
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES ON THE
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

1. Resolution on interim arrangements

The Conference,

Having adopted the text of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (hereinafter referred to as the "Convention"),

Considering that interim arrangements are required in order expeditiously to implement international action to protect human health and the environment from certain persistent organic pollutants pending the entry into force of the Convention and to prepare for its effective operation once it enters into force,

Recalling decisions 18/32 of 25 May 1995, 19/13 C of 7 February 1997, 20/24 of 4 February 1999 and 21/4 of 9 February 2001 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on persistent organic pollutants,

I

1. Calls upon States and regional economic integration organizations entitled to do so, to consider signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention with a view to bringing it into force as soon as possible;

II

2. Calls on States and regional economic integration organizations with more advanced programmes to provide financial and technical assistance, including training, to other States and regional economic integration organizations in developing their infrastructure and capacity to reduce, with the aim of eliminating, where feasible, the uses and releases of persistent organic pollutants, as specified in the Convention, throughout their life cycle, particularly in view of the urgent need for such other States and regional economic integration organizations to participate in the effective operation of the Convention once it enters into force;

3. Invites the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to convene such further sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee"), during the period between the date on which the Convention is opened for signature and the date of the opening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as are necessary to oversee the implementation, during the interim period, of international action to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants within the scope of the Convention and to prepare for and service the Conference of the Parties until the end of the fiscal year in which the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties takes place;

4. Invites the Committee to focus its efforts during the interim period on those activities required or encouraged by the Convention that will facilitate the rapid entry into force and effective implementation of the Convention upon its entry into force, including, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, the development of: steps to enable a prompt start of the capacity-building and assistance networks; guidance on the preparation of implementation plans and action plans; guidance for the financial mechanism and technical assistance; periodicity and format of reports by Parties; arrangements to provide comparable monitoring data; rules of procedure and financial rules; financial provisions governing the functioning of the secretariat; modalities and procedures relating to

non-compliance; guidelines on BAT; and work on DDT in accordance with paragraph 6 of part II of Annex B;

5. Invites the Committee to recommend draft rules of procedure, composition and operational guidelines for the functioning of the subsidiary body to be established under paragraph 6 of article 19 of the Convention for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first session;

6. Decides that the Committee shall develop provisional guidance on the evaluation of current and projected releases of chemicals in Annex C, including the development and maintenance of source inventories, in order to facilitate interim work under subparagraph (a) (i) of article 5, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties upon the entry into force of the Convention;

7. Decides also that the Committee shall develop provisional guidance on best environmental practices relevant to the provisions of article 5, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, upon the entry into force of the Convention;

8. Encourages States and regional economic integration organizations to do preparatory work for the listing of chemicals after the entry into force of the Convention;

9. Requests the interim secretariat to prepare a scoping document on the items referred to in subparagraph 1 (d) of article 6 for consideration by the Committee;

10. Invites the Committee to consider establishing any subsidiary bodies that may be required to assist in its work;

11. Appeals to States and regional economic integration organizations to participate in and apply in full the provisions of the Convention during the interim period on a voluntary basis;

12. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide, during the interim period, secretariat services for the operation of the interim activities;

13. Appeals to States and regional economic integration organizations to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the United Nations Environment Programme in order to support the interim activities and the operation of the Conference of the Parties until the end of the fiscal year in which the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties takes place, and to ensure the full and effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the further work of the Committee.

2. Resolution on interim financial arrangements

The Conference,

Noting that article 14 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants on interim financial arrangements designates the Global Environment Facility on an interim basis to serve as the principal entity entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism defined in article 13 of the Convention,

Taking note of the desire of the Global Environment Facility to commit to the objectives of the Convention, as enunciated at the sixteenth meeting of its Council,

1. Requests the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility to consider establishing a new focal area through amendment of the Instrument for the Establishment of

the Restructured Global Environment Facility in order to support the implementation of the Convention;

2. Further requests the Council of the Global Environment Facility to establish as soon as possible and implement an operational programme for persistent organic pollutants, taking into account future decisions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Legally Binding Instrument for Implementing International Action on Certain Persistent Organic Pollutants;

3. Further requests the Global Environment Facility to report to the Conference of the Parties at its first session on the measures it has taken to ensure the transparency of the Global Environment Facility project approval process and that the procedures for accessing funds are simple, flexible and expeditious;

4. Further requests donors to the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund to contribute adequate additional financial resources through the third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, in order to enable the Global Environment Facility effectively to perform its mandate in terms of this Convention;

5. Requests the interim secretariat to invite relevant funding institutions to provide information on ways in which they can support the Convention, and to submit a report on the basis of such information to the Conference of the Parties at its first session;

6. Requests the Conference of the Parties at its first session to review the availability of financial resources additional to those provided through the Global Environment Facility and the ways and means for mobilizing and channelling these resources in support of the objectives of the Convention.

3. Resolution on capacity-building and capacity assistance network

The Conference,

Convinced of the need for technical assistance for capacity-building related to the implementation of the obligations of the Convention,

Recognizing that further guidance on technical assistance for capacity-building is to be provided by the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with paragraph 3 of article 12 of the Convention,

Recognizing further the value of a mechanism to facilitate and coordinate access to technical and financial assistance to be provided to assist signatories to implement the Convention,

1. Invites the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee") to focus its efforts in the interim period on arrangements for capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention in signatory developing countries and signatory countries with economies in transition, for the consideration of and adoption by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme as the interim secretariat for the Convention and the Chief Executive Officer of the Global

Environment Facility acting in cooperation, to develop the modalities for a Capacity Assistance Network that will perform the following functions, and report thereon to the Committee at its sixth session:

(a) Identifying and maintaining an inventory of sources of assistance outside those to be provided by the principal entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention that are available for the implementation of the Convention;

(b) Assisting signatories, upon request, to identify and access the sources referred to in paragraph 2 (a);

(c) Providing signatories with information on, categories, sources and requirements for accessing the assistance referred to in paragraph 2 (a); and

(d) Encouraging the involvement of the private sector and non-governmental organizations in providing assistance;

3. Urges other entities providing bilateral, multilateral and regional financial and technical assistance for the implementation of the Convention to contribute actively to this effort;

4. Invites the Global Environment Facility, as the principal entity entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism referred to in article 13 of the Convention, on an interim basis, to take into account the capacity-building needs for the implementation of the Convention by signatory developing countries and signatory countries with economies in transition, in the further development of its capacity-building strategy, and to report thereon to the Committee at its sixth session.

4. Resolution on liability and redress concerning the use and intentional introduction into the environment of persistent organic pollutants

The Conference,

Conscious of the risk posed by persistent organic pollutants to human health and the environment,

Acknowledging that persistent organic pollutants are transported across international boundaries and deposited far from their place of release through air, water and migratory species,

Recognizing that the time is appropriate for further discussions on the need for the elaboration of international rules in the field of liability and redress resulting from the production, use and intentional release into the environment of persistent organic pollutants,

Welcoming the willingness of Austria to host a workshop on liability and redress,

1. Invites Governments and relevant international organizations to provide the secretariat with information on national, regional and international measures and agreements on liability and redress, especially on persistent organic pollutants;

2. Requests the secretariat in cooperation with one or more States to organize a workshop on liability and redress in the context of the Convention on persistent organic pollutants and related matters, no later than 2002;

3. Decides to consider at its first Conference of the Parties the report of the workshop with a view to deciding what further action should be taken.

5. Resolution on issues related to the Basel Convention

The Conference,

1. Welcomes the work undertaken by the bodies of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal on issues related to the management of persistent organic pollutant wastes, including the initiation of work to prepare technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutant wastes;

2. Encourages the bodies of the Basel Convention to continue to make this work a priority;

3. Invites the bodies of the Basel Convention to cooperate closely on the items referred to in paragraph 1 (d) of article 6 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and in particular to prepare appropriate technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutant wastes;

4. Requests the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee") and the interim secretariat to cooperate with the secretariat and the bodies of the Basel Convention on issues related to the management of persistent organic pollutant wastes;

5. Invites the secretariat of the Basel Convention to report to the Committee on issues related to the management of persistent organic pollutant wastes, including the preparation of technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutant wastes.

6. Resolution concerning the secretariat

The Conference,

Having met in Stockholm on 22 and 23 May 2001,

1. Welcomes with appreciation the generous offers to host the secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants received from Germany and from Switzerland and invites the said countries to provide full and detailed information on their proposals;

2. Notes that paragraph 3 of article 20 of the Convention provides for the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to perform the secretariat functions specified in the Convention;

3. Calls upon the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider the offers received from Germany and Switzerland, as well as any other offers,

and to provide a comparative analysis of those offers regarding the physical location of the secretariat for consideration and decision by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting. The preparation of such analyses should be carried out in consultation with the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee.

7. Tribute to the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden

The Conference,

Having met in Stockholm on 22 and 23 May 2001 at the gracious invitation of the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden,

Convinced that the efforts made by the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and by the authorities of the city of Stockholm in providing facilities, premises and other resources contributed significantly to the smooth conduct of the proceedings,

Deeply appreciative of the courtesy and hospitality extended by the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and the city of Stockholm to the members of the delegations, observers and the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme attending the Conference,

Expresses its sincere gratitude to the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden, to the authorities of the city of Stockholm and, through them, to the people of Sweden, for the cordial welcome which they accorded to the Conference and to those associated with its work and for their contribution to the success of the Conference.