

RC-2/6: Enhancing synergies between the secretariats of the chemicals and waste conventions

The Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of decisions SS.VII/1 of 15 February 2002 and 23/9 of 25 February 2005 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, which stress the need to enhance cooperation, collaboration and synergies among multilateral environmental agreement secretariats where common issues arise in chemicals and waste management, and in order to achieve economies of scale including by sharing resources,

1. *Recalls* the proposal made in its decision RC-1/17 for a joint head of the secretariats of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Rotterdam Convention;

2. *Welcomes* decision SC-1/18 of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention for its secretariat to prepare, in consultation with other relevant secretariats and the United Nations Environment Programme, a study on improving cooperation and synergies, including consideration of common structures, for the secretariats of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention and the Stockholm Convention, with a view to ensuring maximum coherence, efficiency and effectiveness in the field of chemicals and wastes;

3. *Welcomes* also the recommendation of the Open-Ended Working Group of the Basel Convention made at its fourth session requesting the secretariat of the Basel Convention to cooperate with the secretariats of the Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions in preparation of the study on cooperation and synergies referred to in paragraph 2 above;

4. *Requests* the secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention to join this work by contributing to the study on cooperation and synergies with the Basel and Stockholm convention secretariats;

5. *Considers* that to enable the Conferences of the Parties to the Rotterdam, Stockholm and Basel conventions to take any decisions which they may deem appropriate at their next meetings, they will require in addition to the above-mentioned study a supplementary analysis of financial and administrative arrangements that would be needed to implement any changes that the three convention secretariats and the United Nations Environment Programme may propose. In addition, such supplementary analysis should identify any financial savings that might accrue, as well as any implications for adjustments to secretariat expenditures on United Nations administrative fees;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, in consultation with the secretariats of the conventions, to prepare the supplementary analysis referred to in paragraph 5 above and to make it available for consideration at the next meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Stockholm and Basel Conventions;

7. *Agrees* to consider the results of the study referred to in paragraph 2 above and the analysis referred to in paragraph 5 above at its third meeting.
