



The Chemicals Treaties (BRS Treaties)

Basel Convention • Rotterdam Convention • Stockholm Convention

Synergies amongst the BRS Conventions

- Simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) COPs (ExCOPs) have been held twice
- The first ExCOPs (Bali 2010)
- Considered recommendations of the Ad Hoc Joint Working Group on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination among the BRS Conventions
- Parties adopt an omnibus synergies decision on joint services, joint activities, synchronization of the budget cycles, joint audits, joint managerial functions, and review arrangements
- Decided to review in 2013 how the synergies arrangements had contributed to achieving a set of objectives, such as strengthening the implementation of the three Conventions and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels.
- The second ExCOPs (Geneva 2013, in conjunction with the back-to-back meetings of the COPs)
- Parties adopted an omnibus decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the BRS Conventions, including
- A review of the synergies process and the organization of the Secretariats, and to continue to present joint activities as an integral part of the proposed programmes of work and budgets of the three Conventions.
- Alignment of the working arrangements of the Rotterdam Convention CRC with those of the Stockholm Convention POPRC to support effective participation of experts and observers, and encourages the POPRC to involve experts from the Basel Convention when discussing waste issues.
- Secretariat to enhance cooperation with the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and consider coordinating with the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Welcome an integrated approach that includes mainstreaming, industry involvement and dedicated external finance.

Parties to the Agreements

- Basel (Hazardous Waste)
- There are 188 Parties to the Basel Convention (including the EU)
- Trinidad and Tobago acceded to the Convention in 1994
- Of note, while the United States signed the Basel Convention, it has yet to ratify it
- Rotterdam (Trade in Hazardous Chemicals)
- There are 164 Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (including the EU)
- Trinidad and Tobago acceded to the Convention in 2009 (with effect from 2010)
- Again, the US is a signatory but has yet to ratify it
- Stockholm (Persistent Organic Pollutants)
- There are 184 Parties to the Stockholm Convention (including the EU)
- Trinidad and Tobago acceded to the Convention in 2002 (with effect from 2004)
- While both the US and Italy signed the Convention, they have not ratified it

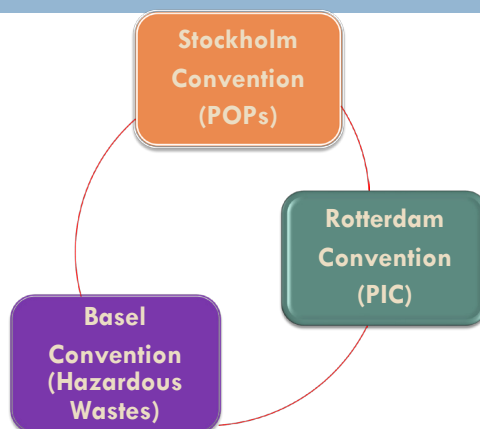




BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS

THE CONVENTIONS

- ❑ **Basel Convention** on the Control of Transboundary Movements of hazardous wastes and their Disposal
 - ❑ 1989 / 191 Parties
- ❑ **Rotterdam Convention** on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
 - ❑ 1998 / 165 Parties
- ❑ **Stockholm Convention** on Persistent Organic Pollutants
 - ❑ 2001 / 186 Parties



BASEL CONVENTION



ROTTERDAM CONVENTION



STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

Title: Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal
Entry into force: 5 May 1992
Number of parties: 191

Objective: To protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects of hazardous wastes

Scope: Hazardous wastes and other wastes

Key provisions:

- (i) **Minimization** of the generation of hazardous and other wastes
- (ii) **Control system for transboundary movements** of hazardous and other wastes based on notification and Prior Informed Consent
- (iii) **Environmentally sound management** of hazardous and other wastes in relation to transboundary movements

Title: Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
Entry into force: 24 February 2004
Number of parties: 165

Objective: To promote shared responsibility and cooperative efforts in international trade of certain chemicals

Scope: 54 pesticides, SHPs and industrial chemicals that have been banned or severely restricted for inclusion in the Prior Informed Consent procedure and met the criteria set out in the Convention

Key provisions:

- (i) Prior Informed Consent procedure based on **import responses and export notifications** for other banned / severely restricted chemicals
- (ii) **Exchange of information** on a broad range of potentially hazardous chemicals

Title: Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
Entry into force: 17 May 2004
Number of parties: 186

Objective: To protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants

Scope: 34 POPs

Key provisions:

- (i) **Elimination** (POPs in annex A)
- (ii) **Restriction** (POPs in annex B)
- (iii) **Specific exemptions and acceptable purposes** for certain POPs
- (iv) **Reduction or elimination** (unintentionally produced POPs in annex C)

Synergies

Enhancing **cooperation and coordination** among the three Conventions

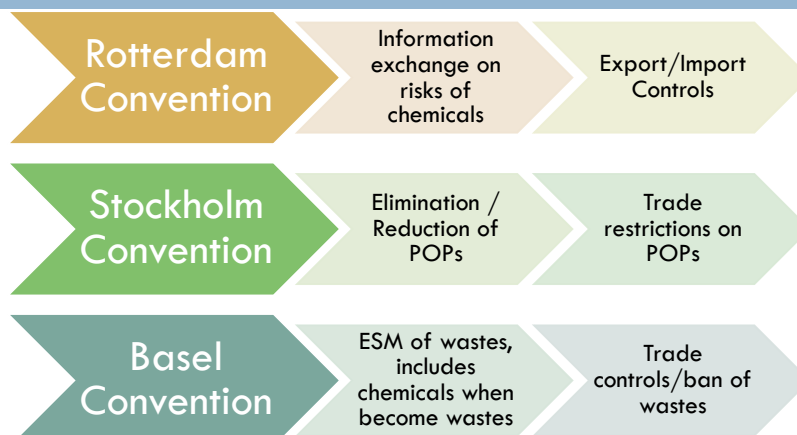
Strengthening the implementation of the three conventions at the national, regional and global levels

Providing **coherent policy guidance**

Enhancing **efficiency** in the provision of support to Parties, reducing their administrative burden and maximizing the effective and efficient use of resources at all levels

Combating **illegal traffic and trade**

Why are these three Conventions working together ?



Source: UNEP

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