



Distr.:

Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the ban on the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa

‘The Bamako Convention: A Platform for Pollution Free Africa’

Second meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Bamako Convention Abidjan (Cote d’Ivoire), 30 January – 1 February 2018

DRAFT REPORT

DAY ONE

Introduction

1. The second meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Bamako Convention organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) under the theme: ‘the Bamako Convention: A platform for a pollution-free Africa’ was held at the Ivoire Golf Club Hotel, Abidjan, from 30th January to 1st February 2018 in collaboration with the Ministry of Sanitation, Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d’Ivoire.
2. Representatives of Parties to the Bamako Convention, various Ministers and Ambassadors as well as the UN Environment’s Deputy Executive Director and UN Environment Africa Regional Office Director took part in the meeting. The official opening of the meeting was marked by several speeches, including the speech by Mrs. AÏDA M’BO KEITA, Minister of Environment, Sanitation and Sustainable Development of Mali, who stressed on the relevance of the theme and recalled the conditions that led to the signing of the Basle and Bamako Conventions; she stressed on the urgent actions that need to be undertaken by African countries to combat pollution in Africa. She ended by recalling the expectations of Libreville Declaration whose implementation is expected by UN Environment and WHO.
3. The UN Environment Deputy Executive Director and Assistant Secretary General, Mr. Ibrahim THIAW indicated that African countries must have the necessary resources to implement the Bamako Convention, stressing that only 25 out of 54 African countries have ratified it and 17 others have signed it, leaving 11 countries behind. After regretting that if the most affected countries do not feel concerned by the dumping of hazardous waste, it is not the countries that benefit from it that will do it, he ended his remarks with a strong message: to see the year 2018 as the year, in which Africans themselves take responsibility for the Convention.
4. After that, Mrs. Anne OULOTO, Minister of Sanitation, Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d’Ivoire, who indicated that the aim of the Convention is to protect the health of the populations and their environment. As a forum for solidarity, it is the historical

responsibility of African States not to let it sink. She stressed the need for strong political action to implement the decisions of the various Conferences of the Parties. The end of the opening ceremony was marked by a group photo.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

5. The Conference of the Parties adopted the agenda for its meeting, pursuant to the rules of procedure, on the basis of the provisional agenda set forth in document UNEP/BC/COP.2/1. of the United Nations

Item 3: Organizational issues

3.1 Election of officers

6. The Conference of Parties with regard to the note received from the secretariat on the election of officers (UNEP/BC/COP.2/X) and the note received from the secretariat entitled 'Election of officers: overview table of elections' (UNEP/BC/COP.2/3) took note of the information provided in the notes and considered the action proposed in the document. Election of the officers was made taking into account the representation of the regions.
7. In accordance with Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure, it is a custom for the organizing country to act as chairperson and, on the proposal of the chairperson, in accordance with Rule 50, after consideration by the secretariat, it was decided by the assembly to proceed with the selection of members by consensus.
8. The election of officers was done taking into account regional representations; thus, the following countries were elected:
 - Chairman: Côte d'Ivoire (host country)
 - Vice-Chairman: Congo (Central Africa), Burkina Faso (West Africa) and Tunisia (North Africa) Benin withdrew as a candidate, leaving Burkina Faso in the process.
 - Rapporteur: Ethiopia
9. After the election of the officers, the new officers headed by its chairperson took over the conduct of the meeting and the Bureau members were introduced to the participants by Mrs. Anne Ouloto, Minister of Sanitation, Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d'Ivoire.

3.2 Organization of work

10. The Conference adopted the schedule of work for the meeting (UNEP/BC/COP.2/1), as well as a proposed structure of the second meeting of the conference of Parties to the Bamako Convention (UNEP/BC/COP.2/6) and a provisional agenda of the high-level segment of the meeting (UNEP/BC/COP.2/5), all prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the president and the bureaux of the conferences of the Parties.
11. The Conference decided to meet from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and from 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm.
12. The Conference of the Parties established contact and other groups and clarified their mandate. In accordance with Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure, the Assembly was invited to establish contact groups to examine documents prepared by the secretariat, including document UNEP/BC/COP2 dealing with the 'Proposal for the organization of work.'
13. Thus, a committee of four (4) working groups was created and led by the Vice Chairpersons, namely:

1. **Contact Group 1:** Chaired by Niger, this group was responsible for discussing the work programme, decisions to be taken and budget and finance issues.
 2. **Contact Group 2:** Chaired by Gabon, the task of this group was to discuss synergies with other conventions and strengthen the implementation of the Convention.
 3. **Contact Group 3:** Chaired by Egypt, the task of this group was to discuss technical assistance regarding the issues of the Convention and their implementation.
 4. **Contact Group 4:** Chaired by Cameroon, this group was responsible for discussing the terms of reference and strategic frameworks of the resolutions.
14. Though, chairpersons of the contact groups are proposed, but the rapporteurs are chosen by members of the groups themselves.

Update report on the credentials of representatives to the second meeting of the conference of Parties to the Bamako Convention

15. The Conference of the Parties received a note from the secretariat on the status of ratification of the Bamako Convention (UNEP/BC/COP. 2/X). The Conference of the Parties took note of the information contained therein and indicated that the accreditation process was ongoing. The accreditation report will be submitted before the end of the meeting.
16. The Accreditation Committee proposed to the Meeting to accept accreditation and assured all representatives that, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, each Party would be represented by an accredited representative, who could be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers, as appropriate.
17. The Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, reviewed the accreditation of the representatives of the Parties at the meeting and reported to the Conference of the Parties for consideration as follows: so far 17 accreditation have been received from Burundi, Egypt, Sudan, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Gambia, Benin, Mali, DR Congo, Zimbabwe, Togo, Angola, Senegal, Mauritius, Mauritius, Niger and Côte d' Ivoire. The Democratic Republic of the Congo submitted a photocopy, which is provisionally valid subject to receipt of the original.
18. Nine Parties have not yet submitted their accreditation, namely: Burkina Faso, Chad, Cameroon, Comoros, Libya, Gabon, Uganda, Tanzania, Namibia and Uganda.
19. An updated report to be submitted to the secretariat is expected after the establishment of the new bureau and the submission of accreditation by States Parties and non-Parties. In the meantime, the report submitted on accreditation was adopted as such.

Item 4: Statements made by State Representatives

20. Following their election, in accordance with Rule 61 of the Rules of Procedure, the Secretariat prepared a list of country Parties wishing to deliver national addresses; a series of addresses (5 minutes per country) were delivered by the country Parties, followed by addresses of non-Parties. The Ministers and Heads of delegations who delivered the various statements reflected on the declarations of principle and reported on the activities carried out in their countries with a view to implementing the decisions of COP1, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention relating to the preparation of national reports.

21. The delegate of Congo gave an overview of the hazardous waste problem and proposed to organize COP 3 in his country;
22. The delegate of Tunisia stressed on the issue of hazardous waste and the desire to organize the next COP 3 in Tunisia;
23. The delegate of Niger called for real commitments to be made in favour of African populations.
24. In addition, the delegate of Burkina Faso called for the banning and control of the movement of hazardous waste to be translated into action throughout the continent. He proposed the establishment of institutional and regulatory frameworks for better waste management.
25. Burundi expressed its interest in complying with the relevant international environmental protection treaties;
26. In her address, the representative of Benin reaffirmed her country's commitment to making Africa a pollution-free continent by signing various agreements and honouring its commitments to make the Bamako Convention a tool for development.
27. In turn, the representative of Cameroon expressed his country's commitment to promoting sustainable development through the promulgation of decrees and laws aimed at protecting the environment.
28. Additionally, the representative of Mali expressed his country's commitment to environmental protection by organizing various training courses for entities working in that field. He noted the lack of adequate legal frameworks in our States and called on States to implement the decisions of the Bamako Convention.
29. The Senegalese declaration focused on the implementation of the decisions of the Bamako Convention and the necessary payment of country contributions.
30. The representative of the DRC mentioned a great lack of framework and other instruments related to the fight against hazardous waste.
31. The representative of Gambia indicated that the country had taken steps to manage waste and had acceded to various conventions and called for everyone's commitment to this struggle.
32. Then, the representative of Ethiopia thanked Côte d'Ivoire for accepting to organize this conference, adding that the protection of Africa against this waste is only aimed at promoting the best interests of our populations and our ecosystem. His country's ratification of the Convention shows its commitment to the issue.
33. The representative (Minister) then made his statement. He noted that Africa is suffering from the adverse effects of hazardous waste. The country has taken a number of actions, including: the enactment of laws to combat hazardous waste and the adoption of an anti-pollution police force; the establishment of legal instruments to combat hazardous waste; the creation of recycling facilities for batteries, cells, hazardous waste and others; the development of national regulations and the strengthening of hazardous waste management entities and instruments.
34. In the same vein, the representative of Angola pointed out that his country had adopted resolutions aimed at combating hazardous waste, namely: the implementation of various regulations on the management of waste from cities, hospitals and other spaces; the deployment of efforts to promote environmental protection instruments; he called for cooperation in that regard; and the organization of training courses for the entities involved.

35. Statement by ECOWAS as observers: after the customary acknowledgements, its representative insisted on the opening of vast projects in the field of hazardous waste, the regional strategy to combat hazardous waste; he welcomed this meeting and called for concrete recommendations to be formulated. He underscored the strengthening of the secretariat; establishment of implementation mechanisms; and partnerships to achieve the objectives. He invited all countries to implement the Bamako Convention and lay the foundations for future implementation of the decisions.
36. The statements by IPEN, BAN and CREP underlined that the Bamako Convention suffers from a problem of implementation at the country level; these entities called on governments to translate into action the declarations and expectations of this meeting by working in collaboration with the Convention Secretariat.
37. A total of 15 statements were made, 13 by country Parties and 2 by non-Party countries.

Item 5: Matters relating to the implementation of the Convention

5.1 Report by the secretariat on the implementation of the Convention since COP1.

38. The conclusion is that to date 25 countries have ratified the Convention and 29 have signed it. Similarly, 23 decisions were adopted, among which COP1 formally established the secretariat and decided to host it in the United Nations system; UNEP authorized the hosting of the Secretariat of the Convention under Resolution 1/16 of UNEP, with the Executive Director acting as Secretariat.
39. It was also decided to designate national focal points and national entities: 19 out of 25 Parties submitted information to the secretariat on actions taken in this regard; countries that have not yet done so are urged to submit information on the designation of national focal points and entities.
40. The secretariat promoted the Convention at the various international meetings by organizing side events, among other things at the last meeting of the CMAE.
41. Capacity-building activities were organized, notably in conjunction with SADEC and ECOWAS; these types of actions will be intensified.
42. The costed work plan for the two-year period was adopted at COP1 but could not be fully implemented; the budget could not be assembled to implement the work plan, which hampered the implementation of the work plan. The Revolving Fund and Trust Fund are still awaiting pledged contributions.

5.2 Strategic Repositioning of the Convention

43. Following the discussions, it was agreed that the focus should be on concrete proposals for moving forward and meeting the challenges. There can be no repositioning of the Convention without genuine ownership of the Convention. On this point, there was unanimous agreement on the identification of a country as headquarters.
44. Gambia insisted on the proposal that the Headquarters of the Convention should be returned to Mali so that the Secretariat would be functional and endowed with resources; the repositioning of the Convention was based on the Cop1 and the decisions of the Cop2. In order to do so, it is necessary to reappropriate the Convention, keeping in mind the principle that an African country should host its headquarters, and the Minister of the Environment of Mali

hoped that before the next COP, this proposal would be examined in conjunction with UN Environment.

45. The second day's meeting was adjourned after the adoption of the Abidjan Ministerial Declaration: Abidjan Declaration on 'The Bamako Convention: A Platform for a Pollution-Free Africa'. The Declaration is attached as an annex to the report.

DAY TWO

46. The proceedings of the second day, on Wednesday, 31 January, began at 9:35 a.m. by Mrs. KABA NASSÉRE, Chief of Staff, representing the Minister of Sanitation, Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d'Ivoire, Mrs. Anne OULOTO.
47. The day before, four (4) contact groups had been established, as announced by the secretariat:
 - **Contact Group 1:** Chaired by Niger, this group was responsible for discussing the work programme, decisions to be taken and budget and finance issues.
 - **Contact Group 2:** Chaired by Gabon, the task of this group is to discuss issues related to strengthening the implementation of the Convention, synergies with other multilateral treaties and other initiatives and will decide on issues related to the visibility of the Convention.
 - **Contact Group 3:** Chaired by Egypt, the task of this group is to discuss technical assistance issues concerning the implementation of the Convention and, more specifically, challenges and opportunities.
 - **Contact Group 4:** Chaired by Cameroon, this group is responsible for discussing issues relating to the terms of reference of the extraordinary meeting, the modalities for establishing the secretariat and the strategic framework for the implementation of relevant resolutions on the Convention secretariat.
48. The Contact groups worked in breakout session before reporting to the Plenary.
49. After a period of work just before the lunch break, all groups gathered in the large conference room to listen to the presentation of the Environmental Audit Report on Probo Koala. It should be noted that this report was presented by Mrs. Silja HALLE, UN Environment Project Coordinator on Probo Koala. The excellent news from this report was that to date no site exceeds the limits for decontamination and that at this stage these sites do not pose a danger to the population. Waste dumping by the ship Probo Koala affected 12 sites, 100,000 people. This dumping resulted in some immediate government action to save the lives of the populations. These measures are as follows:
 - ✓ Schools closure;
 - ✓ Prohibition of fishing activities in the lagoon;
 - ✓ Launching of clean-up processes; and
 - ✓ Monitoring of affected sites.The audit project was carried out in three (3) phases, namely:
 - ✓ Outlining;
 - ✓ Field work;

✓ Laboratory analysis and report writing.

50. A total of 21 sites were involved, including 18 sites examined and 3 control sites. During this audit 130 samples were taken. According to the Project Coordinator, this work shed light on other sites that do not bear the Probo Koala signature. These include the corn composting site in Agboville where chromium was discovered, the Akouédo site, which is a municipal landfill showing signs of pollution, to which attention must be paid when it is closed, and the site in the Koumassi industrial zone where air and water pollution are noted. Some of the recommendations stemming from this audit include the following:

- Close monitoring of the populations affected by the dumping of toxic waste in 2006 in order to determine whether public health measures still need to be taken;
- Further evaluation and close monitoring of the Agboville site, maintaining restrictions on public access to the site, and the installation of signs warning the public not to collect grass or vegetables growing on these lands;
- Due diligence for the dismantling of Akouédo Municipal Dump, which has long been under consideration for closure. In the meantime, UN Environment recommends that consideration be given to restrictions on use, particularly for on-site agriculture;
- A comprehensive environmental assessment of the area as a basis for an action plan to mitigate public health impacts. UN Environment also urges the government to ensure that workers have personal protective equipment and are trained in occupational health;
- Examination of a representative selection of cases of origin
- Implementation of a health monitoring program to understand and address the possible long-term health effects of exposure to toxic waste in 2006.

51. With regard to these recommendations, the Project Coordinator and her team are available to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for support in collaboration with WHO.

52. Following the presentation, the Project Coordinator responded to the concerns of three delegates, namely Cameroon, who asked how the audit team was able to distinguish between Probo Koala and household waste substances. The representative of Benin asked whether the consequences of the substances released by Probo Koala still remained and the representative of Senegal asked for an idea on the nature of the substances released. For the first question, the Project Coordinator indicated that these results were obtained through analyses carried out in accredited laboratories in Europe. As for the second question, she indicated that to date none of the sites present any danger to the population and that her mission does not have a mandate to determine the consequences and that it is the responsibility of Côte d'Ivoire authorities to turn to health experts regarding this issue. With regard to the third question, Mrs. Anne OULOTO, Minister of Sanitation, Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d'Ivoire, responded by outlining the scandal of the dumping and the initiatives taken by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to improve the living conditions of the population. These initiatives include the following:

- Closure of the Akouédo site;
- Clean-up mechanism for the Agboville and Koumassi sites;
- Creation of a watchdog committee (chaired by His Excellency the Prime Minister);
- Creation of an inter-ministerial Committee, all within the framework of the Abidjan city sanitation programme.

DAY THREE

Item 6: Report of the Credential Committee

The Credential Committee, after reviewing the accreditations of the various participants, recommended that the Conference apply the following criteria:

- Accreditation signed by States, Heads of State, Heads of Government or Ministers of Foreign Affairs or those contained in a note verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs must be accepted;
- Accreditations signed or emanating from communications made by a Minister or Minister of Foreign Affairs cannot be accepted;
- Accreditation contained in a note verbale, signed e-mail or fax must be accepted;
- Any document signed by the Head, Director General, Secretary General or President of an organization must be accepted;

After considering the criteria recommended by the Credential Committee, the Conference adopted the report of the above-mentioned Committee.

Item 7: Report by chairpersons on the proceedings of contact groups

In their presentation, they focused on:

- The summary of the Extraordinary Ministers Meeting;
- Additional discussion on how to establish the Secretariat;
- The Strategic framework for the implementation of resolutions concerning the establishment of the Convention Secretariat.

Summary report by chairpersons

Contact group 1

- It was noted that not all activities had been fully implemented; at this level, it was proposed that a working group be established to manage and disseminate information effectively and coordinate the ratification of the Convention, manage assessments and country contributions. Assessments and contributions have been shared at 60 per cent for States and 40 per cent for voluntary contributions. The group proposed a minimum programme of work, which will break down the contributions to 50% each to allow countries to pay the contributions.
53. The group made the recommendations as follows:
- Appoint 2 officers to handle the work and provide a budget for COP 3 session
 - Raising the COP 3 budget
 - Conduct a study to find out why there has been such a delay since the creation of the Convention

Contact group 2

Members of this group made the following recommendation:

- Collaborate with Sub-regional Integration Organizations for stakeholder capacity building (decision makers, informal sector, port authorities, consumers, NGOs, civil society, private sector) in hazardous waste management;
- Encourage sub-regional organizations to set up networks for exchanging information on hazardous waste and alerting on illegal traffic;

- Encourage the exchange of information between the Bamako Convention, the International Energy Agency and other relevant organizations on radioactive materials and hazardous chemicals;
- Collaborate with the secretariats of relevant multilateral agreements for the integration of poison emergency centres into national health and development plans;
- Work with the Regional Economic Communities to harmonize the methodological approach for the development of extended producer responsibility;
- Collaborate with regional organizations in the development of regional hazardous waste management projects;
- Collaborate to harmonize policies, strategies, plans and regulations for hazardous waste management;
- Capitalize on existing implementation strategies in Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS);
- Develop a partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on radioactive waste management.
- Make use of existing databases, guides and technical guidelines, platforms and expertise in the field of hazardous and radioactive waste management at national and regional level;
- Develop public/private partnerships in the management of hazardous waste.
- Strengthen partnerships and mechanisms for technical cooperation between States and United Nations organizations in the field of awareness-raising campaigns aimed at politicians and decision makers in countries and sub-regional organizations to encourage the implementation of the Bamako Convention and the allocation of resources to hazardous waste management activities;
- Establish databases and knowledge management platforms on hazardous waste at the national and sub-regional levels;
- Encourage the establishment of regional infrastructure for the treatment and disposal of hazardous waste;
- Develop regulations to make Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) mandatory;
- Raise awareness of the environmental and health benefits of complying with the provisions of the Bamako Convention and the practical opportunities that could be created in all African countries and disseminate relevant information to national stakeholders through the organization of feedback workshops, exchange visits, platforms.

The Secretariat was recommended to:

- Develop cooperation with sub-regional organizations, regional research institutes and NRBC-EU centres of excellence in the field of hazardous waste management;
- Strengthen, promote and cooperate with international law enforcement networks, including existing illegal trafficking control networks, to prevent transboundary movements of waste across the borders of States Parties;
- Set up a monitoring and warning system for hazardous waste;
- Disseminate information on illicit traffic in hazardous waste to States Parties;
- Strengthen existing networks (such as the EU, UN Environment, Africa Network) on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous and radioactive waste;

- Develop a partnership with regional centres (BRS) and NRBC-EU centres of excellence in training.

Contact group 3

54. Members of this group discussed the seven items in the 'work plan' table. From the work, the following synthesis was made on each point:
- Countries at the Convention differ in terms of capacity building. It is proposed to support countries on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the actual level of capacity building in each country;
 - With regard to the management, dissemination and exchange of information, it is suggested that an implementation mechanism be created to better equip countries that are still lagging behind;
 - Item 4: With regard to collaboration with the Basel Convention and related institutions, an analysis of the possible contribution of regional centres to the implementation of the Bamako Convention shows that there may still be a crucial problem arising from the fact that some countries that have ratified the Basel, Rotterdam and other Conventions have not yet ratified the Bamako Convention. It is therefore recommended that the Convention Bureau raise awareness and encourage these countries to ratify the Bamako Convention;
55. In addition to the other issues dealt with in the Basel Convention, radioactive waste should be included; at the end of the discussions, it was retained:
- o The need for the Secretariat to enter into negotiations with the IAEA;
 - o The formulation of an output to clearly highlight this specificity of the Bamako Convention;
56. It is necessary to set up an alert mechanism between countries in the event of spill attempts to involve all parties effectively concerned by the implementation of the Convention (Marpol, IAEA, the private sector, Interpol, etc.), in order to enable them to provide immediate information on potential illegal activities; 'red alert.'
57. It is suggested that a new item be created to deal with the elaboration of guides on the implementation of the Bamako Convention, taking into account the partnerships to be established with the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Minamata Conventions and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
58. At the conclusion of its work, Contact Group 3 made the following recommendations:
- To group activities according to their similarity, in order to reduce the costs of their implementation;
 - To designate the Focal Points and forward their names to the Secretariat of the Convention

Contact group 4

59. After their activities, this particular group proposed that the COP 3 should last three days and be financed by the States Parties and the Secretariat, which will seek other funds. It also proposed the creation of national platforms, taking into account the decisions of the Convention and making arrangements for the secretariat's accommodation in Mali. This group proposed to grant discharge to the secretariat to carry out activities for the implementation of the Convention. This group is calling for the appointment of key individuals with the same status as UN Environment staff.

60. With regard to the Convention's brand identity, this group considered all options and proposed to keep options 2C of the brand identity but requested that changes be made to the triangle on the logo and also requested to review the guidelines and establish a team to take stock of the Convention within 20 years and prepare a draft on declarations.

61. After this feedback, the groups went in breakout sessions again.

Item 8: Date and venue of third meeting of the Conference of Parties

62. The Conference of the Parties, taking into account items 5 and 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties, decided that COP 3 would be held in the DRC in February 2020 in Brazzaville, while the extraordinary COP would be held in February 2019 in Khartoum, Sudan.

Item 9: Miscellaneous

63. No issue was discussed under this item.

Item 10: Adoption of the meeting's report and conclusions

64. The report of the meeting, as read by the representative of Ethiopia, was considered and adopted by the Parties. The adopted final report will be circulated after the close of the meeting. The Abidjan Declaration, as adopted, is attached as Annexe I to this report; similarly, the decisions considered and adopted by the Conference of the Parties are attached as Annexe II to this report.

Item 11: Conclusion of the meeting

Messages by participants

65. Before closing the meeting, the chairperson—Her Excellency Ms Anne OULOTO—invited the various participants (country Parties, non-Parties and observers) to make their closing remarks on item 10 of the agenda. The Minister representing Mali, who congratulated all participants on the work accomplished and expressed her country's thanks for the designation of Mali as a country to host the headquarters of the Convention.

66. Cameroon expressed its thanks to UN Environment and the organizing country for revitalizing the Bamako Convention and urged all other countries to ensure that Africa is not a hazardous waste dump.

67. The Representative of Burundi thanked the outgoing and incoming Officers and reassured everyone about Burundi's commitment to promote the Convention.

68. The representative of Congo commended the leadership of the Officers, stressing the relevance of the theme and Congo's determination to ensure that the decisions are implemented.

69. The representative of Gabon expressed his thanks to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, adding that if the Conference had been held and had achieved convincing results it is thanks to the determination of the participants, who are all to be commended.

70. The representative of Senegal thanked the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and encouraged the Minister of the Environment of Mali, the country hosting the headquarters of the Convention; she was pleased to have participated in this meeting and said that her country takes note of the decisions taken by the Parties;

71. The representative of Niger then praised the women's leadership, especially the outgoing president and the current president for their actions in favour of revitalizing the Convention.

72. After him, the delegate of Mauritius thanked the organizers and invited those States that had not yet done so to ratify the Convention because Africa is one continent; he hoped that the island States (Mauritius, Seychelles, Cabo Verde and Comoros) would receive more attention.
73. The representative of Egypt welcomed the Ivorian hospitality and the very successful organization of the meeting.
74. Sudan expressed its gratitude to all for the quality of the deliberations and conclusions and expressed its enthusiasm for the organization of the next meeting in Khartoum.

Messages by Observers

75. ECOWAS congratulated the Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for the perfect organization of the conference; it stressed that ECOWAS was attentive to the decisions taken, particularly those relating to regional organizations and reiterated ECOWAS' commitment to work with all.
76. The representative of Sierra Leone was impressed with the work and promised that his country would join others in becoming a State party to the Convention.
77. The representative of the Basel Convention Regional Centre congratulated Côte d'Ivoire for its leadership in organizing this meeting; on behalf of the directors of regional centres, she expressed her appreciation to the United Nations Environment Programme for its involvement in capacity building in the implementation of the various Basel, Stockholm and other conventions.
78. Speaking on behalf of his absent Minister, the representative of Gambia took the floor to underline his pleasant surprise at the enthusiasm of the participants despite the difficulties. For him, this momentum, fuelled by the quality of the facilities provided and the management of the meeting by the organizers, deserves to be highlighted and continued.
79. Speaking on behalf of the Executive Director of the UN Environment, Ms Juliette Biao, Regional Director of UNEP, speaking on behalf of the Executive Director of the UN Environment, who believed that toxic colonialism should be brought to an end, expressed her appreciation at the end of the meeting for the progress made. She recalled the high points of the second Conference of the Parties, namely: the commitment of delegates to make Africa a clean continent and to provide the Convention with a Secretariat; to this she added the publication of the encouraging results of the studies on the Probo Koala. She indicated that the decisions of this conference are in line with the conclusions of the 3rd United Nations Environment Assembly held in Nairobi from 4 to 6 December 2017. She concluded by thanking the Government and people of Côte d'Ivoire and the delegates for their commitment.
80. Finally, it was up to the Chairperson, Her Excellency Ms Anne OULOTO, to deliver the closing address of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on **Thursday, 1 February 2018** at 9:37 p.m.
81. In her closing address, after thanking all the speakers, donors, participants and other stakeholders for their contingent of ideas and contributions of various kinds, she stressed that the Convention signals the willingness of Africans to protect their continent from hazardous waste and hailed the innovative solutions found to achieve a pollution-free Africa. Finally, she expressed pride in the continued interest of participants throughout the meeting.

ANNEX I

Abidjan Declaration on 'The Bamako Convention: A Platform for Pollution Free Africa'

We, the Ministers responsible for environmental affairs from 25 Parties and other heads of delegation,

Having met at Ivoire Golf Club, in Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan on 30 January 2018 on the occasion of 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 (hereinafter referred to as "Bamako Convention") under the theme of "The Bamako Convention: A platform for a Pollution Free Africa",

Appreciating the hospitality and generosity extended to delegations to the second Conference of the Parties by the host country, namely, the Government and people of Côte d'Ivoire,

Having further reviewed a number of issues pertaining to the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention, decisions adopted at its first meeting held at Bamako in June 2013 as well as those adopted at its Informal Consultative Meeting held at Nairobi in June 2016 and further underlined the importance of the Bamako Convention for Africa and reaffirmed our commitment to its implementation,

Taking note of the Bamako Declaration on protection of Africa against illegal dumping of Hazardous wastes (Bamako Declaration of 26 June 2013),

Appreciating the Note from the Secretariat on "Twenty years of the Bamako Convention: A Time for a more effective implementation" and the contents therein including the recommendations made,

Further appreciating with thanks the offer made by the Government of Mali to host the permanent secretariat of the Bamako Convention and taking note that the Government has been consistent on its offer since the first Conference of the Parties in June 2013, repeated at the Informal Consultative Meeting in June 2016 and reconfirmed again at the second Conference of the Parties in 2018,

Appreciating further the role that has been and continue to be played by the United Nations Environment Programme in providing the needed secretariat support and services to the Bamako Convention,

Considering that the Bamako Convention celebrates twenty years since it entered into force in 1998, and thus an appropriate period to review progress made in its implementation, its

effectiveness, challenges faced and its readiness to address emerging and more complex hazardous wastes,

Taking into account that the review process will lead to the repositioning of the Bamako Convention and ensure it aligns itself appropriately with relevant existing chemical related instruments, such as, chemical and wastes related conventions and frameworks such as, Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) as well as 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 2063 African Union Strategic Agenda and the UN Environment Assembly resolutions adopted at its third session, to mention but a few,

While appreciating that some progress has been made in the implementation of the Bamako Convention, also raised concerns on the limited progress made thus far on its implementation by most of the Parties as well as lack of resources from the Parties to support and facilitate its implementation both at national and regional level,

Noting with concern the content of the Note from the Secretariat on its report on the status of implementation of the Bamako Convention as well as adopted past decisions that no resources have been available from the Parties for the implementation of the approved costed programme of work leading to poor implementation of the Bamako Convention,

Acknowledging the organic relation with the Basel Convention and considering the magnitude of challenges caused by the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes within the coasts of Africa and the opportunities that exist to enforce the ban on the import of hazardous wastes into Africa and thus protect human health and the environment contributing to the sound management of chemicals and wastes in Africa,

Welcoming the outcomes of the third session of the UN Environment Assembly held in Nairobi in December 2017 under the banner of “Towards a Pollution-Free Planet” which is directly relevant to theme of the second Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the theme, “The Bamako Convention: A platform for a Pollution Free Africa”,

Welcoming further the adoption of eleven resolutions plus a negotiated Ministerial Declaration by the UN Environment Assembly, all of which provide adequate scientific tools as well as a framework for developing national policy and legislative instruments to deal with various forms of, *inter alia*, ocean pollution and inclusive approaches to protect the planet from pollution and prevent or avoid activities that generate pollution which threatens humanity and planet as well as impacting upon the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention,

Re-iterating the outcomes of the sixteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) held in June 2017 that urged non-parties to the Bamako Convention to ratify or accede to the Convention; and requested Parties to the Bamako Convention that have not yet informed the Secretariat of the designation or establishment of their competent

authorities, focal point and dump watch to do so as soon as possible and to nominate competent experts to the Legal and Technical Working Group and to the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Liabilities and Compensation;

Acknowledging that the objectives, aspirations and actions for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention goes beyond its related global Basel Convention, nonetheless promoting cooperation, collaboration and synergies with it as well as other related chemical conventions will further foster and promote effective implementation of the Bamako Convention,

Welcoming the convening of the third Inter-Ministerial Conference on Health and Environment for the implementation of the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa aimed at catalysing policy, institutional and investment changes required to reduce environmental threats to human health, to be held in Libreville, Gabon in 2018,

Welcoming the Libreville Declaration to support effective implementation at national, sub-regional and regional level of mechanisms for enforcing compliance with international conventions and national regulations to protect populations from health threats related to the environment, including accession to and implementation of the Bamako Convention by those countries that have not yet done so,

Appreciating the role-played and work undertaken by the UN Environment Programme in continuing to serve as the Secretariat of the Bamako Convention and supporting its effective implementation as well as of decisions taken by its bodies,

Appreciating further the financial and technical support and assistance received from UN Environment Programme as well as from the donor community for the implementation of Bamako Convention,

Thus, agreeing to take necessary measures and actions as soon as feasible to guarantee effective implementation of the Bamako Convention, decisions taken at its first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, also at its Informal Consultative Meeting as well as during this second Conference of the Parties,

Therefore, we commit:

1. **To reaffirm and renew** our political commitment towards a platform for a pollution-free Africa through our support for the implementation of the Bamako Convention as our contribution to achieving sustainable development goals for 2030 Agenda and sound management of chemicals and wastes;
2. **To reaffirm** our ambition proclaimed in Bamako on 26 June 2013 to protect vulnerable groups including children and poor communities from negative impacts resulting from unsafe chemical use and unsound waste disposal, and to prevent Africa to become a dumping ground for toxic wastes through

an effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;

3. **To ensure** that the permanent secretariat for the Bamako Convention is established as soon as possible and in this regard, we wholeheartedly accept the offer extended by the Government of Mali to host our secretariat in Bamako, Mali. Consequently, we request the Government of Mali and the current Secretariat of the Bamako Convention to develop a roadmap, with inputs from the Parties, for the establishment of the permanent secretariat and report its status at the Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held, in accordance with Rule 6 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Bamako Convention, in Sudan in early 2019;
4. **To further ensure** that the secretariat functions and activities for the implementation of the Bamako Convention transition soon to its permanent secretariat location in Bamako, Mali. In the meantime, we request the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to provide the secretariat support and services it has been providing as authorized by its governing body based on our request, the UN Environment Assembly in June 2016;
5. **To guarantee** that the Secretariat is well endowed with adequate human and financial resources required to support and accelerate, in collaboration with the Parties, effective implementation of the costed programme of work, when approved;
6. **To ensure** that our agreed assessed contributions to the budget for the implementation of the Bamako Convention as well as accrued arrears are fully paid and on time;
7. **To take** concerted measures individually as Parties and jointly together to fund raise for the prioritized activities for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention. To this end, we request the secretariat in cooperation with the Parties to develop a fundraising strategy which can be used by both the Secretariat and the Parties to fund raise for the national as well as regional activities necessary for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;
8. **To ensure** that the Bamako Convention is well repositioned to meet the current challenges faced by the Bamako Convention and in this regard, request the Executive Secretary of the current Secretariat to nominate and/or designate a dedicated focal point to work and collaborate on a regular and continuous basis with the Parties, non-Parties and partners in supporting the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;
9. **To guarantee and secure** a total ban of imports to Africa and control of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, we urge those countries in Africa not yet parties to the Bamako Convention to see its merit and ratify or acceded to it;
10. **To develop and/or review and update** national strategies, policies, legal, administrative and institutional frameworks as well as action plans necessary for the domestication of the Bamako Convention and its effective

implementation;

11. **To designate/nominate**, if not yet done so, national focal point(s) for the implementation of the Bamako Convention as well as national experts to serve in different subsidiary bodies established by the Conference of the Parties for specific purposes and to inform and update the Secretariat of such nomination or any changes to existing focal points;
12. **To promote** coherence and synergies between the Bamako Convention and other chemical and hazardous wastes related conventions, in collaboration with relevant secretariats, to conduct joint capacity development and capacity-building activities including training, research programmes and awareness raising;
13. **To further enhance**, advocate and promote cooperation as well as develop stronger partnerships with relevant partners, such as the regional economic communities and Regional Basel Convention Centres for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;
14. **To fully engage** with relevant global sound management of chemicals and wastes and intensify efforts to achieve by 2020 the goal for the environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle with Bamako Convention serving as an implementation tool for the achievement of the sustainable development goals and protection of human health and the environment as underlined in SAICM;
15. **To take** concrete actions needed for the implementation of the decisions which we have adopted at past as well as present Conference of the Parties and call for their adequate and coherent implementation;
16. **To consider** holding an extraordinary Conference of the Parties before the next ordinary session, in accordance with Rules 6 (1) and 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Bamako Convention Conference of the Parties, to reposition the Bamako Convention for its rigour implementation as well as to discuss and agree on the roadmap for the establishment of the permanent secretariat for the Bamako Convention in Bamako, Mali;
17. **To accept and thank** for the offers extended by the Governments of Sudan and the Republic of Congo, through their ministers, to host the Extraordinary Conference of the Parties in early 2019 as well as the third Conference of the Parties in 2020 respectively at the dates to be determined in due course;
18. **We call upon** the second Conference of the Parties to Bamako Convention held at Côte d'Ivoire from 31 January to 1 February 2018, to take into account this Declaration in its work and deliberations;
19. **We also request** the Secretariat of the Bamako Convention to include this Declaration as part of the report of the Conference, and to collaborate with Parties, relevant international organizations and stakeholders to advance a platform for pollution-free Africa and update us at our next Conference of the

Parties.

ANNEX II

A) **Draft decision on Parties Assessed Contributions to the Revolving Fund for emergency situations**

The Conference of 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 (Bamako Convention):

Considering the Financial Rules for the administration of the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa (Bamako Convention) adopted by the first session of the Conference of Parties;

Noting the establishment by the first session of the Conference of Parties of a Revolving Fund for Assistance in case of Emergency situations, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 3 of the Bamako Convention;

Further Noting the adoption by the Conference of the scale of assessments for the biennium 2018–2019

Hereby:

1. **Adopts** the Parties Assessed contributions to the Revolving Fund for Assistance in case of Emergency situations annexed hereto (Annexe I);
2. **Requests** States Parties to pay their contributions in full within thirty days of the receipt of the communication from the Executive Secretary requesting the payment of contributions.

Parties Assessed contributions the Revolving Fund.

No	Parties	Scale of assessment (%)	Parties Assessed contributions to the Revolving Fund (in USD)
1	Benin	1,118	27,959.030
2	Burkina Faso	1.619614	40,490.350
3	Burundi	0.366482	9,162.050
4	Cameroon	3.444931	86,123.270
5	Chad	2.227265	55,681.620
6	Cote d'Ivoire	7.0932	177,330.000
7	Comoros	0.087483	2,187.070
8	Congo	1.81113	45,278.260
9	Democratic Republic of Congo	3.518227	87,955.680
10	Egypt	28.3728	709,320.000
11	Ethiopia	9.4576	236,440.000
12	Gabon	2.589018	64,725.450
13	Gambia	0.113491	2,837.280
14	Libya	7.707944	192,698.600
15	Mali	1.463564	36,589.090
16	Mozambique	2.059392	51,484.810
17	Mauritius	1.605428	40,135.690
18	Niger	0.997777	24,944.420
19	Senegal	1.98846	49,711.510
20	Sudan	7.854537	196,363.420
21	Tanzania	3.915446	97,886.160
22	Togo	0.584007	14,600.170
23	Tunisia	5.530332	138,258.290
24	Uganda	2.69778	67,444.510
25	Zimbabwe	1.775664	44,391.610
	Total	100,000	2,499,998.340

Decision on the date and venue of the 3rd Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Prohibition of Importation into Africa and on the Control of Transboundary Movements and Management of Hazardous Wastes Produced in Africa (Bamako Convention):

Recalling Article 15.1 of the Bamako Convention on the Prohibition of the Import into Africa of Hazardous Wastes and on the Control of Transboundary Movements and Management of Hazardous Wastes Produced in Africa;

Bearing in mind Rules 2, 3, 5 and 8 of the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Conference;

Taking note of the proposal by the Democratic Republic of the Congo to host the third Conference of the Parties:

Considering the unanimous support for this proposal by delegates to the Second Conference of the Parties

Herewith:

Requests the Secretariat to convene the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties in February 2020 in Brazzaville, DRC, subject to formal confirmation by that Party.

B) Decision on the brand identity of the Bamako Convention

The Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Prohibition of Importation into Africa and on the Control of Transboundary Movements and Management of Hazardous Wastes Produced in Africa (Bamako Convention):

Considering that it is essential that the Bamako Convention had a unique and recognizable identity in order to enable target audiences to understand the objectives and activities of the Bamako Convention;

Considering further that a visual identity of the Bamako Convention will promote its visibility and identification among a public not adequately informed;

Taking note of the proposals made by the Secretariat of the Bamako Convention,

Herewith:

1. *Decides* that the Bamako Convention shall be identified by the attached visual image 2C.

D) Draft Decision on ‘The Bamako Convention: A Platform for Pollution Free Africa’

The Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes within Africa (Bamako Convention):

Having met at Ivoire Golf Club, in Côte d’Ivoire, Abidjan on 30 January 2018 on the occasion of the Second Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention under the theme of ‘The Bamako Convention: A Platform for Pollution Free Africa’,

Appreciating the hospitality and generosity extended to delegations to the second Conference of the Parties by the host country, namely, the Government and people of Côte d’Ivoire,

Having further reviewed a number of issues pertaining to the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention, decisions adopted at its first meeting held at Bamako in June 2013 as well as those adopted at its Informal Consultative Meeting held at Nairobi in June 2016 and further underlined the importance of the Bamako Convention for Africa and reaffirmed our commitment to its implementation,

Taking note of the Bamako Declaration on protection of Africa against illegal dumping of hazardous wastes (Bamako Declaration of 26 June 2013),

Appreciating the Note from the Secretariat on ‘Twenty years of the Bamako Convention: A Time for a more effective implementation’ and the contents therein including the recommendations made,

Further appreciating with thanks the offer made by the Government of Mali to host the permanent secretariat of the Bamako Convention and taking note that the Government has been consistent on its offer since the first Conference of the Parties in June 2013, repeated at the Informal Consultative Meeting in June 2016 and reconfirmed again at the second Conference of the Parties in 2018,

Appreciating further the role that has been and continues to be played by the United Nations Environment Programme in providing the needed secretariat support and services to the Bamako Convention,

Considering that the Bamako Convention celebrates twenty years since it entered into force in 1998, and thus an appropriate period to review progress made in its implementation, its effectiveness, challenges faced and its readiness to address emerging and more complex hazardous wastes,

Taking into account that the review process will lead to the repositioning of the Bamako Convention and ensure it aligns itself appropriately with relevant existing chemical related instruments, such as chemicals and wastes related conventions and frameworks such as Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) as well as 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 2063 African Union Strategic Agenda and the UN Environment Assembly resolutions adopted at its third session, to mention but a few,

While appreciating that some progress has been made in the implementation of the Bamako Convention, also raised concerns on the limited progress made thus far on its implementation by most of the Parties as well as lack of resources from the Parties to support and facilitate its implementation both at national and regional level,

Noting with concern the content of the Note from the secretariat on its report on the status of the implementation of the Bamako Convention as well as adopted past decisions that no resources have been available from the Parties for the implementation of the approved costed programme of work leading to poor implementation of the Bamako Convention,

Acknowledging the organic relation with the Basel Convention and considering the magnitude of challenges caused by the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes within the coasts of Africa and the opportunities that exist to enforce the ban on the import of hazardous wastes into Africa and thus protect human health and the environment contributing to the sound management of chemicals and wastes in Africa,

Welcoming the outcomes of the third session of the UN Environment Assembly held in Nairobi in December 2017 under the banner of ‘Towards a Pollution-Free Planet’ which is directly relevant to the theme of the second Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the theme, ‘The Bamako Convention: A Platform for Pollution Free Africa’,

Welcoming further the adoption of eleven resolutions plus a negotiated Ministerial Declaration by the UN Environment Assembly, all of which provide adequate scientific tools as well as a framework for developing national policy and legislative instruments to deal with various forms of, *inter alia*, ocean pollution and inclusive approaches to protect the planet from pollution and prevent or avoid activities that generate pollution which threatens humanity and planet as well as impacting upon the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention,

Reiterating the outcomes of the sixteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) held in June 2017 that urged non-parties to the Bamako Convention to

ratify or accede to the Convention; and requested Parties to the Bamako Convention that have not yet informed the Secretariat of the designation or establishment of their competent authorities, focal point and dump watch to do so as soon as possible and to nominate competent experts to the Legal and Technical Working Group and to the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Liabilities and Compensation;

Acknowledging that the objectives, aspirations and actions for effective implementation of the Bamako Convention goes beyond its related global Basel Convention, nonetheless promoting cooperation, collaboration and synergies with it as well as other chemical related conventions will further foster and promote effective implementation of the Bamako Convention,

Welcoming the convening of the third Inter-Ministerial Conference on Health and Environment for the implementation of the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa aimed at catalyzing policy, institutional and investment changes required to reduce environmental threats to human health, to be held in Libreville, Gabon in 2018,

Welcoming the Libreville Declaration to support effective implementation at national, sub-regional and regional level of mechanisms for enforcing compliance with international conventions and national regulations to protect populations from health threats related to the environment, including accession to and implementation of the Bamako Convention by those countries that have not yet done so,

Appreciating the role-played and work undertaken by the UN Environment Programme in continuing to serve as the Secretariat of the Bamako Convention and supporting its effective implementation as well as of decisions taken by its bodies,

Appreciating further the financial and technical support and assistance received from UN Environment Programme as well as from the donor community for the implementation of Bamako Convention,

Thus, agreeing to take necessary measures and actions as soon as feasible to guarantee effective implementation of the Bamako Convention, decisions taken at its first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, also at its Informal Consultative Meeting as well as during this second Conference of the Parties,

Hereby:

1. ***Reaffirms and renews*** through their actions the political commitment made towards a platform for a pollution-free Africa through the support for the implementation of the Bamako Convention as the Parties' contribution to achieving sustainable development goals for 2030 Agenda and sound management of chemicals and wastes;
2. ***Reaffirms*** their ambition proclaimed in Bamako on 26 June 2013 to protect vulnerable groups including children and poor communities from negative impacts resulting from unsafe chemical use and unsound waste disposal, and to take actions to prevent Africa from becoming a dumping ground for toxic wastes through an effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;
3. ***Commits*** to contribute to the agreed budget for the implementation of the approved costed programme of work for the Bamako Convention;

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4. **Accepts and thanks** the offer extended by the Government of Mali, through its Minister, to host the Bamako Convention permanent secretariat at Bamako, Mali;
 5. **Requests** the Government of Mali and the current Secretariat of the Bamako Convention to develop a roadmap, with inputs from the Parties, for the establishment of the permanent secretariat and report its status at the Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held, in accordance with Rule 6 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Bamako Convention, in Sudan in early 2019;
 6. **Calls upon** the Government and Mali and the current secretariat to ensure that the secretariat functions and activities for the implementation of the Bamako Convention transition as soon as feasible to its permanent secretariat location in Bamako, Mali.
 7. **Requests** the United Nations Environment Programme to continue, in the meantime, to provide the secretariat support and services it has been providing as requested and authorized by its governing body;
 8. **Ensures** the secretariat is endowed with adequate human and financial resources required to support and accelerate, in collaboration with the Parties, effective implementation of the approved costed programme of work in collaboration with the Parties;
 9. **Calls upon** the Parties to pay their agreed assessed contributions to the budget for the implementation of the Bamako Convention as well as ensure that accrued arrears are fully paid and on time;
 10. **Further calls upon** the Parties to take concerted measures individually as Parties and jointly together to fund raise for the prioritized activities for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention. To this end, requests the secretariat, in cooperation with the Parties, to develop a fund-raising strategy to be used by both the Secretariat and the Parties to fund raise for the national as well as regional activities necessary for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;
 11. **Asks** the Parties to ensure that the Bamako Convention is well repositioned to meet its current challenges and in this regard, requests the Executive Secretary of the current Secretariat to nominate and/or designate a dedicated focal point to work and collaborate on a regular and continuous basis with the Parties, non-Parties and partners to support the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;
 12. **Guarantees and secures** through their national legal, institutional and administrative systems a total ban of imports hazardous chemicals and wastes into Africa and control of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes;
 13. **Urges** those countries that are not yet parties to the Bamako Convention to see its merit and ratify or accede to it as soon as feasible so as to join hands taking actions for the total ban of imports of hazardous chemicals and wastes into Africa;
 14. **Requests** the Parties to develop and/or review and update national strategies, policies, legal, administrative and institutional frameworks as well as action plans necessary for the domestication of the Bamako Convention and its effective implementation;
 15. **Appeals to** the Parties to designate and/or nominate, if not yet done so, national focal point(s) for the implementation of the Bamako Convention as well as national experts to serve in different

subsidiary bodies established by the Conferences of the Parties for specific purposes and to inform and update the Secretariat of such nomination or any changes to existing focal points;

16. **Calls upon** the Parties, the Secretariat and partners to promote coherence and synergies between the Bamako Convention and other chemical and hazardous wastes related conventions, in collaboration with relevant secretariats, to conduct joint capacity development and capacity-building activities including training, research programmes and awareness raising;

17. **Invites** the Parties and the Secretariat to enhance, advocate and promote cooperation as well as develop stronger partnerships with relevant partners, such as the regional economic communities and Regional Basel Convention Centres for the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;

18. **Urges** the Parties to engage with relevant global sound management of chemicals and wastes and intensify efforts to achieve by 2020 the goal for the environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle with Bamako Convention serving as an implementation tool for the achievement of the sustainable development goals and protection of human health and the environment in Africa as underlined in the Strategic Approach to the International Chemicals Management (SAICM);

19. **Calls upon** the Parties to undertake concrete actions and measures needed for the implementation of the decisions adopted at the past as well as present Conference of the Parties and call for their adequate and coherent implementation;

20. **Decides** to convene an extraordinary Conference of the Parties before the next ordinary session, in accordance with Rules 6 (1) and 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Bamako Convention Conference of the Parties, to reposition the Bamako Convention for its rigour implementation as well as to discuss and agree on the roadmap for the establishment of the permanent secretariat for the Bamako Convention in Bamako, Mali;

21. **Further decides** to accept and thank for the offers extended by the Governments of Sudan and the Republic of Congo, through their Ministers, to host the Extraordinary Conference of the Parties in early 2019 as well as the third Conference of the Parties in 2020 respectively at the dates to be determined in due course;

22. **Calls upon** the Secretariat to cooperation and support the Parties in their undertakings of the necessary national and regional actions and activities for the implementation of these and other decisions adopted at this Conference of the Parties;

23. **Invites** the Parties and partners to cooperate with each other, bilaterally and/or regionally, in the implementation of the activities envisaged under this decision;

24. **Requests** the relevant international and regional donor community to support their actions and activities for the implementation of this and other decisions adopted at this Conference of the Parties;

25. **Calls upon** the Parties to collaborate with relevant international, regional and national organizations and other stakeholders to advance the theme of the Conference of the Parties on ‘Bamako Convention – a platform for pollution-free Africa’;

26. **Requests** Parties to work with relevant international, regional and national organizations and other stakeholders to advance the theme of the Conference of the Parties on ‘The Bamako Convention – a platform for a pollution-free Africa’;

Requests Parties to report on the status of the implementation of this decision in their national reports, through the Secretariat, to the next Conference of the Parties.

E) Decision on the prevention of electronic hazardous waste and the import and dumping of end-of-life WEEE in Africa

The Conference:

Recognizing that Africa is one of the main destinations for e-waste from developed countries;

Aware that there is a lack of capacity and resources to address the issue of electrical and electronic waste in an environmentally sound manner in most African countries, which can lead to the dumping of hazardous substances that may harm human health and the environment;

Recalling that article 4.1 of the Bamako Convention on the Prohibition of the Import into Africa of Hazardous Wastes and on the Control of Transboundary Movements and Management of Hazardous Wastes Produced in Africa, which prohibits the import of all forms of hazardous wastes into the African continent;

Further recalling the decision on EE waste adopted by COP1

Further recognizing Article 2 of the Bamako Convention establishing a definition of hazardous waste which is more comprehensive than that of the Basel Convention and includes any waste containing any of the Annex I components, or having Annex II hazard characteristics;

Noting that the presence of heavy metals such as lead and mercury, and persistent organic pollutants including brominated flame retardants (BFRPs) in end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment or electronic waste, transforms them into hazardous waste, and into a priority flow of problematic and hazardous waste globally and in the region requiring urgent measures²

Reaffirming that defective or untested electronic equipment should be considered as hazardous waste and should not be imported into Africa;

Recognizing that even if an electronic appliance is not defined as waste because of its functionality, it may rapidly become waste after importation because of its poor condition or age, and therefore the importation of such electronic and electrical equipment close to its end-of-life must be strictly controlled by the Parties;

Aware that the amount of e-waste resulting from household consumption of electronic products is increasing rapidly in Africa and will also have a negative impact on health and the environment unless, as a matter of urgency, measures are taken to equip African regions and states with collection and recycling infrastructure;

Recalling that Africa¹ supported by Peru, moved to accept e-waste as an emerging global environmental policy issue at the second session of SAICM International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) in Geneva 2009 which was approved;

Remembering the Fourteenth session of AMCEN² Arusha Declaration in September 2012 on Africa's Post RIO+20 Strategy For Sustainable Development, which requested Member States individually or collectively to develop policies, guidelines, legislation and other strategies or mechanisms for the management of electrical and electronic wastes;

Further remembering the Pan African E waste Forum³ held in 14–16 March 2012 in Nairobi which made a 'Call for Action on E-waste in Africa' which set priority actions, and the views expressed in the Abuja Platform on E-waste created during the International Conference on E-waste Control held in Abuja, Nigeria, in July 2009;

Acknowledging with appreciation the Basel Convention E-waste Africa Project that was funded by the European Union, the United Kingdom, Norway and the Dutch Association for the Disposal of Metal and Electrical Products (the 'NVMP Foundation');

Noting the African Group's support for the interim adoption of the 'Technical guidelines on trans-boundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention' at the 12th Conference of the Parties, and the need to finish that Guideline to prevent e-waste trade under the pretext of exports for repairs and aid;

Appreciating that the problem of e-waste in Africa, remains very serious and threatens the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals if not acted upon with universal resolve;

Hereby:

1. *Urges*, Parties and other African states that have not already done so, to enhance or supplement existing legislation to prevent illegal and unwanted traffic in hazardous and other e-waste from entering their territory and the African Continent;
2. *Encourages*, Parties, and other African states to likewise create and adopt legislation for individual producer responsibility in the collection and environmentally sound recycling of domestic arising of e-waste in the Continent of Africa.
3. *Calls upon*, Parties and other African states that have not already done so to legally consider all non-functional or untested used electronic equipment as hazardous waste and prevent their importation into the African Continent.
4. *Calls also upon*, Parties, and other African states that have not already done so to adopt legislation to control the importation of near-end-of-life or unwanted equipment, inter alia by designating such equipment as hazardous waste;

¹Resolution II/4 on emerging policy issues adopted by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session, held in Geneva, Switzerland, 11 to 15 May 2009

² Fourteenth session of AMCEN Arusha Declaration on Post Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development September 2012.

³ UNEP Pan African e-Waste Forum on effective solutions to E-waste Problems in Africa

5. *Asks*, Parties and other African States to strengthen their capacity and institutions to implement all relevant measures on the prevention and control of transboundary movement of e-waste including participation in partnerships such as the Africa–European Union Network on the Prevention and Control of illegal import of e-waste from Europe into Africa, INECE, ENFORCE and others;
6. *Resolve*, to nationally and regionally undertake intense promotion and implementation of public education and awareness on the environmental and human health problems associated with the uncontrolled importation of e-waste while taking advantage of the economic opportunities including the creation of green jobs that may arise from the environmentally sound management of e-waste;
7. *Requests*, that the Basel Convention Regional Centres (BCRCs) and Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for the African Region (BCCC-Africa) actively engage in capacity building, awareness raising, pilot projects and consultancy activities on the environmentally sound management (ESM) of e-waste and the control of their transboundary movements, in order to leverage their regional and international expertise;
8. *Invites*, responsible electronics recyclers holding internationally accredited electronics recycling certifications to establish environmentally sound recycling operations in the African Continent for African generated e-waste, on a regional or national basis;
9. *Further invites*, the United Nations Environment Programme including the Joint Secretariat of Basel-Rotterdam–Stockholm Conventions, and other relevant intergovernmental, industry, and non-governmental organizations to fund and develop programs for capacity building and institutional strengthening to assist African states in the enhancement of export and import controls to prevent illegal traffic in e-waste and to establish environmentally sound management of domestic generation of e-waste in accordance with the foregoing decisions.
