



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

**Ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and
coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
First meeting
Helsinki, 26–28 March 2007**

Report of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on the work of its first meeting

Introduction

1. The ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions was established pursuant to decision SC-2/15 adopted by the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants at its second meeting, decision RC-3/8 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade at its third meeting and decision VIII/8 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal at its eighth meeting. The mandate of the group was to prepare joint recommendations on enhanced cooperation and coordination among the three conventions for submission to the conferences of the Parties of all three conventions.
2. In the above-mentioned decisions, each of the conferences was requested to nominate 15 members – three representatives of Parties from each of the five United Nations regions – to participate in the group.

I. Opening of the meeting

3. The first meeting of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions was held at the Hanasaari Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre in Helsinki, Finland, from 26 to 28 March 2007. The meeting was declared open at 10.05 a.m. on Monday, 26 March 2007, by Mr. Stefan Wallin, Minister of the Environment of Finland.
4. Opening statements were made by Mr. Wallin; Mr. James Ole Kiyiapi, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Kenya, on behalf of Mr. Kivutha Kibwana (Kenya), President of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention; Ms. Andrea Silvina Repetti (Argentina), President of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention; and Mr. Nik Kiddle

(New Zealand), President of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention, who served as resource persons for the meeting.

5. Mr. Wallin welcomed participants and expressed the hope that the forward-looking attitude currently prevalent in Finland at what was a time of both political and seasonal change would be mirrored in the discussions of the joint working group. He noted that the establishment of the joint working group pursuant to three almost identical decisions under the three conventions was a notable achievement, not least because it reflected the commitment of Parties to assume joint ownership of the implementation process and a willingness to cooperate. Outlining some of the challenges facing the joint working group, he said that in order to turn promises into action and to implement the conventions effectively there was a need for coordination and regular communication at the national, regional and international levels. He stressed the need to place the chemicals and waste conventions higher up on the international agenda to help secure resources, promote cooperation and respond more effectively to the needs of individual countries. The recommendations of the group, he said, would make an important contribution to deliberations on international environmental governance.

6. Mr. Ole Kiyiapi said that the Basel Convention welcomed the process of improving cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. Noting the significant interest in the issue shown by Parties, he said that the results of the meeting would be reported to the Expanded Bureau of the Basel Convention at its meeting in April 2007 and the Open-ended Working Group at its meeting in September 2007. In addition, he said that Kenya, as current President of the Basel Convention, would undertake to keep Parties to the Basel Convention informed of the outcome of the meeting.

7. Ms. Repetti noted the importance of reaching a common understanding of the expected outcomes of the meeting and underscored the commitment of the Rotterdam Convention to the process of improving cooperation and coordination among the three conventions. The outcomes of the meeting, she said, would be of great interest at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, which was scheduled to take place in Rome in October 2008.

8. Mr. Kiddle, recalling that the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention had taken a lead role in the process of improving cooperation and coordination among the three conventions, said that the Parties to the Stockholm Convention remained committed to the process. He expressed the hope that the joint working group would provide to the Conference at its third meeting, to be held in Senegal from 30 April to 4 May 2007, recommendations that would lend impetus to cooperative activities and guide future discussions.

9. The joint working group expressed its gratitude to the Government of Finland for hosting the meeting and for its excellent hospitality. It also thanked the Government of Germany and the United Kingdom for their contributions to the joint working group's first meeting.

II. Organizational matters

A. Officers

10. The following officers were elected by the joint working group to serve as co-chairs of the meeting:

Mr. Osvaldo Álvarez-Pérez (Chile)

Mr. Yue Ruisheng (China)

Ms. Kerstin Stendahl-Rechartd (Finland).

11. It was agreed that the co-chairs would jointly carry out the functions of a rapporteur.

B. Adoption of the agenda

12. The joint working group adopted the agenda set out below, on the basis of the provisional agenda which had been circulated as document UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/1:

1. Opening of the meeting.

2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of officers;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Organization of work.
3. Consideration of the supplementary report on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.
4. Preparation of joint recommendations on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.
5. Venue and date of the second meeting of the ad hoc joint working group.
6. Other matters.
7. Adoption of the report.
8. Closure of the meeting.

C. Organization of work

13. The joint working group decided to conduct its work in plenary sessions and to establish such drafting groups and contact groups as it considered necessary.

14. The joint working group decided that individuals who had traveled to Helsinki and who were not members of the group would be permitted to attend the current meeting as observers without prejudice to any decision on the issue of the participation of observers in the future meetings of the group. It was agreed that the issue would be discussed further on the last day of the current meeting.

15. In carrying out its work, the joint working group had before it working and information documents pertaining to the items on the meeting agenda. Those documents had been made available on the website of the ad hoc joint working group (<http://ahjwg.chem.unep.ch>).

D. Attendance

16. Representatives of the following Parties to the Basel Convention participated in the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, France, Jamaica, Kenya, Norway, Pakistan and Slovakia.

17. Representatives of the following Parties to the Rotterdam Convention participated in the meeting: Armenia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Finland, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.

18. Representatives of the following Parties to the Stockholm Convention participated in the meeting: Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria, Republic of Moldova, Romania and Sri Lanka.

19. The representatives of Croatia and the Russian Federation, who had been nominated by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention to participate in the meeting, the representative of Mauritania, who had been nominated by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, and the representative of Morocco, who had been nominated by the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention, were unable to attend. The Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention had not nominated a third member from Eastern Europe.

20. Observers from Canada, Japan, Kenya and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization were also present. The issue of participation of observers in future meetings of the joint working group was discussed under "other matters".

21. Mr. Kiddle and Ms. Repetti were invited to participate in the meeting as resource persons in their capacities as the Presidents of the Stockholm Convention and the Rotterdam Convention, respectively. Mr. Ole Kiyiapi was invited to participate as a resource person in his capacity as the representative of the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention.

22. A complete list of participants is provided in document UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/INF/5/Rev.1.

III. Consideration of the supplementary report on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

23. The joint working group had before it a supplementary report prepared by Mr. Kiddle as President of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention pursuant to decision SC-2/15 of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/2). Mr. Kiddle introduced the report.

24. The joint working group commended Mr. Kiddle for his work in preparing the supplementary report. Although a range of views was expressed on exactly how activities to enhance cooperation and coordination should be grouped, it was agreed that the approach adopted in the supplementary report provided a good basis for the group's deliberations.

IV. Preparation of joint recommendations on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

A. Objectives and guiding principles

25. In considering the item, members were invited to comment on the expected outcomes of the process of improving cooperation and coordination.

26. Following a discussion in which all members present took part, the joint working group identified a non-exhaustive list of objectives and guiding principles to be applied in its future work, which is contained in annex I to the present report. It was noted that the document was a working paper and was subject to revision.

B. Activities to enhance cooperation and coordination

27. During further discussions, the joint working group agreed that activities to enhance cooperation and coordination among the secretariats fell into three broad categories: activities which were already under way; forward-looking activities to enhance further administrative and programmatic cooperation and coordination, which would be the main focus of the group at its current meeting and during the intersessional period; and activities relating to decision-making and oversight, which might require more lengthy deliberations.

1. Activities already under way

28. With regard to the first category, the joint working group acknowledged and welcomed the important activities already under way and encouraged the three secretariats to continue their efforts in those areas. It was agreed that the lessons learned from existing activities should be taken into account in the development of the upcoming work of the joint working group. It was further agreed that the group would revisit the issue of existing activities at its next meeting to explore how they might be further developed. The activities in the first category included:

- (a) Joint development of documentation, especially technical guidance and standards;
- (b) Joint training and capacity-building activities;
- (c) Shared use of regional offices and centres;
- (d) Shared use of facilities and some services at the head office level;
- (e) Joint participation in United Nations coordination meetings;
- (f) Joint project activities at the field level;
- (g) Financial management and audit functions;
- (h) Legal services;

- (i) Conference services;
- (j) Administrative services including document reproduction and the administration of the United Nations daily subsistence allowance;
- (k) Information technology support;
- (l) Secretariat focal points for cross-cutting issues;
- (m) Regular secretariat coordination meetings.

2. Activities to enhance further administrative and programmatic cooperation and coordination

29. The joint working group agreed to establish an open-ended contact group, chaired by Ms. Hyacinth Chin Sue (Jamaica), to identify national needs relating to the activities in the second category. It was noted that the outcome of the contact group's discussions would be particularly relevant to developing countries.

30. Ms. Chin Sue reported on the work of the contact group. Following discussion, the joint working group agreed on a list of national needs, on the understanding that it would be used to guide the group's work and was subject to revision. The list of national needs is set out in annex II to the present report.

31. The joint working group also agreed that, for each activity in the second category, it would be useful to identify not only the final objective of the activity but also what work it would require and at what level; who would be responsible for carrying out the work; and what the time frame would be for its completion. To that end, the joint working group established a drafting group with ten members, two from each of the five United Nations regions, to prepare a table setting out that information. The group was chaired by Ms. Jacqueline Álvarez (Uruguay).

32. Ms. Álvarez reported on the work of the drafting group. Following a discussion in which suggestions were made for further improvements, the joint working group agreed that the table prepared by the drafting group provided a solid basis for intersessional work and could be further revised as necessary. The table is set out in annex III to the present report.

33. It was agreed that the co-chairs would prepare a document incorporating the objectives and guiding principles, the list of national needs and the table of areas for further cooperation and coordination, taking into account comments made by members of the group. The document would be circulated to members for comment during the intersessional period. The document and a compilation of the comments received will be made available for the second meeting of the joint working group. It will provide a framework for the intersessional work of the joint working group and a context for the discussions at the second meeting.

3. Activities relating to decision-making and oversight

34. At the request of the joint working group, Mr. Kiddle gave a presentation on the issue of oversight and decision-making in the context of the third category of activities. He explained that although each convention was autonomous the three conventions were intricately interlinked.

35. The member from Switzerland suggested that activities relating to oversight and decision-making should be included in the table of activities requiring intersessional work. He volunteered to lead intersessional work on the issue, in particular with regard to joint managerial functions. It would be particularly useful, he said, to examine the possibility of establishing a joint head of the secretariats of the three conventions.

36. Following a discussion in which a range of views was expressed, the joint working group broadly acknowledged the value of general research into the issue of oversight and decision-making, which might inform its discussions at a later date, but noted that, given the complexity of the issue and the diversity of views on the exact definition of oversight, it was premature to consider it in any depth at the current stage of the process.

37. The proposal submitted by Switzerland is set out, at the request of the member from Switzerland, in annex IV to the present report.

C. Intersessional work

38. It was noted that participation by all members of the joint working group in the intersessional work was important in order to ensure good preparation for the next meeting. Members volunteered to lead or participate in the intersessional work on individual areas for future cooperation and coordination as indicated in the table set out in annex III to the present report. It was agreed that any additional member of the joint working group would be welcomed to volunteer to participate in the intersessional work in those areas and that such additional volunteers would be reflected in a revised table.

39. On the assumption that the second meeting of the joint working group would be held in the first half of December 2007, the joint working group noted that pre-session documents would need to be distributed at the latest by 5 October 2007. Based on that date the draft papers would need to be available by 25 July 2007 so that there might be an opportunity for them to be circulated for comment and for revisions to be made. It was agreed that the Secretariat would work with the three co-chairs to develop guidance for the intersessional work, including a process and timeline for the preparation of documents, which would be circulated to members of the working group and posted on the joint working group website.

V. Venue and date of the second meeting of the ad hoc joint working group

40. The second meeting of the ad hoc joint working group was tentatively scheduled to take place in the first half of December 2007. The exact dates and the venue were to be confirmed by the co-chairs, in consultation with the secretariats. Members would be advised accordingly.

VI. Other matters

41. On whether to allow observers to participate at the second meeting of the joint working group, there was general agreement that future meetings of the group should be closed but that qualified individuals could be invited by the co-chairs to serve as resource persons, as appropriate. It was agreed that, for the sake of consistency and in order to maintain the successful working dynamic that had been prevalent at the current meeting, Parties should endeavour when possible to ensure that the members present at the current meeting continue to participate in the group's future work. The joint working group agreed that, in order to ensure full transparency, efforts should be made to brief interested parties on the outcome of the work of the group, distribute meeting reports and post documentation on the joint working group's website.

42. The member from Côte-d'Ivoire expressed his gratitude to the countries and international organizations that had provided assistance to his country following the recent incident of illegal dumping of hazardous waste near Abidjan, mentioning in particular the efforts of the secretariat of the Basel Convention. Noting the continuing adverse effects of that incident, however, he stressed the need for further support in the form of additional contributions to the emergency fund under that Convention to finance the implementation of tangible measures. He called on the Parties to the conventions to pay special attention to the issue of illegal traffic of hazardous waste in developing countries.

VII. Adoption of the report

43. The joint working group adopted the present report on the basis of the draft report that had been circulated, as amended, and on the understanding that the co-chairs would be entrusted with its finalization, working in consultation with the secretariats.

VIII. Closure of the meeting

44. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, in which the joint working group was commended for its positive attitude and the considerable progress that it had made, the Co-Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 28 March 2007.

Annex I

Objectives and guiding principles

1. Overarching goal of the three conventions:

Protection of human health and the environment for the promotion of sustainable development

2. Overall objectives of coordination and cooperation among the three conventions, with a view to contributing to achievement of the overarching goal:

- (a) Strengthening the three conventions, with particular focus on strengthening implementation at the national, regional and international levels;
- (b) Coherent policy guidance, including through coherent and coordinated decision-making, taking into account relevant intergovernmentally agreed goals such as the 2020 target contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;¹
- (c) Enhanced efficiency in the provision of support to Parties with a view to reducing their administrative burden;
- (d) Maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels.

3. Principles guiding the work of the joint working group in the achievement of the above objectives:

- (a) Promoting implementation and enforcement of the three conventions at all levels, especially at the national level;
- (b) Respecting the legal autonomy of each convention;
- (c) Seeking ways to promote coherent and coordinated decision-making on cooperation and coordination;
- (d) Ensuring that institutional structures are defined by functions that should be identified beforehand;
- (e) Ensuring that processes for enhancing cooperation and coordination are driven by Parties and take into account global concerns (e.g., the Millennium Development Goals);
- (g) Responding to the specific needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- (h) Encouraging and strengthening international cooperation and partnerships;
- (i) Promoting programmatic cooperation and coordination;
- (j) Adopting a phased, step-by-step approach;
- (k) Avoiding additional bureaucratic layers.

¹ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development*, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Annex II

National needs

National needs to be addressed in the promotion of cooperation and coordination between the three conventions might include the following:

1. Improvement of cooperation and coordination at the national level:
 - (a) Strengthening the networking of the national focal points of the three conventions;
 - (b) Establishing or strengthening intersectoral mechanisms to address collaboration and cooperation at the national level;
 - (c) Engaging all relevant stakeholders;
2. Development and implementation of proactive environmental management tools, such as:
 - (a) A regulatory infrastructure;
 - (b) Standards;
 - (c) Tool kits;
 - (d) Audits;
 - (e) Monitoring and enforcement measures;
 - (f) Policies and strategies, including national development strategies;
 - (g) Voluntary compliance, including use of economic instruments;
3. Identification, adaptation and use of environmentally sound technologies and practices:
 - (a) Waste minimization and management technologies;
 - (b) Best available techniques and best environmental practices;
 - (c) Practices such as integrated pest management and vector control, including alternatives;
 - (d) Indigenous and traditional knowledge;
 - (e) Set-up and management of production facilities;
4. Capacity-building, training, environmental education and awareness:
 - (a) Institutional capacity-building, including laboratory capacity;
 - (b) Training and building the capacity of enforcement and regulatory authorities such as customs officers, laboratory personnel and others, paying special attention to the needs of small island developing States and land-locked countries;
 - (c) Training of relevant personnel in meeting obligations under the conventions including reporting, preparation of notifications of final regulatory actions, etc.;
 - (d) Capacity-building in chemicals management, including risk assessment/evaluation methodologies, risk management, etc.;
 - (e) Training of trainers in chemical safety;
5. Public education and awareness-raising:
 - (a) Empowering local communities;
 - (b) Informing decision and policy makers to encourage political commitment;
 - (c) Educating the general population, in particular vulnerable populations;
 - (d) Developing environmental education programmes;
 - (e) Disseminating information materials;
 - (f) Promoting cleaner environment programmes;

6. Development of environmental information systems:
 - (a) Establishment, use and maintenance of information systems;
 - (b) Collection, analysis, storage and dissemination of environmental data;
 - (c) Installation and application of information systems such as geographic information systems and the Chemical Information Exchange Network;
 - (d) Establishment of documentation centres;

7. Mobilization of financial resources:
 - (a) Mobilization of resources from national, bilateral and multilateral sources;
 - (b) Development of public and private partnerships as a tool for resource mobilization;
 - (c) Effective allocation of financial resources;
 - (d) Development and use of cost recovery mechanisms;
 - (e) Development of local capacities for effective fund-raising.

Annex III

Areas for further cooperation and coordination

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis intersessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long-term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Coordination for the national level			Explore further use of the output of the Chemical Information Exchange Network for national network building and institution strengthening for the three conventions.	Members of joint working group Egypt, Moldova, Sri Lanka, Czech Republic, Romania Secretariats	<p>National level: Inter-ministerial coordinating mechanisms</p> <p>The Stockholm Convention national implementation plans and the Rotterdam Convention national action plans should be available to designated national authorities, competent national authorities and national contact and focal points.</p> <p>Regional level: Recognize the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and other processes for chemicals and waste management.</p> <p>Use of Basel Convention regional centres</p> <p>Exchange of information using the Strategic Approach framework</p> <p>International level: Strengthening and better coordinating the provision of means of implementation</p> <p>Maintenance of common databases of national contact points for each convention.</p> <p>Recommendation of the conferences of the Parties that Parties should seek to coordinate at the national level when designating national contact points</p>

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis intersessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Joint outreach and public awareness	<p>Campaigns aimed at raising awareness and understanding of the three conventions among stakeholders at the national level</p> <p>Joint publications</p> <p>Linked websites</p> <p>Pooling of secretariat resources</p>	Lack of awareness among stakeholders	Secretariat paper on practical feasibility and resource implications	Secretariats	<p>National level: Shared identity</p> <p>Joint publications</p> <p>Linked websites</p> <p>Regional level: Coordinated use of regional offices in outreach and public awareness campaigns</p> <p>Shared identity</p> <p>Joint publications</p> <p>Linked websites</p> <p>International level: Joint development and implementation by secretariats of outreach and public awareness campaigns</p> <p>Campaigns aimed at raising awareness and understanding of the three conventions among stakeholders at the national level</p> <p>Joint publications</p> <p>Linked websites</p> <p>Pooling of secretariat resources</p> <p>Shared identity</p>

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis interessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Coordinated use of regional offices, centres	Coordination among regional centres, regional and subregional offices relevant to chemicals and waste management		Document addressing the issue taking note of the discussions at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention and the sixth session of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on regional centres	Norway and Finland (leads); United Republic of Tanzania	Use of Basel Convention regional centres National level: Regional level: Need to adopt a coordinated approach to regional delivery of the three conventions International level: Promote coordination between the three conferences of the Parties on decisions relating to regional approaches.
Programmatic cooperation in the field	Includes capacity-building		Identify themes/programmes/projects that could be jointly developed/implemented in the field.	Finland and Austria Secretariats	National level: Identify specific themes/programmes of national/regional concern. Regional level: Identify specific themes/programmes of national/regional concern.
			Collect views from members of the joint working group.	Members of the joint working group	International level:
National reporting	Compliance with national reporting obligations under the three conventions	Burden on the Parties Lack of data and resources	Analyse commonalities of reporting content, format and timing, noting lessons learned in the reporting process.	Secretariats	National level: Regional level: International level:

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis interessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Compliance mechanisms			Explore the potential for cooperation on compliance.	South Africa; Kenya; United Kingdom	National level: Regional level: International level:
			Explore the potential for enhancing compliance through cooperation in capacity-building.	Slovenia (lead); Jamaica	
			Experiences to be shared from Basel Convention in the development of compliance mechanism	Basel Convention Secretariat	

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis intersessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
			Document addressing the issue taking note of the outcomes of discussions on compliance at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention	Chile (lead)	
Liability and redress mechanisms ²			Take up if there are developments – no immediate action.	N/A	
Information sharing among technical and scientific panels			Explore the potential for information sharing between the technical and scientific panels of the three conventions. (procedural, legal, technical)	Germany (lead)	National level: Regional level: International level:

² Only the Basel Convention addresses the issue in convention text.

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis intersessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Pooling information on health and environmental impacts/clearing house mechanisms			Identify commonly relevant information, starting with chemicals common to the processes under more than one convention, including alternatives, and identify possible mechanisms for pooling information on health and environmental impacts and clearing-house mechanisms.	Secretariats France; Austria	National level: Regional level: International level:
			Document addressing the issue, taking note of the outcomes of discussions on the clearing-house mechanism at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention	Members of the joint working group Republic of Korea, at regional level	
General legal service arrangements			Any additional information that might be available to be provided by Secretariats	Secretariats	National level: Regional level:

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis interessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
			Explore different level of coordination, including the unification of legal services		International level:
Technical assistance on legal services, including development of legislation			Any additional information that might be available to be provided by Secretariats	Secretariats	National level:
					Regional level: International level:
Financial management and audit functions			Any additional information that might be available to be provided by Secretariats	Secretariats	National level:
			Explore different level of coordination, including the unification of financial and management functions	Slovenia	Regional level:
					International level:

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis intersessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Back-to-back meetings ³	Conferences of the Parties, subsidiary bodies, technical panels		Listing of the timing and types of meetings	Secretariats Austria; United Kingdom	National level: Regional level: International level:
			Collect the views from all members of the joint working group.	Members of the joint working group	
Resource mobilization	Consolidating existing human and financial resources and exploring new and additional resources		Build on existing studies under various conventions.		National level: Develop national strategies for resource mobilization. Regional level: International level: A joint recommendation to the Global Environment Facility to address chemicals and wastes issues Consider new and additional financial mechanisms.
			Common approaches on training (human resources)		
			Thought starter for a joint paper on resource mobilization, including multilateral funding mechanisms and new and additional resources	Nigeria; Ethiopia; Slovenia	
			Provide existing materials and studies	Secretariats	

³ The ad hoc joint working group can refer to existing assessments on advantages and disadvantages of back-to-back meetings (make reference to relevant document, UNEP/POPS/COP.2/INF/19).

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis intersessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long- term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Coordinate joint representation in other processes					<p>National level:</p> <p>Regional level:</p> <p>International level:</p>
Joint input into other processes	The three conventions jointly present issues to other relevant organizations, e.g., the World Trade Organization, the World Customs Organization, etc.			France; United Kingdom; Austria	<p>National level:</p> <p>Regional level: Incorporate the concept of chemicals and waste cluster into the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and other regional processes</p> <p>International level:</p>
Information Technology			Any additional information that might be available to be provided by Secretariats	Secretariats	<p>National level:</p> <p>Regional level:</p> <p>International level:</p> <p>Maintenance of common databases of national contact points for each convention</p> <p>Joint website</p>
[Sharing head offices, infrastructure and other goods]					

Annex IV

Proposal by Switzerland

Areas for cooperation and coordination	Definition/scope	National needs, including existing problems, gaps and obstacles	What work or analysis is needed	Who will do the work or analysis intersessionally	At what level (national, regional, global)? When (short, medium or long-term)? Potential result/possible outcome? Potential joint measures to be taken?
Joint managerial functions including joint head of secretariat	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions	Efficient and prompt service delivery Having good oversight of work Making best use of potential administrative synergies and cost savings Avoiding micro management by conferences of the Parties	Existing situation including relevant rules (convention, decisions of the conferences of the Parties) Relevance for respecting legal autonomy Potential benefits Potential disadvantages	Switzerland and Nigeria	Global level Short-, medium- and long-term options Options for discussion by the joint working group

Annex V

Consolidated corrigendum

The symbols of the following documents should be read as indicated:

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/1 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/1

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/2 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/2

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/3 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/3

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/3/Add.1 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/3/Add.1

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/INF/1 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/INF/1

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/INF/2 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/INF/2

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/INF/3 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/INF/3

For BC-RC-SC/AHJWG.1/INF/4 read UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.1/INF/4