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**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**

## **Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment**

### **Note by the Secretariat**

#### **I. Introduction**

1. In paragraph 6 of its decision BC-12/12 on Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment, the Conference of the Parties requested the Partnership Working Group to complete the outstanding tasks from the 2014–2015 work programme, including the revision of section 3 of the guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment,<sup>1</sup> the development of a strategy and workplan for the implementation of concrete actions at the regional and national levels, and the finalization of ongoing pilot projects and the development of a report on lessons learned.

2. In paragraph 7 of the same decision, the Open-ended Working Group was requested to consider, at its tenth meeting, the revised section 3 of the guidance document and to submit it, amended as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting for its consideration and possible adoption.

#### **II. Implementation**

3. The Partnership Working Group and its project groups worked electronically to exchange comments on draft documents and held teleconferences to discuss the revision of section 3 of the guidance document, which deals with transboundary movements of used and end-of-life computing equipment, the development of a strategy and workplan for the implementation of concrete actions at the regional and national levels, and a manual on the steps to establish and implement the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment.

4. With respect to section 3 of the guidance document,<sup>2</sup> the Partnership Working Group proposed not to repeat the content of the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction

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\* UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/1.

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CHW.11/6/Add.1/Rev.1.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention,<sup>3</sup> which were adopted, on an interim basis, by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting, but instead to make reference to the technical guidelines in section 3 of the guidance document while keeping specific information already included in the guidance document such as packaging and other information directly related to used and end-of-life computing equipment. A draft revised section 3 of the guidance document prepared by the Partnership Working Group is set out in annex I to document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/13.

5. Having discussed a draft strategy and workplan for the implementation of concrete actions at the regional and national levels, the Partnership Working Group proposed to pursue a follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment, which could address strengthening the environmentally sound management of waste electrical and electronic equipment at the regional and national levels, taking into consideration a life cycle approach and challenges related to used electrical and electronic equipment. A draft concept for such a follow-up partnership, prepared by the Partnership Working Group, is set out in annex II to document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/13.

6. In addition, the Partnership Working Group finalized the manual on steps to establish and implement the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment to provide Governments and companies with an overview of the essential elements to establish, maintain and strengthen the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment being collected, refurbished, repaired, recycled and recovered, as set out in annex III to document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/13.

7. The Partnership continued to implement the pilot projects launched under its work programme for the biennium 2014–2015 in Burkina Faso, El Salvador and the Central American region, Jordan, Moldova, Serbia, South Africa in cooperation with Lesotho and Namibia, and Suriname. All the pilot projects are to be completed in 2016. A report on project experiences and lessons learned will be developed based on the outcome of the pilot projects.

8. A regional workshop on enhancing capacities for the environmentally sound management of waste electrical and electronic equipment through regional delivery in Africa was held in Lagos, Nigeria, from 20 to 23 October 2015, with financial support from the European Union, the African Union Commission and the members of the Partnership Working Group.

### III. Proposed action

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

#### *The Open-ended Working Group*

1. *Takes note* of the progress made in the implementation of the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment<sup>4</sup> including the draft revised section 3 of the guidance document<sup>5</sup> and the draft concept for a follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment;<sup>6</sup>

2. *Invites* parties and others to submit comments on the draft revised section 3 of the guidance document and the draft concept for a follow-up partnership referred to in paragraph 1 of the present decision, to the Secretariat by 15 September 2016;

3. *Requests* the Partnership Working Group to revise section 3 of the guidance document and the draft concept for a follow-up partnership, taking into account comments made during the tenth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and comments submitted in accordance with paragraph 2 of the present decision, for submission to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting for its consideration and possible adoption;

4. *Takes note* of the manual on steps to establish and implement environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment<sup>7</sup> and encourages parties and others, particularly countries where environmentally sound management is not fully established, to use it.

<sup>3</sup> UNEP/CHW.12/5/Add.1/Rev.1.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/9.

<sup>5</sup> UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/13, annex I.

<sup>6</sup> UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/13, annex II.

<sup>7</sup> UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/13, annex III.