

Implementation of the Basel Convention in Korea

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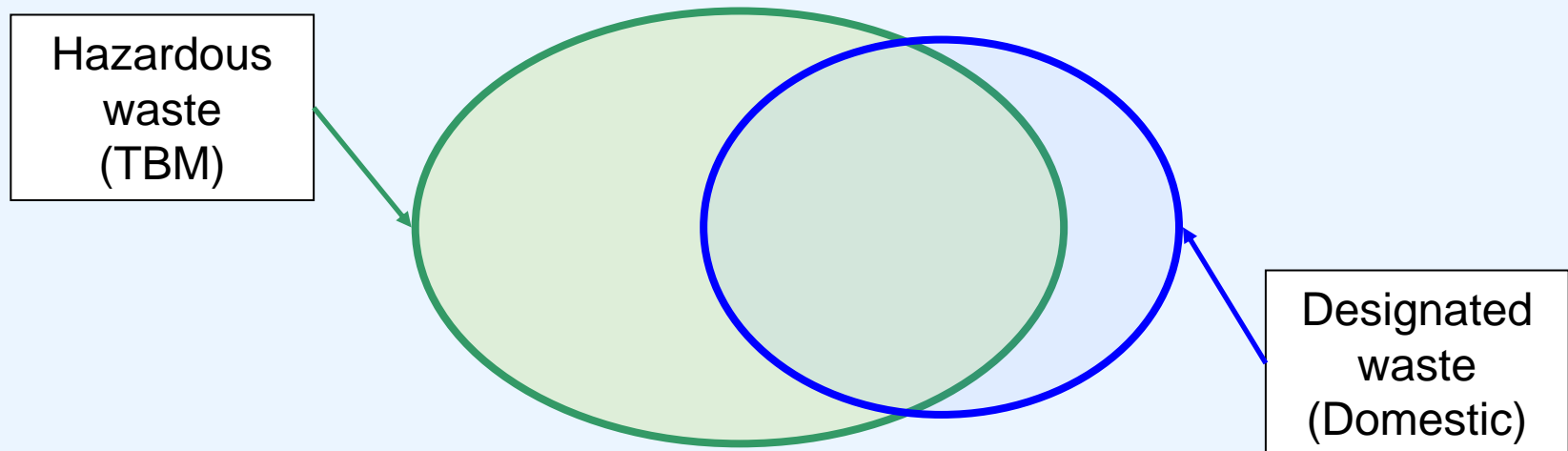
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Management Scheme

- Legislation
 - Act on the Control of Trans-Boundary Movements (TBM) of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal(1992, 12)
 - Amended in 1994, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2001
 - ❖ Waste Management Act
- Focal Point : Ministry of Environment (MoE)
- Competent Authorities
 - MoE Regional Offices (8)

- Definition of hazardous waste
 - MoE Public Notice 1998-78 : For TBM control
 - Annex VIII (The Basel Convention)
 - Red & Amber Tier wastes (OECD)
 - ❖ Annex IX (The Basel Convention)
- Waste Management Act
 - Designated waste : For domestic control
 - Amount of designated waste generated :2,915,000 ton (2002)



National strategies

- Reduction of waste generation at source
- Promotion of domestic recycling of industrial wastes
- Safe treatment and disposal
- Minimization of TBM

Restrictions on TBM

- No TBM w/o prior written consents
- MoE may limit or ban TBM of specific wastes
- No restriction on the country or regions for TBM

Amount of Exported Items

Item	2000		2001		2002		2003	
	ton	USD (x1000)	ton	USD (x1000)	ton	USD (x1000)	ton	USD (x1000)
Ion Exchange Resin					4	-		
Spent Liquid Crystal	1.6	164						
PCB Waste	58.7	171	114.9	689	55	41	27	38
Total	60.3	335	114.9	689	59	41	27	38

– Two export permits (2003)

Amount of Imported Items

Item	2000		2001		2002		2003	
	ton	USD (x1000)	ton	USD (x1000)	ton	USD (x1000)	ton	USD (x1000)
Waste lead-Battery	17,347	3,842	14,318	3,024	14,944	4,395	43,622	7,850
Ni-Cd battery							540	46,800
PVC-coated Cable	33	21	22.3	14	104	21		
Cu Sludge (electro-refining operation)			20	7			28	10
Total	17,380	3,863	14,360	3,045	15,048	4,416	44,190	54,660

– 41 import permits (2003)

Challenges for successful implementation of BC

- (1) High demand for recycled materials in Asian region
 - Specialized economic structure
 - Different stage in economic development
 - Gaps in waste treatment cost
 - Different demand for recycled materials
 - Fast growing market

- (2) No systematic assessment for hazardous characteristics
 - Difficulty in differentiating the Annex VIII and the Annex IX wastes

(3) Weakness in Compliance Monitoring system

- Surveillance during Customs Clearance
 - Less than 5% exporting commodities checked
- Divided role between local governments and MoE

(4) Waste ??

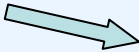
- Debatable definition
 - Grey area between wastes and second-hand commodity
- Falsehood in HS code recording

(5) Insufficient public awareness

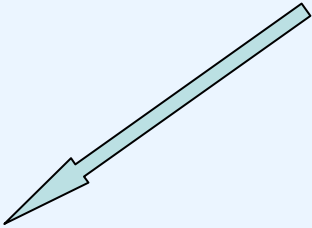
Case 1 : Pomptech Korea Co.



Used PC stock



Packaging after test



Loading into container



Special packaging for hard disk

Case 2 : Illegal TBM

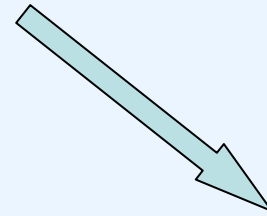


Returned CRT monitors
and TV sets





Stock of monitors w/ adequate condition



After packaging



Future Direction

- Enhancing Infrastructure for BC implementation
 - Integrated management on the designated wastes and Annex VIII wastes
 - Changing competent authorities
 - Assessing “Hazardous Characteristics”
- Strengthening inter-governmental cooperation
 - Customs Offices
 - Local governments
 - Regional Offices of MoE
- Raising public awareness
 - Improving supportive system for exporters/importers
 - web-site & pamphlet
 - Establishment of e-learning system