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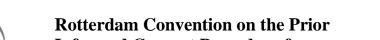
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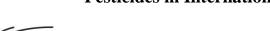
Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal

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Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade





Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal Thirteenth meeting

Geneva, 29 April–10 May 2019 Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions: international cooperation and coordination Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade Eighth meeting

Geneva, 29 April–10 May 2019 Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda**

Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions: international cooperation and coordination Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants Eighth meeting

Geneva, 29 April–10 May 2019 Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda***

Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions: international cooperation and coordination

Report on activities pertaining to international cooperation and coordination

Note by the Secretariat

As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on international cooperation and coordination (UNEP/CHW.14/20-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/16-UNEP/POPS/COP.9/23), the annex to the present note sets out a report providing detailed information on the activities undertaken by the Secretariat on cooperation and coordination with intergovernmental organizations, international and regional organizations, other multilateral environmental agreement secretariats, and non-governmental organizations and networks from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018. The activities described in the report are either specific to one Convention or relevant to two or three conventions. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

^{*} UNEP/CHW.14/1.

^{**} UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/1.

^{***} UNEP/POPS/COP.9/1.

Annex

Report on activities pertaining to international cooperation and coordination from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018

coordination from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018	
Organization	Activities
United Nations system	
United Nations	Environment Programme (UNEP)
	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions: The Secretariat closely cooperates with the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) in the following areas of work: The emerging policy issues and other issues of concern as identified by the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM), in particular on chemicals in products; hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products; endocrine-disrupting chemicals; perfluorinated chemicals and highly hazardous pesticides; Policy and strategic issues, through the provision of inputs to the intersessional process to prepare recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, in accordance with resolution IV/4; Organization and servicing of governing body meetings; Clearing-house mechanisms and information systems, in particular regarding the hosting of the new SAICM website; Outreach and communication. The Secretariat cooperates with the UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch under the joint task force on programmatic cooperation among the UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch and the secretariats of the BRS Convention, the Minamata Convention and SAICM. Regarding the intersessional process for shaping the future beyond 2020, the Secretariat participated in the first and second meetings of the intersessional process from 7 to 9 February 2017 and from 13 to 15 March 2018, respectively, and responded to calls for inputs on various documents. The Secretariat participates in the meetings of the Special Programme. A description of these interactions is contained in documents UNEP/CHW.14/INF/35 - UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/28 - UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/34. The Secretariat and UNEP Chemicals and Waste Branch cooperate on mainstreaming chemicals and wastes into Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Secretariat contributed to the further efforts made by UNEP to develop methodologies for the wasterelated indicators 12.4.2 and 12.5.1. It participated
	from the national reports transmitted by Parties pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 13. • The Secretariat participates in the updating of the Global Chemicals Outlook (GCO-II). It

¹ See SAICM/ICCM.4/15.

Organization	Activities
	performance indicators. The inception meeting for this project was held from 27 to 30 June 2017, in Nairobi, Kenya. The main objective was to introduce the project which aims to support the development of prototype integrated health and environment national observatories, including a core set of indicators enabling data aggregation, to provide timely and evidence-based information to predict, prevent and reduce chemicals risk to human health and the environment.
	The Secretariat participated in the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment held from 12 to 16 June 2017, in Libreville, Gabon.
	Basel Convention:
	• The Secretariat is involved in the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. In this regard, the Secretariat contributes to the overarching framework of the partnership as a member of the Partnership Advisory Group and the Mercury Partnership area groups on reduction in products, supply and storage and on waste management, and participated in its 8 th and 9 th meetings in September 2017 and November 2018.
	The Secretariat cooperates with UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch for the implementation of a joint capacity building programme on waste lead acid batteries.
	Stockholm Convention:
	The Secretariat participates in the activities of the Global Alliance for the development of alternatives to DDT and of the road map for the development of alternatives to DDT. The Secretariat made contributions and facilitated the inputs by the DDT expert group on the implementation of the road map (See documents UNEP/POPS/COP.9/5 and UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/8).
	The Secretariat participates in the activities of the PCB Elimination Network (PEN) as a member of its advisory committee, including in online meetings and projects (See document UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/11).
	The Secretariat cooperates with the UNEP Chemicals and Waste Branch in the process for the review and update of the Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Releases of Dioxins, Furans and Other Unintentional POPs and the guidelines and guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices (see document UNEP/POPS/COP.8/9) as well as in the implementation of the global monitoring plan (see document UNEP/POPS/COP.8/21).
UNEP Ecosystems	Basel Convention:
Division	• The Secretariat participated in the activities of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) as a member of the partnership, for example, in their webinars. The Secretariat contributed to a number of assessment reports produced by UNEP related to marine plastic litter and microplastics. It also participated in the first and second meetings of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on Marine Litter and Microplastics held from 29 to 31 May 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya, and from 3 to 7 December 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland, respectively.
UNEP Law Division	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	• The Secretariat is a partner in the Green Customs Initiative (GCI), for which the UNEP Law Division undertakes the Secretariat and coordinating functions since October 2013. The Secretariat participated in the GCI Partners' 12 th meeting held in Brussels, Belgium, on 3 and 4 October 2017. It also developed joint materials such as the updated GCI Guide and GCI website, and public awareness materials, and coordinated and provided input to intersessional work of policy/legal nature. Moreover, the Secretariat participated in a West-African regional workshop held in Accra, Ghana, from 14 to 16 November 2017 and organized the attendance of partners on behalf of the Secretariat in three other GCI workshops (Regional GCI workshop for Central America, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, held from 3 to 5 May 2017 with participation through the CARICOM Secretariat; National Green Customs Workshop in Korea, held on 7 and 8 June 2017, in Cheonan, Korea, with participation through the BCRC-China; and Sub-regional Green Customs Initiative workshop for East African countries, Kigali, Rwanda, held from 11 to 13 October 2017 with participation through the BCRC-South Africa). The Secretariat participated via online means in the 13 th meeting of the GCI held on 24 and 25 of September 2018 and hosted by the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague, Netherlands.

Organization	Activities
	As part of the GCI, the Secretariat participated in the Regional workshop on environmental topics, held from 23 to 27 April 2018 in Shanghai, China, organized by WCO and the General Administration of China Customs.
	The Secretariat is part of the steering committee of and cooperates with the Regional Enforcement Network (REN) to Combat Illegal Trade in Harmful Chemicals and Hazardous Waste in Asia which is, since October 2013, administered by the UNEP Law Division. The Secretariat participated in the 2017 workshop, held in Shenzhen, China, from 21 to 23 November.
	The Secretariat cooperates with the UNEP Law Division in the framework of its legal and enforcement activities. For instance, the Secretariat participated and delivered presentations during the annual UNEP - University of Eastern Finland Course on International Environmental Agreements held from 9 to 19 October 2017 in Chambery, France.
	The Secretariat also cooperates with the UNEP Law Division in the framework of the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environment Agreements (InforMEA) which aims at developing harmonized and interoperable information systems among multilateral environmental agreements to the benefit of Parties and the environment community at large. Activities under this initiative include: enhancement of the InforMEA portal; development of common approaches and tools to facilitate e-learning; enhancements in the use and interoperability between national online reporting systems; establishment of a multi-stakeholder thesaurus to facilitate semantic interoperability of members' information systems; and establishment of joint documents libraries.
	Basel Convention:
	UNEP Law Division is a member of the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE). Information was provided to the network members on its international cooperation activities, including the report on the state of knowledge of crimes with impacts the environment in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the report on illegal trade in chemicals in cooperation with GRID-Arendal and activities led by REN which were completed in 2017.
UNEP Governance	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Affairs Office	The Secretariat participated in the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly held from 4 to 6 December 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya.
UNEP and the Office of	Basel Convention:
Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Joint Environment Unit	The Secretariat kept regular contacts with the Joint UN Environment Programme/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU) and cooperates with JEU, for example, on the development of guidelines on plastic waste management in humanitarian contexts.
UNEP Science Division	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	The Secretariat is contributing to Big Data on the Environment for Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Action.
United Nations	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Environment Management Group (EMG)	• The Secretariat is a member of the EMG and participates in and provides input to several issue management groups (IMGs) and other EMG-related processes, in particular, the Secretariat signed a letter of intent to establish an e-waste coalition among seven UN entities which are members of the IMG on e-waste, in March 2017, during the ITU World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum. Since the signature of the letter of intent, the Secretariat participated in meetings to prepare the e-waste coalition, organized by the signatories, the 24th Senior Officials Meeting of the Environment Management Group of the Chiefs Executives Board (CEB), and in its technical segment, in September 2018.
	The Secretariat has also participated in, and contributed to, several of the Nexus Dialogues organized by the EMG Secretariat.
	The Secretariat contributed to the report "A new circular vision for electronics, time for a global reboot" authored by the World Economic Forum in cooperation with the signatories of the letter of intent to prepare an e-waste coalition.

Organization	Activities
	The Secretariat also participates in the Consultative Process on Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN System led by the EMG.
Sustainable United Nations (SUN)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions: The Secretariat compiles every year its inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, waste generation, and water consumption and reports this information to the SUN as part of the Greening the Blue report. The Secretariat offsets its greenhouse gas emissions and has been climate neutral for the last five years.
UNEP Gender and Safeguards Unit (GSU)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions: • The Secretariat is member of the UNEP Gender Team and cooperates with the UNEP Gender and Safeguards Unit (GSU) in the implementation of the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality (SWAP) and associated activities.
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	

FAO - Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP)

Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:

• The Secretariat collaborates with the FAO Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP) to address issues related to pesticides management, agriculture and food production as they relate to the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. This collaboration takes place in areas specific to each convention, in particular: export of obsolete pesticides for environmentally sound management (Basel Convention), legislation and registration, including de-registration, of pesticides (Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions), management and disposal of obsolete pesticides (Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions), import controls of pesticides (Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions), reduction of risks from highly hazardous pesticides (Rotterdam Convention), identification and reporting of severely hazardous pesticide formulations (Rotterdam Convention), and capacity building for implementation of the Rotterdam Convention.

Rotterdam Convention:

- The Rotterdam Convention Secretariat closely cooperates with the FAO AGP Pesticide Management Programme Team (AGPMC), with the FAO AGP team on Ecosystem Approach to crop production intensification (AGPME) and with the FAO AGP team on Transboundary Plant Pests and Diseases (AGPMM).
- The Secretariat supported the work of this Programme in the implementation of GEF projects in the nine member countries of the Comité Permanent Inter Etats de lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS) and extended countries for the sound disposal of obsolete pesticides including POPs, the strengthening of sound pesticide management and the promotion of alternatives to hazardous pesticides. The Secretariat participated in the inception workshop of a new initiative to extend the CILSS GEF project to all 17 Western African countries in Burkina Faso, from 1 to 5 March 2017.
- The Secretariat, together with the FAO Pesticide Management Programme, supports the activities of the Southern African Pesticide Regulators Forum (SAPReF) that was established in 2011. The Secretariat participated in a regional WS for 15 South African Development Community countries on the implementation of regional highly hazardous pesticide guidelines, the Rotterdam Convention main obligations, the FAO pesticide registration toolkit and its application in taking of regulatory decisions and notifications of final regulatory actions (FRA). The meeting was organized in Johannesburg, South Africa, in March 2018.
- In 2017, Secretariat staff was trained to provide training on the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit.² The training was rolled out in 2018 globally and Parties to the Rotterdam Convention benefited from it by gaining knowledge to support taking final regulatory actions on pesticides.
- The Secretariat, together with FAO AGPMC, carried out trainings on the FAO pesticide registration toolkit for Botswana in December 2017, for three Maghreb countries in March 2018, for the United Arab Emirates in October 2018 and for four Andean Community countries in October 2018.

² See http://www.fao.org/pesticide-registration-toolkit/en/.

Organization	Activities
	The Secretariat, together with FAO AGPMC, supported the activities of the Coordinating Group of Pesticides Control Boards of the Caribbean (CGPC) in June 2018 in Barbados.
	FAO AGPMC has integrated aspects related to the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention into their activities, where appropriate and consults with the Secretariat on its activities related to SAICM.
	The Secretariat, together with FAO AGPME, carried out a scoping mission on Integrated Pesticide Management and Farmer Field Schools in August 2018 in Cambodia, exchanging information on alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides and soliciting nominations of designated national authorities (DNA) and official contact point (OCP). Further, together with this team, a national training on the use of alternatives and agroecological approaches was held in Sao Tome in December 2018.
	The Secretariat joined a meeting of the FAO AGPMM in Kyrgyzstan in December 2018, reaching out to ten Caucasus and Central Asian countries, providing training on the main obligations of the Rotterdam Convention.
	The Secretariat contributed to FAO's work on pest and pesticide management and participated in relevant meetings of AGPMC, such as the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management in October 2018 in Rome, the steering committee meeting of the CILSS GEF project in December 2018 in Banjul, the Gambia, and planning meetings with interested countries for FAO technical cooperation projects in the Republic of Congo in November 2017, in South Africa and Botswana in August 2018, and in Gabon in November 2018.
	The Secretariat attended the 30 th session of the Asia-Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC), held in Rotorua, New Zealand, from 20 to 24 November 2017. The collaboration between the Secretariat and the APPPC aims at using the platform of the 30 th APPPC for joint evaluation/planning of regional and national activities related to the Rotterdam Convention and pesticide management. The meeting provided an opportunity for the Secretariat to effectively follow up with individual countries on the progress of the implementation of the Convention. Further, it raised awareness in the region of the recent developments under the Convention.
	Close cooperation takes place with all FAO country-, regional-, and sub-regional offices as necessary and direct administrative and technical support is provided by these offices whenever requested by the Secretariat.
FAO – Decent Rural employment unit (DRE), Social Protection Division (ESP)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions: The Secretariat provides technical support to and collaborates with DRE/ESP on aspects related to decent rural employment and child labour in agriculture for all matters related to the use of hazardous pesticides. The collaboration comprises the continuous promotion of the e-learning on pesticides and children as well as the visual tool on children and pesticides. The Secretariat, together with ESP, presented the successes of the Rotterdam Convention in generating data and including youth in risk management programmes at the 32 nd Int. Congress on Occupational Health - ICOH in May 2018 in Dublin, Ireland.
	Rotterdam Convention:
	The Secretariat formed part of the panel and presented the work of the Rotterdam Convention at the event "Addressing hazardous child labour in agriculture" organized by ESP and opened by the Director General of FAO in June 2018 in Rome.
FAO – Legal Office	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
(LEG)	The Secretariat closely cooperates with the FAO Legal Office on all matters related to pesticide policies, for example, during activities in 2018 in Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau and Sao Tome and Principe.
	The Secretariat cooperated with FAO Legal on the drafting of the Memorandum of Understanding between FAO, COP and UNEP.
Other UN agend	cies, organizations and programmes
International Labour	Basel and Rotterdam conventions:
Organization (ILO)	The Secretariat, within the framework of the Rotterdam and Basel conventions, cooperates with ILO, WHO and other agencies, in carrying out activities under the framework of the

Organization	Activities
	Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Sound Management of Industrial Chemicals especially focusing on asbestos. The Secretariat in conjunction with WHO and ILO, BCRC-SEA, BCRC-South Africa and Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) of the University of Sydney are currently working on a pilot project on "Training and capacity building related to the recognition of asbestos-related diseases (diagnosis, surveillance and registration of mesothelioma cases)" for the Philippines, Thailand and Zimbabwe.
	Basel Convention:
	The Secretariat continues to work with organizations such as ILO and the International Maritime Organization, as appropriate, on policy and capacity building issues related to sustainable ship recycling.
	ILO is among the seven UN entities which signed a letter of intent to establish an e-waste coalition. The Secretariat participated in a meeting in preparation of an e-waste coalition, organized by the ILO, in July 2018.
	Rotterdam Convention:
	The Secretariat, in collaboration with FAO ESP and ILO, continues the promotion of the visual tool for training on pesticide risks and children. The Secretariat has reprinted 2000 copies in various languages with the FAO regular budget resources allocated to the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat.
International Maritime	Basel Convention:
Organization (IMO)	The Secretariat continues to cooperate with IMO to implement decisions BC-12/15 on ship dismantling and BC-13/15 related to wastes generated on board ships.
	The Secretariat works with organizations such as the ILO and IMO, as appropriate, on policy and capacity-building issues related to sustainable ship recycling.
	The Secretariat finalized the guidance manual on how to improve the sea-land interface to ensure that wastes falling within the scope of MARPOL, once offloaded from a ship, are managed in an environmentally sound manner. The guidance manual was developed taking into account the revised version of the IMO Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities and was adopted by the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention.
	•
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	• The Secretariat participates, resources permitting, in the work of the OECD partnership for effective international rule-making. ³ It participated in the 5 th Annual Meeting of International Organisations held on 12 April 2018, in Geneva, Switzerland, and made written contributions to the work of the partnership, including the publication "The Contribution of International Organisations to a Rule-Based International System".
	The Secretariat participates, as an observer, to the eChem Portal steering committee meetings and is exploring possible collaboration to exchange information on chemicals.
	Stockholm Convention:
	The Secretariat contributes to the work of OECD/UNEP Global PFC Group. The Secretariat participated in the OECD expert workshop on approaches to support alternatives assessment and substitution held on 2 and 3 May 2018 in Paris, France, and in a series of webinars related to perfluorinated chemicals.
World Health	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Organization (WHO)	The Secretariat, within the framework of the Rotterdam and Basel conventions, cooperates with WHO, ILO and other agencies, in carrying out activities under the framework of the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Sound Management of Industrial Chemicals especially focusing on asbestos. The Secretariat in conjunction with WHO and ILO and BCRC-SEA, BCRC-South Africa and the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) of the University of Sydney are currently working on a pilot project on "Training and capacity"

 $^{^3\} http://www.oecd.org/gov/regulatory-policy/a-partnership-for-effective-international-rule-making.htm.$

Organization	Activities
	building related to the recognition of asbestos-related diseases (diagnosis, surveillance and registration of mesothelioma cases)" for the Philippines, Thailand and Zimbabwe.
	The Secretariat participated in the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment held from 12 to 16 June 2017, in Libreville, Gabon.
	Basel Convention:
	The Secretariat and WHO Department of Public Health and Environment cooperate on a regular basis to discuss topics of common interest, including the preparation of joint cooperation activities such as on mercury waste and health aspects of e-waste management.
	The Secretariat cooperates with WHO in the development of a new edition of the E-waste Challenge Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), where a mini-course on health consequences of exposure to e-waste and its health impact on children is included.
	Rotterdam Convention:
	The Secretariat in conjunction with WHO, UNITAR, CIEL and the BCRCs, convened training and capacity building workshops on "Development of a framework for the lifecycle management of industrial chemicals (import, use, storage, transport and disposal) under the Rotterdam Convention" for Armenia (September 2018) and Togo (April 2018). WHO contributed to the trainings and workshops on topics such as the WHO Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit, poison centers and simulation exercises on risk assessments for participants. It also made a demonstration of the IOMC Toolbox for Decision-Making in Chemicals Management. The trainings aimed at assisting countries in conducting scientifically sound risk assessments of local exposure situations to enable them to make notifications of final regulatory actions under the Rotterdam Convention.
	The Secretariat held a consultative meeting with CILSS DNAs on the FRA Toolkit and further aspects of the Rotterdam Convention in September 2017 in Dakar, Senegal. WHO was invited to present the WHO toolkit on human health risks evaluation.
	WHO was invited to two further sub-regional meetings to present the WHO Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit. These were the meetings on the FRA Evaluation Toolkit and other approaches in Tbilisi, Georgia, in February 2018, and the training of five Parties on the submission of FRA notifications in Maputo, Mozambique, in July 2018.
	Stockholm Convention:
	The Secretariat closely cooperates and collaborates with WHO to assist the DDT expert group in carrying out the activities of data collection and analysis on DDT production, uses and alternatives in order to facilitate the assessment of the Conference of the Parties regarding the continued need for DDT for disease vector control.
	• Since the adoption of the Convention, the Secretariat works closely with WHO to implement a global survey to generate data on human milk concentrations of the persistent organic pollutants listed in the Stockholm Convention (the "WHO/UNEP Human Milk Survey"). The information collected is used for the global monitoring plan under the Convention. The most recent data are available in the five regional monitoring reports and in the global monitoring report (See documents UNEP/POPS/COP.7/29 and UNEP/POPS/COP.8/21).
International	Basel Convention:
Telecommunication Union (ITU)	The Secretariat cooperates with ITU in the framework of an administrative agreement signed in March 2012.
	The Secretariat facilitated cooperation between ITU and BCCC Nigeria in the organization of an e-waste session during the ITU Green Standards Week in Zanzibar, Tanzania, from 9 to 12 April 2018.
	The Secretariat organized together with ITU an e-waste workshop during the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum, held in Geneva, Switzerland, in April 2018. During the same event, the Secretariat participated in high level political dialogues to sign a letter of intent to prepare the establishment of an e-waste coalition.
	The ITU is a co-author or the revised version of the e-waste challenge Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) which will be re-launched in the first six months of 2019.
United Nations Committee of Experts on the Transport of	Basel Convention: • The Secretariat participates in the work and meetings of the Committee of Experts. A correspondence group of experts of the Basel Convention and the Committee of Experts was

Organization	Activities
Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	 established in April 2005 with a view to elaborating and ensuring consistency and coherence of the classification and labelling of chemicals and wastes, including their hazard categorization. The Secretariat liaises with the UNECE GHS Sub-Committee in relation to the work of the expert working group on the review of the annexes (EWG on RA), more specifically the review of Annex III. It invited the Secretariat of the GHS Sub-Committee to participate in the second meeting of the EWG on RA, held from 10 to 13 December 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and made a written submission to the Secretariat of the sub-Committee in view of its meeting of 5 to 7 December 2018, in order to provide information on the relevant work of the EWG on RA.
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	 As set out in the memorandum of understanding between the conferences of the Parties and the GEF Council, the two secretariats communicate and cooperate with each other and consult on a regular basis. The Secretariat, on a reciprocal basis, is also invited to attend meetings of the GEF Council and Assembly. A description of these interactions is contained in document UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/31 on the implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility with regard to cooperation between the secretariats and reciprocal representation, including follow-up actions. The Secretariat attended the GEF gender partnership meeting in July 2017, in Washington DC, United States of America, and online meetings of the partnership. Furthermore, the Secretariat participated in the formal launch of the Open Online Course on Gender and Environment on 25 June 2018 organized at the margins of the GEF Assembly, held from 24 to 29 June 2018, which includes a model on gender and chemicals.
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions: The Secretariat cooperates with UNDP, in particular in Geneva and relevant country offices, on corporate legal and financial or administrative operations, to facilitate implementation of the programmes of work pertaining to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. Rotterdam Convention: The Secretariat coordinated the organization of two workshops on industrial chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention through the UNDP offices in Armenia and Togo.
Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC)	 Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions: The Secretariat participated as observer in meetings of the Inter-organization Coordinating Committee (IOCC) of IOMC on 31 March and 9 and 10 November 2017, and 10 May, and 27 and 28 November 2018, respectively. It provided general updates on the outcomes of the 2017 meetings of the conferences of the Parties or on the activities undertaken as part of the conventions' programmes of work and relevant mandates as well as on the preparations for the 2019 meetings of the Conferences of the Parties The Secretariat participated in the annual interagency meetings on sound chemicals management, held on 30 March 2017 and on 26 November 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland. Th meeting were convened by the IOMC in follow-up to the UN EMG issue management group on chemicals. The goal of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for direct dialogue between interested agencies and organisations working in the field of chemical management and consider collaboration on the way forward towards the 2020 goal and beyond, in the context of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Secretariat in conjunction with WHO, UNITAR, CIEL and the BCRCs, convened training and capacity building workshops on "Development of a framework for the lifecycle management of industrial chemicals (import, use, storage, transport and disposal) under the Rotterdam Convention" for Armenia (September 2018) and Togo (April 2018). WHO contributed to the training on topics, such as the WHO Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit, poison centers and simulation exercises on risk assessments for participants. They also made a demonstration of the IOMC Toolbox for Decision-Making in Chemicals Management. The trainings aimed at assisting countries in making scientifically sound risk assessments of local exposure situations to enable them to make notifications of final regulatory actions under the Rotterdam Convention.

Organization	Activities
Office of the United	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	The Secretariat works closely with the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes; Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment; and Special Rapporteur on the right to food. The Secretariat assists them in the implementation of their mandates as they relate to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, through:
	Formal and informal meetings – e.g., side-events on the occasion of the meetings of the conferences of the Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (for example, on children's rights and hazardous chemicals and wastes, at the 2017 meetings) or at the UN Environment Assembly – as well as consultations are held on a regular basis between the Special Rapporteurs and the Secretariat, including the Executive Office/Secretary, on issues pertaining to both the OHCHR and the Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions;
	 Input is regularly provided in the preparation of reports such as the reports to the UN General Assembly; report to the Human Rights Council; reports to the United Nations Committee/Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and other thematic reports;
	 Information or expertise are shared, and assistance is mutually provided on projects and activities of common interest, e.g., field country missions.
	The Secretariat participates in and contributes to regular sessions of the Human Rights Council, which take place three times a year, during three weeks each time, in March, June and September, as well as activities related thereto. In this respect, the Secretariat and the UNEP Law Division and Europe Office regularly co-ordinate and provide input on the implications for human rights of the environment, in view of these sessions and other events:
	 From March 2017 until September 2018, the 34th 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, and 39th regular sessions, in which the Secretariat participated, took place;
	 "Environmental Human Rights Defenders: Responding to a Global Crisis", 6 March 2017, Geneva, Switzerland;
	 "From Paris to Marrakech, tackling Climate Change is, also, an Obligation of Human Rights, through the 'Geneva Pledge.", held on 6 March 2017, in Geneva, Switzerland;
	 "The Interdependence of Human Rights and Biodiversity", 9 March 2017, Geneva, Switzerland;
	 "Simplify your life at the HRC by using the Human Rights Database", 11 September 2018, Geneva, Switzerland.
	The Secretariat participates and contributes to a wide range of events, interactive dialogues (co-)organised by/with OHCHR and other organisations, such as the following:
	 "Expert Consultation on Children's Rights and the Environment," 22 and 23 June 2017.
	Rotterdam Convention:
	 Upon request of the FAO Geneva liaison office, the FAO-part of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat participates in expert consultations on pesticides, on the right to food, as organized by both Special Rapporteurs on the right to food and toxic substances. The Rotterdam Convention Secretariat provides input to their reports presented at the Human Right Council sessions, e.g. on workers' rights in September 2018.
United Nations	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	The Secretariat cooperated with the UNESCO Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE), Delft, The Netherlands, the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), Technical University Berlin and UNIDO in planning and implementing Hazardous Waste Courses in Delft, Netherlands in 2017.
UNOG	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	• In 2018, the Secretariat contributed to the second printed version of the SDG Mapping as a part of the Perception Change Project led by UNOG. The survey demonstrates expertise of Geneva-based UN agencies to implement the goals.

Organization	Activities
	The Secretariat also provided input to UNOG which coordinated information on the United Nations Cooperation with the World Economic Forum.
United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	The Secretariat provided inputs into the preparation of the 2017 and 2018 Sustainable Development Goals Reports and the 2017 and 2018 reports of the UN Secretary-General on "Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals".
United Nations Division	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
for Oceans Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS)	In June 2017, the Secretariat made a written submission to UNDOALOS providing information on BRS activities as a contribution to the development the second part of the Secretary General's report on oceans and the law of the sea pursuant to resolution 71/257 of the General Assembly.
	• In April 2018, the Secretariat made a written contribution to the UNDOALOS inventory of capacity-building activities that could support the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, pursuant to paragraph 325 of General Assembly Resolution 72/72 (A/RES/72/73).
	• In June 2018, the Secretariat made a written submission to UNDOALOS providing information on BRS activities as a contribution to the development of the Secretary General's report on oceans and the law of the sea pursuant to resolution 72/73 of the General Assembly.
United Nations	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	The Secretariat participated remotely in a consultative meeting on the environmentally sound management of mercury wastes organized by UNIDO, held on 10 and 11 September 2018.
	The Secretariat cooperates with UNIDO in the preparations for an e-waste coalition.
United Nations	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)	The Secretariat participated in the expert meeting on "Combating Crimes that have serious impacts on the environment: State of knowledge on approaches", organized jointly with UNEP in Rome, Italy, from 13 to 15 September 2017 and contributed to the drafting of the study.
United Nations	Stockholm Convention:
University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU- IAS)	The Secretariat provided inputs to the publications by the UNU-IAS "Managing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in the Asia-Pacific Region: A Multi-Level Approach.
Multilateral environment	tal agreements (MEAs)
Minamata Convention	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
on Mercury	The Secretariat cooperates with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on programmatic and organizational issues that are of mutual interest to Minamata Convention and one or more of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, in particular regarding:
	 Scientific and technical work on: mercury wastes, mercury emissions and interim storage of mercury other than waste mercury;
	Awareness-raising work;
	 Organization and servicing of governing body meetings, including provision of inputs to documents prepared in areas of relevance to the three conventions;
	Organization and servicing of webinars;
	 Policy and strategic issues, through provision of joint contribution to the process for the development of sustainable development goals;

Organization	Activities
	 Information systems, in particular regarding the hosting of the Minamata Convention's website;
	Outreach and communication.
	Cooperation between the two entities also takes place under the joint task force on programmatic cooperation among the UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch and the secretariats of the BRS Convention, the Minamata Convention and SAICM.
	• The Secretariat participated in the meetings of the Minamata Convention's governing bodies, and vice-versa, as well as in the first and second meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention, held from 24 to 29 September 2017 and 19 to 23 November 2018, respectively, and related regional preparatory meetings. The secretariats have also taken steps to enhance their cooperation on the organization and servicing of COPs meetings and regional preparatory meetings/consultations.
	• Upon request, the Secretariat provides substantive inputs to the documents being prepared for meetings of the COPs, where it has particular expertise and experience.
	Basel Convention:
	The Secretariat undertook activities in accordance with decisions VIII/33, BC-10/7, BC-11/5 and BC-12/4 on mercury wastes in close cooperation with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention.
	The Secretariat takes part in the processes established by decisions MC-1/18 and MC-1/19 on draft guidelines on the interim storage of mercury and of mercury compounds and on mercury waste thresholds, respectively.
	The Secretariat shared its experience regarding the Implementation and Compliance Committee at the first meeting of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Minamata Convention held on 29 and 30 May 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland.
	Stockholm Convention:
	• The Secretariat participated in the meeting of the ad hoc group of experts, held from 5 to 9 March 2018 in Ottawa, Canada, to share experience of the Stockholm Convention on the effectiveness evaluation framework and on monitoring arrangements.
	The Secretariat coordinated and cooperates with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on relevant experience with procedures and approaches established under the financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention, such as through its participation in meetings between the GEF, the BRS Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the Secretariat of SAICM.
Bamako Convention on	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
the Ban of the Import to Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa	The Secretariat in conjunction with other UN entities, participated in the second Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, which was held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, from 30 January to 2 February 2018.
	 The Secretariat in conjunction with the Secretariat of the Bamako Convention organized two side events during the OEWG-11, in Geneva, in September 2018 and during the Third Inter- Ministerial Conference on Health and Environment, which took place from 6 to 9 November 2018, in Libreville, Gabon.
UNECE	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	• The Secretariat participated in the 2017 Data flow pilot study undertaken by the Task team on data flows of the UNECE CES Steering Group on statistics for SDGs, in particular with regard to the data collection for indicator 12.4.1. The results of the study were presented at the UNECE Second Expert Meeting on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals, held on 18 and 19 April 2018.
	Basel Convention:

⁴ At the first and second conferences of the Parties to the Minamata Convention, the Secretariat reported on activities carried out under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions that are relevant to the Minamata Convention. The reports are available in the annexes to documents UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF/5 and UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/11.

Organization	Activities
	The Secretariat participated in the work of the Task Force on Waste Statistics which was established by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians in February 2017. In accordance with its mandate, the Task Force developed a draft report on a conceptual Framework on waste statistics.
UNECE Convention on	Stockholm Convention:
Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP) and its Protocols	The Secretariat exchanges information on the outcomes of the global monitoring plan for POPs with the UNECE LRTAP Convention and relevant Protocols. The Secretariat participated in the 38th session of the Executive Body for the LRTAP Convention held from 10 to 14 December 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland.
Other MEAs	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	The Secretariat regularly exchanges information on legal, compliance, enforcement and institutional issues with various MEA secretariats, including of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Framework Tobacco Convention.
	The Secretariat signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention 7 December 2018.
	• The Secretariat and the UNFCCC Secretariat have an ongoing agreement for offsetting CO ₂ emissions generated by BRS operations and activities. For the last five years, the Secretariat has been offsetting its emissions and remained climate neutral.
Other international and I	regional institutions
World Customs	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Organization (WCO)	The Secretariat cooperates with WCO through the Green Customs Initiative (GCI). As part of the GCI, the Secretariat participated in the Regional workshop on environmental topics, held from 23 to 27 April 2018 in Shanghai, China, organized by WCO and the General Administration of China Customs.
	• In line with decision BC-10/10 and Article 13 of the Rotterdam Convention, the Secretariat participates in the work of the WCO Harmonized System Committee (HSC), the Harmonized System Review Subcommittee and the Scientific Subcommittee, with respect to the assignment of Harmonized System codes to wastes covered by the Basel Convention and chemicals listed in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention. In this regard, the Secretariat participated, in 2017, in the 52 nd and 53 rd sessions of the Harmonized System Review Sub-Committee held between, and, in 2018, in the 33 rd session of the Scientific Subcommittee, the 62 nd session of the Harmonized System Committee and the 54 th and 55 th sessions of the Harmonized Systems Review Sub-Committee.
	Basel Convention:
	The Secretariat supported the WCO Operation DEMETER IV launched to monitor and control cross-border movements of waste, targeting illegal waste shipments from Europe and other waste producing regions/countries to destination countries/regions.
	WCO participates as an observer in ENFORCE.
World Trade	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
Organization (WTO)	• The Secretariat participates in meetings of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), regular - twice a year, in June and October or November - and special sessions when called upon, as observer on an ad hoc basis, pending a decision on its requests for observer status, as submitted respectively in 2007 and 2004/2009 and on which there is a regular follow-up as per request by Parties at the meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the three conventions.
	• Since the meetings of the conferences of the Parties in 2017, regular sessions of the CTE were held on 20 June and on 1 November in 2017, on 28 June and on 30 November in 2018 (at which the Secretariat presented on plastic wastes, and the WTO Environmental Database for 2017 - as set out in document WT/CTE/EDB/17), in Geneva, Switzerland. More specifically, in view of these meetings:

Organization	Activities
	 The Secretariat presented on organisational matters and the issues to be discussed at the meetings of the conferences of the Parties to be held in 2019; as well as on the outcomes of the meetings of the conferences of the Parties held in 2017;
	 The Secretariat briefed on more specific technical matters, such as marine litter, plastics and microplastics;
	 The Secretariat provided input to the latest revised version of the Matrix on Trade- related measures pursuant to selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements, as set out in documents WT/CTE/W/160/Rev.8 - TN/TE/S/5/Rev.6, dated October 2017.
	Further synergies between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on trade and environment cross-cutting issues related to the WTO were identified; hence, the Secretariat increased cooperation as well as coordination with the WTO, including by initiating or participating in further legal and policy activities or, further to specific requests by WTO members or convention Parties, in technical assistance and capacity building trainings, in connection with these matters, notably with the Basel Convention and Stockholm Conventions regional centres.
	The Secretariat also participated in the high level "Leadership Dialogue: Making Trade Work for the Environment, Prosperity and Resilience" of 2 October 2018, jointly organized by the WTO and UN Environment, as part of the WTO annual Public Forum. On this occasion, a number of related activities have taken place, including:
	 A high-level event at the WTO, bringing together WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo, UN Environment Executive Director Erik Solheim and several business and government leaders;
	 The launch of the UN Environment-WTO co-publication "Making Trade Work for the Environment, Prosperity and Resilience", to which the Secretariat provided input;
	 A sustainability exhibition organized with key partners (WIPO GREEN, Solar Impulse Foundation and Climate Show) showcasing innovative and sustainable technological solutions that can contribute to the economic shift towards greener, more circular and inclusive economies — the exhibition will run throughout the Public Forum (2-4 October);
	 Several other events on sustainable trade that were held as part of the WTO Public Forum.
	On World Environment Day 2017, the Secretariat also participated in "Talking Trade and Trash - An Informal Trade and Environment Division Chat", held on 7 June 2017.
	The Secretariat participated in the WTO meeting of the Committee on Trade and Environment held on 30 November 2018 in Geneva and provided updates on the work under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions relevant to the considerations under WTO.
	Other formal and informal meetings and consultations are held on a regular basis between the WTO and the Secretariat, on issues pertaining to both the WTO agreements and the Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions or other MEAs; information and expertise are exchanged; assistance is mutually provided on issues and activities of common interest.
INTERPOL	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	The Secretariat cooperates with INTERPOL through the GCI and on a bilateral basis. INTERPOL participates as an observer in ENFORCE.
	The Secretariat participated in the 22 nd meeting of the Pollution Crime Working Group (PCWG), which took place from 15 to 17 May 2017 in Rome, Italy.
Organization for Security and Co- operation in Europe (OSCE)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:
	OSCE is invited to meetings of ENFORCE for information exchange on a regular basis.
	The Secretariat participated in the Regional Central-Asian Seminar "Sound waste management", held on 13 and 14 November 2017 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.
	The Secretariat participated in the joint meeting of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Committee and the Security Committee with a focus on "environmental crime" on 8 October 2018 in Vienna, Austria, and served as a speaker on illegal traffic in hazardous wastes under the Basel Convention.

Organization	Activities	
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:	
	The Secretariat cooperates with OPCW through the GCI, to which OPCW is also a partner.	
Non-governmental organizations/ networks/ partnerships		
European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:	
	The Secretariat cooperates with IMPEL on the basis of the new memorandum of understanding signed on 15 December 2016 which extended the scope of their cooperation to the three conventions.	
	Basel Convention:	
	IMPEL is a member of ENFORCE. In this regard, a representative of IMPEL attended the teleconferences and the second meeting of ENFORCE, which took place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 15 and 16 May 2018.	
	• The Secretariat is a member of the High-Level Advisory Board (HLAB) for the SWEAP project, which aims to combat illegal shipment of waste from Europe and enable frontline officers to carry out their work as effectively as possible. The Secretariat took part in the first meeting of the HLAB in Brussels, Belgium, on 5 November 2018.	
	The Secretariat is also a member of the High-Level Advisory Board of WasteForce, which aims to deter and disrupt illegal trade and management of waste by developing tools for enforcement, forensics and capacity building.	
International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE)	Basel Convention:	
	The Secretariat cooperates with INECE in the framework of its Seaport Environmental Security Network (SESN).	
	The Secretariat cooperates with INECE in relation to enforcement networks.	
	INECE is a member of ENFORCE.	
Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes (Asian Network)	Basel Convention:	
	• The Secretariat participated as an observer in the 2017 and 2018 workshops of the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes, held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 28 to 29 November 2017, and in Akita, Japan, from 6 to 8 November 2018, respectively. At both workshops the Secretariat gave presentations on issues of interest to the network and facilitated discussions during one session.	
	The Asian Network is a member of ENFORCE.	
Solving the E-waste Problem Initiative (StEP) / United Nations University (UNU)	Basel Convention:	
	The Secretariat collaborates with StEP/UNU on issues related to management of e-wastes, based on a memorandum of understanding signed in September 2008.	
	The Secretariat participated in the StEP General Assembly meeting on 1 December 2018 and provided comments on documents developed by the Step Initiative.	
	The Secretariat cooperates with the UNU in the preparations for an e-waste coalition	
Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP)	Basel Convention:	
	• The Secretariat participated in the 44 th and the 45 th meetings of GESAMP that took place from 4 to 8 September 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland, and from 17 to 20 September 2018 in Rome, Italy, respectively.	
World Resources Forum (WRF)	Basel, Rotterdam and/or Stockholm conventions:	
	The Secretariat is a member of the Advisory Board of the project on Voluntary certification schemes for waste treatment coordinated by the WRF. The project aims to address the specific challenge to secure the sustainable access to critical raw materials for the EU economy and objectives set by the EU action plan for the Circular Economy, the issue of	

UNEP/CHW.14/INF/36-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.9/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/38

Organization	Activities
	illegal trade of wastes within the EU and to non-EU countries, and the need to support the development of environmentally and socially sound recycling systems globally.
International Sustainable Chemistry Collaborative Centre (ISC3)	The Secretariat attended the International Conference on Mainstreaming Sustainable Chemistry held on 17 and 18 May 2017, in Berlin, Germany.