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Report on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in the Secretariat of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions and the UNEP-part of the Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention

A sustainability process is in place in the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) conventions since July 2011. Further to the 2012 baseline report on sustainability performance in the BRS Secretariat, the sustainability task force has developed a follow-up report on the Secretariat's GHG emissions in the period from 2010 to 2012, including recommendations on follow-up activities addressing in particular offsetting options.

The findings and recommendations of the report have been discussed by the Senior Management Team and the following decisions have been taken:

Self-reporting, communication, outreach

1. Communicate the results of the BRS GHG emission inventory with stakeholders via the conventions' website.
2. Report BRS GHG emissions to the Sustainable United Nations (SUN) unit, as part of the process for "Moving Towards a Climate Neutral UN", and communicate widely within the UN family on the BRS work on sustainability.
3. Facilitate the inclusion of the BRS GHG emission estimates in the publication "Moving Towards a Climate Neutral UN" to be issued in 2013.

Offset emissions generated

4. Offset emissions generated for the 2012-2013 and 2014-2015 bienniums¹ through the respective travel budgets of the three conventions.
5. Join the UNEP Climate Neutral Strategy.

Improve data collection and reporting

6. Facilitate the collection of travel data for participant travel to meetings organized by third parties on behalf of the Secretariat for their inclusion in the overall BRS emission estimate:
 - a. Add a specific clause to the SSFAs with partners organizing meetings on behalf of the Secretariat to facilitate the collection of data;
 - b. Include a tabular format for travel data collection as an annex to such SSFAs.
7. Investigate whether self-monitoring systems for tracking staff emissions are in use in other UN organizations and explore their usability in the BRS Secretariat.

¹ Around 3,500 USD per biennium at current market prices