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**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**

Third meeting

Rome, 25–28 March 2008

Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

**Consideration of the intersessional work undertaken by the
members of the ad hoc joint working group and by the
Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

**Swiss paper on how coordinated administrative arrangements might
liberate financial resources for the implementation of the three
conventions**

Note by the secretariats

As a follow up to paragraph 69 of the meeting report of the report of the second meeting¹ of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancement of cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, a note on how coordinated administrative arrangements might liberate financial resources for the implementation of the three conventions prepared by Switzerland is set out in the annex to the present note. The information has been reproduced as received and has not been edited formally.

* UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.3/1.

¹ Document UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/JWG.2/18.

Annex



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of the Environment,
Transport, Energy and Communications DETEC
Federal Office for the Environment FOEN
International Affairs

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14.3.2008 - pfr/EG

Swiss paper on how coordinated administrative arrangements might liberate financial resources for the implementation of the three conventions

I. Introduction

During the second meeting of the Ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and Coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, it was suggested that it would be good to have additional information on how coordinated administrative arrangements might liberate financial resources for the implementation of the three conventions. Switzerland volunteered to prepare a document for the consideration of the group at its third meeting on the basis of information that UNEP had been compiling in recent months.

Switzerland is providing the following information based on the supplementary analysis of financial and administrative arrangements that UNEP has prepared, on request of the second Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, in consultation with the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. UNEP's analysis has been presented and discussed at the third Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention. The full analysis is available on the Web-site of the AHJWG (<http://ahjwg.chem.unep.ch/documents/1stmeeting/suppl-analysis.pdf>).

II. Financial consequences of coordinated administrative arrangements

UNEP's study analyzes two possible administrative arrangements:

Option 1: A common head and common convention support limited to core management functions: This option assumes that the three convention secretariats would be headed by a single Executive Secretary in charge of the three secretariats at a D-2 level and that there would be two Deputy Executive Secretaries at D-1 level, one for the Basel Convention Secretariat and one for the Rotterdam and the Stockholm Convention secretariat. Moreover, the three secretariats would unify their administrative, legal and financial support into a single unit servicing all three conventions.

According to UNEP's analysis, the potential savings in terms of staff costs for this option would be **US\$ 315 000.-**.

Option 1: Integrated administrative support and integrated implementation and technical assistance services: This option assumes that there would be – in addition to the single Executive Secretary, the two Deputy Executive Secretaries and the unified administrative, legal and financial support services of Option 1 – a partial amalgamation of the three convention secretariats: there would be a common management and a single support unit to

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provide all support functions that are common to the three secretariats. Thus, in addition to the single Executive Secretary, the two Deputy Executive Secretaries and the unified administrative, legal and financial support services, the three secretariats would benefit from a joint information management service, a joint resource mobilization and partnership service and a joint capacity-building and training unit.

According to UNEP's analysis, the potential savings in terms of staff costs for this option would be US\$ 765 000.-.

III. Conclusions

The analysis that UNEP has undertaken on request of the second Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention clearly shows that common administrative arrangements could liberate significant financial resources in the range of US\$ 315 000.- to 765 000.-. It must be noted that the analysis of UNEP was undertaken in 2006. However, while some of the specific numbers might be different today, the general conclusion that significant cost savings are possible may still be valid.

The specific key for distribution of the costs of the joint services – and of the resulting “savings” – between the three conventions would have to be agreed upon by the three conventions. Moreover, it could be desirable to ensure by parallel COP decisions that the liberated financial resources would be used for the implementation of the three conventions and for capacity building and support of developing countries and countries with economies in transition.