



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



United Nations
Environment Programme

PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE

CONVENTIONS :		PROJECT TITLE :	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BC <input type="checkbox"/> RC <input type="checkbox"/> SC <input type="checkbox"/> SYN		Scientific support for Parties to the Basel Convention (PoW 20) - Marine plastic litter and microplastics	
FUNDING OPTIONS:		TYPE / LOCATION	TARGETED COUNTRIES:
<input type="checkbox"/> Funding in full <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partial funding possible		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> National	Global
MANDATE			
Convention Article: n/a COP decision(s): Decision BC-13/17: Work programme and operations of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2018-2019			
Rationale			
<p>Marine plastic litter is an environmental problem occurring on a global scale today. The ubiquitous transboundary movement of marine plastics and microplastics is becoming a major concern as their property of durability makes their debris remain intact for long period of time throughout the ocean. In its resolution 2/7, UNEA emphasized the importance of the elaboration under and application of existing instruments to further the environmentally sound management of waste, including waste prevention, minimization and recovery, to address the underlying causes of marine litter. UNEA also recognized, in the preamble of its resolution 2/11, the importance of cooperation between UNEP and conventions and international instruments related to preventing and minimizing marine pollution from waste, including marine plastic litter, microplastics and associated chemicals and their adverse effects on human health and the environment, such as the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, the Basel Convention and the SAICM. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention included activities on marine plastic litter and microplastics in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) for the biennium 2018-2019 (decision BC-13/17). According to the work programme, OEWG is to consider relevant options available under the Convention to further address marine plastic litter and micro-plastics, taking into account, inter alia, the assessment requested by UNEA resolution 2/11, any relevant decision by UNEA-3, and existing guidance documents and activities under the Basel Convention that address issues related to marine plastic litter and microplastics. Further, the OEWG is to develop a proposal for possible further actions, within the scope of the Convention and avoiding duplication with activities relating to this matter in other forums, for consideration at COP-14 in 2019. Also, the regional and coordinating centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions were encouraged to work on the impact of plastic waste, marine plastic litter, microplastics, and measures for prevention and environmentally sound management (decisions BC-13/11 and SC-8/15). Furthermore, COP-13 established the Partnership on Household Waste (decision BC-13/14), through which the environmentally sound management of household wastes including plastics will be further explored. This activity will be implemented in coordination with activities listed in factsheet 14 on training and capacity development activities under the Basel Convention.</p>			
Outcomes and indicators of achievement			
Outcomes: Parties have an overview of options available under the Basel Convention to further address marine plastic litter and microplastics.			
Indicators of achievement:		Means of verification:	
1. An overview of options available under the Convention to further address marine plastic litter and microplastics are made available to OEWG-11; 2. A draft proposal for possible further actions, within the scope of the Basel Convention, is developed for consideration at BC COP-14.		1. Reports to OEWG-11; 2. Reports to BC COP-14.	
IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME			
Project start date: <i>01/2018</i>	Project completion date: <i>11/2018</i>	Total duration: <i>11 months</i>	

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS

Sustainable Development Goals: The activity relates to UN Sustainable Development Goal 12 on ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns (specifically Target 12.4: by 2020 achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their lifecycle and minimizing their adverse impacts on human health and the environment). It also relates to Sustainable Development Goal 3 on ensuring healthy lives (specifically Target 3.9: by 2030 substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination).

Gender mainstreaming: In line with the BRS Gender Action Plan, the Secretariat will, where appropriate, encourage Parties and observers to take into account gender-related aspects in their nomination of participants, as well as when engaging consultants to carry-out different activities. Additionally, information provided in the advice to Parties, and in the technical guidelines on the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes, and their impacts on human health and the environment, can assist in formulating policies to protect vulnerable populations including women and children.

Integrated Approach: The process involving the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention follows a multi-stakeholder approach, whereby observers to the conventions, as well as civil society, academia and industry, have an active role in discussions and negotiations on the work and on the documents produced.

PARTNERS

Parties, Basel and Stockholm conventions regional centers, other relevant international organizations within the UN system, industry associations, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 2018-19 [USD]

Activity	Output type	Budget
Engage expert(s) to develop a draft proposal for possible further actions to address marine plastic litter and micro-plastics, within the scope of the Basel Convention	Expert(s) support	30,000
DIRECT PROJECT COST OPERATIONAL BUDGET		30,000
<i>Programme Support Costs (PSC) 13%</i>		<i>3,900</i>
TOTAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET		33,900