Simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

22-24 February 2010
Bali, Indonesia

Greater Strength in Sync
Organization of the ExCOPs

- ExCOPs meeting took place from 22-24 February 2010 in Bali, Indonesia
- Organized back-to-back with 11th session of the UNEP Governing Council Special / Global Ministerial Environment Forum
- Individual bureau meetings took place on 20 February
- Joint meetings of the bureaus of the COPs of the three conventions took place on Saturday 20 February, Monday 22 February and Tuesday 23 February 2010

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Agenda

• Joint activities
• Joint managerial functions
• Joint services
• Synchronization of the budget cycles
• Joint audits of the accounts of the secretariats
• Decisions on review mechanisms and follow up
• Reports on information received by ED of UNEP and the secretariats on activities or proposals for joint institutions
Organization of work

• Simultaneous plenary sessions
• Open ended joint working group (OEJWG) of the three COPs prepared draft decisions on the substantive issues
• Contact groups on joint activities, joint management and the review mechanism were established
• Omnibus decision adopted simultaneously by the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention and Stockholm Convention in plenary on Wednesday morning
Decisions – Joint Activities

• Parties and other stakeholders to undertake cooperative and coordinated activities to implement synergies decisions, including by strengthening national processes or mechanisms

• Parties and other stakeholders to promote use of the Basel and Stockholm Regional Centres and to consider further selection of regional focal centres

• Parties, Regional Centres and other stakeholders to exchange experience on activities carried out to implement synergies and to report to the COPs in 2011

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Decisions – Joint Activities

• UNEP, UNDP, FAO, WHO, the World Bank, the GEF and other relevant organizations to report on their efforts to promote programmatic cooperation and coordination at the national level to the COPs in 2011

• Secretariats to continue to implement joint activities and report to the COPs in 2011

• Secretariats to develop proposals for cross-cutting and joint activities for the COPs in 2011
Decisions – Joint Activities

• Work plan for the shared clearing house mechanism (CHM) for the three conventions was endorsed on a preliminary basis.

• Secretariats requested to prepare a report on other CHMs and similar mechanisms in the chemicals and wastes area, specially SAICM CHM and how elements could be included in the CHM of the three Conventions to avoid duplication of work.

• Secretariats to present a revised work plan of the CHM to the COPs in 2011.
Decisions – Joint Managerial Functions

- Joint head function established for the secretariats of the Basel, Stockholm and UNEP part of the Rotterdam Convention

- Subject to review and based on voluntary funding

- UNEP ED, after consultation with the bureaus of the conventions, to immediately recruit the joint head for a two years period

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Decisions – Joint Managerial Functions

• UNEP ED in consultation with FAO Director-General to develop a proposal for a modification of the organization of the Secretariats, including possible continuation of the joint head that is cost-neutral with respect to the adopted operating budgets of the three Conventions

• Parties to consider this proposal for possible adoption at a COP no later than 2013

• Review of the joint head function to be undertaken within the context of the overall review arrangements
Decisions – Joint Services

• Joint services established on
  – Joint financial and administrative support service
  – Joint legal service
  – Joint IT service
  – Joint information service
  – Joint resource mobilization service

• Proposal on common arrangement for staffing and financing joint services approved for existing posts

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Decisions – Joint Services

• UNEP ED in consultation with the FAO Director-General and the joint head to develop a proposal for a modification of the organization of the Secretariats for the 2012-2013 biennium for possible adoption by the COPs in 2011:
  – Cost-neutral with respect to the adopted operating budgets of the three Conventions for 2010-2011
  – Consistent with the proposal for the permanent joint head
  – Save costs on support services and move resources towards assistance for implementing the conventions

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Decisions – Synchronization of budget cycles

- Executive Secretaries requested to continue to synchronize budget cycles of the conventions

Decisions – Joint Audits

- UN Office for Internal Oversight Services to audit in 2010 the strategic management of UNEP MEAs
- UNEP ED to present a report on the audit of each convention for consideration by COPs in 2011
Decisions – Review Arrangements

• First review at COPs in 2013 on how far arrangements adopted pursuant to synergies decisions have contributed to achieving the following objectives:
  – Strengthen implementation of conventions at national, regional and global levels
  – Promote coherent policy guidance
  – Reduce administrative burden
  – Maximize effective use of resources
  – Take into account global concerns and specific needs of developing and transition countries
  – Protect human health and the environment for the promotion of sustainable development

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Decisions – Review arrangements

• Review to be carried out on two tracks: UNEP/FAO and the Secretariats

• Terms of reference for the two reviews to be prepared for adoption at COPs in 2011

• Secretariats’ review to include recommendations and information collected from Parties through a questionnaire

• UNEP/FAO’s review to include recommendations, be carried out through their respective evaluation units and take input from Parties, the Secretariats and other stakeholders into account

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