

Decision SC-3/19: Effectiveness evaluation

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the report prepared by the chair of the provisional ad hoc technical working group on the global monitoring plan¹ and the reports of the first and second meetings of the group and notes that the group has completed its task;²
2. *Adopts* on a provisional basis the amended global monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants;³
3. *Adopts* the amended implementation plan for the global monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants for the first effectiveness evaluation;⁴
4. *Establishes* “regional organization groups” with the mandate and terms of reference specified in the annex to the present decision, invites Parties to nominate members of those groups with expertise in monitoring and data evaluation through their respective Bureau members to the Secretariat and decides that the members of the groups shall include members who serve on the coordination group established in the following paragraph plus up to three additional members, as well as invited experts in relevant fields, as necessary;
5. *Establishes* a “coordination group” with the mandate and terms of reference specified in the annex to the present decision and invites regional organization groups to nominate members of the group through their respective bureau members to the Secretariat;
6. *Agrees* that the amended preliminary version of the guidance on the global monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants provides an appropriate basis for the Parties to implement the global monitoring plan and requests the Secretariat to arrange for updating the guidance, taking into consideration any comments received from Parties;
7. *Requests* the Secretariat to bring the work undertaken in accordance with the present decision to the attention of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting and to request its assistance in the provision of relevant information;
8. *Invites* Parties and others who are members of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting to provide data on persistent organic pollutants in the Antarctic through their respective regional organization groups;
9. *Requests* the Secretariat, within available resources, to support training and capacity-building activities to assist countries in implementing the global monitoring plan for the first effectiveness evaluation;
10. *Also requests* the Secretariat to work with partners and other relevant organizations to undertake the implementation activities;
11. *Invites* Parties that are in a position to do so to support the establishment and the long-term implementation of the global monitoring plan.

1 UNEP/POPS/COP.3/22/Rev.1, annex I.

2 UNEP/POPS/GMP/TWG.1/6 and UNEP/POPS/TWG.2/8.

3 UNEP/POPS/COP.3/22/Rev.1, annex II.

4 UNEP/POPS/COP.3/23/Rev.1.

Annex to decision SC-3/19

Terms of reference and mandate of the regional organization groups and the coordination group

Regional groups

1. For the purpose of coordinating global coverage for the first global monitoring report, Parties will report flexibly through the five United Nations regions. For monitoring programmes that cover more than one United Nations region the results will be reported through one of the United Nations regions and the other involved United Nations regions will be informed.⁵

Duties of the regional organization groups

2. The duties of each regional organization group would include, among other things:
- (a) Establishing its membership;
 - (b) Identifying where existing suitable monitoring data are and are not available;
 - (c) Developing a regional strategy for implementation of the global monitoring plan;
 - (d) Establishing and promoting regional, subregional and interregional monitoring networks wherever possible;
 - (e) Coordinating with the Parties involved sampling and analytical arrangements;
 - (f) Ensuring compliance with protocols for quality assurance and quality control, noting the examples described in the amended preliminary version of the guidance on the global monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants for sample collection and analytical methodologies; for data archiving and accessibility; and trend analysis methodologies to ensure quality and allow comparability of data;
 - (g) For maintaining the interaction with other regional organization groups and the Secretariat as appropriate;
 - (h) Identifying capacity-building needs in its region;
 - (i) Assisting, for the purpose of addressing gaps, in the preparation of project proposals, including through partnerships;
 - (j) Preparing a summary of experiences in implementing the duties assigned in subparagraphs (h) and (i) above for transmittal to the coordinating group via the Secretariat;
 - (k) Preparing regional reports including, where appropriate, information from Antarctica;
 - (l) Encouraging transparency of communication and information dissemination within and between regions, noting the need for stakeholder involvement.

Coordination group

3. The coordination group should comprise three members from each region, nominated by the respective regional coordination groups, and is to meet once prior to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to perform the following tasks:

- (a) Facilitating preparation of the global monitoring report, which is an integration of regional reports;
- (b) Assessing regional work with the aim of achieving consistency between regions;
- (c) Identifying impediments to the implementation of the global monitoring plan;
- (d) Promoting:
 - (i) Experience sharing within and between regions;
 - (ii) Capacity-strengthening to address gaps in coverage for the core media where possible;
- (e) Evaluating the first phase of the global monitoring plan and developing recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting, including:

⁵ For example, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Island countries could report through the group of Western European and other countries or the group of Asia and Pacific countries.

- (i) Continued coordination and oversight of the global monitoring plan for subsequent evaluations, taking into account the work already achieved;
- (ii) Updating the amended preliminary version of the guidance on the global monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants, taking into account technical developments and possible supplementation of the core data with data from other media;
- (iii) Further capacity-enhancement for Parties on a regional basis;
- (iv) The role, membership and activities of the coordinating group in support of subsequent effectiveness evaluations;
- (v) Compiling a global synthesis of the regional organization groups' experiences in identifying regional capacity-building needs and preparing proposals to address such needs.