

BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

27 November 2019

Subject: Draft Ministerial Declaration of the 2019 UN Environment Assembly

Excellency,

I am writing with reference to your email dated 22 October 2018, inviting additional inputs in writing from member States and stakeholders on the zero draft of the ministerial declaration for the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly, by 30 November 2018.

Please find enclosed the contribution of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions thereon.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for involving our organization in this important process.

Yours sincerely,



Rolph Payet
Executive Secretary

Siim Kiisler
Minister of Environment of Estonia
President of the UN Environment Assembly
Ministers responsible for the Environment
Members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
Major Groups and Stakeholders

Contribution of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions on the zero draft - Ministerial Declaration of the 2019 Environment Assembly

Comments on main priority 1: Ensure the access and use of global environmental data and develop innovative digital solutions

Commitment e): Potential exposure to toxic substances from consumer products may be further highlighted under the commitment, as well as the need to develop and disseminate solutions for disclosing information on chemicals in products. Consumer products that may represent potential exposure sources to toxic substances are, among others: cleaning products, furniture, electronics, cosmetics, textiles, and baby products. This commitment may also consider addressing additional consumer products as well as food products.

Comments on main priority 2: Foster sustainable and efficient resource management to decarbonize, detoxify and enhance ecosystem resilience

Commitments g) and h): The international community has committed to take actions to promote the environmentally sound waste management, particularly through the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the most comprehensive global environmental agreement on waste issues. References to these efforts could be further recognized in the declaration by including a reference along the line of: "taking into account the work undertaken at the international level, particularly under waste related multilateral environmental agreements".

Commitment i): Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions recognize the importance of long-term financing for the sound management of chemicals and waste at all levels, particularly for the implementation of the conventions at the national level. Invitations to funding mechanisms and donors to increase their support and funding resources to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of the conventions are regularly made by the conferences of the Parties to those conventions. In this context, the development of a global approach for long-term funding for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 may be considered by Parties to those conventions as a relevant development that may support the implementation of the conventions in the long term, building on past experience in this area.
