



BRS Treaties • Basel Convention

Milestones in the implementation of the Basel Convention

COP 1 (1992): adopted a decision requesting industrialized countries to prohibit transboundary movements of hazardous wastes for final disposal to developing countries and noting that transboundary movements of wastes for recovery or recycling should be handled in an environmentally sound manner.

The Ban Amendment: COP 3 (1995), parties amended the Convention to ban the export of hazardous wastes for final disposal and recycling from Annex VII countries (EU, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and Liechtenstein) to non-Annex VII countries. The Ban Amendment entered into force in 2019.

Basel Protocol: COP 5 (1999) adopted the Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, which currently has 12 of the 20 ratifications required for it to enter into force.

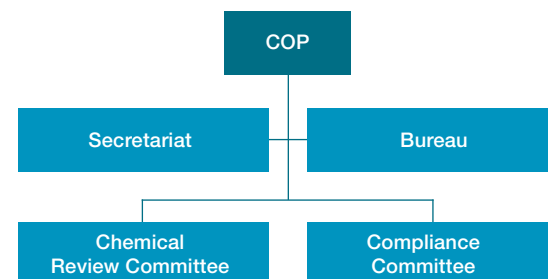
COP 10 (2011): Parties adopted decisions on the new Strategic Framework and the Indonesian-Swiss country led initiative (CLI) to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention. The Cartagena Declaration on the Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Hazardous Wastes was also adopted.

COP 11 (2013): first COP to be held in conjunction with the COPs of the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. Negotiations focused on key elements of the synergies process between the three conventions. COP 11 also created the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE) to tackle the illegal waste trade.

COP 13 (2017): Parties adopted decisions on, *inter alia*: establishment of the Partnership on Household Waste; the final evaluation of the Strategic Framework in 2021; adoption of a set of practical manuals on environmentally sound management (ESM) of wastes; adoption of the glossary of terms; creation of an expert working group on Review of Annexes I, III and IV and related aspects of Annex IX; authorization of work to finalize the technical guidelines on e-waste; updating technical guidelines on incineration on land and on specially engineered landfills; and a request to the Secretariat to develop an electronic reporting system.

COP 14 (2019): adopted decisions on, *inter alia*, a Convention amendment on plastic waste, technical guidelines on e-waste, and an update of the technical guidelines on wastes containing mercury.

Institutional structure



BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS

This factsheet on **The Chemicals Treaties (BRS Treaties): Basel Convention** is included in the comprehensive report: *Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)*, pp. 23–25.