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C O N V E N T I O N S

Briefing on the 2023 meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

7 March 2023, 10:00 a.m. CEST

Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Update on preparations for the 2023 meetings of the COPs



Meeting highlights

- BC COP-16, RC COP-11 and SC COP-11:
 - 1-12 May 2023, Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), Geneva, Switzerland
 - 30 April 2023: preparatory meetings (regional groups, bureaux)
- Theme: *“Accelerating action: Targets for the sound management of chemicals and wastes”*
- Face-to-face meetings
- No high-level segment
- COP Presidents:
 - Reggie Hernaus, BC
 - Ana Berejiani, RC
 - Keima Gardiner, SC
- PCB Fair and side events
- Meetings website: <http://www.brsmeas.org/2023COPs>



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Registration and credentials



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BRS donors - COPs and RPMs

- **Representatives of Parties**
 - Deadline for registration by and requests for financial assistance lapsed on 20 January 2023
- Admitted observers invited to register by 24 March 2023; Bodies or agencies not previously admitted as observers need to complete procedure for admission before registration by same deadline
- **On-site registration:**
 - 10 am to 5 pm on Sunday, 30 April 2023
 - 8 am to 5 pm on Monday, 1 May 2023
 - 9 am to 5 pm during other days
- **Credentials:**
 - Submission to the Secretariat if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the meetings (by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 2 May 2023)
 - Advance submission of electronic copies of credentials by 7 April 2023; originals at the meeting venue



China



Denmark



Germany



Japan



Netherlands



Norway



Sweden



Switzerland

Tentative schedule (week 1)



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	Mon, 1 May	Tue, 2 May	Wed, 3 May	Thu, 4 May	Fri, 5 May	Sat, 6 May	
10 AM - 1 PM	Joint Opening Adoption of the agendas Organizational matters POPs wastes	Joint Technical assistance Compliance PoW and budget MoUs	<i>Reports of contact groups</i>			BC Technical guidelines (cont.) Strategic framework PIC procedure ESM guidelines ICC (cont.)	No formal meetings
			SC PCBs Unintentional POPs NIPs Reporting	SC Draft decisions Rules of procedure	Joint Synergies in preventing illegal traffic Next COPs Other matters (observers)		
3 PM - 6 PM	BC Technical guidelines Further legal clarity	SC Compliance (cont.) Effectiveness evaluation Exemptions PFOS DDT	RC Enhancing the effectiveness	SC Draft decisions Other matters (cont.)	SC Draft decisions SC report	No formal meetings	
	SC Listing of chemicals		Joint Financial resources Cooperation with the Minamata Convention Cooperation with other organizations				Adoption of reports on credentials

Tentative schedule (week 2)



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	Sun, 7 May	Mon, 8 May	Tue, 9 May	Wed, 10 May	Thu, 11 May	Fri, 12 May
		<i>Reports of contact groups</i>				
10 AM – 1 PM	BC National legislation Amendment proposal by Russian Federation Partnerships	BC <i>Draft decisions</i> OEWG Other matters (cont.)	BC <i>Draft decisions</i>	RC <i>Draft decisions</i>	RC <i>Draft decisions</i>	RC <i>Draft decisions</i> RC report
				Joint CHM Gender Science to action		
3-6 PM	BC Classification Reporting Electronic approaches Plastic waste Amendments to annexes II, VIII and IX on e-waste Nanomaterials	RC Compliance (cont.) Listing of chemicals	RC Listing of chemicals (cont.) Enhancing the effectiveness (cont.) Status of implementation Rules of procedure Other matters (cont.)	BC <i>Draft decisions</i> BC report	Joint <i>Draft decisions</i> Credentials update	BC budget
				Report of joint sessions		RC budget
						SC budget
						Closure

Potential contact and other groups



Joint:

- Programmes of work and budgets
- Technical assistance/financial resources and mechanisms
- Joint issues

SC:

- Listing of chemicals
- Compliance

BC:

- Group on technical matters
- Group on strategic matters
- Group on compliance and legal matters

RC:

- Enhancing the effectiveness of the Convention
- Compliance
- Listing of chemicals

*Limited number of contact groups running in parallel

Election of officers



Basel Convention					Rotterdam Convention			Stockholm Convention		
	COP Bureau	OEWG Bureau	ICC	ENFORCE	COP Bureau	CC	CRC	COP Bureau	POPRC	DDT Expert Group
Africa	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	2 members (1 Party, 1 BCRC)	1 officer	1 member	4 members	2 officers	4 members	2 Parties
Asia - Pacific	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	n/a	1 officer	1 member	4 members	2 officers	4 members	2 Parties
EE	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	2 members (1 Party, 1 BCRC)	1 officer	2 members	1 member	2 officers	1 member	2 Parties
GRULAC	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	n/a	1 officer	2 members	2 members	2 officers	2 members	2 Parties
WEOG	2 officers	1 officer	2 members	1 member (1 Party)	1 officer	2 members	3 members	2 officers	3 members	2 Parties

For more information see: <http://www.brsmeas.org/2023COPs/Elections/tabid/9424/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Election of officers: Rules and requirements



- Nomination of candidates invited by 1 March 2023 and selection of candidates facilitated by the regional election focal points

Africa	Sheikh Ahmed Tunis (Sierra Leone)
Asia Pacific	Mohamed Aman (Bahrain)
Eastern Europe	Artak Khachatryan (Armenia)
GRULAC	Napoleon Garcia (El Salvador)
WEOG	Tuulia Toikka (Finland) – for EU Glenn Wigley (New Zealand) – for non-EU

- According to the financial rules, no representative of any Party whose contributions are **in arrears for 2 or more years** shall be eligible to become:
 - A member of the BC COP Bureau or its subsidiary bodies
 - A member of the RC or SC COP Bureau or a member of its subsidiary bodies
 - Except for LDCs, SIDS and Parties respecting a schedule of payments

Guidelines for rules of conduct for meeting participants



These guidelines were prepared by the Secretariat to ensure an orderly running of COPs meetings and subsidiary body meetings:

- Guidelines on the use of cameras and audio/video recording devices by participants at meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (BRS) and their subsidiary bodies, <http://www.brsmeas.org/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-COPS.2021-GUID-1-RecordingDevices.English.pdf>
- Guidelines for the participation of representatives of observers at meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (BRS) and their subsidiary bodies, <http://www.brsmeas.org/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-COPS.2021-GUID-2-Observersparticipation.English.pdf>
- Guidelines on preventing and addressing all forms of harassment at meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, <http://www.brsmeas.org/Portals/4/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-CHW-RC-POPS-COPS.2021-GUID-3-Harassment.English.pdf>

Regional preparatory meetings



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Region	Dates	Locations
Asia-Pacific	14-16 March 2023	Bangkok, Thailand
Africa	21-23 March 2023	Dakar, Senegal
Eastern Europe	28-30 March 2023	Zagreb, Croatia
GRULAC	28-30 March 2023	Panama City, Panama



Preparatory webinars



Date and time (UTC+1)	Title	Language	Please register a few days in advance, utilizing any of the following links:
Tuesday 18 April 2023 10:00-11:00	BRS COPs 2023 briefing	English	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/r54f4675562e121057a79b8b705179474
Tuesday 18 April 2023 16:00-17:00		Spanish	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/r0b3969ceee82f2c6f553f3bb89412635
Wednesday 19 April 2023 16:00-17:00		English	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/r0fbef4b56cff084a0c806caedbd8e25f
Thursday 20 April 2023 10:00-11:00		French	https://unep-brs.webex.com/weblink/register/rccd2f3ee474198a5342781c359f126c2

Overview of key items on the provisional agendas of the meetings



Basel Convention COP-16 main issues



Strategic issues

- Strategic framework
- Enhancing the PIC procedure

Scientific and technical matters

- Technical guidelines:
 - Plastic wastes, POPs wastes, waste lead-acid batteries, other batteries and e-wastes
- E-notifications
- Further consideration of plastic waste
- Follow-up to e-waste amendments: Assessment of the need to update existing guidance

Basel Convention Partnership Programme

- Plastic Waste Partnership
- Partnership for Action on Challenges relating to E-waste
- ENFORCE
- Household waste partnership

Legal, governance and enforcement matters

- Implementation and Compliance Committee (specific submissions; general review, including national reporting, illegal traffic, national legislation, programme of work)
- Further legal clarity:
 - EU amendment proposals on Annex IV
 - Recommendations of the expert working group on annexes I and III

Rotterdam Convention COP-11 main issues



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Compliance

- Work programme of the Committee

Listing of chemicals in Annex III to the Convention

- 2 new chemicals: iprodione and terbufos,
- 5 old ones: acetochlor, carbosulfan, chrysotile asbestos, fenthion formulations and paraquat formulations

Enhancing the effectiveness of the Rotterdam Convention

- Proposal by Switzerland, Australia, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Mali to amend Articles 7, 10, 11 and 22 of the Rotterdam Convention and to add a new Annex VIII
- Proposal by African countries to to amend Article 16 of the Rotterdam Convention

Stockholm Convention COP-11 main issues



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Reduce or eliminate release from intentional production and use

- DDT (evaluate the continued need)
- PCBs
 - Assessment of the progress towards elimination of PCB
 - Strategy to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals
- PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (POPRC recommendations)

Listing of chemicals in Annex A, B or C

- Methoxychlor
- Dechlorane Plus
- UV-328

Compliance

- For possible adoption based on the draft texts in the annex of document SC-11/21

National Implementation Plans (NIPs)

- Revised guidance on developing and updating NIPs; draft global approach to the review and updating of NIPs

Reporting

- Updated electronic reporting system

Joint issues



Technical assistance

- Review of regional centers

Financial resources

- Implementation of the MoU between the GEF Council and the Stockholm Convention COP
- Special Programme on institutional strengthening

International cooperation and coordination:

- With the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- With other organizations

Enhancing cooperation and coordination among the BRS conventions

- Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade

Programmes of work and budgets

- Consider full budget for 2024-2025

Memorandums of Understanding between UNEP and the COPs (and FAO in the case of RC)

- Proposal for amendments to the three convention-specific MOUs for possible adoption by the COPs

Budget Documents



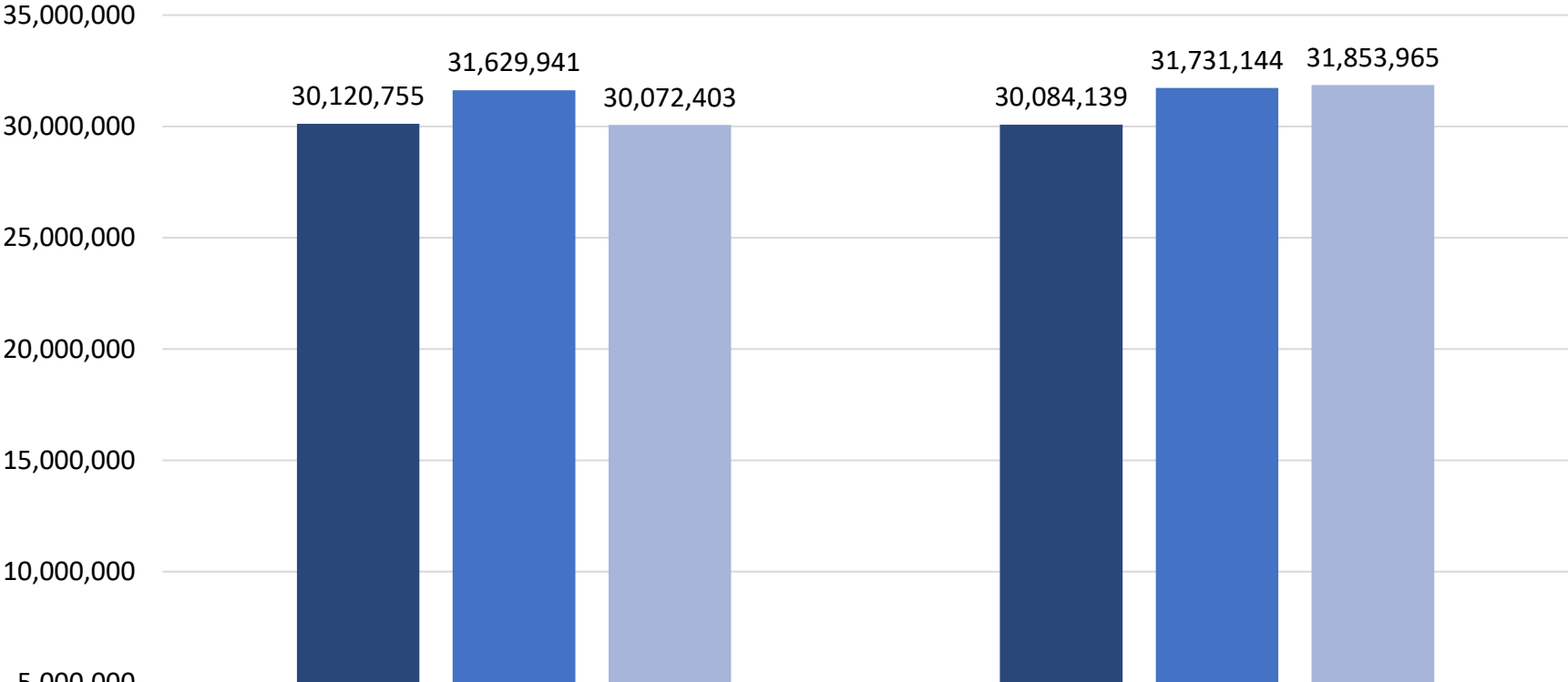
Budget documents



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- **Programmes of work and budgets for the biennium 2024–2025: combined proposal**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/27-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/22-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/28
 - Presents two scenarios for the programmes of work and budgets: Executive Secretaries’ scenario (not to exceed a 5 per cent increase above the 2022-2023 level) and the Zero nominal growth scenario and explains any variances and sets out decisions that the Parties may wish to consider adopting.
- **Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2024–2025: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/45-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/50
 - Annexes to this document set out operational budgets for the two funding scenarios, presents indicative assessed contributions; gives background information on staffing component and provides information on financial and in-kind contributions to the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat.
- **Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2024-2025: programmes of work activity fact sheets**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/46–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/30–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/51
 - Provides further details on the individual activities.

Two funding scenarios



■ Approved budget 2022 - 2023	30,120,755	30,084,139
■ Executive Secretaries' scenario 2024-2025	31,629,941	31,731,144
■ Zero Nominal Growth scenario 2024-2025	30,072,403	31,853,965

■ Approved budget 2022 - 2023 ■ Executive Secretaries' scenario 2024-2025 ■ Zero Nominal Growth scenario 2024-2025

How to find documents



Visit www.brsmeas.org

Basel Convention > The Convention > Conference of the Parties > Meetings > COP.16 > Working documents / Information documents

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Basel Convention. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Basel Convention', 'Rotterdam Convention', 'Stockholm Convention', and 'Synergies'. Below this is a header with the UN Environment Programme logo and the text 'BASEL CONVENTION Controlling transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal'. A navigation menu includes 'HOME', 'THE CONVENTION', 'PROCEDURES', 'IMPLEMENTATION', 'COUNTRIES', and 'PARTNERS'. A breadcrumb trail reads 'You are here: Basel Convention > The Convention > Conference of the Parties > Meetings > COP.16'. The main content area is titled 'Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention' and 'Geneva, Switzerland, from 1-12 May 2023'. It includes a 'Venue' section for the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), a 'Highlights' section describing the joint sessions of COP-16, RC COP-11, and SC COP-11, and a 'Working languages' section listing Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. Below this is a 'Meeting documents' section with tabs for 'Working documents' and 'Information documents', and a language selection bar for Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. A table with columns for 'Document symbol', 'Title', 'Download', and 'Upload date' is partially visible at the bottom, showing a document uploaded on 11/17/2022.

Implementation of the memorandums of understanding between UNEP, FAO and the conferences of the Parties



Documents related to MOUs (meeting documents)



- **Implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/28
- **Implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention**
 - UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/23
- **Implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention**
 - UNEP/POPS/COP.11/29

Documents related to MOUs (information documents)



- **Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to the respective conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on the implementation of the memorandums of understanding (joint document)**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/49-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/33-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/53
- **Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the implementation of the memorandum of understanding**
 - UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/34
- **Letters by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) proposing amendments to the memorandums of understanding between UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, and between UNEP and the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (joint document)**
 - UNEP/CHW.16/INF/53-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.11/INF/39-UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/57

Background



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Identical decisions (BC-15/30, RC-10/19 and SC-10/26) were taken at the meetings of the COPs to the three Conventions (6 – 17 June 2022) requesting the Executive Director of UNEP to comply with the MOUs between the UNEP regarding service costs to be covered by UNEP pursuant to the Annex to each MOU.

A memo was sent by the BRS Executive Secretary to the Executive Director UNEP, dated 28 July 2022, transmitting the request by the conferences of the Parties to the Executive Director of UNEP to comply with the three MOUs.

The Executive Director of UNEP initiated a review of the memorandum of understanding for the purpose of clarifying the central administrative services provided in support of the Convention against the 33 per cent share of the programme support costs income attributable to all the trust funds of the Convention.

As was communicated by the Secretariat to all Parties in a letter dated 20 December 2022, the Executive Director has, as an outcome of this review, proposed amendments to the three MoUs.

The letters from the Executive Director and annexes reflecting the proposed revisions to each of the three memorandums of understanding, with changes tracked, are set out in document UNEP/CHW.16/INF/53–UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.10/INF/39–UNEP/POPS/COP.11/INF/57.

Major areas of clarification: Services provided by UNOG on behalf of UNEP



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Medical and Counselling Services

Host Country relations related to diplomatic services (UNLP, CDL, diplomatic license plates, petrol cards)

Mail and diplomatic pouch services

Security and safety

Implications of the changes to the budget



- The proposed amendments will clarify which services provided to the BRS Secretariat should be covered by the UNEP's share of the PSC costs.
- The proposed amendments will not result in less services provided to the BRS Secretariat.
- In principle, approving the amendment will not result in additional costs to the Parties since these costs were already being absorbed by the BRS Secretariat prior to 2022 as part of the core budget (except for 2022 – 2023 budget when they were excluded). It should be noted that some of the cost categories, e.g., security, have continued to increase over the years.
- These services have been included in both budget scenarios for 2024 – 2025 (Executive Secretaries' scenario and the Zero nominal growth scenario).

Proposed actions by Parties



- Proposed amendments to the three MOUs may be reviewed with a view of amending them during the next meetings of the Conference of the Parties, within the scheduled work of the Budget Contact Group.
- The review may be followed by a decision by each of the three Conferences, adopting amendments to the memorandums of understanding, in particular the Annex setting out the revised central administrative services provided by UNEP in support of the three Conventions.
- Decisions may also be made by the Parties authorizing the Executive Secretary, on an exceptional basis, to draw from the available surplus of the three Conventions' general trust funds to cover the funding gap for the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) services provided to the Secretariat during the biennium 2022–2023, not included in the approved budget. It is estimated that the amount needed will be 298K covering 7 quarters of the biennium at 42.5K per quarter (expenses of the 1st quarter of 2022 were already paid prior to the decision of the COPs in June 2022).

UNEP's perspective on the implementation of the memorandums of understanding



Memorandums of understanding between UNEP and BRS Conventions



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Background: Current MOUs signed in May 2019 between UNEP and the three conventions.

Areas covered: staffing, Delegation of Authority, common administrative costs, financial matters, programmatic relationship.

During the 2022 COPs , Parties to the Conventions requested that the UNEP PSC portion cover costs under category Security and Safety as well as several other types of core services

Memorandums of understanding between UNEP and BRS Conventions



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Amendment to clarify the interpretation of provision of services vrs the coverage of the cost of the services.

The direct costs associated to any activity is covered from the core fund regardless of the service provider.

The indirect cost, which cannot be associated to any particular entity are covered from program support

Amendment to clarify which indirect cost are covered by UNEP portion of PSC

BRS over-expenditure of its PSC due to low implementation rates since 2015

Need to diversify costs of a long term nature charged to PSC to reduce risks

Revision of UNEP's Program Support Cost Policy and Timeline



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The current Program support cost (PSC) policy was issued in May 2017.

IPSAS Cost recovery policy issued by UNHQ triggered the need to revise the policy

Some initial analysis done. Policy affects UNEP Divisions and MEAs.

Final revised PSC policy is expected to be issued by early 2024.

Thank you



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



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