoring plan, the non-compliance procedure under Article 17 of the Convention and national reports under Article 15 could be evaluated;
  - (c) Arrangements to prepare for and undertake future effectiveness evaluations.
4. The ad hoc working group will consist of ten experts in programme evaluation nominated by Parties, two from each United Nations region, and invited experts in relevant fields, as required.
5. The ad hoc working group will:
  - (a) Consider both process and outcome indicators;
  - (b) Consider which elements included in reporting under Article 15 are required for cost-effective, streamlined and pragmatic evaluation of the effectiveness of the Convention;
  - (c) Consider how best to deal with information obtained from Parties under paragraph 2 of Article 15;
  - (d) Consider ways to ensure that comparable and complete data are provided by Parties;
  - (e) Suggest necessary changes to the reporting format.
6. The ad hoc working group will prepare a report on possible procedures for effectiveness evaluation, including indicators, data requirements and arrangements to prepare for future effectiveness evaluations, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.

### Proposed schedule for the ad hoc working group

	Activities and tasks	Time frame
<b>1</b>	<b>Establishment of the ad hoc working group</b>	
1.1	Parties nominate members through the regional Bureau	June–July 2009
1.2	Ad hoc working group is formed	September 2009
<b>2</b>	<b>Development of evaluation framework</b>	
2.1	Ad hoc working group reviews available information	September–November 2009
2.2	Ad hoc working group meets and considers indicators and recommends changes to the reporting format	November 2009
2.3	Secretariat modifies reporting format	December 2009–March 2010
2.4	Ad hoc working group reviews changes to the reporting format and provides comments as necessary	March 2010
2.5	Ad hoc working group develops a proposal for effectiveness evaluation procedures	June–October 2010
2.6	Ad hoc working group meets and prepares a report outlining a proposal for consideration of the Conference of the Parties	November–December 2010
<b>3</b>	<b>Conference of the Parties considers the proposed effectiveness evaluation procedures and arrangements</b>	May 2011