

2022 session of United Nations High Level Political Forum and Economic and Social Council

Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

5-7 and 11-15 July 2022

Input by the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Instruction

*The High Level Political Forum (HLPF) under the auspices of the General Assembly (“SDG Summit”) resulted in the adoption of a Political Declaration that proclaimed a decade for action and delivery for sustainable development and outlined ten crosscutting areas for accelerated action for the achievement of the SDGs. The General Assembly decided that the theme for the 2021 session of the HLPF and the Economic and Social Council will be “**Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**”.*

The HLPF in 2022 will review progress toward SDGs 4 on quality education, 5 on gender equality, 14 on life below water, 15 on life on land, and 17 on partnerships for the Goals. The Forum will take into account the different and particular impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across these SDGs and the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Goals.

Input from the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention could showcase the views, findings, research, data and policy recommendations on specific aspects of an SDG-driven response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the SDGs under review.

Introduction

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was adopted on 22 March 1989 by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries in Basel, Switzerland, and entered into force in 1992. As at February 2022, it has 189 Parties and thus its coverage is global. The overarching objective of the Basel Convention is to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects that may result from the generation and management of hazardous and other wastes. Its scope of application covers a wide range of wastes defined as “hazardous wastes” based on their origin and/or composition and their characteristics or so defined by domestic legislation and notified to the Secretariat, as well as wastes defined as “other wastes” requiring special consideration - household waste and incinerator ash, certain plastic wastes.

The provisions of the Convention center around the following principal aims:

- the reduction of generation of hazardous and other wastes and the promotion of their environmentally sound management, wherever the place of disposal
- the restriction of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes to a minimum except where it is perceived to be in accordance with the principles of environmentally sound management; and
- a control system applying where transboundary movements are permissible.

The Basel Convention also requires cooperation between Parties, ranging from exchange of information on issues relevant to the implementation of the Convention to technical assistance, particularly to developing countries (Articles 10 and 13). The Secretariat is required to facilitate and support Parties, including acting as a clearing-house (Article 16).

The Convention also provides for the establishment of regional or sub-regional centres for training and technology transfer regarding the management of hazardous wastes and other wastes and the minimization of their generation to cater to the specific needs of different regions and subregions (Article 14).

(a) Progress, experience, lessons learned, challenges and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17 from the vantage point of your intergovernmental body, bearing in mind the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the SDGs and targets, including policy implications of their synergies and trade-offs.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had many adverse implications for waste management. There were rapid changes in the amounts and types of waste being generated, and some waste management authorities faced challenges in managing it in environmentally sound ways. There were direct impacts – in particular, a big increase in the amount of clinical waste being generated – and indirect impacts such as disruption to the arrangements for collection and handling waste, including transboundary movements. These impacts differed from one country to the next depending on:

local circumstances; the severity of the pandemic; the way waste was managed; and the capacity and flexibility of available waste management systems. From the viewpoint of the Basel Convention, the Covid-19 impacted the progress on the implementation of the selected SDGs in the following manner:

SDG 4 on quality education

Numerous activities under the Basel Convention contribute to SDG 4 by helping to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, education, outreach, training and awareness-raising activities are increasingly being delivered through hybrid and online means, such as webinars and online trainings. For example, an interactive e-learning course on ‘Plastic Waste and the Basel Convention’ is set for launch in April 2022. In February 2020, the Secretariat launched for the second time the E-waste Challenge Massive Open Online Course, a self-paced online course, open to the public and addressed to schools, university students and e-waste recycling operators. On Earth Day in April 2020, the Basel Convention Secretariat supported the launch of the “Earth School”, providing kids, parents and teachers around the world with engaging nature-focused content to stay connected to nature during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, face to face learning remains as relevant as always, which is why the Secretariat is for example working with Government of Ghana to pilot test various learning materials addressing plastic waste in primary and secondary schools.

SDG 5 on gender equality

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on gender equality, with the World Economic Forum estimating that women’s full equality with men is now 136, as opposed to 99, years in the future.¹ The pandemic has affected women and men differently due to their distinctive roles in global economies and societies: this is profoundly the case in the waste management sector. Globally, an estimated 20 million people rely on informal waste recycling for their livelihoods. In Asia, for example, women as well as children are an integral part of informal waste sector, making their living from waste collection and/ or recycling. A study on Gender and the waste nexus² in 2019 highlighted the division of labour between men and women in this sector, with women being more engaged in household and community level waste management, and as such, being more exposed to the hazards of COVID-19 infectious waste. Throughout the formal waste economy as well, women are typically excluded from higher-income and decision-making positions. The pandemic thus has had concerning health, livelihood and economic impacts on women. The Basel Convention is promoting gender equality and mainstreaming in the waste management sector through targeted activities aimed at improving understanding of the gender and waste nexus in different developmental settings and developing specific country-context recommendations for improvements. Such recommendations will promote improved awareness of gender equality in the context of management of hazardous chemicals and wastes, and integrating gender

¹ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/04/136-years-is-the-estimated-journey-time-to-gender-equality/>

² <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/gender-and-waste-nexus-experiences-bhutan-mongolia-and-nepal>

considerations into the policies, legislation/regulation, and practices for the implementation of the Basel Convention. Additionally, training workshops on how to better integrate gender-equality targets and tools into national chemical and waste plans, and their implementation through gender-responsive methodologies and institutional development, are being conducted for authorities and decision-makers. Such activities have thus far been carried out in Bolivia, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria and are currently underway in Kenya and Tunisia.

SDG 14 on life below water

There is a direct link between marine pollution, in particular the oceans, seas and marine resources and wastes management, including plastic wastes. From the standpoint of the Basel Convention, COVID-19 has had significant effects on progress in the implementation of this goal:

- A significant increase in the volume of clinical waste being generated in hospitals and other health care facilities, including highly infectious waste, other infection and pathological waste, sharps waste, pharmaceutical and cytotoxic waste, face masks, chemical waste, and general healthcare waste arising both from patients and from healthcare workers treating them and wearing personal protective equipment. Vaccination generate an enormous number of single-use plastic syringes.
- The widespread use of facemasks by the public, often containing plastics, often used only once and possibly contaminated.
- Efforts to prevent and minimize the generation of plastic waste by tackling its sources, for example by switching to alternative materials, suffered a setback in some areas. Demand for single use plastics increased in packaging (for example, for home deliveries) and in face masks.
- Waste management systems were under severe pressure as a result of handling potentially contaminated waste. While some countries were able to cope (for example by increasing the number of waste facilities able to handle such waste), others faced difficulties. Responses such as prioritizing medical waste may have led to a consequent reduction in the capacity to handle other types of wastes, allowing more waste facilities to handle infectious medical waste, and increasing the capacity to store medical waste. Government organizations published guidance and advice to waste collection organizations or to the public to encourage waste minimization and segregation.
- Increased volumes of household waste put additional pressure on collection, recycling and disposal system.
- There were instances of disruptions to the normal systems of collecting, recycling and other disposal of waste due to the effects of lockdown measures. Municipal waste collections systems were in some instances amended as part of measures to maintain social distancing or to keep workers safe. The number of workers on sick leave led to reduced collections/inability to ensure waste collection and management in some cases.

- Recycling rates for plastics fell significantly, owing partly to the historically low oil price (itself partly a consequence of the pandemic) so that the cost of virgin resin has been reduced significantly compared to the cost of recycled resin.
- The informal sector has been impacted particularly heavily: informal waste pickers undertake a significant share of the collection of wastes in some countries, in particular plastic waste, in many developing countries. Working with little societal or personal protection, informal waste collectors face a double risk: to their livelihoods, because they cannot work or can only work at reduced capacity; and to their health, as they often do not have access – or lack the necessary awareness – to protective equipment and/or to adequate government support. The poor and marginalized are among those worst impacted by both COVID-19 and environmental harms, such as plastic pollution, which directly and indirectly threaten the full and effective enjoyment of all human rights including the rights to life, water and sanitation, food, health, and housing.
- The increase in clinical waste due to the COVID-19 pandemic has almost certainly created opportunities for organized crime groups to traffic and illegally dispose of clinical waste.³
- Some countries decided to prohibit or restrict imports of certain wastes or to close borders for a period of time and alternatives for the environmentally sound management needed to be found – either by expanding local capacity, or by finding alternative countries able and willing to accept imports and changing shipping routes (often at an additional cost).
- Countries that lack facilities for adequate waste management and relied on the export of plastic waste for environmentally sound treatment and disposal in other countries faced particular difficulties as transboundary movements were at some cases obstructed by lockdowns and other related measures. On the other hand, those at the receiving end also operated at lower capacities, as other regions remain in lockdown resulting in lower demand for such services capacity.

While faced with these challenges, Parties needed to rapidly adapt their practices and policies. Principles of environmentally sound management of waste of the Basel Convention remain particularly relevant in crisis situations. For example, the Convention encourages the treatment of waste as close as possible to the point of generation, and Parties have an obligation to take measures to ensure the availability of adequate disposal facilities for the environmentally sound management located to the extent possible within them, whatever the place of disposal. Many countries did rapidly expand their domestic capacity for handling waste.

The following actions and work streams on plastic wastes under the Basel Convention contribute to implementing:

- (a) Updating of the 2002 technical guidelines for the identification and environmentally sound management of plastic wastes and for their disposal⁴;

³ <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/covid-19-waste-crime-europe-wide-operation-to-tackle-unlawful-sanitary-waste-disposal>

⁴ Mandated by part V of decision BC-14/13 on further actions to address plastic waste under the Basel Convention.

- (b) Consideration by the expert working group on the review of annexes whether any additional constituents or characteristics in relation to plastic waste should be added to Annexes I and III to the Convention⁵;
- (c) Consideration by the Open-ended Working Group, as part of its work programme for 2020-2021, of whether, how and when the Conference of the Parties should assess the effectiveness of the measures taken under the Convention to address the plastic waste contributing to marine plastic litter and microplastics; and which further activities could possibly be conducted under the Convention in response to developments in scientific knowledge and environmental information related to plastic waste as a source of land pollution, marine plastic litter and microplastics⁶;
- (d) Development of a practical guidance manual on the development of inventories of plastic waste⁷;
- (e) Development of a draft proposal to the World Customs Organization on amendments to the Harmonized System with respect to plastic waste, taking into consideration the amendments to annexes to the Basel Convention adopted by decision BC-14/12⁸;
- (f) Cooperation and coordination with other international organizations, within the scope of their mandates, on activities related to marine plastic litter and microplastics in particular the multi-stakeholder platform within the UNEP established by UNEA-4⁹;
- (h) Provision of technical assistance¹⁰ to Parties to strengthen capacities for the control of transboundary movements, environmentally sound management, and prevention and minimization of the generation of plastic waste. Projects¹¹ are being implemented in Ghana, Sri Lanka, Malawi and Zimbabwe as well as at the global level. Moreover, 16 national and regional projects on plastic waste are being undertaken under the Basel and Stockholm Convention

SDG 15 on life on land

The effective implementation of the Basel Convention contributes to progress for the implementation of the SDG 15 on life on land as adverse effects of unsound management can cause severe environmental degradation through the pollution of water, soil, flora and fauna. In fact, the unsound waste management are among are the key sources of local soil contamination. Toxic substances containing in hazardous wastes require due attention and they can include, but are not limited to, nanoparticles, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, estrogen-like compounds, flame retardants, detergents, and some industrial chemicals (including those in

⁵ Mandated by part IV of decision BC-14/13.

⁶ Mandated by part VIII of decision BC-14/13

⁷ Mandated by decision BC-14/10 on national reporting.

⁸ Mandated by decision BC-14/9 on cooperation with the World Customs Organization on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

⁹ Mandated by decision BC-14/13 and decisions BC-14/21, RC-9/9 and SC-9/19 on international cooperation and coordination

¹⁰ <http://www.basel.int/tabid/8340/Default.aspx>

¹¹ <http://www.basel.int/tabid/8341/Default.aspx>.

products and packaging) with potential significant impact on human health and aquatic life. Electronic waste is of great concern given the increasing volumes generated each year, the hazardous nature of some of the components¹².

SDG 17 on partnerships

Under the Basel Convention, partnerships have been used for a number of years as a mechanism to enhance collaboration between stakeholders; tap into expertise and knowledge at a broader level, bring together experts and policy makers to develop guidance and guidelines leveraging scarce resources at all levels; and reduce costs by working together to identify options and solutions and developing needed tools and strategies to enhance the environmentally sound management of used products and wastes.

The Partnership Programme was initiated pursuant to the adoption of the Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management by the COP at its fifth (COP-5) in 1999. The Declaration emphasized the importance of partnerships with industry, NGOs and academia.

Five global multi-stakeholder Partnerships have to date been established under the Partnership Programme under the Basel Convention:

- (a) The Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative, established in 2002 and the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE), established by the Basel Convention Parties in 2008 were public - private multi-stakeholders platforms to support developing countries in tackling the growing e-waste challenge, focusing on new solutions for enhancing the environmentally sound management of mobile phones and computing equipment, respectively, as well as the overall compliance with the Basel Convention..¹³ Although MPPI and PACE had contributed substantially to finding solutions, the challenges of achieving the environmentally sound management of used and waste mobile phones, computing equipment and, more generally, e-waste were neither solved nor diminished; on the contrary, they continue to grow. Therefore in 2019, the Parties decided to establish a new partnership as a follow up to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment, since PACE had concluded its activities, in 2017. The follow-up to PACE continued to implement pilot projects to promote innovative solutions for the environmentally sound management of end-of-life computing equipment, mobile phones and e-waste, undertook outreach and dissemination activities, for example making available guidance on the environmentally sound management of mobile phones and computing equipment in all UN languages¹⁴, and proposed a new focus for this public- private multi-stakeholder platform

¹² See the report on Status of the World's Soil Resources, FAO, 2015.

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<http://www.basel.int/Implementation/TechnicalAssistance/Partnerships/PACE/Overview/tabid/3243/Default.aspx>

¹⁴<http://www.basel.int/Implementation/TechnicalAssistance/Partnerships/FollowuptoPACE/PACEandMPPIdocuments/tabid/8982/Default.aspx>

on environmentally sound management of TV screens, video and audio equipment as well as on refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment, maintaining also its focus on mobile phones and computing equipment. The Conference of the Parties, at its fifteenth meeting in 2022, will consider the proposal for a new focus of this partnership initiative and also, in view of this, a proposed new name, reflecting a larger scope of application than PACE itself.¹⁵.

- (b) The Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic or ENFORCE was established by the COP at its eleventh meeting (COP-11) in 2013, with the objective of promoting compliance with the Convention's provisions on preventing and combating illegal traffic through the better implementation and enforcement of national law, through a network of relevant experts. ENFORCE facilitates information sharing between its members and observers through developing a roadmap of activities and helps to identify opportunities for cooperation. COP-15 will consider recommendation towards strengthening of ENFORCE¹⁶.
- (c) The Household Waste Partnership was established by the COP at its twelfth meeting (COP-12) in 2015, with the objective of promoting the environmentally sound management of household waste including its prevention and minimization, and enabling the decoupling of economic growth and environmental impacts associated with the generation of household waste and its initial handling by the public in their households. This Partnership developed an overall guidance document on the environmentally sound management of household waste for the consideration and potential adoption at COP-15¹⁷. The guidance has been developed to promote and share existing practical and concrete solutions in order to assist stakeholders in achieving the ESM of household waste. Its adoption and dissemination is of particular importance with respect to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the management of infectious waste at the household level, particularly in light of gender disparities in this area.
- (d) A multi-stakeholder Partnership on Plastic Waste was established by COP-14 in 2019 to mobilize business, government, academic and civil society resources, interests and expertise to improve and promote the environmentally sound management of plastic waste at the global, regional and national levels and to prevent and minimize its generation so as to reduce significantly and in the long-term eliminate the discharge of plastic waste and microplastics into the environment, in particular the marine environment. The reduction of the discharge of plastic waste into the environment is particularly topical during the COVID-19 pandemic, where single-use plastic, including PPE such as masks and packaging are increasingly being found in the marine and terrestrial environment. The

¹⁵<http://www.basel.int/Implementation/TechnicalAssistance/Partnerships/FollowuptoPACE/Overview/tabid/8089/Default.aspx>

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<http://www.basel.int/Implementation/TechnicalAssistance/Partnerships/ENFORCE/Overview/tabid/4526/Default.aspx>

¹⁷ <http://www.basel.int/Implementation/HouseholdWastePartnership/Overview/tabid/5082/Default.aspx>

Plastic Waste Partnership is carrying out work in four areas, namely prevention and minimization, plastic waste collection, recycling and other recovery, including financing and related markets; transboundary movements of plastic waste; and outreach and awareness raising. Pilot projects are being implemented under the Partnership in countries or at regional level to improve and promote the environmentally sound management of plastic waste and to prevent and minimize its generation. A total of 23 pilot projects are currently being implemented, with a new call for submitting pilot project proposals released in January 2022.¹⁸

While COVID-19 introduced restrictions on the implementation of activities under these partnerships, overall partnerships continued to progress towards their respective objectives using innovative solutions.

(b) Assessment of the situation regarding the principle of “leaving no one behind” against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic and for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, within the respective areas addressed by your intergovernmental body

On the global level, the Basel Convention serves to protect human health and the environment within its Parties from the negative impacts of hazardous and other wastes. The Convention also obliges its Parties to ensure that hazardous and other wastes are managed and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. To this end, Parties are expected to minimize the quantities that are moved across borders, to treat and dispose of wastes as close as possible to their place of generation and to prevent or minimize the generation of wastes at source. Strong controls have to be applied from the moment of generation of hazardous and other waste falling under the Convention through all stages of its movement and management including its storage, transport, treatment, reuse, recycling, recovery and final disposal.

Gender issues related to implementation of the Basel, but also Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions have been discussed and taken into account by the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, particularly the impact of poor management of hazardous chemicals and wastes on vulnerable groups such as women and young children. The adverse effects of chemicals and waste on different groups of population vary depending on the level of exposure, behavioral patterns, age, biological effect (e.g., endocrine disruption), geographical location, nutritional status and co-exposure to other chemicals. Certain types of chemicals, such as persistent organic pollutants can build up to dangerous levels in humans and wildlife causing adverse reproductive, developmental, immunological, hormonal, and carcinogenic effects with varied impacts on vulnerable groups of the population. Children are particularly susceptible to the negative health impacts of chemicals due to their rapid growth and development and greater exposure relative to body weight.

Given the prevalence of informal sector workers in the waste management sector, activities undertaken under the three Conventions to tackle unsound waste management practices,

¹⁸ <http://www.basel.int/Implementation/Plasticwaste/PlasticWastePartnership/tabid/8096/Default.aspx>

mainstream gender considerations and promote developing country capacities in the management of chemicals and waste are especially crucial.

Activities to promote the sound management of chemicals and waste under the Conventions, particularly those in relation to gender (see section (s) above), are undertaken to promote countries' technical capacities in the management of waste, including COVID-19 waste, and to promote information exchange to ensure women and other vulnerable groups can access appropriate information about how to apply precautionary practices such as the use of PPE and the management of infectious waste as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

(c) Actions and policy recommendations in areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the implementation of the SDGs under review

There are a number of measures and policy recommendations¹⁹ within the mandate of the Basel Convention which will support Parties in accelerating progress for those affected by hazardous and other wastes, with focus on SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15, and 17. In light of enhancing coordination and cooperation of the implementation between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, some of the recommendations address all three conventions:

- 1) Emphasizing the important role that the Basel Convention plays in addressing the high and rapidly increasing levels of plastic wastes and microplastics and associated marine pollution, to urge States to commit themselves to support efforts to achieve the prevention, the minimization and the environmentally sound management of plastic waste, as well as the effective control of its transboundary movements.
- 2) Given the complexity and accelerating growth of e-waste, to intensify efforts of Parties in addressing e-wastes through its environmentally sound management and controlling its transboundary movements using a circular approach and positive contribution to climate change.
- 3) To encourage efforts of Parties to promote gender equality to ensure that women and men from all Parties are equally involved in the implementation of the three conventions and are represented in their bodies and processes and thus inform and participate in decision-making on gender-responsive hazardous chemicals and wastes policies.
- 4) To encourage efforts of Parties and stakeholders to join and actively contribute to the activities of Partnerships established by the COPs of the Basel Convention.

¹⁹Please see reports and decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention:
<http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/ReportsandDecisions/tabid/3303/Default.aspx>

(d) Policy recommendations, commitments and cooperation measures for promoting a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery from the pandemic while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda

- 1) To call for States to increase their efforts on the implementation of global treaties on hazardous chemicals and wastes, including the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions with the purpose of protecting human health and the environment and in support of circular economy and resource efficiency.
- 2) To increase efforts of governments and stakeholders towards the coordinated implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions including through multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms.
- 3) To provide safe and decent jobs involving hazardous chemicals and waste in manufacturing, design, processes and productions, including resource recovery and recycling.
- 4) Given the cross-cutting nature of hazardous chemicals and waste in our lives, to promote an integrated approach to chemicals and waste management by mainstreaming chemicals and wastes issues into plans and strategies on sustainable development, health, agriculture and other sectors.
- 5) To mainstream gender considerations in policies and strategies that promote the sound management of chemicals and waste.
- 6) To promote the adoption of best practices on the sound management of hazardous chemical and wastes throughout the value chain, including extended producer responsibility, publicly available information about chemical hazards and risks, green design and best available techniques and best environmental practices, and monitoring of contamination of air, water and land by hazardous chemicals and wastes.
- 7) To call upon Member States, in particular those with reporting needs to integrate their needs with respect to the implementation of the Basel Convention into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, in particular during the national development planning process.

(e) Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2022 HLPF

- 1) To recognize the importance of multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous chemicals and wastes, including the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and their critical role in the overarching architecture of environmental governance in building post-COVID-19 a resilient path to achieve the Agenda 2030.
- 2) To recognize the role of the Basel Convention as the only global legally binding instrument that currently and specifically addresses plastic waste.

- 3) To accelerate efforts of Parties to implement their obligations under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions to protect human health and the environment from adverse impacts of chemicals and hazardous and other wastes.
- 4) To mainstream the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions into plans and strategies on sustainable development, health, agriculture and other sectors and in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.
- 5) To mainstream gender considerations in policies and strategies that promote the sound management of chemicals and waste.
- 6) To emphasize the importance of data transmission in accordance with the obligations under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions to avoid non-reporting, incomplete reporting or late reporting and add value to the global indicator framework for the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- 7) To promote knowledge building and information sharing on hazardous chemicals and wastes for better management and risk reduction throughout their lifecycle.