

## BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

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## Second Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution (29 May-2 June 2023, Paris)

### Agenda item 4: Preparation of an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

29 May 2023

#### Rolph Payet, Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

Ladies and gentlemen,

I stand before you today on behalf of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions, three global multilateral environmental agreements significantly contributing to end plastic pollution. As the international community engages in negotiations for a new global instrument, I would like to commend the excellent cooperation we have fostered with UNEP throughout this process. On the heels of the 2023 meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the BRS Conventions, which ended just two weeks ago, allow me to highlight some crucial outcomes that are of great relevance to your work this week and beyond.

These outcomes underscore the importance of cooperation, coordination, and complementarity among regional and international conventions. It is crucial that we ensure full coherence and complementarity between the new instrument and the BRS conventions, leveraging the expertise and experiences gained through their implementation and further development.

The documents submitted to this session in [UNEP/PP/INF/7/Rev.1](#) provide valuable information and guidance for your discussions. Of utmost importance are the recently adopted [technical guidelines on plastics waste](#) by the Basel Convention COP-16. They provide comprehensive guidance on the environmentally sound management of plastic waste, including extended producer responsibility and waste prevention. The COP has also acknowledged the necessity of further information on the environmentally sound management of plastic wastes through specific technologies, including chemical recycling. Further work will look into this issue.

COP-16 has also extended and strengthened the scope of the activities to be undertaken by the the Plastic Waste Partnership, including the organization of an EPR forum. This growing stakeholder platform exemplifies our commitment to address plastic pollution collaboratively.

The Secretariat, in cooperation with the regional centers, stands ready to provide technical assistance and undertake pilot projects to support Parties in implementing the technical guidelines and developing inventories of plastic waste. We express our gratitude to all the donors who have supported these critical activities.

Turning now to upstream efforts to address plastic pollution, under the Stockholm Convention, COP-11 has listed new chemicals, including Dechlorane Plus, and UV-328, which are widely used plastic additives. Recognizing the complexities involved, the COP has provided specific exemptions for these chemicals for a period of five years, with extended periods for spare parts until 2044. Identifying these chemicals in products, including plastics, poses significant challenges. In light of this, the COP has tasked the POPs Review Committee to explore options for their identification.

In closing, we aspire to fruitful discussions during this session and reaffirm the readiness of the BRS conventions to contribute constructively to finding effective solutions to the urgent challenge of plastic pollution.

Thank you.

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