**Note on the activities of the Basel and Stockholm conventions regional centres on the impact of plastic waste, marine litter plastic, microplastics and measures for prevention and environmentally sound management**

The annual meeting of the Basel and Stockholm regional centres took place from 6 to 8 November 2017 in Barcelona, Spain. The meeting was concluded by a joint UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)– Barcelona Convention and Basel and Stockholm conventions regional centres session on marine litter.

This joint meeting provided opportunities to exchange experience among the UN Environment/MAP – Barcelona Convention Secretariat, the Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Centre (SCP/RAC) and Stockholm Convention Regional Centre in Spain and other Basel and Stockholm conventions centres on actions that could be pursued to prevent marine litter.

Pursuant to decisions BC-13/11 and SC-8/15, the conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Stockholm conventions have encouraged the Basel and Stockholm conventions regional centres to work on the impact of plastic waste, marine plastic litter, microplastics, and measures for prevention and environmentally sound management. A list of the activities undertaken and planned by the regional centres in that respect is set out in the annex to this document.

The following Basel and Stockholm Regional Centres contributed information on activities on marine litter:

* Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Algeria (**SCRC-Algeria**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the South American Region (**BCRC-Argentina**);
* Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Brazil (**SCRC Brazil**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Asia and the Pacific in China (**BCRC-China**) / Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in China (**SCRC-China**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States (**BCRC-Egypt**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for South-East Asia in Indonesia (**BCRC-SEA**) / Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Indonesia (**SCRC-Indonesia**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer in Iran (**BCRC Iran**)/ Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Iran (**SCRC Iran**);
* Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Kanya (**SCRC Kenya**);
* Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the African Region in Nigeria (**BCCC-Africa**);
* Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer or Technology in Panama (**SCRC-Panama**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer in the Russian Federation (**BCRC Russian Federation**) / Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in the Russian Federation (**SCRC Russian Federation**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for French-speaking Countries in Africa in Senegal (**BCRC-Senegal**) / Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Senegal (**SCRC-Senegal**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Central Europe in Slovakia (**BCRC-Slovakia**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the English-Speaking African countries in South Africa (**BCRC-South Africa**) / Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in South Africa (**SCRC-South Africa**);
* Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer and Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Centre of the Barcelona Convention in Spain (**SC and SCP/RAC in Spain**);
* Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and the Waigani Conventions in the South Pacific Region integrated within the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (**SPREP**);
* Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean Region in Trinidad and Tobago (**BCRC-Caribbean**);
* Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Latin America and the Caribbean Region in Uruguay (**BCCC-Uruguay**) / Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology in Uruguay (**SCRC Uruguay**).

**Annex**

**Activities of the Basel and Stockholm conventions regional centres on the impact of plastic waste, marine litter plastic, microplastics and measures for prevention and environmentally sound management**

| **DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY** | **BC/SC CENTRES INVOLVED** | **STATE**  **(Accomplished/Ongoing/Planned)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING** | | |
| **Prevention** | | |
| **Partnership of the State Environmental Agency/CETESB and the Brazilian Packaging Association (ABRE) to help industry to reduce and redesign packaging.** Deliverables include already a design guide for packaging - “Sustainability and Packaging: challenges and recommendations within the Circular Economy context” (<http://www.abre.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/embalagem_sustentabilidade.pdf>); and a game “Infinite Game” (<http://www.jogodoinfinito.com.br/Login>). | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and the Caribbean | Ongoing |
| **Technical assistance in the implementation of the Uruguayan Decree 260/007 on packaging.** <http://www.mvotma.gub.uy/portal/ciudadania/biblioteca/marco-legal/item/10004900-decreto-260-007-envases.html> | Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for Latin America and the Caribbean Region in Uruguay | Accomplished |
| **Technical assistance in the development of the** **InterregMed Act4litter project.**  The SCP/RAC has identified more than 100 measures to prevent and minimize environmental and health impacts and quantities of plastic waste and microplastics that could become plastic marine litter (ML). A Decision-Making tool (DMT) developed within the project will allow to select the most effective and feasible measure for the Mediterranean specific context. The DMT will be tested in 10 pilot Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the Mediterranean. The Act4litter project aims also at: – building the capacities of MPA managers on how to monitor ML on beaches through 2 webinars; – organizing a coordinated ML watch month, where MPA managers will be mobilized to carry out beach litter surveys in a harmonized way; – developing a snapshot assessment report on ML found on beaches in Mediterranean MPAs.  The information provided will support directly ongoing processes such as: the Marine Strategy Framework Directive implementation; the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management (Barcelona Convention), the UNEP/MAP Ecosystem Approach process; and the European Environment Agency Marine Litter Watch. | SC and UN Environment/MAP/ Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Ongoing |
| **Development of the SwitchMed project, including the publication of:**   * **25 existing eco-innovative solutions to prevent the generation of plastics ending up as Marine Litter**, which could be replicated in the Mediterranean Region by companies and Civil Society Organisations. * **20 existing innovative solutions to prevent the use of toxic chemicals (PBT, EDC, vPvB, CMR) in products**, which could be replicated in the Mediterranean Region by companies. * **“The Switchers” initiative: a community of entrepreneurs and changemakers providing eco-innovative solutions to emerging environmental challenges including marine litter.** Active in a variety of fields, members benefit from a number of resources within our network, such as networking opportunities, specialized training sessions, business development and more. | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Ongoing |
| **Translation of Ellen Macarthur Foundation Report “The new plastics Economy – catalysing action”,** preparation of a specific introductory chapter on the Mediterranean context and challenges, into French. The publication will be disseminated to raise awareness on the need to rethink the entire plastic value chain. | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Ongoing |
| **Eco- design: Dissemination of information on plastics and the creation of a new design in plastic products** | BCRC Argentina | Ongoing |
| **Education and outreach, including economic incentives to reduce single use plastic containers, bags, food and beverage containers and packaging** | BCRC - Slovakia | Ongoing |
| **Cooperation with relevant institutions and experts from Black See and Baltic region** | BCRC - Slovakia | Planned |
| **Organizing prevention day to sensitize stakeholders and industrial companies about plastic waste that could become Marine Litter** | National Centre for Cleaner Technologies Production/ Stockholm Convention Regional Center for north African Countries in Algeria (NCTPP/SCRC) | Planned |
| **Education and outreach to reduce consumption and create disincentives for single-use plastic bags, food or beverage containers and packaging** | Basel Convention Regional Centre in Egypt  BCRC-Egypt | Planned |
| **Minimization (plastic waste recycling and recovery)** | | |
| **Technical assistance to the Sao Paulo Environmental Secretary and Agency in developing a pioneer strategy to implement extended producer responsibility (EPR) -like initiatives within the State.** The strategy begins with voluntary agreements (for 14 industry sectors), which now started to encompass retailers (and municipalities under discussion), and a second phase just started aiming to request collecting targets at the permitting process for industry. | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean | Ongoing |
| **Technical assistance to the State of Sao Paulo to establish a WEEE reverse logistics project and its implementation.** | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean | Ongoing |
| **Technical assistance for the implementation of “Campo Limpo System”, a Reverse logistics for empty containers of crop protection products** established in the frame of the Brazilian National Solid Waste Policy | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean | Accomplished |
| **Elaborated guidelines to prevent littering behaviour in Argentina (Consumers, public procurement, shipping sector by improving waste management on board** | BCRC Argentina | Ongoing |
| **Development of take back schemes and measures to reduce, reuse or recycle plastic products** | BCRC - Slovakia | Ongoing |
| **Establishment of evaluation audits, environmental studies, impact studies and risk’ studies for industries including a part of Plastics wastes:****• Establishment of a plastic waste management plan** **• Orientation for recycling certified organism****• Establishment of plastic wastes inventories** | National Centre for Cleaner Technologies Production/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for north African countries in Algeria (NCTPP/SCRC) | Accomplished |
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| **Environmentally sound final disposal of plastic waste** | | |
| **Technical assistance to develop Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Areas Quality Indicator (IQR) in the Sao Paulo State.** Sao Paulo State produces about 40.000 tons of municipal solid waste per day. The CETESB has promoted an integrated management of municipal solid waste, based on source reduction and minimization techniques and technologies and it counts with the participation of stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, recycling businesses and industrial associations. The quality of urban solid waste disposal areas is classified by an index called IQR - solid waste disposal areas quality indicator, presented in the Sao Paulo State Inventory of Urban Solid Waste. The number of the municipalities of the Sao Paulo State with appropriate municipal solid waste disposal increased from 27 to 422, respectively in 1997 and 2016. | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean | Accomplished |
| **Technical assistance to industries on plastic waste management** in particular through the publication of a Manual for the Delegate of Environment, organization of training and capacity building workshops and providing technical assistance to industrial companies as well as putting them in contact with the international regulatory and supervisory bodies. | National Centre for Cleaner Technologies Production/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for north African countries in Algeria (NCTPP/SCRC) | Ongoing |
| **Benefitting from the SWIM-H2020 support mechanism project funded by the European Commission with the ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy of Algeria with the theme of marine waste assessment in the Algerian coast****(This is for Persistent Organic Pollutants in General)** | National Centre for Cleaner Technologies Production/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for north African countries in Algeria (NCTPP/SCRC) | Ongoing |
| **Monitoring** | | |
| Monitoring of plastics and microplastics in marine environment. CETESB carries out coastal water and beach water quality monitoring programs, that evaluates 165 sites of 149 beaches in 427 kilometres of coastline, covering 15 counties. | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean | Planned |
| **Research project “Monitoring of organic pollutants (PAHs, n-alkanes, Hopanes and PCBs) on the southern shores of the Caspian Sea with an emphasis on the use of pellets, fragments and sediments”** in cooperation with the Marine Pollution Investigation Bureau in the Department of Environment in Iran and Tarbiyat Modares University. | Basel and Stockholm Conventions Regional Center In Iran | Planned |
| **Monitoring of POPs in plastic’s waste used for recycling.** The Centre has been responsible for the sampling, survey and selection of the expert international laboratory, waste shipment and tracking. | Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region, in Uruguay | Accomplished |
| **Awareness raising** | | |
| **Reporting to media on the impacts of plastics and microplastics to the environment and how this affects human health**, in the frame of discussions on the law related to the prohibition of the use of plastic bags in Panama. | Stockholm Convention Regional Centre of Panama - CIIMET | Accomplished |
| **Educational programmes on recycling, eco design for consumers, fishing sector** | BCRC - Slovakia | Planned |
| **Education campaign on plastic bags reduction.** https://envasesuy.wordpress.com/tag/saca-la-bolsa-del-medio/ | Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region in Uruguay | Accomplished |
| **Public awareness activities and programmes on the Environmentally Sound Management of hazardous and other wastes** to include campaigns on marine litter | BCRC Slovakia | Planned |
| **Organising of capacity building trainings on Environmental regulations, including taxation on plastic bags packaging** | National Centre for Cleaner Technologies Production/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for north African countries in Algeria (NCTPP/SCRC) | Accomplished for some companies  And still ongoing for others |
| **Awareness raising programme on the impacts of plastics and micro plastics to the environment and how this affects human health** | Basel Convention Regional Centre in Egypt BCRC-Egypt | Planned |
| **Regional node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter** | SPREP | Ongoing |
| **POLICY** |  |  |
| **Assistance to the Department of Environment of Islamic Republic of Iran in the drafting regulation on “The Environmental Criteria for Reducing the Consumption of Plastic Bags".** Under this regulation:  Manufacturers and importers of plastic bags are obliged to pay 0.5 per thousand of their sales or imports to the National Environmental Fund.  Plastic bags manufacturers are required to reduce their production 10% annually and replace them with environmentally friendly products.  Within two years of the adoption of this regulation, chain stores and other stores are required to reduce their plastic bags by 50% or replace them with environmentally friendly products.  The Ministry of Industry, Mining and Commerce is required to report to the Department of Environment, on the import, production, supply, percentage of reduction and rate of phase out of plastic bags annually. | Basel and Stockholm Conventions Regional Center In Iran | Accomplished |
| **Provision of scientific arguments to the deputies of the National Assembly of Panama to support the prohibition of the use of plastic bags** due to the impact of the environment and the consequent harmful effect on human health | Stockholm Convention Regional Centre of Panama - CIIMET | Accomplished |
| **Assistance in the development of the Green and Blue Municipality (Local Authorities) Program**, launched in 2007 by the Government of the State of São Paulo and CETESB to stimulate and assist the city governments in the elaboration and execution of their strategic public policies for the sustainable development of the state of São Paulo. The actions proposed by the Program comprise the ten Guiding Directives of the local environmental agenda, including sewage treatment and solid Waste.  **Assistance in the development of the Coastal Management National Policy, Coastal Management National Plan, Coastal Management Policy of Sao Paulo State.**  **Assistance in the drafting of the law for the control of industrial chemical substances, including chemical in plastics.** This law will be a milestone for the adequate management of chemical substances in Brazil. | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean. | Accomplished |
| **Collecting of regulatory texts regarding POPs in general including PCBs which can contain plastics wastes:**  Phase 01: Collection of regulatory texts concerning some of the countries that are served by the Stockholm Convention Regional Center  Phase 02: Analysis and recommendation to enhance regulatory texts | National Centre for Cleaner Technologies Production/Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for north African countries in Algeria (NCTPP/SCRC) | Phase 01: Ongoing  Phase 02: Planned |
| **Assistance in the development of Uruguayan policies on plastic and packaging issues** | Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region in Uruguay | Accomplished |
| **Contribution to the development of the Mediterranean Marine Litter Regional Plan,** which provides for the following measures to reduce the production, use and disposal of plastic ending up as marine litter:  a) Extended Producer Responsibility strategy by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management in order to encourage companies to design products with long durability for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity;  b) Establish procedures and manufacturing methodologies together with plastic industry, in order to minimize the decomposition characteristics of plastic, to reduce micro-plastic. | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Accomplished |
| **Promotion of national level bans of single use of plastic bags and the reduction of plastics production and use in packaging and other main uses (for sectors and services) in the Mediterranean Region.**  **SCP/RAC is currently running an EU-funded Marine Litter-Med project that includes**  a) Assessment of national regulatory frameworks in five countries and development where appropriate of the required legal and regulatory framework to introduce the non-single use of plastic bags and EPR for plastic bags  b) To organize national meetings to raise awareness on prevention of ML and the need to promote EPR with regards to plastic and microplastic production and consumption as well as circular economy  c) To organize a regional/subregional workshop to share best practices addressing EPR and non-single use of plastic bags based on Mediterranean experiences.  d) To produce a guidelines manual on best approaches to reduce single-use plastic bags and promotion of EPR, offering step-by-step options and capturing experiences within Marine Litter Med project.  The Marine Litter-Med project contributes to the implementation of Art. 9 of the Marine Litter Action Plan and the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean, which was recently adopted by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention (particularly, Action 15 of that regional plan provides for the promotion, use and development of tools such as eco-design and Life Cycle Management to facilitate the sustainable design and production of manufactured goods). | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Ongoing |
| **Facilitation of a Basel and Stockholm Regional Centres Working Group on Marine litter plastics and microplastics and its POPs and EDC components: challenges and measures to tackle the issue.** The working group proved instrumental in ensuring that during the last Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Basel, and Stockholm Conventions (April-May 2017, Geneva), marine litter was discussed as an important new area of work under the conventions. The Basel and Stockholm conventions COPs adopted decisions BC-13/11 and decision SC-8/15 whereby they encouraged regional and coordinating centres interested to work, under the Conventions, on the impact of plastic waste, marine plastic litter, microplasticsand measures for prevention and environmentally sound management. The Regional Centers from now can consistently report their activities on the issue to the next Basel and Stockholm conventions COPs which are scheduled to take place in 2019. | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Accomplished |
| **Promoting the collaboration between BRS and UN Environment/MAP Barcelona Conventions by convening a joint event on marine litter (Barcelona, 8th November).** This meeting served to share experience among UN Environment/MAP – Barcelona convention and Basel and Stockholm Regional Centres to foster synergies and common work. | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) and BRS Secretariat | Accomplished |
| **Assistance to the Uruguayan Delegation during the negotiation of the decisions on Marine Litter at the last BRS COPs.** | Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region in Uruguay | Accomplished |
| **Development of guidelines and guidance in the Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) Expert group of the Basel Convention,** currently focussing on the development of strategies for recycling and recovery of hazardous and other wastes | BCRC - Argentina | Ongoing |
| **Development of policies for take back schemes,** including plastics wastes | BCRC - Slovakia | Planned |
| **Development of standards for recycling facilities,** including plastics recycling | BCRC - Slovakia | Planned |
| **Cooperation on plastics waste management in the framework of Uruguay NIP updating.**  Promotion of solid waste law using the extended producer responsibility | BCRC/SCRC Uruguay | Ongoing |
| **Proposal to include marine litter under the new partnership on household waste approved at the thirteenth meeting of the Basel COP at a global level.** | BCRC Uruguay in cooperation with Government of Uruguay | Planned |
| **Implementation of two projects of law:** a) to reduce the impacts of waste plastics, b) to promote the extended producer responsibility. Helping industry to reconvert the plastics production | BCRC - Argentina | Ongoing |
| **Assess the regulatory impact of the approved law** (by monitoring the extended producer responsibility) | Stockholm Convention Regional Centre of Panama - CIIMET | Planned |
| **Implementation of the International Chemical Management Training: GRULAC Region and Brazilian States - 2018**  Improving the regional/national knowledge on the sound management of chemicals, contributing to improve the national capacity to plan, implement, enforce and evaluate the core activities to the sound management of chemicals, including chemical in plastics. | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean | Accomplished |
| **Assistance in the development of policies on plastic waste management and packaging issues, introducing Environmental Criteria for Reducing the Consumption of Plastic Bags** | Basel Convention Regional Centre in Egypt  BCRC-Egypt | Planned |
| **RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER** | | |
| **InterregMed “Plastic Busters: preserving biodiversity from plastics in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas Plastic Busters MPAs” project.**  Within this project, the SCP/RAC will supervise and coordinate the communication work package, which includes dissemination of the findings of researches, studies and pilot actions on ecological impact and monitoring of marine litter. | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Planned |
| **Development of sound technologies for the region in cooperation the Plastic Centre in the National Institute for Industrial Technologies (INTI)** | BCRC Argentina | Ongoing |
| **Research to identify and quantify the types and amounts of plastics in the different environmental compartments (waste, biota, soil, sediments)**  **Research to study the absorption of micro plastics to the potential transfer of its chemicals into the food chain and also the impacts on the environment and the human health (exposition to the toxic levels)** | Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) in Spain in cooperation with SC and SCP/RAC in Spain | Ongoing |
| **Environmental risk assessment and management on the treatment and disposal of waste generated from household and consumption. (2011-2013).**  **Research on management and countermeasure on polyurethane foam plastic waste from refrigerator dismantling, 2013.**  **Standard proposal on pollution control of plastic waste which would be used as packing materials, 2016.**  **Levels and Current Management Situation of Hazardous Chemicals in Electronics & Electrical Products. 2016-2017.**  **Development of tools to counter illegal management and trade of waste, 2016-2017, in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.**  The overall content includes the following aspects:  • Studies on the pollutants emission during plastic, mostly from e-waste, recycling and regeneration, as well as open dumping.  • Investigation on the pollution situation within and surrounding e-waste processing facilities and waste plastic recycling plants in China and other Asia countries.  • Researches on recycling technologies for different types of waste plastics, mostly from e-waste, to produce new products with better function and low risk.  • Monitoring the toxic compounds release during different usage scenario from products using recycled plastic (recycled in lab and recycled by industrial sector).  • Study on tracking the changes over time in the category and content of flame retardants in plastic components in different electrical and electronic equipment, and analysing the impacts of regulations and policies on the utilization of these chemicals in different countries and regions.  **USA-China Waste Plastic Trade Analysis**  **(From 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016)**  **The objective of the project was to conduct policy and data research and analysis on USA waste plastic domestic management and export management, as well as international movement of waste plastic trade, in recent years, in order to give policy environment evaluation and policy recommendation for waste plastic management in China.**  Specifically, following topics have been studied in the report:  (i) Status quo of waste plastic generation and disposal in the US;  (ii) Recycling management system in the US;  (iii) Export and import of waste plastic in the US;  (iv) Status quo of waste plastic trade between the US and China;  (v) Trend in plastic trade route shift between the US and China;  (vi) Policy recommendation for waste plastic import management in China. | BCRC/SCRC in China | Accomplished |
| **Standard proposal on pollution control of plastic waste which would be used as packing materials, 2016:**   * Collaborate with the authorities in the application of extended producer responsibility in packaging waste to reduce the generation of waste plastics and the associated risks. | BCRC/SCRC in China | Ongoing |
| **Cooperation with countries in the region or from other regions to carrying out projects on monitoring the flow and capacity building and so on.**  Investigation on current situation and Material flow analysis:  • Investigation on the status of waste plastics recycling in China, especially in coastal areas, and situation of pollution caused by plastic waste, marine litter plastic, and microplastics in coastal areas;  • Monitoring the composition of marine litter in China’s coastal areas, and analysing the content of POPs and other toxic organic compounds in plastic waste, marine litter plastic, and microplastics;  • Assessing the environmental impacts and health risks associated with these wastes;  • Tracking and analysing the material flow of plastic waste, marine litter plastic, and microplastics to identify the sources, transfer route, and destination;  • Developing environmentally sound management recycling and disposal technologies for plastic waste and marine litter plastic. | BCRC/SCRC in China | Planned |
| **Research to:**   * **use analytical approaches and quantified toxic chemicals** * **bio monitor the level of pollutants at the river** | SCRC – in Kenya | Ongoing |
| **Research to:**  **use insects to destroy plastic (project)** | SCRC – in Kenya | Planned |
| **Research to collect plastic waste to analyses POPS** in plastic waste and in the plastics recycling waste | BCRC - SCRC Uruguay with CSIC Spain | Ongoing |
| **Cooperation on research on new plastics with relevant research institutes and with Slovak Technical University** | BCRC Slovakia | Ongoing |
| **Research project to understand the impacts of marine plastic in the waters surrounding Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands** in collaboration between the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) of Australia. | SPREP | Ongoing |
| **STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVEMENT** |  |  |
| * **The Green and Blue Municipality Program** * WEEE reverse logistics project and its implementation in the State of Sao Paulo State. * Campo Limpo System: Reverse logistics for empty containers of crop protection products. * Partnership of the State Environmental Agency/CETESB and the Brazilian Packaging Association (ABRE) * Implementing the International Chemical Management Training: GRULAC Region and Brazilian States sound management of chemicals, contributing to improve the national capacity to plan, implement, enforce and evaluate the core activities to the sound management of chemicals, including chemical in plastics. | CETESB/ Regional Centre of Stockholm Convention for Latin American and Caribbean | Accomplished |
| **Green and blue municipal programme** | SCRC and BCRC South Africa |  |
| **Sustainable Consumption and Production Network and Green Impact Investment Network**  Through the SwitchMed Project, SCP/RAC is supporting Mediterranean countries to prevent pollution through the shift to sustainable patterns of consumption and production, specifically through:  a) the dissemination through the SwitchMed website, the SCP action network with more than 1,000 members and multi-stakeholders events like the SwitchMed connect, bringing together about 400 stakeholders from Mediterranean countries.  b) the establishment of a Green Impact Investment Network bringing together financial agents and businesses that are keen in the establishment of financial mechanisms through which SMEs and entrepreneurs can access to funding to implement eco-design and eco-innovation. The proposed activity would contribute to promote in the Mediterranean countries the inter linkages and complementarities between the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and the EC Circular Economy Package involving the DG environment and DG Growth. | SC and UN Environment/MAP Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Activity Center (SCP/RAC) | Ongoing |
| **Regional platform marine litter**, with the objective of identifying and involving the stakeholders at the national, regional and international level to support and strengthen the policy and regulatory framework, sharing information, common data, and the best practises, looking for innovation. The platform also focuses on the different forms the monitoring, samples, etc., indicators for assessment of the litter quantity on the beaches, assessment of plastics in birds. The platform serves to collect information data on marine litter. The first phase is the collection of data through two factsheets: on marine letter and on marine litter impact.  The second step is to assess the data and produce a report for the decision makers and society in general. | UNEP/MAP including also SCP/RAC | Ongoing |
| **To introduce in the agenda of the BCRC Centre and ECOWAS member states the problem of plastic wastes and the need for a synergy in action, since they are classified as hazardous and other wastes under the Basel Convention.** The ECOWAS Commission is invited to continue the ongoing efforts at the level of the region with the other partners for the validation of a regional strategy on plastic wastes. | ECOWAS with other partners including BCRC/SCRC in Senegal | Planned |

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