**SC-7/18: Assessment of funding needs**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes note* of the report by the Secretariat reviewing the availability of financial resources additional to those provided through the Global Environment Facility and the ways and means of mobilizing and channelling those resources in support of the objectives of the Convention, as requested by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in resolution 2;[[1]](#footnote-1)
2. *Also takes* *note* of the entry into force of the 2009 amendments, 2011 amendments, 2013 amendments and other amendments which will enter into force before the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the funding implications;
3. *Also takes note* of the information provided by developed country parties, other parties and other sources, including relevant funding institutions and the private sector, on ways in which they can support the Convention;[[2]](#footnote-2)
4. *Requests* the Secretariat, on the basis of the most recent needs assessment, to develop an online questionnaire to potential donors on the way in which they can support the Convention in relation to specific key areas identified in the needs assessment, including information related to accessing this support;
5. *Invites* developed country parties, other parties and other sources, including relevant funding institutions and the private sector, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 13 of the Convention, to provide the Secretariat, by 31 October 2016, with further information on the ways in which they can support the Convention, based on, inter alia, the questionnaire mentioned in paragraph 4 above;
6. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a report reviewing, on the basis of the information to be provided in accordance with paragraph 3 above, the availability of financial resources additional to those provided through the Global Environment Facility and the ways and means of mobilizing and channelling such resources in support of the objectives of the Convention, as requested by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries in resolution 2, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting;
7. *Adopts* the terms of reference for the assessment of the funding needed by developing‑country parties and parties with economies in transition to implement the Convention over the period 2018−2022, as set out in the annex to the present decision;
8. *Requests* the Secretariat:

(a) To update, as appropriate, and to make available to all parties, the format and the list of general guidance documents set out, respectively, in annexes II and III to decision SC-5/22;

(b) To develop, within available resources, online questionnaires for collecting relevant information pursuant to paragraph 5 above;

(c) To provide assistance to parties, upon request, to facilitate their assessment of the resources used during the period 2012–2016 and the funding that they need in order to implement the Convention during the period 2018–2022;

1. *Invites* parties and others to follow the format and general guidance referred to in paragraph 8 (a) above and to provide, by 31 August 2016, the relevant information required to undertake the assessment of funding needs referred to in paragraph 8 (c) above.

Annex to decision SC-7/18

Terms of reference for the assessment of funding needed by developing country parties and parties with economies in transition to implement the Convention over the period 2018−2022

A. Objectives

1. The objectives of the work to be carried out under the present terms of reference are:

* + 1. To enable the Conference of the Parties to provide to the principal entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism referred to in Article 13 of the Convention and to other entities, should they be so entrusted, at periodic intervals, assessments of the total funding, which consists of funding for baseline and agreed full incremental costs, needed by parties eligible for assistance from the financial mechanism to facilitate their effective implementation of the Convention;
    2. To provide the principal entity and any other entities with a framework and modalities for the determination in a predictable and identifiable manner of the funding necessary and available for the implementation of the Convention by parties eligible for assistance from the financial mechanism.

B. Methodology

2. Pursuant to the objectives in paragraph 1 above, the work to be carried out under the present terms of reference will be facilitated and coordinated by the Secretariat with a view to enabling a team of up to three independent experts to undertake, over a period of up to three months, a full assessment of the funding necessary and available for the implementation of the Convention for the period   
2018–2022, based on, among other things, the experience with and lessons learned from the methodology and on available data gained from the preliminary assessments of funding needs for the periods 2006–2010,[[3]](#footnote-3) 2010–2014[[4]](#footnote-4) and 2015−2019,[[5]](#footnote-5) for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting.

3. The assessment will include an estimation of baseline and agreed full incremental costs of activities described primarily in national implementation plans and required to implement parties’ obligations under the Convention.

4. The methodology for assessing the funding necessary and available for the implementation of the Convention shall be transparent, reliable and replicable.

C. Execution and sources of information

5. In developing the assessment of funding needs, the work will draw primarily upon information provided by parties in the national implementation plans submitted pursuant to Article 7 and reports submitted by parties pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention.

6. Relevant supplementary information, where available, will be drawn from the Secretariat and from:

(a) Parties, which are requested to provide information on funding needs associated with implementation of the Convention using an updated version of the format set forth in annex II to decision SC‑5/22 and any other information on their experiences in implementing the Convention;

(b) The Global Environment Facility, which, as the principal entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism on an interim basis, is invited to provide information gathered through its operations relevant to the assistance needs of eligible parties;

(c) Other international financial institutions that provide bilateral or multilateral financial or technical assistance pursuant to paragraph 6 of Article 13 of the Convention, which are invited to provide information on such assistance, including the levels of such assistance;

(d) Intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, which are invited to provide information relating to the needs assessment;

(e) The secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements, which are invited to provide information relevant to modalities for conducting similar needs assessments in connection with their agreements.

D. Scope

7. The assessment of the funding necessary and available for the implementation of the Convention should be comprehensive and primarily directed towards assessing total funding needs, with a view to identifying funding needed for baseline and agreed full incremental costs to enable all parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention.

E. Process

8. The information identified above should be provided to the Secretariat by 31 August 2016. Any future updating of such information will be decided upon by the Conference of the Parties.

9. Based on the information that it receives from the Secretariat, the team of experts referred to in paragraph 2 above will prepare a report on the assessment of the funding necessary and available for the implementation of the Convention for the period 2018–2022 and for all continuing needs, as identified in previous assessments of baselines, of developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition, and transmit it to the Secretariat.

10. The Secretariat shall present the report to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting for its consideration and subsequent action, including for the purpose of informing the replenishment process of the Global Environment Facility.

1. See UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/32. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. See UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/31. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. UNEP/POPS/COP.3/19, with terms of reference for the assessment set forth in the annex to decision SC-2/12. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. UNEP/POPS/COP.4/27, with terms of reference for the assessment set forth in the annex to decision SC-3/15. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. UNEP/POPS/COP.6/20 and UNEP/POPS/COP.6/INF/20, with terms of reference for the assessment set forth in annex I to decision SC-5/22. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)