



BRS HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly newsletter of the Basel,
Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

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ROAD TO THE 2023 BRS COPs

20 January:

registration deadline
for Governments

1 March:

registration deadline
for side events

24 March:

registration deadline
for Observers

1-12 May:

2023 BRS COPs



18-19 January:

Joint COPs Bureaux meetings

24 February:

Deadline for booking booths
& expressions of interest to
participate in the PCBs Fair

14-30 March:

Regional Preparatory Meetings

- Asia-Pacific: 14-16 March 2023, Bangkok, Thailand
- Africa: 21-23 March 2023, Dakar, Senegal
- Eastern Europe: 28-30 March 2023, Zagreb, Croatia
- GRULAC: 28-30 March 2023, Panama City, Panama

21 April:

registration deadline
for media accreditation

3-5 May:

2023 BRS PCBs Fair

HIGHLIGHTS



BRS Executive Secretary, Mr. Rolph Payet, participated in the 9th Annual Meeting of the Partnership for International Organisations, hosted by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the World Organisation for Animal Health. Mr. Payet remarked on the need to create synergies in between different international entities to address treaty development from a holistic perspective.

Mr. Carlos Martin-Novella, BRS Deputy Executive Secretary, highlighted the role that chemicals and wastes play in the conservation of biodiversity during the second part of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, also presenting the exploratory study entitled “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity”.



The BRS Secretariat is proud to acknowledge all colleagues who have received a Long Service Award in December 2022, in recognition of over fifteen years of service: Mr. Andrew Isaac (25 years), Ms. Gundega Trumkalne (25 years), Ms. Maria Cristina Cardenas-Fischer (20 years), Mr. Julien Hortonedo (15 years), Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall (15 years). Thank you for choosing the Secretariat as a professional space to build your distinguished careers!

Mountains matter to the flora and fauna that lives on them, to the indigenous communities who inhabit them, to the travellers who wander across them. On the occasion of International Mountain Day 2022, the BRS Secretariat launched a story map that delineates the presence of plastic waste on remote and mountainous areas, while also offering solutions at local, regional and global levels in terms of policy, infrastructure, financing and awareness-raising.



In December 2022, the BRS Secretariat organised two Small Intersessional Working Groups meetings. The first one, held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, focused on progress made towards the elimination of PCB and discussed the preparation of a relevant draft strategy. The second, held in Geneva, Switzerland, focused on updating the technical guidelines on plastic wastes. Thereafter, the Secretariat published the 56th edition of the Rotterdam Convention PIC Circular.

DONORS' CORNER

Since 2019, the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership (PWP) has benefited from generous contributions of over USD 7 million by Canada, the European Union, Germany, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, and the United States. Thanks to our donors, the BRS Secretariat has been able to organise three meetings of the PWP working group. In addition, just in the past year, 23 pilot projects were selected for implementation in over 20 countries. The PWP has a broad reach with over 270 members representing 58 Parties and one non-Party, 14 intergovernmental organisations, 12 regional centres, 27 non-governmental organisations, and 20 industry associations. Four project groups were tasked to build a baseline of information on the prevention and minimisation, separation, recycling, and transboundary movement of plastic waste. The Secretariat cordially thanks our current PWP donors for their support and encourages others in a position to do so to fund this important workstream under the Basel Convention.

FROM THE REGIONS

The Basel Convention Coordinating Centre and Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean (BCCC-SCRC Uruguay) is hosted at the Technological Laboratory of Uruguay in Montevideo, thanks to an agreement with the Ministry of Housing, Land Management and Environment of Uruguay. BCCC-SCRC Uruguay undertakes the implementation of projects and the training of key actors in view of strengthening the national and regional capacities of GRULAC countries with regard to the environmentally sustainable management of chemicals and wastes. Uruguay recently became the epicentre of international action to address the global issue of plastic pollution, with both the 3rd meeting of the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership, and the first session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, taking place in Punta del Este. BCCC-SCRC Uruguay supported both meetings in terms of logistics coordination.

MORE TO COME!

18 - 19 JAN

Joint meeting of the Bureaux of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Geneva, Switzerland

26 - 27 JAN

7th meeting of the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic

Paris, France

26 JAN - 2 FEB

High-level online consultation on Integrating Gender Issues in Pesticide Risk Prevention and Reduction Strategies in Tunisia

online

COMINGS AND GOINGS

After 21 years of dedicated work, our colleague, Digna Francisco, is leaving the BRS Secretariat on early retirement. This newsletter is one of the many communication products bearing her creative touch. We are excited to find out what this new life chapter has in store for her... Thank you, Digna!

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