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## **Third Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa**

Brazzaville, Congo  
Expert Segment  
12 - 13 February 2020

### **Agenda 5 (a)(i): Status of ratification and accession of the Convention**

#### **Note by the Secretariat**

##### **1. Introduction**

1. According to Section 1 of Article 22 of Bamako Convention, the convention is subject to ratification, acceptance, formal confirmation, or approval by Member States of the Organisation of African Unity (now the African Union).
2. Further, Article 23 of Bamako Convention provides that the Convention shall be open for accession by Member States of the African Union from the day after the date on which the Convention is closed for signature;
3. According to Article 28 of the Bamako Convention, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (now Chairperson of the African Union) is the Depository for this Convention and of any Protocol thereto.
4. There are 29 Member States of the African Union as at 31 December 2019 that have ratified or acceded to Bamako Convention, increasing from 25 as at the second session of the Conference of the Parties. The new parties are Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Rwanda. A list of the status of ratification, acceptance, formal confirmation, or approval is attached as Annex 1.

##### **2. Proposed action**

The Secretariat has prepared a draft decision for consideration by the Conference.

**Draft decision CB 3/5: Status of ratification, accession and implementation of the Convention**

*Recalling* decision 2/1 which urges those countries that are not yet parties to the Bamako Convention to consider its merit and ratify or accede to it as soon as feasible so as to join hands in taking action for the total ban of imports of hazardous chemicals and wastes into Africa;

*Welcoming* decision 17/1 of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, adopted at its seventeenth session, held in Durban on 14 and 15 November 2019, which encouraged member States that have not done so to ratify the Bamako Convention;

***Decides***

1. *To urge* member States to the African Union, who have not ratified or acceded to take urgent and favorable considerations to ratify or accede the Bamako Convention, so as to facilitate and consolidate Africa's efforts in taking action to enhance the total ban of imports of hazardous chemicals and wastes into Africa and other waste management issues.

2. *To request* the Secretariat to provide information and guidance to member States of the African Union to promote ratification or accession to the Convention.

3. *To request* the Secretariat to prepare a regional instrument to guide Parties and member States to domesticate and implement the convention.

4. *To request* the African Union Commission to promote the ratification, accession, domestication and implementation of the Convention.