

SC-9/21: Clearing house mechanism for information exchange

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the joint clearing house mechanism;
2. *Also welcomes* the work of the Secretariat in preparing a draft workplan for the implementation of the joint clearing house mechanism for the biennium 2020–2021;¹
3. *Requests* the Secretariat:
 - (a) To continue the work to implement the strategy of the joint clearing house mechanism² in a gradual and cost-effective manner;
 - (b) To implement the maintenance activities of the clearing house mechanism workplan for the biennium 2020–2021 mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present decision in accordance with the programme of work and budget for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants 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 new activities of the clearing house mechanism workplan for the biennium 2020–2021 mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present decision in accordance with the programme of work and budget for the Stockholm Convention for the biennium;
4. *Also requests* the Secretariat:
 - (a) To ensure that activities undertaken in the development of the clearing house mechanism are cost-effective, proportionate and balanced and in line with the capacity and resources of the Secretariat;
 - (b) To participate in meetings by electronic means where possible and to use translations that are already available in the six official languages of the United Nations;
 - (c) To utilize the clearing house mechanism to gather information about regional and national initiatives related to waste management, including those on plastic waste, taking into account and in cooperation with other initiatives;
 - (d) 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, as appropriate, and to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication with existing and future activities, tools and mechanisms;
 - (e) To expand 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 development of the joint clearing house mechanism strategy and in relevant activities of the workplan in accordance with the present decision;
6. *Requests* the Secretariat to keep the strategy under regular review in order to take into account lessons learned and relevant developments with regard to matters such as the multisectoral and multi-stakeholder discussions on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

¹ UNEP/CHW.14/INF/39–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/32–UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/41.

² UNEP/CHW.13/INF/47–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/33–UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/50.