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**Intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop
an international legally binding instrument on plastic
pollution, including in the marine environment
Fifth session**

Busan, Republic of Korea, 25 November–1 December 2024 and
Geneva, Switzerland, 5–14 August 2025
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**Preparation of an international legally binding instrument on
plastic pollution, including in the marine environment**

**Information submitted by the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam
and Stockholm conventions**

Note by the secretariat

1. In its resolution 5/14, the United Nations Environment Assembly reaffirmed the importance of fostering cooperation, coordination, and complementarity among relevant regional and international conventions and instruments, with full respect for their respective mandates, in efforts to prevent plastic pollution and its associated risks to human health, well-being and the environment.
2. In line with this, the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions at their 2025 meetings (Geneva, 28 April–9 May 2025), through decisions BC-17/23, RC-12/10 and SC-12/24, acknowledged the presence and participation of the Secretariat in the process of the intergovernmental negotiating committee, including regional groups and intersessional working groups, and the activities conducted by the Secretariat in its cooperation with the intergovernmental negotiating committee, and requested the Secretariat to continue to provide the intergovernmental negotiating committee with information on the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions relevant to its work.
3. In those same decisions, the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions also reiterated their invitation to Parties participating in the intergovernmental negotiating committee to ensure that the international legally binding instrument is fully coherent with and complementary to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, that it avoids duplication of the actions set out in the relevant provisions thereof and that it promotes cooperation and coordination with those conventions, and to ensure that the expertise of the Secretariat and the Parties and the experience gained in implementing the conventions is fully shared in order to help the intergovernmental negotiating committee in its deliberations. The conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions further reiterated their encouragement to the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions to participate in the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee and to share their expertise.
4. Furthermore, in decision BC-17/11, on further consideration of plastic waste, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention decided to undertake a number of activities including: inviting Parties and others to submit information on the implementation, challenges and impacts of the plastic waste amendments by 28 February 2026; requesting the Secretariat to prepare and publish a draft report by 31 October 2026 for consideration at the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2027;

providing capacity-building and technical assistance to support implementation of the amendments; updating selected technical guidelines to reflect the amendments.

5. In addition, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted several other decisions relevant to the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee on plastic pollution. These include decision BC-17/3, by which the Conference adopted updated general technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants, including guidelines specific to UV-328, a plastic additive recently listed under the Stockholm Convention. The Conference also decided to continue work on reviewing low-POP content values, which are directly relevant for plastic waste management. Furthermore, in decision BC-17/10, the Conference of the Parties encouraged further development of electronic approaches to the notification and movement documents, which could contribute to improved traceability and control of transboundary movements of plastic waste. In decision BC-17/21, these activities were incorporated into the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2026–2027.

6. The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions include provisions and mechanisms of direct relevance to the development of a new legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. These include:

- (a) The minimization of the generation of plastic waste;
- (b) The control of transboundary movements of plastic waste;
- (c) The environmentally sound management of plastic waste; and
- (d) The identification and control of plastic additives, including through restrictions and other regulatory measures.

7. Information of relevance to the intergovernmental negotiating committee can be found in the annex to document [UNEP/PP/INC.5/INF/6](#).

8. The Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions is pleased to share additional resources from the Plastic Waste Partnership under the Basel Convention that may be of relevance to the intergovernmental negotiating committee.

9. These publications are accessible through the links provided:

- (a) [Textile waste - Pathways to Environmentally Sound Management](#);
- (b) [What Can't We Live Without? Exploring Essential Uses for Single-Use Plastics](#);
- (c) [Compilation of information on transboundary movement of plastic wastes, in particular data on the import and export of plastic wastes](#);
- (d) [Compilation of key policies and initiatives to promote the environmentally sound collection, separation and recycling of plastic waste](#);
- (e) [Compilation of best practices and identification of challenges for improving the design of plastic products to increase their durability, reusability, repairability and recyclability, as well as to reduce hazardous constituents in plastic products](#);
- (f) [Analysis of the impacts and challenges, including environmental, socio-economic and technical considerations, of the practices and measures taken to prevent and reduce plastic waste](#);
- (g) [Compilation of information on actions taken by Parties to implement the amendments to the Convention on plastic waste, including information regarding any adopted measures, and challenges experienced in preparing for implementation](#);
- (h) [Factsheet on Harmonized System codes relevant to plastic waste and their relation to the amendments to the Basel Convention on plastic waste](#);
- (i) [Factsheet on the roles of stakeholders in Parties' implementation of the amendments to the Basel Convention on plastic waste](#);
- (j) [Compilation of information, best practices and lessons learned on measures taken by key stakeholders to prevent and reduce single use plastic waste and packaging waste](#).

10. Under the Stockholm Convention, the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee developed a [report on options for identifying persistent organic pollutants in stockpiles, products, and articles in use, as well as in wastes](#), which explores approaches to enhance the traceability and transparency of chemicals in products.

11. The present note has not been formally edited.
