Coordinated implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Sofie H. Flensborg

Geneva Environment Network
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- Cooperative partnership between 50 Geneva-area organizations and units working on environment and sustainable development (UN, UNEP units, NGOs, academia, business, local authorities)

- Objectives:
  - Information dissemination
  - Public outreach
  - Multi-stakeholder dialogue
  - Other cooperative activities
Regional and sub-regional seminars organized by GEN


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3. **Montevideo, Uruguay**, 28-30 January 2004 for Caribbean and Latin America: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Dominican Republic, Santa Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

4. **Riga, Estonia**, 6-8 April 2004 for Central and Eastern Europe (information based on analysis of advance survey)
Format for the workshops

- Presentations
- Discussion
- Working Groups
- Final conclusions/recommendations
Conclusions of the workshops

- Benefits or potential benefits of synergies in the implementation
- Barriers to a coordinated implementation
- Possible solutions
  - National level
  - Regional/sub-regional level
  - International level
Potential benefits of a coordinated implementation (1)

- Improved efficiency and effectiveness in the implementation of MEAs
- Coordinated financial and technical assistance and technology transfer
- Exchange of data, information and experience
- Coordinated data collection and reporting under MEAs
- Harmonized legislation
- Increased involvement of all stakeholders
Potential benefits of the coordinated implementation (II)

- Strengthening of the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle
- A more comprehensive solution of issues related to chemicals and waste (trade, production, management) at the global level
- Improvement of the environment and the public health situation
Barriers to a coordinated implementation

- Institutional Barriers
- Legal constraints
- Technical limitations
- Political and economic factors
Sufficiency of capacities for implementation and enforcement in CEE

The thematic workshop on synergies for capacity building, Geneva, 30 March - 2 April 2004
Possible solutions – national level

- Focal points and designated authorities
- Awareness raising and sensitization
- Stakeholder involvement
- Capacity building
- National Implementation Plans
- National priority setting
- Integrated/harmonized national legislation
- Financing and partnerships
Possible solutions – regional/sub-regional level

- Basel Convention Regional Centers (BCRC) to serve all three Conventions
- Joint programmes and projects
- Exchange of information
- Networks
- Bilateral and multilateral/regional cooperation
- Harmonize legislation
Possible solutions – international level

- Secretariats of the three Conventions to coordinate activities and promote synergies
- Donors to consider support in the following areas:
  - BCRCs, Training, Technical resources
  - Infrastructure, Cleaner production and technology transfer
- Coordination and integration of activities
Concluding remarks

- A total of approximately 90 countries will have taken part in the workshops organized by GEN.
- They have provided an unique opportunity for the various focal points to meet and exchange views and experiences.
- All reports and presentations are available at the GEN website: www.environmenthouse.ch
  (international events)