

Information on the agreement by the bureaux of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on the organization of the 2021 meetings of the conferences of the Parties

- **Format and dates:** The 2021 meetings of the conferences of the Parties (COPs) will be held in two segments, an online segment and a face-to-face segment, as follows:
 - **Online segment:** Online meetings over 5 days tentatively in July 2021.
 - **Face-to-face segment:** Face-to-face meetings over two weeks in 2022 (tentatively in June 2022, in Geneva).

- **List of prioritized agenda items and expected decisions to be covered during the online segment:**
 - Elections of officers:
 - To elect the members of the Effectiveness Evaluation Committee of the Stockholm Convention.
 - To elect the members of the Compliance Committee of the Rotterdam Convention.
 - To extend the terms of office of CRC and POPRC members whose terms of office expire on 30 April 2022 and 4 May 2022, respectively, until the closing of the COPs.
 - Programmes of work and budgets: to approve an interim simplified budget for 2022 to allow the continued operations of the conventions, including the Secretariat, beyond 31 December 2021 pending the adoption of a full budget for the biennium 2022-2023 by the COPs during the face-to-face segment in 2022. *An information document will be prepared by the Secretariat outlining how the intersessional work could proceed until the face-to-face segment of the COPs.*
 - Venue and date of the face-to-face segment of the COPs and of the next COPs: to agree on the venue and dates of the face-to-face segment of the COPs in 2022. The decision on the venue and dates of the next meetings of the COPs will be taken during the face-to-face segment of the COPs.
 - Financial resources and mechanisms of the Stockholm Convention: to forward to the GEF the reports on needs assessment and on the review of the financial mechanism, and invite the GEF to consider, on an interim basis, this information for the replenishment discussions, pending a final decision of the COP on this matter expected to be taken during the face-to-face segment in 2022.

- **Tentative schedule of work for the 5-day online segment:**
 - 5 days of online meetings of the COPs in July 2021, or possibly later (dates to be determined), with 2 days of joint plenary sessions, with interpretation in the six UN languages on the first and last days; and 3 days of joint contact group meetings on the programmes of work and budgets on the second, third and fourth days, in English only. At the end of the online segment on the fifth day, the meetings will be suspended until the face-to-face segment of the COPs in 2022. Regional groups will be able to meet during the online segment of the COPs. The agreed tentative schedule of work of the online segment of the COPs is set out below.

- **Tentative schedule of work for the two-week face-to-face segment:**
 - Schedule of the 2-week meetings with interpretation in the six UN languages as set out below, pending the decision by the bureaux on the scheduling of the high-level segment. During the face-to-face meetings, the COPs will consider all agenda items on their respective agendas which were not considered or concluded during the online

segment and deferred to the face-to-face segment. The agreed tentative schedule of work for the face-to-face segment of the COPs, pending the decision on the scheduling of the high-level segment, is set out below.

- **Regional preparatory meetings:**
 - Meetings will be held in two parts as follows:
 - Online two-day meetings of 4-hour duration, with interpretation provided in 3 regions, in May-June 2021 to focus on the agenda items proposed for consideration during the online segment of the COPs. Exact dates to be discussed and agreed with the bureaux members from each region.
 - Face-to-face 3-day meetings in 2022, in advance of the face-to-face segment of the COPs to include agenda items to be covered during that segment of the COPs, as decided by each region.
- **High-level segment of the COPs to be held in 2022:**
 - Details of the arrangements of the high-level segment are to be further considered by the bureaux after the online segment of the COPs. Once a decision has been taken by the bureaux regarding the arrangements for the high-level segment, the tentative schedule as set out below would be adjusted accordingly.

Tentative schedule of work of the online segment in July 2021

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4-hour sessions.	BC Item 1: Opening of the BC meeting BC Item 2: Adoption of the agenda	Contact group on POW/budget (i.e. interim simplified budget for 2022) (English only)	Contact group on POW/budget	Contact group on POW/budget	Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Adoption of the reports on credentials</i>
	RC Item 1: Opening of the RC meeting RC Item 2: Adoption of the agenda				BC session: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact group on POW/ budget, i.e. draft decision on BC interim budget for 2022, and draft decision on dates/venue</i>
	SC Item 1: Opening of the SC meeting SC Item 2: Adoption of the agenda				Item 11: Adoption of the report
	Joint sessions of the COPs: BC Item 3; RC Item 3; SC Item 3: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (a) Election of officers (c) Credentials ¹				RC session: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact group on POW/ budget, i.e. draft decision on RC interim budget for 2022, and draft decisions on elections and on dates/venue</i>
	BC Item 7; RC Item 8; SC Item 8: Programme of work and budget				Item 12: Adoption of the report
	BC Item 9; RC Item 10; SC Item 10: Venue and date of the resumed meetings and of the next meetings of the COPs				SC session: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact group on POW/ budget, i.e. draft decision on SC interim budget for 2022, and draft decisions on elections, on the financial mechanism, and on dates/venue</i>
SC Item 5 (g): Financial resources and mechanisms					Item 12: Adoption of the report
					BC Item 12; RC Item 13; SC Item 13: Closure of the meetings (suspension)

¹ As agreed by the bureaux and based on past practice, the bureaux would accept, in addition to original credentials in good order, copies of credentials on the understanding that original credentials would be submitted as soon as possible. The Bureau of each COP would examine the credentials of representatives attending its meeting and report to the respective COP once during the online segment (Friday) and twice during the face-to-face segment (Friday afternoon of the first week; Thursday afternoon of the second week).

Tentative schedule of work for the face-to-face segment of the COPs in 2022 (first week) – HLS not yet included

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning session 10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Resumption of the COPs</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	No formal meetings
	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: BC Item 3; RC Item 3; SC Item 3: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (cont.) (a) Election of officers (cont.) (c) Credentials (cont.)</p> <p>BC Item 4: Matters related to the implementation of the Convention (b) Scientific and technical matters: (i) Technical guidelines (only POPs wastes)</p> <p>SC Item 5: Matters related to the implementation of the Convention (c) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from wastes</p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: BC Item 4 (cont.) (d) Technical assistance RC Item 5: Matters related to the implementation of the Convention (e) Technical assistance SC Item 5 (cont.) (f) Technical assistance</p> <p>BC Item 4 (cont.) (f) Financial resources RC Item 5 (cont.) (f) Financial resources SC Item 5 (cont.) (g) Financial resources and mechanisms</p> <p>BC Item 7; RC Item 8; SC Item 8: Programme of work and budget (cont.)</p> <p>BC Item 8; RC Item 9; SC Item 9: Implementation of the MOU between UNEP and BC COP; MOU between FAO, UNEP and RC COP; MOU between UNEP and SC COP</p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: BC Item 5; RC Item 6; SC Item 6: International cooperation and coordination; (a) Cooperation and coordination with the Minamata Convention on Mercury; (b) Cooperation and coordination with other organizations.</p> <p>BC Item 6; RC Item 7; SC Item 7: Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (a) Clearing house mechanism for information exchange; (b) Mainstreaming gender; (c) Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes; (d) From science to action.</p> <p>BC Item 9; RC Item 10; SC Item 10: Venue and date of the resumed meetings and of the next meetings of the COPs (cont.)</p> <p>BC Item 10; RC Item 11; SC Item 11: Other matters (only admission of observers)</p>	<p>Session of SC COP-9: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Rules of procedure Item 11 (cont.) (excluding admission of observers)</p>	<p>Session of BC COP-15: Item 4 (cont.) (c) Legal, compliance and governance matters (cont.): (i) Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance of the Basel Convention; (iv) Proposal by the Russian Federation to amend paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the Convention</p>	
Afternoon session 3–6 p.m.	<p>Session of BC COP-15: Item 4 (cont.) (b) Scientific and technical matters (cont.): (i) Technical guidelines (cont.) (except POPs wastes) (c) Legal, compliance and governance matters: (ii) Providing further legal clarity</p> <p>Session of SC COP-10: Item 5 (cont.) (e) Listing of chemicals in Annex A, B or C to the Convention</p>	<p>Session of SC COP-10: Item 5 (cont.) (j) Compliance; (i) Effectiveness evaluation (a) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use: (i) Exemptions; (iv) Brominated diphenyl ethers (ii) DDT</p>	<p>Session of SC COP-10: Item 5 (cont.) (a) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use (cont.): (iii) Polychlorinated biphenyls (b) Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production (d) Implementation plans (h) Reporting pursuant to Article 15</p>	<p>Session of SC COP-9: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i></p>	<p>Session of SC COP-9: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 12: Adoption of the report (cont.)</p> <p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Adoption of the sections of the reports on the joint sessions of the meetings of the COPs¹ and Adoption of the reports on credentials (possible updates from the online segment of the meetings)</i></p>	No formal meetings

¹ The conferences of the Parties are scheduled to meet in joint sessions to adopt the section of their report covering the joint sessions held from Monday until Wednesday of week 1.

Tentative schedule of work for the face-to-face segment of the COPs in 2022 (second week)

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning session 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>	<p>Joint sessions of the COPs: <i>Reports of contact groups</i></p>
	<p>Session of BC COP-15: Item 4 (cont.) (c) Legal, compliance and governance matters (cont.): (iii) National legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic (a) Strategic issues: (i) Strategic framework; (ii) Addressing the entry into force of the Ban Amendment (iii) Development of guidelines for environmentally sound management; (e) Basel Convention Partnership Programme</p>	<p>Session of BC COP-15: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i> Item 4 (cont.) (g) Work programme of the OEWG for 2022–2023 Item 10 (cont.) (excluding admission of observers)</p>	<p>Session of BC COP-15: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i></p>	<p>Session of RC COP-10: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i></p>	<p>Session of RC COP-10: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i></p>	<p>Session of RC COP-10: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i> Item 12: Adoption of the report (cont.)</p>
Afternoon session 3–6 p.m.	<p>Session of BC COP-15: Item 4 (cont.) (b) Scientific and technical matters (cont.): (ii) Classification and hazard characterization of wastes (iii) National reporting (iv) Electronic approaches to the notification and movement documents (v) Further consideration of plastic waste (vi) Waste containing nanomaterials</p>	<p>Session of RC COP-10: Item 5 (cont.) (d) Compliance; (b) Listing of chemicals in Annex III to the Convention;</p>	<p>Session of RC COP-10: Item 5 (cont.) (c) Enhancing the effectiveness of the Convention;² (a) Status of implementation Item 4: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties Item 11 (cont.) (excluding admission of observers)</p>	<p>Session of BC COP-15: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the contact groups and draft decisions</i> Item 11: Adoption of the report (cont.)</p>	<p>Joint and Convention-specific sessions of the COPs: <i>Consideration of the outcomes of the joint contact groups, adoption of the reports on credentials (possible updates) and adoption of outstanding decisions</i></p>	<p><i>Adoption of BC budget decision</i> <i>Adoption of RC budget decision</i> <i>Adoption of SC budget decision</i> BC Item 12; RC Item 13; SC Item 13: Closure of the meetings (cont.)</p>

² This item will cover the proposal to amend Article 16 of the Rotterdam Convention which was submitted prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties by Botswana, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.