



BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE

CONVENTIONS :		PROJECT TITLE :	
<input type="checkbox"/> BC <input type="checkbox"/> RC <input type="checkbox"/> SC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SYN		Training of potential chairs for meetings of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and Minamata Convention and SAICM.	
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	Parties/stakeholders to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, Minamata Convention and SAICM
Project start date: 01/03/2016		Project completion date: 01/06/2017	
Total duration: 15 months			
LEGAL BASIS AND MANDATE			
Programme of Work Activity 17 (S2/S3): Training and capacity-building activities to enhance the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions at the regional and national levels Decisions BC-12/9, RC-7/7 and SC-7/16 on Technical Assistance			
BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PROJECT JUSTIFICATION			
<p>In order to strengthen the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, as well SAICM and the Minamata Convention, there is a need to expand the number and diversity of trained, confident and willing chairs for the various meetings of the conventions. These may include regular meetings such as Conferences of the Parties, International Conference on Chemical Management, subsidiary bodies (e.g., the CRC, POPRC, OEWG, ICC,) and contact and drafting groups, as well as ad hoc meetings such as ExCOPs.</p> <p>There is a need to ensure continued and solid expertise among Parties and SAICM stakeholders to chair meetings in the chemicals and waste cluster. The pilot training session on enhancing chairing skills for meetings of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions took place on 3 – 4 March 2014 in Switzerland. It brought together 17 participants from countries that are parties to the BRS conventions. A training manual was developed to support future chairs in this important task. The manual would benefit from further development so as to include the specificities of Minamata and SAICM. Following the positive feedback from the participants, a training workshop is proposed for the biennium 2016-2017. Lessons learned and recommendations made by trainers who facilitated the pilot session will be taken into account when further developing proposed activity.</p>			
PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Organizing a global training workshop for enhancing chairing skills for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm meetings. The training workshop will target government representatives from countries which are Parties to at least one BRS convention, government representatives involved in the ratification and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury as well as SAICM Focal Points. Candidates will be selected by the secretariat based upon the strength of their applications materials, as well as due consideration for balanced regional participation and gender equality. The global workshop is expected to take place in Switzerland. Experts, who are senior negotiators that have served as chairs will present their experiences chairing, which could cover, <i>inter alia</i>, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, and/or Minamata Convention and SAICM and different types of meetings (e.g. Conferences of the Parties; expert meetings, informal meetings, and meetings of subsidiary bodies). Experts will represent developed and developing countries. Experts will be identified from past chairs of INCs, COPs, contact and drafting groups, subsidiary bodies and regional groups. Experts will also be available to facilitate simulation and group exercises and case studies. Such exercises will simulate different chairing scenarios. Such scenarios include, for example: chairing in a "challenging" environment where there is a lack of spirit of compromise and wide differences between a significant number of Parties; scenarios with "what works" and "what doesn't" for chairs; cultural and gender awareness, and chairing situations where an individual delegation(s) holds up overall agreement. Group discussions of case studies would also be included. Translating and printing the training manual on skills for chairing meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in UN languages; and Preparing a video on chairing at the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm as well as Minamata and SAICM meetings. A video will be used for the further training events. Materials and footage from the global workshop will be used for as input when preparing a video. 			

RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

Expected results:

1. Training materials for the workshop are revised and finalized;
2. Participants received training delivered using a range of training tools: presentations, discussion groups, interaction with experts with in-depth experience in chairing international meetings, simulation and group exercises, and individual feedback on participants' performance;
3. The training manual on skills for chairing meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions is available in UN languages;
4. Participants are aware of cultural and gender differences in chairing styles; and
5. Strengthened capacity of Parties' representatives to serve as chairs at various types of international meetings for the three conventions and other MEAs;

Indicator of success:

1. The training manual on skills for chairing meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions is available in UN languages;
2. Positive feedback from the participants attending the workshop;
3. Video on chairing at the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm as well as Minamata and SAICM meetings is prepared.

Means of verification:

1. Workshop report is available;
2. The training manual on skills for chairing meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions is available in UN languages on the website;
3. COPs 13 pre-session documents and INF documents on the meeting documents website.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICABILITY

The approach for developing and implementing this activity is based on the technical assistance programme. It was pilot tested in the training session in March 2014. Lessons learned from the pilot session will be used to revise the methodology and training materials appropriately. The training has the potential to be replicated at the regional and local levels as well as in the context of other MEAs and frameworks, such as the Minamata Convention and SAICM.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The proposed activity is gender-relevant. The gender equality will be one of the guiding principles in the selection process of the participants for the workshops. At the training workshops, special attention will be given to different chairing styles used by men and women. Participants will be encouraged to be aware of cultural and social aspects of which potential chairs should be conscious. Multi-cultural and gender awareness will also be promoted for dealing with delegates at the BRS meetings.

OUTREACH AND INFORMATION SHARING

Outreach activities will be integrated in the proposed activity. Information about the training and its results will be posted on the BRS website. A video will be prepared as part of the training materials for the use in the future training activities (see also concept note for POW 13). Live webinars will allow open access to the training sessions. Webinar recordings are available for download after the live webinar sessions.

BUDGET [USD] FOR 2016-2017

STAFF PERSONNEL	78,000
CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	61,080
TRAVEL	142,000
EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, FURNITURE	4,000
OTHER OPERATIONAL COSTS	42,000
GRANTS OUT	22,000
DIRECT PROJECT COST OPERATIONAL BUDGET	349,080
<i>Programme Support Costs (PSC) 13%</i>	45,380
TOTAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET	394,460