

**United Nations  
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**Conference of the Parties to the  
Minamata Convention on Mercury  
Second meeting**  
Geneva, 19–23 November 2018

**Decision adopted by the second Conference of the Parties to the  
Minamata Convention on Mercury****MC-2/7: Cooperation between the secretariat of the Minamata  
Convention and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and  
Stockholm conventions**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* paragraph 3 of article 24 of the Convention, which provides that the secretariat functions for the Convention shall be performed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, and recalling also that the Executive Director also performs secretariat functions for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions,

*Emphasizing* that paragraph 4 of article 24 of the Convention provides that the Conference of the Parties, in consultation with appropriate international bodies, may provide for enhanced cooperation and coordination between the secretariat and the secretariats of other chemicals and waste conventions, as well as further guidance on this matter,

*Recalling* decision MC-1/11, in which the Conference of the Parties decided to review at its second meeting the organizational arrangements for the secretariat, and the request to the secretariat to continue to cooperate and coordinate as appropriate with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and relevant units of the United Nations Environment Programme in order to make full use of relevant experience and expertise,

*Noting* the successive decisions of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention, maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels, including the provision of any secretariat support that may be requested and is fully funded by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention,

*Noting also* decision MC-2/1, by which the Executive Director was requested to continue performing the secretariat functions for the Convention through a secretariat of the Minamata Convention located in Geneva,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in the capacity of performing secretariat services to the Minamata Convention, to:

(a) Mindful of the legal autonomy of the respective secretariats, maximize the effective and efficient use of resources of the Minamata Convention, including through the sharing of relevant

secretariat services with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions which are performed by the Executive Director, as appropriate, and to implement relevant arrangements as soon as feasible;

(b) Submit an operative proposal, prepared together with the Executive Secretary of the Minamata Convention and with the support of the Executive Secretary of the Basel and Stockholm conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme part of the Rotterdam Convention, on a stable framework for sharing of relevant services in areas such as conference services, knowledge and information management, administrative and information technology services, technical assistance, legal advice and budget preparation, including possible options, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Minamata Convention to take into consideration paragraph 1 of the present decision in the preparation of the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021, including relevant options for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to inform the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the conferences of the parties of the conventions, at their next meeting, of the present decision, and of any relevant secretariat arrangements already established or being developed or considered pursuant to the paragraphs above;

4. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to consider adopting, at their next meeting, corresponding decisions on this matter.