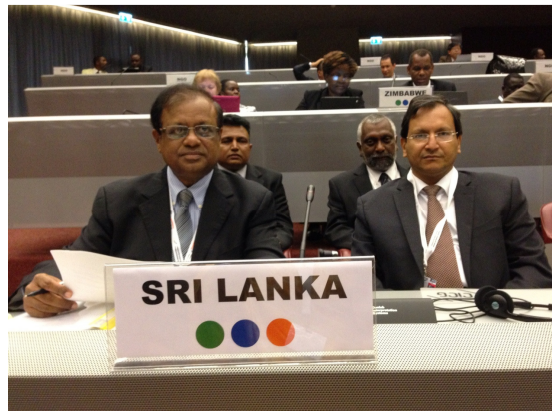


Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy attends the High Level Segment of the ordinary and simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in Geneva



Participating in the High Level Segment of the ordinary and simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions held on 9 and 10 May 2013 in Geneva, Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy, Minister Susil Premajayantha briefed the assembly of Ministers and government delegations on the activities undertaken by the Government of Sri Lanka under the three conventions.

The Minister stressed upon the necessity for international cooperation involving both developed and developing nations to address the problems related to the management of man-made harmful chemicals in the environment. He elaborated on the future activities planned in Sri Lanka to comply with the three conventions.

During the interactive dialogue that ensued, the Minister also proposed to the high level segment that a mechanism should be established at international level to regulate e-waste. This mechanism should bind manufacturers of e-products to the "Polluter Pay Principle" and it should be able to monitor a product from the point of entry to a country until the product is disposed of in an environmentally sustainable way. He also expressed Sri Lanka's support for any effort to convene regional meetings on environment and health given the important interrelation between the two fields.



The high level segment took place under the theme "Synergies and the implementation of the chemicals and waste conventions at the national, regional and global levels", at the conclusion of the ordinary and simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Conferences of the Parties, which

commenced on 28 April 2013 and was organised under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). A delegation from Sri Lanka with representatives from the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture attended the meetings of the Conference of Parties.

On the sidelines of the Conference the Minister also met with the Director General of the FAO Mr. José Graziano da Silva, where possibilities of furthering cooperation between the FAO and Sri Lanka were discussed.

The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions are multilateral environmental agreements which share the common objective of protecting human health and the environment from hazardous chemical and wastes.

Sri Lanka Mission
Geneva.