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Swiss perspective on the regional meetings and the triple COPs

Unique event in the international environmental governance: for the second time three Multilateral Environmental Agreement organize Conferences

Lesson learnt in the organization of the meeting are addressed this time: adjustment of the time allocated to the contact group. Some technical working groups benefit from more time so they are established at the beginning. Others can do they work in less time such as the budget group.

Areas which are key for a successful outcome:

Compliance: adoption of the compliance mechanism for the Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention.

Financing: coordinated and joint guidance from all three Conventions to the financial institutions (e.g. GEF), donors and other relevant actors.

Synergy review: Terms of Reference that allow to measure progress against the main objective of the synergy process: ensure policy coherence at international level to facilitate the implementation of the Conventions.

Substances: listing of all recommended substances by the scientific bodies of the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in particular Chrysotil Asbestos and Paraquat. As the theme requests from science to action. For a safer future.

Adoption of complete and **ambitious technical guidelines** on e-waste and mercury waste by the Parties to the Basel Convention.

Further implementation of the adopted **Indonesian-Swiss Country-Lead Initiative** decisions to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention. This decision addresses three areas which are equally important and constitute a packet: The areas are

- Facilitation of the entry into force of the Ban amendment
- Development of international standards and certification systems for environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes
- Provide legal clarity on number of controversial terms

Indonesia and Switzerland are going to arrange a ban amendment ceremony on 4 May to honor and celebrate the countries that have ratified the ban amendment since the last Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in 2013.

Continue the existing and explore options for new **public-private partnerships** under the Basel Convention.

Additional factors for a successful outcome:

Competent and experienced Secretariat support. Joint Secretariat has this capacity and if needed get back up from UNEP Chemicals.

Regional consultations:

For the first time regional preparatory meetings take place to allow Parties to consult and prepare for the triple COPs. They organized back to –back with regional Workshops on the Minamata Convention and have a joint segment. So it allows for exchanging and sharing knowledge and experiences in the chemicals and waste cluster.

Switzerland as host country will do its outmost to create the best environment to enable a productive and constructive atmosphere. But will also allow for attractive recreation break. For example Switzerland arranges for **a boat trip on Lake Geneva on Sunday 10 May**. Thank you for your attention and Switzerland is looking forward to seeing you all again in May at the joint meeting of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.