

The Conference

- I. 1. Takes note of the activities undertaken by the Secretariat of the Basel Convention to cooperate with key organizations of the United Nations system, regional conventions and commissions, other conventions and intergovernmental bodies, as well as with non-governmental organizations and the private sector, including industry;
2. Requests the Secretariat further to consolidate its cooperation on critical areas for the implementation of the Basel Convention with relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Environment Programme Industry and Environment Centre, other intergovernmental organizations, regional conventions and commissions, as well as with non-governmental organizations and the private sector, including industry;

II. World Customs Organization

1. Takes note of the activities undertaken by the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, under the guidance of the Technical Working Group, to cooperate with the World Customs Organization in identifying hazardous wastes separately in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;
2. Further takes note that the Harmonized System Committee at its seventeenth session (May 1996) provisionally adopted a number of amendments to the Harmonized System nomenclature concerning separate identification of certain categories of wastes based on proposals of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the European Commission. These amendments are expected to come into force on 1 January 2002;
3. Urges the World Customs Organization to accord priority to evolving the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;
4. Also takes note that the deadline established by the Harmonized System Committee for the submission of new proposals for the separate identification of wastes covered by the Basel Convention in the Harmonized System nomenclature for the next Harmonized System amendments, to be implemented as from 1 January 2002, is the end of 1997;
5. Requests the Secretariat under the guidance of the Technical Working Group, and in cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development as well as with interested Parties, to pursue its cooperation with the World Customs Organization concerning the separate identification of certain categories of hazardous wastes in the Harmonized System nomenclature, in particular to cooperate with the World Customs Organization and the Harmonized System Committee in their eventual examination of the classification of the wastes placed on lists A and B prepared by the Technical Working Group in the Harmonized System nomenclature;

III. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

1. Takes note of the cooperation between the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and the OECD Environment Directorate on matters pertaining to the implementation of the Basel Convention;
2. Requests the Secretariat further to cooperate with the OECD Environment Directorate on matters concerning the implementation of the Basel Convention and propose, as appropriate, any arrangement best suited to fulfil this task;
3. Further requests the Secretariat, in close consultation with the Chairperson of the Technical Working Group, to work out implications and the modalities required to aim at achieving compatibility among the different systems dealing with the control of transboundary movements of wastes and hazardous wastes;
4. Also requests its Technical Working Group to ensure close liaison with the OECD Waste Management Policy Group on the matter of harmonization of the OECD and the Basel Convention systems concerning the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes, and report on progress to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.