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### ***COP3 to the Bamako Convention***

## **Third 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**

Brazzaville, Congo  
Ministerial Segment  
12 - 14 February 2020

Agenda item 5(a)(iv): **Identifying opportunities for enhancing the cooperation, collaboration and synergies with the Basel and other relevant conventions and frameworks**

### **Note by the Secretariat:**

#### **Introduction**

1. In their decision UNEP/BC/COP.2/4 on Synergies with other conventions and initiatives, the conference of Parties to the Bamako Convention requested Secretariat to:

- (a) (Cooperate with subregional organizations, regional research institutes and the European Union Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence in the field of hazardous waste management;
- (b) Strengthen, promote and cooperate with international law enforcement networks, including existing illegal traffic control networks, to prevent transboundary movements of waste across the borders of States parties;
- (c) Establish a watch and warn system on hazardous wastes;
- (d) Disseminate information on illegal traffic in hazardous wastes to States parties;
- (e) Strengthen existing networks on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous and radioactive wastes;
- (f) Develop a partnership on training with the Basel and Stockholm regional centres and the European Union Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence.

#### **Collaboration with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and other platforms**

##### ***Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions:***

- (i) Jointly with France, the Secretariat organized a side-event under the theme “How can the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention be accelerated?” in the margins of the Eleventh Open-Ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and Their Disposal in Geneva, Switzerland, on 5 September 2018. The Secretariat provided information on the objective of the Bamako Convention, its role to ensure environmentally sound management of wastes within Africa, and to contribute to supporting Parties’ efforts within the region to achieve the objectives of the Basel Convention at regional level.
- (ii) On 13 March 2019, the Secretariat organized an informal roundtable meeting with the French Ministry of Ecological Transition and Solidarity, and the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and

Stockholm conventions (BRS Secretariat). The meeting was chaired by the Vice-President of the Conference of the Parties and the Minister for Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change of Burkina Faso, H.E. Mr. Batio Bassière. The meeting was attended by H.E. Prof. Fekadu Beyene Aleka (Vice-President of the Conference of the Parties and Commissioner for Environment, Forest and Climate Change of Ethiopia), Bureau members of the Convention, representatives from UNEP, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, and delegates from Mali, and France. The objective of the meeting was to exchange views on how to better coordinate national implementation efforts of the Basel, Rotterdam and Bamako conventions.

- (iii) Informal discussions were convened by the Secretariat with Parties to the Bamako Convention, on 4 May 2019, in the margins of the meetings of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (BC COP14), the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (RC COP9) and the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (SC COP9) in Geneva, Switzerland.
- (iv) In 2018, the Government of the Republic of France and the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions entered into an agreement intended to strengthen the capacity of countries in the Africa region to implement the Basel and Rotterdam Convention, particularly to control imports and exports of covered chemicals and wastes. Within the context of this project, a workshop was organised in Dakar, Senegal from 16 to 19 September 2019. The Secretariat of the Bamako Convention was represented at the workshop and provided the opportunity to offer half a day training on key provisions and obligations of the Bamako Convention, including group exercises on developing an action plan to implement the Convention and its COP decisions. Through a series of presentations, interactive exercises and exchanges of information and experiences, the workshop provided a comprehensive understanding of the provisions of the Basel and Rotterdam Conventions, including interlinkages between the conventions and regional agreements in particular the Bamako Convention. Particular attention was accorded to the control procedures established under the various Conventions and how these worked together.
- (v) Building on the experiences of and information exchanged at the workshop, as well as the challenges identified by participants, the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions continues to implement country-level projects with selected Parties in the Africa region. The cooperation and collaboration with the Secretariat of the Bamako Convention will be continued through these activities, which will be implemented throughout 2019. Further information will be provided on the Basel and Rotterdam Conventions' websites ([www.basel.int](http://www.basel.int); [www.pic.int](http://www.pic.int)).

Other platforms:

- (vi) A Knowledge Lab on the theme “Improving the effective enforcement of the commitments on ESM of chemicals and waste in African, Caribbean and Pacific regions through compliance with MEAs” was organized by the Secretariat, in cooperation with UNEP, and with the participation of the BRS Secretariat and the African Development Bank, in the margins of the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP3) to the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Geneva, Switzerland, on 29 November 2019.