

**INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING AMONG 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 (THE BAMAKO CONVENTION)**

**DECLARATION**

We, Ministers responsible for environmental affairs from six Parties to the Bamako convention (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Senegal, Uganda) and senior government officials responsible for environmental affairs from eleven Parties to the Bamako convention (Côte d'Ivoire, Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zimbabwe) to the Bamako Convention, met at the UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi on 28 May 2016 from 09:30 hours to consult each other on the status of implementation of the Bamako Convention since its first meeting of the Conference of Parties, preparations for its second meeting of the Conference of Parties and other related matters, and exchange information on issues related to the Secretariat.

After fruitful debates and discussions on the different issues, we underlined the importance of the Bamako Convention for Africa and reaffirmed our commitment to the implementation of the Bamako Convention. We appreciate and commend the tireless support provided by UNEP, which provides secretariat functions, to the implementation of the Bamako Convention.

We discussed and appreciated the report submitted by the Secretariat on the progress made thus far in the implementation of the Bamako Convention and decisions adopted at its first meeting of the Conference of Parties. We expressed our concern about the slow progress made on some aspects of implementation of those decisions.

In this regard, we agreed to take necessary measures and actions as soon as feasible for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention, the decisions taken at its first meeting of the Conference of Parties as well as for the necessary preparations for its second meeting of the Conference of Parties:

1. On the need to guarantee and secure total ban of the import to Africa and control of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes to the continent, we agreed to continue to urge and solicit non-Parties to the Bamako Convention to ratify or accede to it as well as to the related Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and its Basel Ban Amendment.
2. To ensure the Bamako Convention is implemented and enforced effectively at national level, we underlined the importance of domesticating the Convention as well as the other related chemicals and wastes conventions (namely, the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata conventions) through the development of the appropriate national implementing laws and/or regulations to put into effect these conventions.
3. With regards to national institutional framework required for the effective implementation and enforcement of the Bamako Convention, we committed to ensure, if we have not yet done so, to designate or nominate and inform the secretariat our designated national competent authority, national focal point, and dumpwatch, as well as national experts to serve in the subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties namely the Legal and Technical Working Group and the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Liabilities and Compensation.
4. On the need to maintain momentum in the implementation of the Bamako Convention and ensure its regular review and monitoring, we agreed that the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties which was to have been held in 2015 should not be further delayed and hence agreed to have it in 2017 at the date to be agreed with the host country of the Conference of Parties and convenient for other Parties.
5. On the hosting of the second meeting of the Conference of Parties, we appreciated the reconfirmation and readiness of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to host the meeting in its territory subject to the timely submission by the secretariat of the budget implication for its

consideration and necessary approvals, as well as agreement on the hosting arrangements requirements for such a UN meeting to be held outside the headquarters of the secretariat.

6. With respect to strengthening the implementation of related chemicals and waste conventions, and the need to create coherence and promote synergies among them, we agreed to further promote an enhanced and integrated programmatic cooperation at national level between the Bamako Convention and other related chemicals and hazardous waste conventions, as well as forge closer links and cooperation with their secretariats.
7. On the need to further promote synergies in the implementation of not only the Bamako Convention but also the other related chemicals and hazardous waste conventions, we agreed in collaboration with the secretariat to conduct joint capacity development and capacity building activities including awareness raising and inclusion of sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes related issues into the education curricula at all levels.
8. With regards to ensuring that the secretariat is well endowed with both human and financial resources to support and collaborate with the Parties to effectively implement and enforce the Bamako Convention, we committed ourselves to ensure that our assessed annual contributions as well as arrears are fully paid and requested the secretariat to resend to the Parties, as reminders, the invoices for such payments.
9. As we take concerted measures at national level for the payment of our assessed annual contributions and arrears, we urge non-Parties and all those concerned with illegal dumping of hazardous wastes and chemicals to support activities for the implementation of the Bamako Convention through voluntary contributions into the Convention's Trust Fund.
10. With respect to the proposal received from the Government of Mali on the possible review of the institutional arrangements for hosting the secretariat of the Bamako Convention and the offer it has extended for consideration on its readiness to host the secretariat, divergent views on its discussion emerged. Some of us were of the view that the secretariat hosted by UNEP at its headquarters in Nairobi was still in its nascent stage of its establishment and development and thus needs its parent host to nurture and thus status quo should remain. Others felt that the Bamako Convention is an African instrument that should be owned and administered by an African entity hence it should be hosted by an African country. Others were worry of the ability and readiness to bear the financial cost for hosting the secretariat but were of the view that if the decision is taken to move the secretariat, then a transparent process should be followed which include opening up the bids for hosting the secretariat and call for more offers to be submitted by the Parties for consideration and possible decision at the second meeting of the Conference of Parties.
11. On all the issues consulted at this meeting, we agreed with the support of the secretariat, to share the Minutes of the meeting as well as this Summary with the all Parties to the Convention for their necessary attention and to take measures to execute the above agreements and to review status of their implementation at the next meeting of the Conference of Parties to be held in Côte d'Ivoire in 2017, at a date to be agreed upon.

After exchanging words of appreciation for the open and constructive exchange of views and opinions, the meeting was closed at 13:30 hours on 28 May 2016.

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