

## **RC-11/10: Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange<sup>1</sup>**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Noting* the priority areas for action recognized in decision SC-11/17, on the effectiveness evaluation, as they relate to the clearing-house mechanism,

*Noting also* decision RC-11/5 on the Compliance Committee of the Rotterdam Convention, in particular the activities on information exchange included in the programme of work for the biennium 2024–2025 of the Compliance Committee,<sup>2</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the clearing-house mechanism;
2. *Takes note* of the workplan for the implementation of the clearing-house mechanism for the biennium 2024–2025;<sup>3</sup>
3. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To continue the work to implement the strategy of the clearing-house mechanism<sup>4</sup> in a gradual and cost-effective manner;
  - (b) To implement the maintenance activities outlined in section II.A of the workplan for the implementation of the clearing-house mechanism for the biennium 2024–2025 mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present decision, in accordance with the programme of work and budget for the Convention for the biennium, while prioritizing recurring activities, in particular with respect to the maintenance of existing systems;
  - (c) To implement, subject to the availability of resources, the activities outlined in section II.B of the workplan for the implementation of the clearing-house mechanism for the biennium 2024–2025 mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present decision, in particular activities aimed at expanding the clearing-house mechanism to be an online collaborative platform for a community of stakeholders in line with the second goal of the clearing-house mechanism strategy and the recommendations of the effectiveness evaluation committee of the Stockholm Convention,<sup>5</sup> in accordance with the programme of work and budget for the Convention for the biennium 2024–2025;
4. *Also requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To continue to enhance cooperation and coordination activities with existing partners in the area of information exchange, to explore possible cooperative activities with new partners including academia, as appropriate, and to ensure complementarity with and avoid duplication of existing and future activities, tools and mechanisms;
  - (b) To continue its collaboration with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury to exchange information and share experiences and best practices regarding the use of existing clearing-house mechanism systems;
5. *Invites* Parties and observers to participate, as appropriate, in the implementation and further development of the clearing-house mechanism strategy and in relevant activities of the workplan for the biennium 2024–2025, in accordance with the present decision;

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<sup>1</sup> The conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions adopted, respectively, decisions BC-16/23 and SC-11/22, on the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange, which are substantially identical to the present decision.

<sup>2</sup> This paragraph is only relevant to the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention.

<sup>3</sup> UNEP/CHW.16/INF/41–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/24–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/46.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/CHW.13/INF/47–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/33–UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/50.

<sup>5</sup> See UNEP/POPS/COP.11/19/Add.1, annex, sect. I, para. 5 (e).

6. *Requests* the Secretariat to keep the strategy under regular review in order to take into account lessons learned and relevant developments regarding the international agenda on the sound management of chemicals and waste.