

SC-9/20: Cooperation between the joint Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and the secretariat of the Minamata Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme performs secretariat functions for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions as well as for the Minamata Convention on Mercury,

Emphasizing the successive decisions of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention, maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels, including the provision of any secretariat support that may be requested and is fully funded by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention;

Welcoming decision MC-2/7 of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention regarding cooperation between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and the invitation contained therein for the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to consider adopting, at their next meeting, corresponding decisions on this matter;

1. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in the capacity of performing secretariat services for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions:

(a) Mindful of the legal autonomy of the respective secretariats, to maximize the effective and efficient use of resources of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, including through the sharing of relevant secretariat services with the Minamata Convention, which are performed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, as appropriate, and to implement relevant arrangements as soon as feasible;

(b) To submit an operative proposal, prepared together with the Executive Secretary of the Basel and Stockholm conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme part of the Rotterdam Convention and with the support of the Executive Secretary of the Minamata Convention, on a stable framework for sharing of relevant services in areas such as conference services, knowledge and information management, administrative and information technology services, technical assistance, legal advice and budget preparation, including possible options, for consideration by the conferences of the Parties at their next meeting;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Basel and Stockholm conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme part of the Rotterdam Convention to take into *consideration* paragraph 1 of the present decision in the implementation of the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021, in line with the continued mandate on this matter contained in decisions BC-13/24, RC-8/17 and SC-8/27;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to inform the Executive Secretary of the Minamata Convention and the Conference of the Parties to that Convention, at its next meeting, of the present decision, and of any relevant secretariat arrangements already established or being developed or considered pursuant to the present decision.