Agenda Item 5.3(i): Committee administering the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance

Purpose:

1. To seek the meeting’s approval for the establishment of the committee to administer the mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance of the Waigani Convention.

Background:

2. Since its adoption on 16 September 1995 at Waigani, Papua New Guinea and its entry into force on 21 October 2001, the Waigani Convention has been managed and administered through the STAC and the COP meetings. Its full effectiveness has not been evaluated on whether the convention is actually useful in the management of hazardous waste at the national level and whether parties are complying with its requirements and thus, implementing it properly.

3. Article 7.3 of the Waigani Convention requires Parties, consistent with their national laws and regulations, to set up information collection and dissemination mechanisms on hazardous wastes and submit them to enable the Secretariat to fulfil its obligations under articles 9.6 and 14. However, this has not been happening.

4. In order to address this, the paper presented proposes that a committee be established to administer a mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance with the convention and doing so help improve the value of the convention at the national level.

Recommendation:

5. The Meeting is invited to:
   - discuss the proposal for the establishment of the committee;
   - further discuss possible manner in which the committee would operate and how it will report to the COP on its work;
   - direct the Secretariat on how it would service the established committee.