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**Basel Convention on the Control of
Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

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**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior
Informed Consent Procedure for
Certain Hazardous Chemicals and
Pesticides in International Trade**



**Stockholm Convention on Persistent
Organic Pollutants**

**Conference of the Parties to the
Basel Convention on the Control
of Transboundary Movements
of Hazardous Wastes and
Their Disposal
Thirteenth meeting**
Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
**Enhancing cooperation and
coordination among the Basel,
Rotterdam and Stockholm
conventions**

**Conference of the Parties to the
Rotterdam Convention on the Prior
Informed Consent Procedure for
Certain Hazardous Chemicals and
Pesticides in International Trade
Eighth meeting**
Geneva, 24 April–5 May 2017
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Rotterdam and Stockholm
conventions**

**Draft workplan for the implementation of the joint clearing-
house mechanism for the biennium 2018–2019**

Note by the Secretariat

As referred to in the note by the Secretariat on the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange (UNEP/CHW.13/23-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/22-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/26), the annex to the present note sets out the draft workplan for the implementation of the joint clearing-house mechanism for the biennium 2018–2019. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

* UNEP/CHW.13/1.

** UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/1.

*** UNEP/POPS/COP.8/1.

Annex

Draft workplan for the implementation of the joint clearing-house mechanism for the biennium 2018–2019

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I. Information exchange needs of Parties

1. The Secretariat has collected, through various processes and documents as described below, information and comments from Parties and other stakeholders on the joint clearing-house mechanism. A number of Parties and other stakeholders expressed the usefulness of the joint clearing-house mechanism for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the importance of a balance between benefits obtained and invested resources. Therefore any activity undertaken by the Secretariat on the joint clearing-house mechanism involves first the collection and consideration of the actual information needs and priorities of Parties and others.

2. Information exchange needs and priorities expressed by Parties and others have been collected through the following processes and documents:

- (a) Decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29 on the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange in which Parties identified eleven priority areas;
- (b) Feedback received from Parties and others on the draft strategy for further development and operation of the joint clearing-house mechanism for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;¹
- (c) Report on the overall review of the synergies arrangements (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/43-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/46);
- (d) Draft road map for further engaging Parties and other stakeholders in an informed dialogue for enhanced science-based action in the implementation of the conventions (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/50-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/35-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/52);
- (e) Report on the effectiveness evaluation of the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/40) and its executive summary (UNEP/POPS/COP.8/22/Add.1);
- (f) Reports of the annual joint meetings of the directors of the regional centres held in Geneva from 5 to 8 October 2015² and from 31 October to 2 November 2016;³
- (g) Reports on the technical assistance needs of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition for the implementation of the conventions (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/35, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/25 and UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/23).

A. Summary of information exchange needs and priorities expressed

3. Pursuant to decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29, Parties requested the Secretariat to provide access to information on eleven priority areas, within available resources.

4. As part of the feedback provided by Parties and others on the joint clearing-house mechanism draft strategy, the Secretariat received 39 comments from 37 Parties and 10 comments from other stakeholders through an online survey. The European Union and its member States also provided their comments in a document.⁴ The following views were expressed:⁵

(a) 92% of respondents agreed that information on best practices and experiences should be included in the mechanism, 92% agreed that scientific information on health and environmental impacts should be included, 90% agreed that information on technical and financial assistance should be included, 86% agreed that legislative and regulatory information should be included, 82% agreed that information on socio-economic impacts should be included, 76% agreed that information on technology transfer should be included, and 76% agreed that information on the status of implementation of the conventions in the joint clearing-house mechanism should be included. Several respondents expressed a need to access information in multiple languages;

(b) As means to provide access to information, 90% of respondents indicated that the joint clearing-house mechanism should include the conventions' websites, 86% indicated that it should include online databases, 82% indicated that it should include online reporting systems, 80% indicated

¹ <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=4648>.

² <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=4624>.

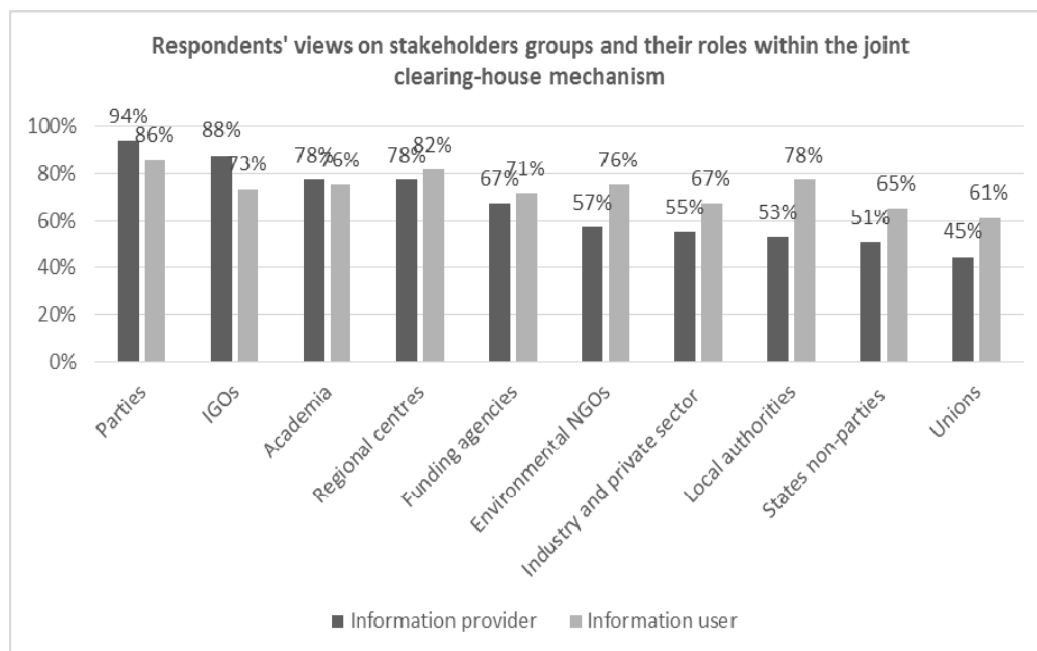
³ <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=5281>.

⁴ <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=4648>.

⁵ As the views from the European Union and its member States were provided in a document, the numbers presented in this paragraph are based on the respondents to the online survey. Nonetheless, views from the European Union and its member States were taken into consideration in this draft workplan and in the revised draft strategy.

that it should include information exchange systems, 78% indicated that it should include online questionnaires, 78% indicated that it should include common regional and national documentation centres and websites, 69% indicated that it should include online collaboration tools, 57% indicated that it should include offline media (CD-ROMs, USB memory sticks) and mobile applications, 45% indicated that it should include social media tools and 37% indicated that it should include paper-based publications;

(c) Views from respondents on which priority stakeholders groups would actively participate as information providers or as information users in the joint clearing-house mechanism are outlined in the figure below.



5. The report on the overall review of the synergies arrangements⁶ presents a number of findings relevant to the joint clearing-house mechanism. Among other things, the report recommends that the Secretariat should explore ways of improving the user-friendliness and navigability of the conventions' websites. These should include an improved search function and the option of navigating the content on a regional and thematic basis. It also recommends to consider increasing the number of languages in which key documents (or summaries thereof) are available and to explore ways to minimise the time and administrative burden on Parties when uploading documents to the joint clearing-house mechanism.

6. As part of the responses to the online survey conducted in preparation of the draft road map for further engaging Parties and other stakeholders in an informed dialogue for enhanced science-based action,⁷ Parties and others expressed their views as follows:

(a) 73% of respondents expressed their interest in accessing information related to policy and regulations; 62% on environmental or human health; 57% on inventory and stockpiles; 53% on environmental or human exposure; 52% on use, production and trade; 48% on releases and monitoring data; 42% on alternatives; 42% on environmental fate; and 37% on best environmental techniques and best environmental practices (BAT/BEP). 48% to 52% of respondents from both developed countries and developing countries and countries with economies in transition indicated that relevant information on use, production, trade and exposure was not available. Furthermore, respondents indicated that relevant information on policy, regulations, environmental or human health effects, and BAT/BEP was more readily available for developed countries while a higher proportion of respondents from developing countries and countries with economies in transition indicated that such information was not available. It was also reported that lack of information in multiple languages is a barrier;

⁶ UNEP/CHW.13/INF/43-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/46.

⁷ UNEP/CHW.13/INF/50-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/35-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/52, annex II.

(b) 37% of respondents indicated that they had access to libraries provided by governments with a ratio of 68% for developed countries versus 27% for developing countries and countries with economies in transition. It was also reported a need for improved networking and exchange of information among Parties to the conventions and to improve communication among all stakeholders involved in the sound management of chemicals and wastes. Furthermore, respondents expressed a need for a “one-stop shop” searchable database for information on chemicals and wastes, including information transmitted by Parties. Finally, a number of recommendations were made to improve the conventions’ websites, namely by improving their search function, by guiding users to other resources, expertise information and data from Parties other than the ones contained in meeting documents;

(c) A number of recommendations were made to improve networking and exchange of information among Parties and others, and reaching out to other science-policy groups to enhance collaboration, fill knowledge gaps and improve awareness of emerging issues.

7. The report on the effectiveness evaluation of the Stockholm Convention⁸ recommends that Parties should continue to exchange information through the clearing-house mechanism.

8. The 2015 and 2016 annual joint meetings of the directors of the regional centres recommended⁹ that a separate tab for the regional centres should be created in the conventions websites and that more networking opportunities for regional centres need to be explored. Selected centres expressed their interest in exploring ways to automatically exchange information within the joint clearing-house mechanism.

9. As part of the feedback provided on the technical assistance needs of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition,¹⁰ Parties expressed a need for accessing information on candidates’ chemicals.

B. Conclusions on expressed information exchange needs and priorities

10. Concerning the scope of information to be included in the joint clearing-house mechanism, Parties and others indicated that it should cover all of the 11 areas outlined in paragraph 5 of decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29.

11. However, Parties and others have indicated that higher priority should be given to access scientific, technical and socio-economic information, particularly on use, production, trade, exposure, alternatives and stockpiles of chemicals and wastes covered by the conventions; as well as information on technical and financial assistance. Providing access to information on policy, regulations, environmental or health effects and best practices is especially a priority for developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

12. Parties and others have given a lower priority to the exchange of information on technology transfer.

13. It can also be noted that providing access to information in multiple languages, even in a summary form, should be a priority.

14. Concerning the information tools, Parties and others clearly indicated that priority should be given to conventions’ websites, online databases, online reporting and online questionnaires for accessing and exchanging information. It is to be noted that several Parties and others requested a more user-friendly search engines on the conventions’ websites. On the other hand, off-line media, such as CD-ROMs or USB sticks, and paper-based publications, were indicated as lower priority for accessing information.

15. Concerning the communities using and producing information on the joint clearing-house mechanism, Parties and others indicated that there is a strong need for an improved networking and exchange of information among Parties, as well as a need to reach out to other stakeholders, including intergovernmental organizations, regional centres, academia and funding agencies to enhance collaboration, fill knowledge gaps and provide access to specific topics of interest through a regional scope.

⁸ UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/40, UNEP/POPS/COP.8/22/Add.1.

⁹ <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=4624> for 2015, <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=5281> for 2016.

¹⁰ UNEP/CHW.13/INF/35, UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/25 and UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/23.

II. Description of proposed activities

16. Progress made in the implementation of the joint clearing-house mechanism pursuant to decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29 is outlined in document UNEP/CHW.13/23–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/22–UNEP/POPS/COP.8/26. The present workplan covers activities related to priority areas that were not funded in the 2016–2017 biennium, and builds on activities initiated in previous bienniums, such as the joint chemical profiles. The present workplan also covers activities related to maintenance and updates of existing records keeping systems and websites that serve as a foundation for any joint clearing-house mechanism activity ensuring that there is no duplication of efforts and that maintenance efforts remain minimal.

A. Recurring activities

17. Recurring joint clearing-house mechanism activities include the maintenance and updating of existing information tools, systems and processes, and are usually covered by core budget to ensure smooth and efficient information management operations.

1. Activity 1 – Maintenance of Secretariat records keeping systems, including documents management, correspondence tracking, meeting record systems and status of ratifications

(a) Needs

18. To enable the Secretariat to perform its functions in a smooth and efficient manner, the Secretariat should maintain and keep up-to-date its internal information management and records keeping systems. This serves as the foundation for various information packages that the Secretariat disseminates as part of the joint clearing-house mechanism.

19. This activity contributes to the implementation of the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Description

20. The Secretariat will upgrade its contacts database, events database and mail-out system (MS CRM) as well as its documents management system to their latest version in order to benefit from improvements and new available technologies, including an improved security against online threats.

21. The Secretariat should also take the necessary measures to keep its information up-to-date and properly catalogued, as deemed necessary.

(c) Desired outcomes

22. Information exchange systems are kept efficient, interoperable and operational and contribute to supporting Parties and others in the implementation of the conventions.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

23. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to program the necessary information technology tools and ensure proper data entry and cataloguing, complemented by staff time.

24. This is an ongoing or periodic activity.

25. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled “Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets” (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

2. Activity 2 – Maintenance of existing websites and related information systems and services

(a) Needs

26. To keep the conventions’ websites up-to-date in terms of content, tools and services, including to address the expressed need to improve search and navigability.

27. This activity contributes to the implementation of the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Description

28. The Secretariat will upgrade the conventions’ websites search function to provide more accurate results and direct access to online resources. To do so, the Secretariat will introduce its taxonomy to index web pages and complete, where necessary, the web pages metadata to provide more accurate search results.

29. The Secretariat will complement the existing thematic navigation with cross-cutting navigation tools on its websites to facilitate access to information grouped by generic categories such as news, events, documents and audio-visuals, similar to traditional libraries.
30. The Secretariat will adjust the websites layout for a more user-friendly and responsive access to information from mobile devices.
31. The Secretariat will upgrade the websites content management system to their latest version in order to benefit from improvements and new available technologies, including an improved security against online threats.
32. The Secretariat will upgrade its taxonomy to enable automatic information exchange with regional centres, inforMEA and other ongoing initiatives.
33. The Secretariat will engage Parties and others to update their joint country profiles¹¹ and joint roster of experts.¹²
34. The Secretariat will enhance the PIC database and related online submission forms to respond to necessary fixes and adjustments pertaining to the new PIC Circular format.
35. The Secretariat will further enhance the functionalities of the Final Regulatory Action Evaluation Toolkit based on the needs identified at workshops and at consultative meetings with Rotterdam Convention Designated National Authority.
36. The Secretariat will share most recent developments in scientific findings relevant to the conventions.
37. The Secretariat will also undertake the necessary recurrent tasks to keep the websites available and up-to-date, including data entry and data quality control.

(c) **Desired outcomes**

38. The conventions' websites and related information exchange systems are kept up-to-date, efficient, interoperable and operational in order to support Parties and others to implement the conventions.

(d) **Approach, timescale and costs**

39. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to program the necessary information technology tools and ensure proper data entry and cataloguing, complemented by staff time.

40. This is an ongoing or recurrent activity.

41. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

3. Activity 3 – Translation of the Rotterdam website into French and Spanish

(a) **Needs**

42. To continue with the current practice, and to respond to the repeated recommendations from Parties and others to provide access to information in languages.

43. This activity contributes to the implementation of the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) **Description**

44. Translation of web pages, selected documents and information systems interfaces into French and Spanish. Development of multilingual search facilities.

(c) **Desired outcomes**

45. Information on the Rotterdam Convention website is provided and kept up-to-date in English, French and Spanish thereby contributing to the reduction of language barriers when it comes to accessing information related to the Rotterdam Convention.

¹¹ <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=4466>.

¹² <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=3791>.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

46. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to perform the translations, complemented by staff time.

47. This is an ongoing or recurrent activity.

48. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

4. Activity 4 – Hardware and software upgrades**(a) Needs**

49. To upgrade storage and processing capacity to enable the Secretariat to manage the increasing volume of information exchanged through the joint clearing-house mechanism, as well as its capacity to re-package it for different target audiences.

50. This activity contributes to the implementation of the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Description

51. Procurement, testing and deployment of information technology equipment required to support the joint clearing-house mechanism.

(c) Desired outcomes

52. Information exchange systems are efficient, interoperable and operational in order to support Parties and others in implementing the conventions.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

53. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will purchase information technology equipment and software licenses.

54. This is an ongoing or periodic activity.

55. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

B. Priority areas beyond the recurring activities**1. Activity 5 – Enhance the “chemical profiles” to include information provided by selected partners****(a) Needs**

56. To provide access to information on chemicals as outlined in decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29 paragraph 5 (a) (v) and (vi), to create an information hub ("one-stop shop") that would allow access to a wide range of information about a given chemical, including published articles and government information, to reach out to stakeholders to enhance collaboration and fill knowledge gaps, and to minimise the time and administrative burden when uploading documents to the joint clearing-house mechanism.

57. By expanding the chemical profiles with information provided by partners, the Secretariat is contributing to the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services and the second goal on the establishment of a global network of information providers and users outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Product description

58. The chemical profiles tool is accessible from the conventions' websites.¹³ It aggregates in one place, as much information as practically possible, from diverse sources held by the Secretariat. For a given chemical, it provides access to information on its identity, its properties, hazards and risks, uses, production, alternatives and monitoring data. It also covers information on socio-economic impacts, related national legislation and regulations, official documents and publications, case studies, guidance and available expertise.

¹³ <http://www.brsmeas.org/?tabid=5341>.

59. The Secretariat will complement the technical and scientific information available in the chemical profiles with information provided by selected partners. This should include selected information collected by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in its eChem Portal,¹⁴ as part of the ongoing collaboration between the OECD and the Secretariat. The Secretariat will also explore other possibilities for cooperation and collaboration with other stakeholders, such as regional centres and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to enhance information access and fill knowledge gaps. Finally, the Secretariat will use the findings of the responses received from Parties to the questionnaire on the implementation of paragraph 2 of Article 11 and Articles 12 and 14 of the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/10).

60. The Secretariat will develop a tool to facilitate the upload of chemical information into the chemical profiles and to automatically retrieve and provide such information from and to existing partners' systems.

(c) Desired outcomes

61. Enhanced chemical profiles tool to support Parties' decision making, strengthen information exchange and networking among Parties and others, and fill knowledge gaps.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

62. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to program the necessary information systems, to assist with analysis of information provided by partners, and to support partners to connect their existing systems with the joint clearing-house mechanism, complemented by staff time.

63. The estimated timescale for the implementation of this activity is seven months.

64. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

2. Activity 6 – Development of a joint portal on information from regional centres

(a) Needs

65. To strengthen common regional and national documentation centres and websites, regional structures and information delivery at regional levels in languages, and to use regional centres as information and resource centres for Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, while reducing administrative burden to upload information on the joint clearing-house mechanism.

66. By developing such a portal, regional centres and the Secretariat are contributing to the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services and the second goal on the establishment of a global network of information providers and users outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Product description

67. The Secretariat will work in collaboration with selected regional centres to develop and keep up-to-date a searchable joint portal collecting information produced by regional centres. This portal will be accessible from the conventions' websites. It will aggregate in one place selected information produced and collected by regional centres. The portal will use technologies and standards as outlined in the guidance document for Parties and other stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of the joint clearing-house mechanism at the national and regional levels (UNEP/FAO/CHW/RC/POPS/EXCOPS.2/INF/19) to keep the content automatically synchronized, reducing administrative burden and costs. This approach will also ensure compatibility with the InforMEA portal.

(c) Desired outcomes

68. Strengthened common regional and national documentation centres and websites, regional structures and regional centres, regional delivery of information relevant to the conventions in languages; information gaps identified and addressed.

¹⁴ <http://www.echemportal.org>.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

69. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to program the necessary information systems, to assist with analysis of information provided by regional centres, and to support them to connect their existing systems with the joint clearing-house mechanism, complemented by staff time.

70. The estimated timescale for the implementation of this activity is ten months.

71. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

3. Activity 7 – Online visualization tool for data and trends using information submitted by Parties through national reports, the PIC procedure and other notification procedures under the conventions**(a) Needs**

72. To provide access to information on national reporting, the prior informed consent procedure and other notification procedures under the conventions (see decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29, paragraph 5 (a) (vii)).

73. By developing such a visualization tool, the Secretariat is contributing to the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Product description

74. The visualization tool will compute and analyse data to show statistics, trends and graphs in a dashboard. It will display data on chemicals and wastes submitted by Parties through national reports and the PIC procedure and other notification procedures, i.e. related information on chemicals and wastes inventories, their uses, import and export of hazardous wastes and other wastes, etc.

(c) Desired outcomes

75. User-friendly access to information submitted by Parties on uses, import and export of chemicals and wastes related to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions is provided; increased Parties' capacity to monitor global trends.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

76. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to program the necessary information systems and ensure proper data entry and cataloguing, complemented by staff time.

77. The estimated timescale for the implementation of this activity is six and an half months.

78. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

4. Activity 8 – Development of an online library on priority waste streams, including related guidelines**(a) Needs**

79. To provide access to information on priority waste streams under the Basel Convention such as e-wastes, mercury wastes and persistent organic pollutant wastes, and related technical guidelines (see decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29, paragraph 5 (a) (iii)), and scientific information on health and environmental impacts.

80. By developing such a library, the Secretariat is contributing to the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Product description

81. The online library on priority waste streams will be accessible from the Basel Convention website. It will aggregate information on selected waste streams, including guidance for their inventories, with linkages to the Basel Convention technical guidelines and other relevant information.

(c) Desired outcomes

82. Parties have access to the necessary information to support the development of inventories on waste streams and to facilitate national reporting activities.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

83. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to program the necessary information systems and ensure proper data entry and cataloguing, complemented by staff time.

84. The estimated timescale for the implementation of this activity is two months.

85. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

5. Activity 9 – Integration of the ENFORCE website on illegal traffic issues into the joint clearing-house mechanism**(a) Needs**

86. To provide access to information on illegal traffic under the Basel Convention (see decisions BC-12/21, RC-7/11 and SC-7/29, paragraph 5 (a) (iv)), to support the activities of the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE), and to improve networking and exchange of information among Parties and outreach to other science-policy groups to enhance collaboration, address knowledge gaps and improve awareness of illegal traffic issues.

87. With this activity, ENFORCE members and the Secretariat are contributing to the implementation of the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services and the second goal on the establishment of a global network of information providers and users outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Product description

88. The ENFORCE website will be integrated into joint clearing-house mechanism, ensuring that there is no duplication of efforts, and will provide access to tools, publications, projects, activities collected by ENFORCE, as well as information on its members and events, with the aim to deliver capacity-building activities on preventing and combating illegal traffic in hazardous chemicals and wastes.

(c) Desired outcomes

89. Information on illegal traffic issues under the Basel Convention is complemented by the information collected and prepared by ENFORCE members; Parties and other stakeholders can access information on capacity-building activities and tools to prevent and combat illegal traffic.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

90. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of a consultant to ensure updating and publishing of information on the ENFORCE website. The consultant will also assist in the preparation of criteria for inclusion of content in the website. The hosting and maintenance of the website will be covered by staff time.

91. This will be an ongoing activity, based on a consultant working two days per month for the duration of the 2018–2019 biennium.

92. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).

6. Activity 10 – Development of an online catalogue on alternatives to chemicals**(a) Needs**

93. To provide access to information on chemical alternatives to exchange success stories and information on innovative pilot projects from Parties and others, and to improve networking and exchange of information among Parties, including through regional delivery through regional centres, and outreach to other science-policy groups to enhance collaboration, fill knowledge gaps and improve awareness of available alternative to chemicals.

94. By developing such an online catalogue, Parties, regional centres and the Secretariat are contributing to the first goal on enhancement of infrastructure and services and the second goal on the

establishment of a global network of information providers and users outlined in the revised draft joint clearing-house mechanism strategy.

(b) Product description

95. The online catalogue on alternatives to chemicals will be accessible from the conventions' websites. It will be composed by a searchable database that can be updated online by the Secretariat. The database could also be updated by regional centres and selected providers of information on success stories related to alternatives to chemicals.

(c) Desired outcomes

96. Increased information exchange related to alternatives to chemicals and related success stories relevant for the implementation of the conventions; increased awareness on available alternatives; addressed information gaps.

(d) Approach, timescale and costs

97. To implement this activity, the Secretariat will seek the support of consultants to design the database and program the necessary information systems. Data collection, data entry and cataloguing will be covered by Secretariat staff time.

98. The estimated timescale for the implementation of this activity is nine months.

99. Estimated costs for this activity are outlined in the note by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2018–2019: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/52-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/37-UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/54).