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**Matters for consideration or action by the Conference  
of the Parties: effectiveness evaluation**

**Draft implementation plan for the global monitoring plan for the first  
effectiveness evaluation\*\***

**Note by the Secretariat**

Set out in the annex to the present note is a draft implementation plan for the global monitoring plan for the first effectiveness evaluation of the Convention, prepared by the provisional ad hoc technical working group on the global monitoring plan.

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\* UNEP/POPS/COP.3/1.

\*\* Stockholm Convention, Article 16; report of the Conference of the Parties of the work of its first meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.1/31), annex I, decision SC-1/13; report of the Conference of the Parties on the work of its second meeting (UNEP/POPS/COP.2/30), annex I, decision SC-2/13.

## Annex

# Draft implementation plan for the global monitoring plan for the first evaluation

## I. Introduction

1. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention adopted decision SC-2/13 on effectiveness evaluation in which it decided to implement the elements for a global monitoring plan proposed in the annex to that decision. The Conference also decided to establish a provisional ad hoc technical working group to coordinate and oversee implementation of the global monitoring plan. The technical working group was requested, among other things, to develop an implementation plan to fulfil the minimum requirements for the first effectiveness evaluation, using data from regional monitoring programmes and data provided by Parties. The technical working group was also requested to ensure that the data used were comparable, by applying quality assurance and quality control standards, and to summarize and present the data on a regional basis, to be used as a baseline.

2. The purpose of the present draft implementation plan is to outline the main tasks that must be completed in relation to the global monitoring plan for the first evaluation. It is focused on fulfilling the minimum requirements of the first evaluation as requested by the Conference of the Parties in decision SC-2/13 and sets out actions, modalities and responsibilities for the completion of the work. It is intended to be a living document that will evolve to meet the needs of the global monitoring plan. More technical details can be found in the draft guidance document on the global monitoring plan originally prepared by the Chemicals Branch of the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP Chemicals) in 2004 and revised by an expert group in December 2006 and by the provisional ad hoc technical working group in January 2007, which is contained in document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/14, and in media specific methodology protocols. Implementation of the global monitoring plan for the first evaluation (first phase) and the subsequent evaluations (second phase) is dependant on availability of the necessary financial resources.

3. The plan is set out as follows:

(a) Section A of chapter II covers the fundamental parameters and tasks for the first evaluation identified by the Conference of the Parties as minimum requirements. This includes identification of the core data that should be obtained from all regions;

(b) Sections B–D of chapter II describe the approach for acquiring core data for the first evaluation. This is a stepwise process that begins with a review of programmes and activities at the global, regional and national levels and their potential capacities to contribute core comparable information and data. Potential programmes and data are examined according to agreed criteria developed by the provisional ad hoc technical working group to ensure that the data used are of a quality that would allow the comparability required by Article 16 of the Convention. The output from this work (see sections B–D below) can then be examined from a geographic perspective in order to consider priorities for capacity enhancement aimed at obtaining core data from all regions;

(c) Section C of chapter II outlines the development of methodological guidance to ensure that comparable data will be obtained for the evaluations;

(d) Sections D and E of chapter II cover the development and implementation of regional strategic arrangements and partnerships to obtain core media data for the monitoring report for the first effectiveness evaluation, taking into account the work described in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above;

(e) Section F of chapter II discusses the issue of summarizing and presenting data on a regional basis for the first effectiveness evaluation;

(f) Chapter III outlines the data gathering needs for the second and subsequent evaluations (second phase).

## II. Implementation of the first evaluation (first phase)

### A. Minimum requirements for the first evaluation

4. The Conference of the Parties has determined that the minimum requirements for the first evaluation are that:
- (a) The first monitoring report will provide baselines for further evaluations;
  - (b) Air monitoring and human exposure through human breast milk or blood serum would be used as core data;
  - (c) Such comparable and representative core data should be obtained from all five regions;
  - (d) Guidance should be provided on standardization;
  - (e) Strategic arrangements and partnerships shall be established, including mainly with the health and the agriculture sectors;
  - (f) Reports are prepared for the Conference of the Parties summarizing and presenting the data on a regional basis.

### B. Identification and evaluation of potential sources of core media data for the monitoring report for the first effectiveness evaluation, providing baselines for further evaluations

5. Air monitoring and human exposure through breast milk or blood serum will be used as core media data and comparable and representative core data should be obtained from all regions. Data will be derived from:

- (a) Existing international and regional programmes and activities;
- (b) Existing national programmes and activities;
- (c) National or regional arrangements and activities enhanced or initiated as a function of capacity-building to address regional data gaps.

6. The following sections describe how arrangements are being made to obtain information from these three potential sources.

#### 1. Review of existing programmes, information or data and capacities related to the core media in all regions

7. **Modalities:** In its decision SC-2/13, the Conference of the Parties requested the provisional ad hoc technical working group to review and update the information on existing human health and environmental monitoring programmes contained in document UNEP/POPS/COP.2/INF/10. In response to that request and on the basis of the responses to questionnaires distributed by the Secretariat to Convention focal points and relevant intergovernmental organizations in 2006, the following documents were prepared:

- (a) A preliminary inventory of regional monitoring capacity;
- (b) A preliminary identification of programmes and activities that can contribute to the first evaluation.

8. The above-mentioned information is available as document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/15.

#### 2. Use of criteria to evaluate programmes and capacities in all regions related to the core media data

9. **Modalities:** Criteria developed by the provisional ad hoc technical working group were used to evaluate programmes and activities and to assess capabilities. The criteria are presently organized into a five-step process where successive steps sequentially categorize activities and capacities. This process involves:

- (a) Establishing whether the programmes or activities are collecting core data potentially of relevance to the first evaluation (air, human milk or human blood);

- (b) Assessing the ability of programmes or activities to provide information that will be sufficiently comparable for it to be used in the first and subsequent evaluations;
  - (c) Assessing the accessibility and data archiving characteristics of programmes and activities with respect to data being readily available for the first and subsequent evaluations;
  - (d) Assessing the longevity of the programme and activities to provide information for use in the first or subsequent evaluations;
  - (e) Identifying and assessing programmes and activities with a potential to contribute to the global monitoring plan through the provision of identified levels of capacity enhancement.
10. The criteria are attached as annex I to the present draft implementation plan.

**3. Preliminary identification of potential monitoring programmes and capacities for contributing to baseline data production (first monitoring report)**

11. **Modalities:** The criteria were sequentially applied to the information contained in the revised inventory of monitoring programmes contained in document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/15, which was made available by the Secretariat in order to categorize existing human health and environmental and other monitoring programmes following the approach outlined in paragraph 9 above. As a result, the programmes and activities were categorized into the following groups:

- (a) **Group 1:** Programmes which can immediately provide information for the monitoring reports to be prepared for the first evaluation;
- (b) **Group 2:** Programmes that, with identified capacity enhancement, can provide information coverage in areas that would otherwise be inadequately represented in the first monitoring evaluation reports;
- (c) **Group 3:** Programmes which may be enhanced with capacity-building for future evaluation;
- (d) **Group 4:** Programmes for which more information would be needed before categorization.

12. This categorization assists in the identification of areas where arrangements can be made with existing programmes to provide information and where identified levels of capacity enhancement can improve geographical coverage of information. The categorization will be further elaborated and updated at the regional levels through the application of the criteria and will form the basis of decisions on the data gathering activities to support the first evaluation.

**C. Guidance on standardization**

13. The Conference of the Parties requested the provisional ad hoc technical working group to develop guidance on standardization, taking into account a guidance document produced by UNEP Chemicals in 2004. Originally, that document was produced for another model of a global monitoring programme which is no longer consistent with the decision of the Conference of the Parties. Revision of that document was required to ensure compatibility with the current emerging global monitoring plan and draft implementation plan.

14. **Modalities:** The draft guidance document was revised by a small group of experts specialized in the various document sections, including the experts who had prepared the original document. As part of the statistical considerations, the experts provided advice on what was appropriate and sufficient comparable data for the regional evaluation of effectiveness of the Convention. The resulting draft guidance document on the global monitoring plan is contained in document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/14 and provides technical guidance on all aspects of implementation of the plan, including issues related to statistics, sampling, sample preparation, analytical methodology and data management.

## **D. Development of strategic arrangements and partnerships for the acquisition of core media data for the first monitoring report**

15. The Conference of the Parties has requested that implementation should be strategic and cost effective and should as far as possible build on, but not be limited to, existing programmes. It has also requested that the global monitoring plan should address long-term needs to obtain data from all regions with progressive enhancement being planned from the outset. To achieve that goal, outputs from the activities described in section B of chapter II above have been used to identify two types of potential information sources for the first evaluation, as set out below:

- (a) Existing national or international programmes which can immediately provide information for the monitoring reports to be prepared for the first evaluation (group 1 programmes);
- (b) National or regional programmes which, with identified capacity enhancement, can provide information coverage in areas that would otherwise be inadequately represented in the first monitoring evaluation reports (group 2 programmes).

## **E. Regional organization groups and networks**

16. Strategic arrangements will be developed in the regions to obtain core media data from all programmes in group 1 and to prioritize actions targeted to group 2 programmes, according to the availability of resources and geographic data gaps considerations. As the Conference of the Parties has also specified that the data be presented on a regional basis, this activity is organized regionally with regional organization groups, the Secretariat and any global coordination group, taking care to ensure compatibility between regions.

17. Regional networks for implementation of the global monitoring plan will be established in order to facilitate the data generation described above. In setting up the regions, consideration was given to the issue of maximizing existing supportive cooperative arrangements, to be geographically meaningful, and to providing a cost effective regime for generating, collecting, reporting and presenting the data. The best way to achieve this is to form the regions as geographical entities. This may also facilitate evaluation of regional and global environmental transport of persistent organic pollutants.

18. To keep the number of regions to a manageable figure, while maintaining a geographical balance, the provisional ad hoc technical working group recommended the establishment of the following six regions: Africa; the Caribbean, Central and South America; Central, Eastern and Western Europe (including the entire United Nations Central and Eastern European region); Eastern, Southern and Western Asia (excluding the United Nations Central and Eastern European region); North America; and the region of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. Information from the Arctic and Antarctic will be incorporated in the appropriate regions taking care to avoid overlaps between regions.

19. The provisional ad hoc technical working group recommended that the establishment of each network be organized by a group that agrees upon and oversees modalities for providing the comparable environmental monitoring information required by the Conference of the Parties for effectiveness evaluation. The following elements, which are outlined in more detail in the draft terms of reference of the regional organization groups contained in annex III to the present document, are proposed:

### **Element 1: Establishment of the regional organization groups and networks**

20. **Modalities:** The Secretariat, working with any future global coordination group, will set up appropriate arrangements giving due consideration to the existing capacities in each region for the establishment of the organization groups and networks in the regions as described above. The groups will use appropriate working arrangements, including electronic means as much as possible, to establish their networks for the production of regional monitoring reports.

### **Element 2: Regional identification of existing national and international programmes or activities that can, or may with specified capacity enhancement, contribute to the first and subsequent evaluations**

21. **Modalities:** The regional organization groups, with the aid of the Secretariat, will elaborate on the work of the provisional ad hoc technical working group and the Secretariat to identify additional possible contributing programmes from each region. These elements may be subject to continued revision.

**Element 3: Selection of those programmes and activities that should be adopted for contributing data and information for each region for the first monitoring report and effectiveness evaluation**

22. **Modalities:** The regional organization groups, with assistance from the Secretariat, will make a selection from the possible contributing programmes identified above, using the selection criteria developed by the provisional ad hoc technical working group. The collective output of the regional groups will be a mix of existing programmes and activities that can deliver the required data and information without enhancement and those that could contribute following a specified degree of capacity enhancement. The regional organization groups will review these programmes in terms of the degree of regional coverage and decide upon the regional capacity enhancement that should be achieved for the first monitoring report. Exact modalities will be determined by the regional organization groups to reflect regional conditions.

**Element 4: Verification of the conformity of possible regional programmes with the methodological guidance for achieving the necessary levels of comparability of data (see also section C above)**

23. The draft guidance document on the global monitoring plan was reviewed and agreed upon by the provisional ad hoc technical working group. It was recognized that quality assurance and quality control and statistical aspects are essential in the consideration of comparability. The data acquired in the framework of the global monitoring plan must enable a distinction to be made between variability representing true changes in the levels of persistent organic pollutants over time and differences that reflect variance derived from sampling and analytical procedures. For some persistent organic pollutants, this represents a significant challenge.

24. **Modalities:** The regional organization groups, assisted by the Secretariat, will examine element 3 in the context of the results from the UNEP/Global Environment Fund work on laboratory capacities and performance. A regional implementation plan will be prepared by the regional organization groups to ensure that only data and information that satisfies the draft guidance document requirements for data comparability are used for the monitoring reports.

**Element 5: Identification of how data and information may be stored and accessed including the possibility of developing a regional data warehouse**

25. **Modalities:** Some key elements outlined in the draft guidance document are highlighted below:

- (a) The possibility of using existing thematic data centres and of using them to serve more than one region will be explored;
- (b) Tables produced to summarize the regional distribution of technical capacity may be modified to identify possible thematic data centres and strategic partners for such elements as data handling and regional coordination. This information may assist regional experts. Questions may be added to future capacity questionnaires to identify more effectively the availability of those institutions potentially able to accommodate data storage.

**Element 6: Provision of data and information for the first monitoring report and the establishment of appropriate arrangements**

26. **Modalities:** The regional organization groups and the Secretariat will establish and maintain regional monitoring network arrangements for the collection of core data through either, or both, of the following:

- (a) International collaborative programmes, for those Parties that wish to follow this approach;
- (b) Parties that wish to contribute nationally to the identification of capacities and regional data gaps, taking account of the work of the provisional ad hoc technical working group.

27. In addition, the regional organization groups will, when appropriate, set up a regional process to supplement existing core data to address regional gaps in existing monitoring activity and capacity. This approach will serve and replace the field testing requested by the first meeting of the Conference of Parties in decision SC-1/13.

28. Opportunities will be taken, where feasible, to establish strategic arrangements and partnerships, including with the international health sector and by developing collaborative twinning arrangements with other countries or with international monitoring organizations. Specific modalities include:

- (a) Organization of arrangements with Parties and Signatories that possess capacity and capability to provide comparable monitoring data on the core media;
- (b) Organization of arrangements with existing international programmes (regional and global) that can provide comparable monitoring data on the core media relevant to effectiveness evaluation. This work would not be subject to capacity-building support except when it is related to assisting Parties and or regions without capacity to participate in those programmes;
- (c) Organization of arrangements in regions without the necessary capacity to contribute to a global monitoring plan as envisaged by the Conference of the Parties. This work would be expected to require capacity-building support.
29. The arrangements illustrate among other things the measures that are being planned or undertaken to secure data for the monitoring reports for the first effectiveness evaluation.

**Element 7: Planning and implementing regional capacity-building that may be necessary to implement the agreed arrangements**

30. **Modalities:** Some of the activities being carried out in terms of planning and implementing regional capacity-building are set out below:
- (a) A comprehensive regional inventory and analysis of capacities is being prepared by the Secretariat. A corresponding needs assessment with contributions from national Stockholm Convention focal points is under development. The preliminary capacity inventory and an initial analysis were available at the end of January 2007; however, analysis of the globally available capacity could not be performed due to limited responses to the capacity questionnaire, which also prevented the needs assessment being undertaken. This analysis will, therefore, have to be performed by the respective regional organization groups taking into consideration the specific regional conditions, information and knowledge. Further information on capacities and needs is essential to elaborate the step-by-step plan for capacity enhancement. Parties are therefore encouraged to provide relevant information as soon as possible.
- (b) A preliminary generic plan for step-by-step capacity enhancement for Parties for the purpose of implementing Article 16 of the Convention is available in annex II to the present document. It has been based upon the preliminary capacity inventory and initial analysis described in subparagraph 32 (a) above and would be in accordance with the provisions of Article 12 (on technical assistance) and Article 13 (on the financial mechanism). This version will be forwarded to the group dealing with technical assistance at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The needs and opportunities for capacity-building to increase participation in the global monitoring plan are to be taken into account during the implementation of Conference of the Parties decision SC-2/9 on technical assistance.
31. In completing and continuing the work described above, the Secretariat will consult as appropriate and necessary with the regional organization groups and other relevant structures.

**Element 8: Mechanisms for information collection for the purposes of the regional reports and for their preparation**

32. In each region, data and information for production of the regional monitoring report will be derived from a variety of different sources (including global and regional monitoring programmes, as well as those of individual Parties and Signatories to the Convention). Each region will need to agree on how information from those sources can be accessed for the purpose of reporting to the Conference of the Parties.
33. **Modalities:** A procedure based on work undertaken by the provisional ad hoc technical working group is available in chapter 6 of the draft guidance document for consideration by the regional organization group.

**F. Summarizing and presenting data on a regional basis, to be used as a baseline in the first evaluation**

34. The paragraphs below describe the framework for the drafting of regional and global monitoring reports for the first effectiveness evaluation. Paragraph 2 of Article 16 states that the Conference of the Parties shall make arrangements to provide itself with comparable monitoring data on the substances listed in the annexes to the Convention, as well as on their regional and global environmental transport.

There are therefore two objectives for the arrangements, one concerned with the environmental levels of persistent organic pollutants in priority media and the other with their environmental transport.

## 1. Reporting on levels in core media

35. Article 16 does not suggest that the monitoring reports are to contain any interpretation or assessment on the significance of the levels in environmental media. In its decision SC-2/13, the Conference of the Parties refers to “summarizing and presenting the data on a regional basis”. With this understanding, successive data reports provided over a number of years will enable the Conference of the Parties to view changes over time, providing the data is of sufficient quality and precision.

36. The Conference of the Parties has requested that the draft implementation plan for the first evaluation should include measures for summary and presentation of the monitoring information on a regional basis. The Secretariat is responsible for compiling the elements for the first effectiveness evaluation as it relates to the first global monitoring report.

37. **Modalities:** The approach that is suggested is that the regional organization groups, in consultation with the Secretariat, take responsibility for preparation of the regional reports by each establishing a drafting team of experts. This activity can be undertaken with, for example, international programmes or individual consultants. The reports would follow the uniform outline agreed upon by the provisional ad hoc technical working group. The proposed approach and report outline is available in chapter 7 of the draft guidance document.

38. The provisional ad hoc technical working group noted the following issues that the regional organization groups may find useful to consider when drafting the monitoring report:

(a) The proposed sampling window could be 2003 +/- 5 years. This could be the starting point to assess changes with time (i.e., the first baseline);

(b) There could be options for providing additional information that is not obligatory under the Conference of the Parties decision, such as trend data prior to the Convention coming into force;

(c) An alternative drafting procedure is that used by some international programmes, such as the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), where a drafting group consisting of 4-5 experts has been used to draft the report with input being obtained simultaneously from contributing regions (most often through the regional make-up of the drafting team);

(d) There may be ownership issues for some of the data (Governments vs. institutions vs. scientists). Data policy agreements should be considered when such situations arise.

## 2. Reporting on regional and global transport

39. The Conference of the Parties has not indicated its expectations concerning reporting on regional and global environmental transport for the first phase. If the intent is to gain an understanding of the environmental behaviour (transport and fate) of the listed chemicals, a range of possibilities could be considered. These could include:

(a) For persistent organic pollutants that are mainly transported by air (the “flyers”), global monitoring plan data can be assessed using information on atmospheric transport potential (for example, characteristic transport distances and knowledge of air currents, as outlined in the draft guidance document).

(b) For those chemicals for which water transport is also important (the “swimmers”), global monitoring plan data can be assessed using information on ocean currents, potential riverine inputs and air-water exchange over large water bodies. This is especially relevant for the global monitoring plan data obtained in coastal areas. This may not be a key issue for the original list of persistent organic pollutants in Annexes A, B and C, given that the primary environmental movement of these particular substances is in the atmosphere. This may not be the case, however, for some substances that may be added to the Convention in the future.

(c) Back trajectory analysis (relatively simple in terms of data and infrastructure support), as outlined in the draft guidance document, can be extended to generate probability density maps for improved interpretation of trend data with respect to temporal changes in advection inputs for global monitoring plan sites. Standardized approaches will be essential, such as using three-day back trajectories for regional transport and six-day back trajectories for trans-regional transport. Calculations

should be done at two levels - ground level and at 500 metres above ground level, using accepted or validated trajectory models.

(d) The use of regional and global-scale models (more complex and demanding in terms of input data, although a range of such models is available). Global monitoring plan data can be used to initialize models and evaluate transport pathways across regional and trans-regional (trans-continental) areas.

(e) The global coordination group could nominate a small team of experts to prepare a report or reports, based upon published literature and the data derived from the air monitoring component of the global monitoring plan. With this approach, interpretive techniques (such as modelling and back trajectory analysis) would be a part of the reports reviewed by the experts, and not directly a component of the global monitoring plan.

### III. Implementation elements

#### A. First evaluation (first phase)

40. The mandate of the provisional ad hoc technical working group terminates at the end of the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Conference may wish to extend the mandate of that group or develop some other means of coordination of the global monitoring plan following the third meeting. It is important that such a coordination group be created immediately following the third meeting of the Conference in order to ensure continuity of the process. Possible elements for terms of reference for such a global coordination group are attached as annex IV to the present document.

#### B. Subsequent evaluations (second phase)

41. The present draft implementation plan is devoted to fulfilling the minimum requirements for providing monitoring reports in support of the first effectiveness evaluation, as requested in decision SC-2/13. That decision, however, also anticipates ambitions and needs for the future. Hence, the plan for future evaluations:

- (a) Should ensure better regional representation in scope and geographic coverage (by improving participation of Parties and encouraging, on voluntary basis, that of non-Parties);
- (b) Should enhance the core comparable representative dataset from all regions;
- (c) Should continue to plan and implement step-by step capacity enhancement for Parties on a regional basis;
- (d) Should endeavour to supplement the core data with data from other media such as biota, water, soil and sediments, as appropriate, including community-based participatory research data;
- (e) Should provide for the establishment of baselines relevant to the enhancements referred to above.

42. **Modalities:** The time schedule for arrangements for information gathering related to the second and subsequent monitoring reports was discussed by the provisional ad hoc technical working group but no conclusions were reached.

## Annex I

### Criteria for the evaluation of monitoring activities that could potentially contribute to the Stockholm Convention global monitoring plan

Definitions:	First phase	Activities to support the Article 16 effectiveness evaluation that will be conducted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting in 2009 (first evaluation)
	Second phase	Activities to support effectiveness evaluations after 2009 (subsequent evaluations)
	Activity	‘Package’ of related monitoring and research activities that constitute a self-contained programme implemented at the national, subregional, regional or global levels.

The following step-by-step procedure will be used:

#### Step 1

<i>Questions/issues to be addressed</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<p>Is the activity concerned with repetitive monitoring measurements of persistent organic pollutants in air, human milk or human blood?</p> <p>If the activities are not repetitive (e.g. for research, survey or screening), the activity may be referred to step 5 to assess the potential for that activity to be used to increase geographic coverage given an identified level of capacity-building.</p>	<p><i>The purpose of this step is to categorize activities in the countries/regions according to their relevance to the core elements of the global monitoring plan either in the first or subsequent evaluations or in subsequent evaluations subject to possible identified levels of capacity-building.</i></p> <p><i>Answers to these questions can be obtained from a questionnaire on monitoring programmes which was developed by the Secretariat in follow up to the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting, which is contained in document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/15.</i></p>

#### Step 2

<i>Questions/issues to be addressed</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<p>Evaluation of information derived from responses to the questionnaire on monitoring programmes and other relevant sources concerning:</p> <p>(a) Capabilities of laboratories involved in the activity (laboratory capability, capacity, accreditation, etc.)</p> <p>(b) Quality assurance and quality control regimes. (For example, are reference materials available and if so are they routinely analysed? Do laboratories participate in international comparisons or laboratory testing schemes? Is there any laboratory participation in nationally coordinated comparisons?)</p> <p>(c) Sampling and analytical methodologies (use of internationally standardized methods or nationally standardized methods, appropriateness of methods).</p>	<p><i>The purpose of this step is to evaluate activities with respect to their ability to deliver data of adequate quality for effectiveness evaluation.</i></p> <p><i>Answers to these questions can be obtained from the questionnaire on monitoring programmes prepared by the Secretariat (questions 2(a), 2(b) and 2(e))</i></p> <p><i>This part of the evaluation may require an expert review of the descriptive information provided on the questionnaire together with other relevant sources of information (UNEP/Global Environment Facility Laboratory Capacity Strengthening Project, information contained in national implementation plans, etc.). The evaluation will need to consider adequacy with respect to different persistent organic pollutants and media combinations concerned.</i></p> <p><i>Adequacy could be rated according to three categories:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Adequate to allow comparison with data from other regions;</i></li> <li><i>2. Internally consistent (e.g. potentially useful for establishing time trends);</i></li> <li><i>3. Not adequate for use in Article 16 evaluations.</i></li> </ol>

**Step 3**

<i>Questions/issues to be addressed</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<p>Does the activity part of an international programme require the international reporting of results?</p> <p>If yes: Are data accessible from international programmes and data centres?</p> <p>If no: Are data archived and accessible at the, international, national or programme levels?</p>	<p><i>The purpose of this step is to identify possible sources of data and information to use in the Article 16 evaluations and to ascertain the degree of information transparency.</i></p> <p><i>Answers to these questions can be obtained from the questionnaire on monitoring programmes (questions 2(c) and 2(d) and supplementary questions in section 2 of the questionnaire, e.g. reference to national implementation plans).</i></p> <p><i>There will be a need to address considerations relating to the level of data required for Article 16 evaluations - raw data; and aggregated or summarized data (may be difficult to combine); and with interpreted data products (e.g. regional assessment reports from other programmes). All data products used should allow raw data to be accessed.</i></p>

**Step 4**

<i>Questions /issues to be addressed</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<p>Is the activity part of a continuing programme?</p> <p>If yes: The information is of potential relevance to the first and second phases.</p> <p>If no: The information is not immediately relevant to the first phase. However, the activity may be referred to step 5 to assess the potential for that activity to be used to increase geographic coverage given an identified level of capacity-building.</p>	<p><i>The purpose of this step is to identify possible sources of data and information to use in the Article 16 evaluations.</i></p> <p><i>Answers to these questions are obtained from questionnaire on monitoring programmes (question 2(d)). Is there a question on the basis for the activity, perhaps related to provision of funding for the activities?</i></p> <p><i>The term “continuing” in this context refers to a programme with a long-term implementation perspective, or possibly multi-annual repeated sampling (allows for retrospective analysis including activities based on environmental archives).</i></p>

**Step 5**

<i>Questions/issues to be addressed</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<p>What are the perspectives for the activity contributing to the global monitoring plan if additional capacity is added? Does the response indicate that the perspectives to contribute to the global monitoring plan can be improved if related capacity-building is implemented?</p> <p>If no: no further action.</p> <p>If yes: Are there options that would allow the proposed capacity-building to be implemented in time for the activity to contribute more effectively to the first phase?</p> <p>If yes: Consider practical implementation of capacity-building.</p> <p>If no: Either eliminate activity from further consideration or consider capacity-building to develop the activity so that it can contribute to the second phase</p>	<p><i>The purpose of this step is:</i></p> <p><i>(a) To identify perspectives for the activities to contribute to the global monitoring plan if capacity were to be added or extended;</i></p> <p><i>(b) To assist in the prioritization of capacity- building.</i></p> <p><i>Answers to these questions are obtained from a questionnaire prepared by the Secretariat on capacity assessment</i></p> <p><i>Given the time frame for the first phase, “feasible” capacity-building as a contribution to the first phase could include, for example, bilateral cooperation or offers by a given country to analyse samples from other countries or regions.</i></p> <p><i>Capacity-building aiming at the second phase might include activities such as setting up new monitoring programmes, ensuring that operational laboratories are available, etc.</i></p>

## Annex II

### Draft generic step-by-step capacity enhancement plan

#### A. Approaches for a step-by step plan

1. A step-by-step capacity enhancement plan should take into consideration preliminary assessment of needs. Such needs could be collated through:
  - (a) Identification of regional gaps in availability of comparable data for the first effectiveness evaluation (first phase);
  - (b) Identification of reasons for such gaps;
  - (c) Identification of limitations in programmes that already have some capacity in terms of expertise, laboratories etc.;
  - (d) Identification of institutions which could contribute in filling the identified gaps directly or with identified capacity strengthening;
  - (e) Prioritizing capacity enhancement activities to achieve cost effective implementation of the first phase of the global monitoring plan;
  - (f) Assessment of possible partnerships to provide capacity enhancement and of possible intervention fields of bilateral and multilateral funding agencies;
  - (g) Consideration of opportunities for multi-country approaches;
  - (h) Establishment of linkages with national implementation plans to leverage funding.

#### B. Possible components of a step-by-step capacity enhancement plan

2. A step-by-step capacity enhancement plan should include the following components:
  - (a) A knowledge component, including:
    1. Preparation of guidance documents;
    2. References on monitoring;
    3. Training on:
      - a. Study design;
      - b. Data production and handling (see below);
      - c. Ethical considerations;
    4. Organization of inter-calibration exercises between analytical laboratories;
    5. Project planning and development (identifying needs and formulating projects);
  - (b) A logistic component, including:
    1. Assistance with sampling and sample analysis;
    2. Participation in inter-laboratory tests for quality assurance and quality control;
    3. Equipment (may be limited to needs not addressed through partnership programmes), including:
      - a. Sampling equipment;
      - b. Analytical equipment;
    4. The possibility of sample storage in a specimen bank;
    5. Data management, including quality assurance and quality control, relating to:

- a. The establishment of thematic data centres;
  - b. The strengthening of data processing capacities (databases, modelling and expert systems);
6. Data integration, interpretation, review and reporting.

## Annex III

### **Draft terms of reference for the regional organization group under the global monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants monitoring in the [...] region**

#### **I. Background**

1. Article 16 of the Stockholm Convention requires the Conference of the Parties to carry out a periodic review of the effectiveness of the Convention, with the first evaluation (first phase) commencing four years after its entry into force. The effectiveness evaluation shall be conducted on the basis of information, including comparable monitoring data on the presence of the chemicals listed in Annexes A, B, and C of the Convention, and on their regional and global transport.
2. The minimum requirements for the first effectiveness evaluation have been defined by the Conference of the Parties in decision SC-2/13 as follows:
  - (a) The first monitoring report will provide baselines for further evaluations;
  - (b) Air monitoring and human exposure through breast milk or blood serum would be used as core data;
  - (c) Such comparable and representative core data should be obtained from all five United Nations regions;
  - (d) Guidance should be provided on standardization;
  - (e) Arrangements should be established and partnerships should be built, including with the health sector.
3. The global monitoring plan for persistent organic pollutants will comprise regional organizational elements. Regional information gathering and preparation of the regional monitoring report will be planned, organized and implemented on a regional basis following an agreed framework.
4. Regional monitoring reports, again following an agreed format, would provide the basis for one of the elements of the Secretariat's compilation for the effectiveness evaluation; the other two being the national reports submitted by Parties pursuant to Article 15, and the non-compliance information provided pursuant to the procedures established under Article 17.

#### **II. Global monitoring plan regions**

5. The global monitoring plan regions should be set up as geographical entities in order to provide an adequate basis for generating, collecting, reporting and presenting the data. This will also facilitate evaluation of regional and global environmental transport of persistent organic pollutants. The following regional distribution is proposed by the provisional ad hoc technical working group:
  - (a) Africa;
  - (b) Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands;
  - (c) The Caribbean, Central and South America;
  - (d) Central, Eastern and Western Europe (including the entire United Nations Central and Eastern European region);
  - (e) Eastern, Southern and Western Asia (excluding the United Nations Central and Eastern European region);
  - (f) North America.

6. Information from the Arctic and Antarctic will be incorporated in the appropriate regions taking care to avoid overlaps between regions. The list of the countries in each region is provided in table 4 below. The maps illustrating the five United Nations regions and the six global monitoring plan geographic groupings are presented as figure 1 and figure 2 respectively.

### III. Regional organization groups

7. Within each region, activities will be coordinated by the regional organization group. The nominated members of the global coordination group<sup>1</sup> for the particular region could constitute the core members of the regional organization group, initially. Depending on the number of countries in the region and their needs, however, the group could be expanded to include up to three additional members, and experts as required. The expanded regional organization group will nominate a coordinating country for the region and could initially be supported by the Secretariat. Details about the specific activities and tasks of the regional organization group are given below. Subregional arrangements that take into account linguistic, political and geophysical considerations could be introduced to provide further support to the organization of the work. Strategic partnerships and twinning within and between regions is to be encouraged whenever possible.

8. Programmes which can immediately provide information for the monitoring reports to be prepared for the first evaluation (group 1 programmes) are an integral part of the global monitoring plan and should be used to the extent possible in regional coordination and reporting. In some cases, group 1 programmes incorporate more than one regional organization group such as the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) which covers the Arctic region for several regional organization groups. In other cases, there are monitoring programmes which are a subset of the countries in a regional organization group. The regional organization group for each region should have the flexibility to decide how to incorporate group 1 information into their regional reports on a case by case basis. The role of the regional organization groups may therefore stretch from the implementation of all functions stated below to a more limited role of compiling summaries from existing programmes in regions that are well covered by group 1 programmes. In the latter case, the role of the regional organization group will be greatly reduced and it may operate electronically as a “virtual regional organization group”.

9. The following documents have been prepared to support and guide activities of the regional organization groups:

- (a) Draft global monitoring plan (UNEP/POPS/COP.3/22);
- (b) Draft implementation plan for the first evaluation (UNEP/POPS/COP.3/23);
- (c) Draft guidance document on the global monitoring plan (UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF.14).

10. All activities, tasks and outputs have to be implemented according to and in compliance with these documents.

### IV. Objectives, duties, activities and tasks

#### A. Objectives

11. The main objectives of the regional organization group are to define and implement the regional strategy for information gathering, including capacity-building, and to prepare the regional monitoring report for the first effectiveness evaluation.

#### B. Duties

12. The duties of the regional organization group would include, among other things:

- (a) Establishing its membership;
- (b) Identifying where existing suitable monitoring data are and are not available;

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<sup>1</sup> The establishment of such a global coordination group was proposed by the provisional ad hoc technical working group, the mandate of which expires at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- (c) Developing a regional strategy for implementation of the global monitoring plan;
- (d) Establishing regional, subregional and inter-regional monitoring networks;
- (e) Coordinating sampling and analytical arrangements;
- (f) Ensuring compliance with protocols for quality assurance and quality control, sample collection and analytical methodologies; data archiving and accessibility; and trend analysis methodologies;
- (g) Maintaining the interaction with other regional organization groups and the Secretariat as appropriate;
- (h) Developing elements to encourage capacity-building;
- (i) Preparing regional reports;
- (j) Ensuring transparency of communication and information dissemination within the region.

### C. Activities, tasks and time frame

13. The proposed activities, tasks and timeframe provide a framework to produce the regional reports; however, details may be adjusted to meet specific conditions in the particular region, as long as the deadline to produce the regional monitoring report is met.

**Table 1**

No	Activities and tasks	Time frame
<b>1.</b>	<b>Establishment of the regional organization group</b>	
1.1	Establishment of the regional organization group membership	May–September 2007
1.2	Elaboration of a detailed regional organization group strategy, workplan and timetable	May–September 2007
1.3	<i>Organization of a regional organization group inception workshop to present and discuss the regional monitoring plan elements and to obtain commitments for implementation<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>As soon as possible after COP 3</i>
1.4	Selection of national and international programmes or activities that can deliver the required data and or information without capacity enhancement, and those that could contribute following a specified degree of capacity enhancement (group 1 and group 2 programmes)	May–September 2007
<b>2.</b>	<b>Selection of existing data sets for the regional monitoring report</b>	
2.1	Evaluation of readily available data sets according to the data quality criteria and selection of data which could be used for the first evaluation	September–October 2007
2.2	Establishment of arrangements to receive readily available data	September–October 2007
<b>3.</b>	<b>Identification of data gaps and strategy to fill them</b>	
3.1	Review of available information in terms of the degree of regional coverage and determination of a strategy to achieve better regional coverage for the first monitoring report	September–October 2007
3.2	Establishment of strategic partnerships for capacity enhancement	September–October 2007
3.3	Establishment of strategic partnerships to produce supplementary persistent organic pollutants monitoring data to achieve better regional coverage	September–October 2007
3.4	Strengthening of the capacity of group 2 programmes	October–November 2007
<b>4.</b>	<b>Supplementary monitoring activities are performed and additional information is provided to the drafting team</b>	October 2007–March 2008
<b>5.</b>	<b>Preparation of the regional monitoring report</b>	
5.1	Establishment of a team to draft the regional monitoring report	October 2007

<sup>2</sup> This workshop will be organized by the Secretariat in cooperation with the regional representatives. The timing of the inception workshop to be held in a particular region should be adjusted to the specific conditions in that region and should also take into account the sequence in which the Secretariat can organize the regional organization group inception workshops.

5.2	Collection of all readily available data and information to be used for drafting of the regional monitoring report	October–November 2007
5.3	Drafting team to process readily available and additional monitoring information considering the recommended report structure	November 2007–April 2008
5.4	Participation in the drafting workshop organized by the Secretariat to prepare first draft of the regional monitoring report	May 2008
5.5	Finalization of the first draft of the regional monitoring report	May–June 2008
5.6	Circulation of the draft regional monitoring report for comments	June–August 2008
5.7	Redrafting of the report as necessary and production of the regional monitoring report	September–October 2008
5.8	Endorsement of the regional monitoring report and its submission to the Secretariat	October 2008

## D. Milestones and outputs

14. The following milestones should lead to the requested outputs:

**Table 2**

<b>1</b>	Regional organization groups inception workshop	As soon as possible after COP3
<b>2</b>	Arrangements to receive readily available data are established	October 2007
<b>3</b>	Strategic partnerships to provide capacity strengthening are established	October 2007
<b>4</b>	Strategic partnerships to produce supplementary data are established	October 2007
<b>5</b>	Team to draft the regional monitoring report is established	October 2007
<b>6</b>	Necessary enabling capacity-building to group 2 programmes is provided	November 2007
<b>7</b>	All readily available data and information to be compiled by the drafting team is available	November 2007
<b>8</b>	Supplementary monitoring activities are performed and additional monitoring data is made available to the drafting team	March 2008
<b>9</b>	Drafting workshop takes place	May 2008
<b>10</b>	First draft of the regional monitoring report is available	June 2008
<b>11</b>	Final regionally endorsed regional monitoring report is available	October 2008

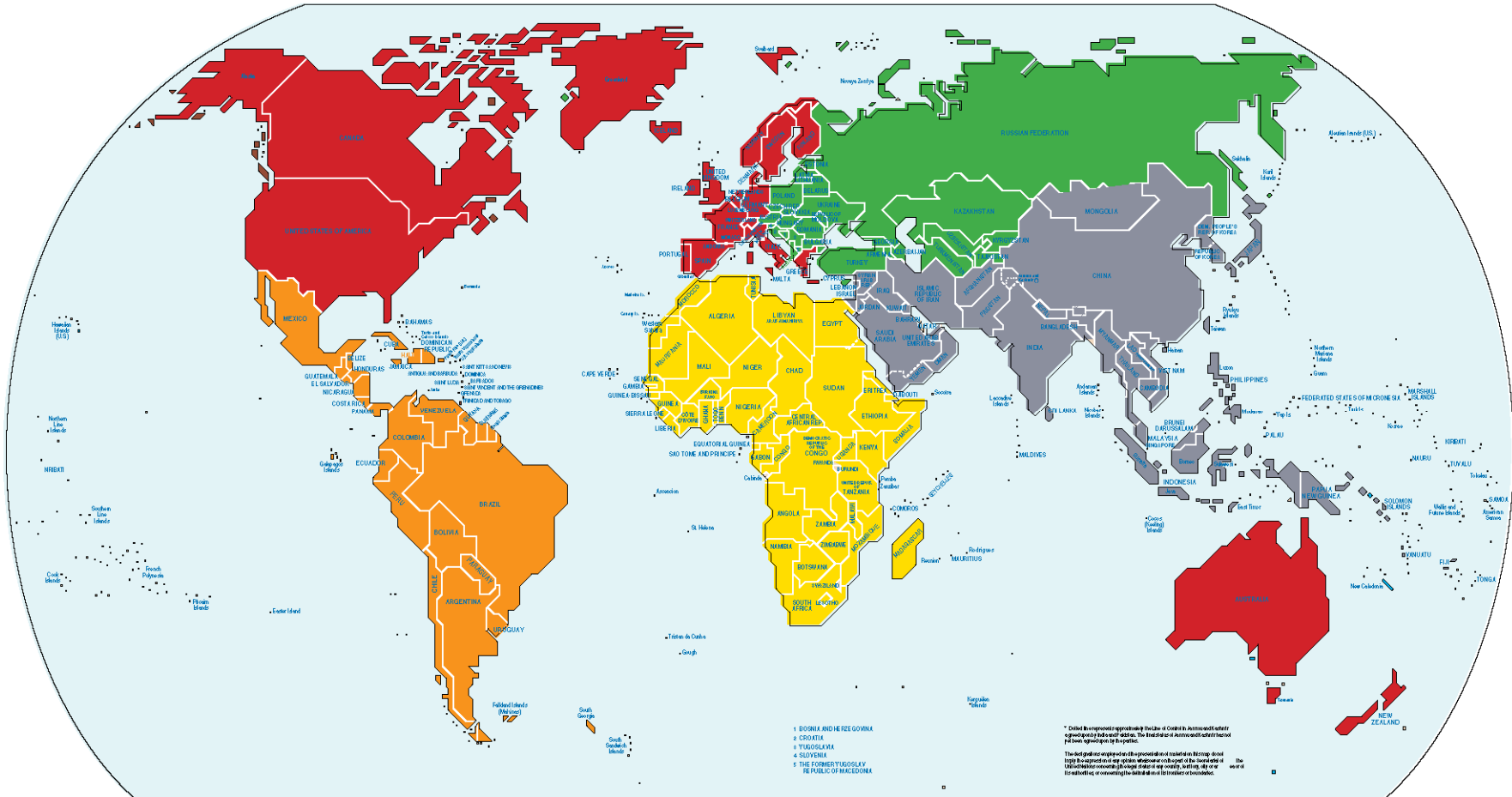
15. The following outputs are expected:

- (a) An operational regional persistent organic pollutants monitoring programme (e.g. strategic arrangements and partnerships to produce comparable persistent organic pollutants monitoring data for the first and subsequent effectiveness evaluation of the Stockholm Convention);
- (b) Regional capacity to produce comparable persistent organic pollutants monitoring data for the first evaluation is strengthened;
- (c) Regional elements of a step-by-step capacity enhancement for the future evaluations are identified;
- (d) Regional monitoring report is available and endorsed by the region;
- (e) Baselines for future assessments are set for the core matrices.

**Table 3: Workplan and timetable for the regional organization group to elaborate the first regional monitoring report**

Activities/milestones (M)		2007												2008											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>1.</b>	<b>Establishment of the regional organization groups</b>																								
1.1.	Establishment of the regional organization group membership																								
1.2.	Elaboration of a detailed regional organization group strategy, workplan and timetable																								
1.3.	Organization of a regional organization group inception workshop																								
1.4.	Selection of national and international group 1 and 2 activities																								
<b>M 1</b>	<b>Regional organization groups inception workshop</b>																								
<b>2.</b>	<b>Selection of existing data sets for the regional monitoring report</b>																								
2.1.	Evaluation and selection of existing data for the first evaluation																								
2.2.	Establishment of arrangements to receive readily available data																								
<b>M 2</b>	<b>Arrangements to receive readily available data are established</b>																								
<b>3.</b>	<b>Identification of data gaps and strategy to fill them</b>																								
3.1.	Review of available regional coverage for the first monitoring report																								
3.2.	Establishment of strategic partnerships for capacity enhancement																								
3.3.	Establishment of strategic partnerships to produce supplementary data																								
3.4.	Strengthening of the capacity of group 2 programmes																								
<b>M 3</b>	<b>Partnership to provide capacity strengthening is established</b>																								
<b>M 4</b>	<b>Partnerships to produce supplementary data are established</b>																								
<b>M 6</b>	<b>Enabling capacity-building to group 2 programmes is provided</b>																								
<b>4.</b>	<b>Supplementary monitoring activities are taking place</b>																								
4.1	Supplementary monitoring activities are taking place																								
<b>M 8</b>	<b>Supplementary monitoring data are obtained and provided</b>																								
<b>5</b>	<b>Preparation of the regional monitoring report</b>																								
5.1	Establishment of a drafting team																								
<b>M 5</b>	<b>Team to draft the regional monitoring report is established</b>																								
5.2.	Collection of all readily available data to be used for drafting																								
<b>M 7</b>	<b>Readily available information is provided to the drafting team</b>																								
5.3	Processing of available information considering the report structure																								
5.4	Participation in the drafting workshop																								
<b>M 9</b>	<b>Drafting workshop takes place</b>																								
5.5	Finalization of the first draft of the regional monitoring report																								
<b>M 10</b>	<b>First draft of the regional monitoring report is available</b>																								
5.6	Circulation of the draft regional monitoring report for comments																								
5.7	Redrafting of the report as necessary																								
<b>M 11</b>	<b>Endorsed regional monitoring report is available</b>																								
5.8	Adoption of the report and its submission to the Secretariat																								

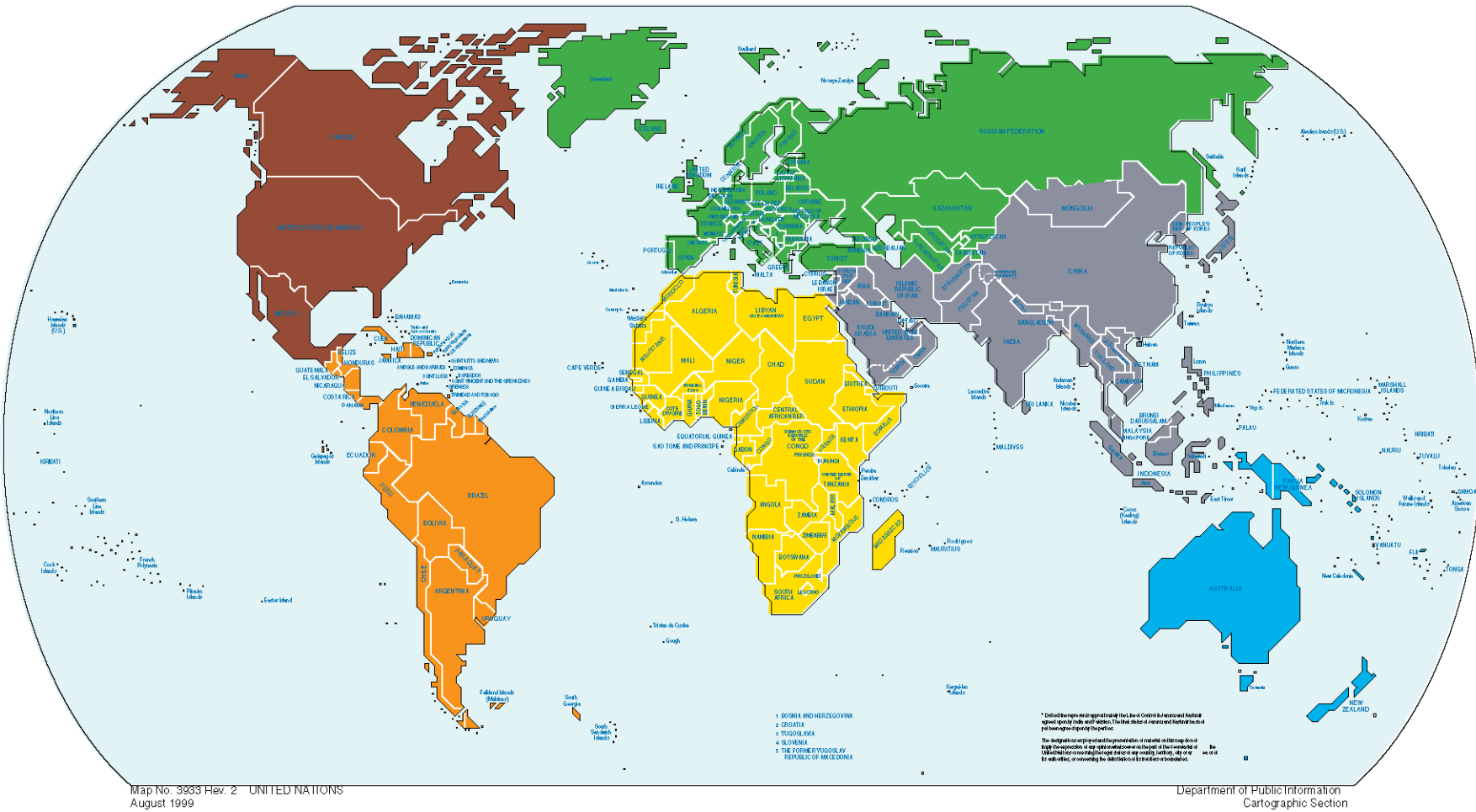
**Figure 1: Five United Nations regions**



Map No. 3933 Rev. 2 UNITED NATIONS  
 August 1999

Department of Public Information  
 Cartographic Section

Figure 2: Possible six global monitoring plan regions



**Table 4:** Countries included in the groupings proposed for the global monitoring plan

<b>Africa</b>	<b>Western, Southern and Eastern Asia</b>	<b>Western, Central and Eastern Europe</b>	<b>North America</b>	<b>Central and South America and the Caribbean</b>	<b>Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands</b>
<b>Algeria</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<b>Albania</b>	<b>Canada</b>	<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	<b>Australia</b>
<b>Angola</b>	<b>Bahrain</b>	<i>Andorra</i>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Argentina</b>	<b>Cook Islands</b>
<b>Benin</b>	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<b>Armenia</b>	<i>United States</i>	<b>Bahamas</b>	<b>Fiji</b>
<b>Botswana</b>	<i>Bhutan</i>	<b>Austria</b>		<b>Barbados</b>	<b>Kiribati</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<i>Brunei Darussalam</i>	<b>Azerbaijan</b>		<i>Belize</i>	<b>Marshall Islands</b>
<b>Burundi</b>	<b>Cambodia</b>	<b>Belarus</b>		<b>Bolivia</b>	<b>Micronesia (Federated States of)</b>
<i>Cameroon</i>	<b>China</b>	<b>Belgium</b>		<b>Brazil</b>	<b>Nauru</b>
<b>Cape Verde</b>	<b>DPR Korea</b>	<i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>		<b>Chile</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>
<i>Central African Republic</i>	<b>India</b>	<b>Bulgaria</b>		<i>Colombia</i>	<b>Niue</b>
<b>Chad</b>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<b>Croatia</b>		<b>Costa Rica</b>	<i>Palau</i>
<i>Comoros</i>	<b>Iran (Islamic Republic of)</b>	<b>Cyprus</b>		<i>Cuba</i>	<b>Papua New Guinea</b>
<b>Congo</b>	<i>Iraq</i>	<b>Czech Republic</b>		<b>Dominica</b>	<b>Samoa</b>
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	<i>Israel</i>	<b>Denmark</b>		<i>Dominican Republic</i>	<b>Solomon Islands</b>
<b>Democratic Republic of Congo</b>	<b>Japan</b>	<i>Estonia</i>		<b>Ecuador</b>	<i>Tonga</i>
<b>Djibouti</b>	<b>Jordan</b>	<b>Finland</b>		<i>El Salvador</i>	<b>Tuvalu</b>
<b>Egypt</b>	<b>Korea (Republic of)</b>	<b>France</b>		<i>Grenada</i>	<b>Vanuatu</b>
<i>Equatorial Guinea</i>	<b>Kuwait</b>	<b>Georgia</b>		<i>Guatemala</i>	
<b>Eritrea</b>	<b>Lao People's Democratic Republic</b>	<b>Germany</b>		<i>Guyana</i>	
<b>Ethiopia</b>	<b>Lebanon</b>	<b>Greece</b>		<i>Haiti</i>	
<i>Gabon</i>	<i>Malaysia</i>	<i>Hungary</i>		<b>Honduras</b>	
<b>Gambia</b>	<b>Maldives</b>	<b>Iceland</b>		<i>Jamaica</i>	
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>Mongolia</b>	<i>Ireland</i>		<b>Nicaragua</b>	
<i>Guinea</i>	<b>Myanmar</b>	<i>Italy</i>		<b>Panama</b>	
<i>Guinea Bissau</i>	<i>Nepal</i>	<i>Kazakhstan</i>		<b>Paraguay</b>	
<b>Kenya</b>	<b>Oman</b>	<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>		<b>Peru</b>	
<b>Lesotho</b>	<i>Pakistan</i>	<b>Latvia</b>		<b>Saint Kitts and Nevis</b>	
<b>Liberia</b>	<b>Philippines</b>	<b>Lichtenstein</b>		<b>Saint Lucia</b>	
<i>Libyan Arab Jamahiriya</i>	<i>Qatar</i>	<b>Lithuania</b>		<b>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</b>	
<b>Madagascar</b>	<i>Saudi Arabia</i>	<b>Luxembourg</b>		<i>Surinam</i>	
<i>Malawi</i>	<b>Singapore</b>	<i>Malta</i>		<b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>	
<b>Mali</b>	<b>Sri Lanka</b>	<b>Moldova</b>		<b>Uruguay</b>	
<b>Mauritania</b>	<b>Syrian Arab Republic</b>	<b>Monaco</b>		<b>Venezuela</b>	
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>Thailand</b>	<i>Montenegro</i>			
<b>Morocco</b>	<i>Timor-Leste</i>	<b>Netherlands</b>			

<b>Africa</b>	<b>Western, Southern and Eastern Asia</b>	<b>Western, Central and Eastern Europe</b>	<b>North America</b>	<b>Central and South America and the Caribbean</b>	<b>Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands</b>
<b>Mozambique</b>	<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	<b>Norway</b>			
<b>Namibia</b>	<b>Viet Nam</b>	<i>Poland</i>			
<b>Niger</b>	<b>Yemen</b>	<b>Portugal</b>			
<b>Nigeria</b>		<b>Romania</b>			
<b>Rwanda</b>		<i>Russian Federation</i>			
<b>Senegal</b>		<i>San Marino</i>			
<i>Seychelles</i>		<i>Serbia</i>			
<b>Sierra Leone</b>		<b>Slovakia</b>			
<i>Somalia</i>		<b>Slovenia</b>			
<b>South Africa</b>		<b>Spain</b>			
<b>Sudan</b>		<b>Sweden</b>			
<b>Swaziland</b>		<b>Switzerland</b>			
<b>Togo</b>		<b>Tajikistan</b>			
<b>Tunisia</b>		<b>The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</b>			
<b>Uganda</b>		<i>Turkey</i>			
<b>United Republic of Tanzania</b>		<i>Turkmenistan</i>			
<b>Zambia</b>		<i>Ukraine</i>			
<i>Zimbabwe</i>		<b>United Kingdom</b>			
		<i>Uzbekistan</i>			

Countries indicated in bold are Parties to the Convention (as of 21 February 2007); those in italics and not in bold are non-Parties to the Convention.

The total number of countries is as follows, by decreasing order:

Western, Central and Eastern Europe:	53
Africa:	52
Western, Southern and Eastern Asia:	38
Central and South America and the Caribbean:	32
Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands:	16
North America:	3

## Annex IV

### Draft terms of reference of the global coordination group

#### A. Membership of the global coordination group

1. The global coordination group should have three to five representatives from each global monitoring plan geographic region, depending on the size, number of countries and population density of that region. Fair representation of the whole region should be ensured. Members of the global coordination group will constitute the core of the regional organization groups. To establish the global coordination group, the provisional ad hoc technical working group, the mandate of which is ending after the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties, could be extended in order to achieve the necessary regional coverage.

#### B. Tasks

2. Tasks of the global coordination group include:

- (a) Coordinating and overseeing the implementation of the global monitoring plan, taking into consideration the work already achieved;
  - (b) Reviewing regional organization group strategies and promoting consistency between the regions;
  - (c) Identifying impediments to the implementation of the global monitoring plan;
  - (d) Promoting experience sharing and capacity strengthening within and between the regions;
  - (e) Facilitating preparation of the regional and global monitoring reports;
  - (f) Evaluating functioning of the first phase of the global monitoring plan and developing recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting;
  - (g) Updating the draft guidance document on the global monitoring plan taking into account technical development and possible amendment of the core media;
  - (h) Assisting in project development for the purpose of leveraging funds.
-