



# Convention on Biological Diversity

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
Fifteenth meeting - Part II  
Montreal, Canada, 7-19 December 2022  
Agenda item 15

## **INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN THE CHEMICALS AND WASTE MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS AND BIODIVERSITY**

### **Submission by the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

1. In 2021, the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions<sup>1</sup> and the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury prepared a joint study entitled “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity”.<sup>2</sup> The study was considered by the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions<sup>3</sup> at the face-to-face segment of their 2021/2022 meetings,<sup>4</sup> and by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury<sup>5</sup> at the 2022 in-person segment of its fourth meeting.<sup>6</sup>
2. In decision MC-4/12 concerning international cooperation and coordination, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury took note of the study and requested the secretariat to continue gathering knowledge about, raising awareness of and demonstrating, through appropriate means, the contribution of the implementation of the Minamata Convention to other relevant international regulations and policies, including those related to pollution, biodiversity and climate change. The Conference of the Parties also requested the secretariat of the Minamata Convention to prepare, subject to the availability of resources, a report, including possible recommendations, on how the convention could

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<sup>1</sup> Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

<sup>2</sup> Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm conventions (BRS), and the Minamata Convention on Mercury (MC), May 2021, “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity: key insights”, <http://www.basel.int/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-MC-PUB-BiodiversityInterlinkagesKeyInsights.English.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> UNEP/CHW.15/INF/44; UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/29; UNEP/POPS/COP.10/INF/48.

<sup>4</sup> The 2021/2022 meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions were held online from 26–30 July 2021 and face-to-face in Geneva, Switzerland, from 6–17 June 2022. The 2021/2022 meetings comprised the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

<sup>5</sup> UNEP/MC/COP.4/INF/13

<sup>6</sup> The fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury was held online from 1–5 November 2021 and in-person in Bali, Indonesia, from 21–25 March 2022.

contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, once adopted, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.<sup>7</sup>

3. In decisions BC-15/25, RC-10/14 and SC-10/21 concerning international cooperation and coordination with other organizations, the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions welcomed the study, including its conclusions, and requested the secretariat of the conventions to forward it to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with an invitation to bring the study to the attention of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. In the same decisions, the Conferences of the Parties called on Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to take into account the objectives of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, once adopted, in their actions to implement those conventions. The Conferences of the Parties also requested the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to prepare, subject to the availability of resources, a report, including possible recommendations, on how the conventions could contribute to the post-2020 biodiversity framework, once adopted, for consideration by the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their next meetings.<sup>8</sup>

4. Pursuant to decisions BC-15/25, RC-10/14 and SC-10/21 and to a letter received from the Executive Secretaries of the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata conventions conveying to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity the aforementioned decisions, provided in annex to the present document, the Executive Secretary wishes to bring to the attention of the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, the study entitled “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity”. The study explores the interlinkages between chemicals and waste and biodiversity and how, by promoting the sound management of chemicals and waste, the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata conventions contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the services provided by ecosystems. The study also assesses the relationship of the four conventions with the subjects addressed by the Convention on Biological Diversity, biodiversity-related conventions, and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The study is available at the following [link](#).

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<sup>7</sup> UNEP/MC/COP.4/28/Add.1, Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury on the work of its fourth meeting - In-person segment, <https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/documents/report-conference-parties-minamata-convention-mercury-work-its-fourth-meeting-person>.

<sup>8</sup> UNEP/CHW.15/31/Add.1, Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal on the work of its resumed fifteenth meeting (face-to-face and high-level segments), <http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/Meetings/COP15/tabid/8392/Default.aspx>.

UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/28/Add.1, Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade on the work of its resumed tenth meeting (face-to-face and high-level segments), <http://www.pic.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/Meetings/COP10/tabid/8398/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

UNEP/POPS/COP.10/33/Add.1, Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants on the work of its resumed tenth meeting (face-to-face and high-level segments), <http://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/Meetings/COP10/tabid/8397/Default.aspx>.

*Annex*



**BASEL CONVENTION**



**ROTTERDAM CONVENTION**



**STOCKHOLM CONVENTION**



**MINAMATA  
CONVENTION  
ON MERCURY**



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## **Submission by the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention**

### **Subject: Report “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity”**

1 November 2022

The conferences of the Parties (COPs) to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, at the face-to-face segment of their 2021/2022 meetings, and the COP to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, at the 2022 in-person segment of its fourth meeting, adopted harmonized decisions in areas of specific relevance to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

In decisions BC-15/25, RC-10/14, SC-10/21: International cooperation and coordination with other organizations, for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, and decision MC-4/12: International cooperation and coordination, for the Minamata Convention, the four COPs welcomed the report entitled “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity”, including its conclusions that had been developed jointly by the two secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and of the Minamata Convention to explore the interlinkages between the four conventions and biodiversity.

The study explores the interlinkages between chemicals and waste and biodiversity and how, by promoting the sound management of chemicals and waste, the four conventions contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the services provided by ecosystems. The study also assesses the relationship of the four conventions with the subjects focused on by the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, in particular ongoing discussions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

In their decisions, the COPs to the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm conventions and the COP to the Minamata Convention requested each of their Secretariat to prepare a report, including possible recommendations, on how the conventions could contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, once adopted, for consideration by the respective COP at its next meeting.

The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm COPs also called on Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to take into account the objectives of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, once adopted, in their actions to implement the conventions. Furthermore, the COPs requested the BRS Secretariat to forward the above-mentioned report to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with an invitation to bring the report to the attention of the COP to the Convention.

Copies of the advance versions of the above-mentioned decisions of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and to the Minamata Convention are set out in annexes I and II, respectively, to the present letter. Paragraphs relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity are marked in blue for ease of reference.

Pursuant to the request set out in the decisions, the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention herewith submit their joint report “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity” to the fifteenth meeting of the COP to the Convention on Biological Diversity, for its information and, as appropriate, consideration. The full report is set out in annex III to the present letter and is also available

at: <http://synergies.pops.int/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-MC-PUB-BiodiversityInterlinkagesKeyInsights.English.pdf>

We look forward to further engaging with Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on ways to foster interlinkages and potential for coordinated actions between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the chemicals and waste conventions.

Yours sincerely,



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