



**Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
Tenth meeting**

Nairobi, 30 May–2 June 2016

Item 3 (d) (i) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters related to the work programme of the
Open-ended Working Group for 2016–2017:
international cooperation and coordination:
Basel Convention Partnership Programme**

Creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of household waste

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 3 of its decision BC-12/13 on creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of household waste, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal agreed to include in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group the development of a workplan on the environmentally sound management of household waste with a focus on the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and also agreed that such a workplan could include, but would not be limited to, the development of guidance documents and/or manuals on, inter alia, best practices, business models and innovative solutions for the circular economy in various socioeconomic contexts as well as a concept for a partnership to assist municipalities.

2. In paragraphs 4 and 5 of the same decision, parties and others were invited to indicate to the Secretariat by 30 September 2015 their interest in actively participating in an informal group which was requested to develop the workplan for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting.

II. Implementation

3. By 30 September 2015, 10 parties, 2 intergovernmental organizations, 12 regional centres of the Basel Convention and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, 3 industry associations and 3 non-governmental organizations had indicated to the Secretariat their interest in actively participating in the informal group. Two parties signalled their interest in participating in the informal group as observers. A generous financial contribution in support of the work of the informal group was received from the Government of Japan.

* UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/1.

4. Based on the discussions during the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention and initial input from interested stakeholders, Mauritius and Uruguay, as lead sponsors of the initiative, prepared a draft concept note entitled “Household waste partnership”, which was circulated to all the members of the informal group for their comments.
5. The informal group held its first teleconference on 5 November 2015 and designated Mr. Prakash Kowlessar (Mauritius) and Ms. Gabriela Medina (Uruguay) as co-chairs of the group. The group agreed that the draft concept note referred to in paragraph 4 of the present note could be used as the basis for the development of a workplan on the environmentally sound management of household waste and a concept for a partnership to assist municipalities. The group further agreed to propose the establishment of a household waste partnership under the Basel Convention on the basis of the draft concept note.
6. The draft concept note set forth a mission, scope, key objectives, working principles and structure, financial arrangements and a work programme for the biennium 2018–2019 for the proposed partnership. During the teleconference referred to in paragraph 5 of the present note, the informal group revised the draft concept note and invited further comments from the members of the group. The group agreed to hold a face-to-face meeting in February 2016 to finalize it.
7. The draft concept note, prepared by the informal group, is set out in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/14.

III. Proposed action

8. The Open-ended Working Group may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Open-ended Working Group

1. *Acknowledges* the interest of parties and others in actively participating in the informal group on the environmentally sound management of household waste and welcomes the progress made by the group in developing a workplan and a concept for a partnership to assist municipalities;¹
2. *Supports* the proposal of the informal group for the Conference of the Parties to establish a household waste partnership under the Basel Convention;²
3. *Invites* parties and others to submit comments on the draft concept note on the household waste partnership³ to the Secretariat by 15 September 2016;
4. *Requests* the informal group to finalize the draft concept note for a household waste partnership, including terms of reference and a workplan for the biennium 2018–2019, taking into account the discussions during the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and comments submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 of the present decision, and to submit the draft concept note to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting for its consideration;
5. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to facilitate and provide expertise to the informal group.

¹ UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/14.

² UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/10, para 5.

³ UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/14.