

SC-7/16: Technical assistance

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the information provided by the Secretariat on technical assistance for the implementation of the Convention;¹
2. *Welcomes* the development of a database for the collection of information pertaining to the needs of parties for the implementation of the Convention, as well as information on available assistance;
3. *Invites* developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition to provide information to the Secretariat on their needs in terms of technical assistance and technology transfer, according to the provisions of the Convention, their difficulties in implementing the Convention and any other views in this regard;
4. *Invites* developed-country parties and others with the capacity to do so to continue to provide information to the Secretariat, according to the provisions of the Convention, on the technical assistance and technology that they have available to be transferred to developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to collect the information pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 above, through tailored electronic questionnaires, making full use of the database for the collection of the needs of parties in implementing their obligations under the Convention, and also requests the Secretariat to analyse such information and to identify the gaps and barriers regarding technical assistance and technology transfer and to propose recommendations and take action to address those problems;
6. *Welcomes* the technical assistance programme² and requests the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to implement it in cooperation with relevant actors and to take into account the elements contained therein when carrying out its work to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance and capacity-building for the implementation of the Basel Convention, 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, and urges parties and others in a position to do so to provide funding and other resources to support the implementation of the activities contained in the technical assistance programme;
7. *Requests* the Secretariat, when implementing the technical assistance programme referred to in paragraph 6 above, to take into account the specific needs for technical assistance expressed by developing country parties and parties with economies in transition resulting from the listing of new chemicals in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention, in particular in the areas of the development of inventories, the monitoring of persistent organic pollutants in the environment and access to information on the availability of technologies for controlling new chemicals in Annex C and their cost;
8. *Authorizes* the Secretariat to contract independent financial audits of capacity-building and technical assistance projects and other related activities undertaken at the regional and/or national level in the implementation of the conventions, subject to the availability of resources, in cases where such audits appear necessary;
9. *Emphasizes* the key role of the regional centres, as contained in the provisions of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, as well as the regional and subregional offices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in delivering technical assistance upon request at the regional level regarding the implementation of the technical assistance programme and facilitating technology transfer to eligible parties;

¹ See UNEP/CHW.12/13-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/13-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/13.

² See UNEP/CHW.12/INF/25-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/17-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/16.

10. *Requests the Secretariat:*

(a) To submit a report to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting on progress made in providing technical assistance for capacity-building and the promotion of technology transfer to parties, taking into account the information collected pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 above;

(b) To prepare a technical assistance programme for the biennium 2018–2019 based on the information collected pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 above, taking into account the synergies process as well as the evaluation of the technical assistance programme.