

Implementation of Basel Convention in Vietnam

**Current issues and actions
against importation of used lead-acid batteries**

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Presentation Topics

- **introduction on policies, institutional and legal framework for hazardous waste management**
- **current issues with lead acid batteries**
- **activities to respond with hazardous waste movement**
- **further activities on implementation of Basel Convention in vietnam**
- **Recommendations for cooperative actions**

policies, institutional and legal framework for hazardous waste management

- Policies:**
- Resolution No. 41/NQ-TW of the Politburo (2005)
 - Vietnam Agenda 21 (2004)
 - National strategy for environmental protection until 2010 and vision towards 2020 (2003)
 - National strategy for pollution control (submitted to Primer Minister for approval, 2005)
 - National Master plan for hazardous waste management and treatment (being developed)
 - ...

***Clearly indicate the principle of
sustainable development and
protect the environment***

policies, institutional and legal framework (CONT.)

Institutional and organizational framework:

- + **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment**
 - Vietnam Environment Protection Agency (Basel FP)
- + **Ministry of Trade**
 - Market Control Department
- + **Ministry of Public Security**
 - Economic Police Department
- + **Ministry of Finance**
 - General Department of Vietnam Customs
- + **Provincial People Committee**
 - Take the responsibilities locally, including environment management
- + **Government agency to prevent illegal trade**

policies, institutional and legal framework (CONT.)

- ✓ The Law on Environment Protection (1993) and The revised Law on Environment Protection (2005) (passed on 19 November, 2005)
- ✓ Decision No 155/QD-TTg dated 16/07/199 of the Prime Minister
 - Regulation on management of hazardous wastes (developed based on Basel convention)
- ✓ Decision 03/QD-BTNMT issued by MONRE dated April 2, 2004
 - Regulates the importation of **scraps as secondary materials**
 - Categories of and environmental requirements for the scraps permitted to be imported as secondary materials: Scraps papers, plastics, metals which satisfy environmental requirements
 - Responsibility of organizations/persons who import and use secondary materials
 - Responsibility of local DONREs

current issues with lead acid batteries

lead-acid batteries recycling

Recycling village: Dong Mai commune, Chi dao Village, Van Phong District, Hung Yen province

- Approx. 500 people work onsite, 200 people carry out collection nationwide (possibly from importation sources)
- Approx. 5000 tons / year
- Simple labor and low technology
- Significant amount of hazardous wastes (acid, separate plates, heavy metals ...)
- Serious environmental problems
- Starting to improve:
 - Move the lead burning ovens out of residential areas
 - Improvement of environmental awareness
 - Research on advanced technology



Other "lead recycling villages": Ward 15, District 11 and Binh Chanh District (suburban of Ho Chi Minh city)

current issues with lead acid batteries (cont.)

importation of used lead-acid batteries

In 2005: Hundreds of thousand tons of used lead-acid batteries were imported to Vietnam, mostly from Japan, USA, and some from Taiwan

Part of those were re-exported (illegally) and a part still remains inside Vietnam for reuse or recycle (?)

No information was reported to Vietnam EPA neither from Japanese Customs nor Vietnam Customs.

The Vietnam EPA did not issue any permit for importation of used lead-acid batteries

Asian Basel Network activated:

May, 2005: Information were exchanged between Japan - Hong Kong - Vietnam Basel Focal Points

ACTIVITIES TO RESPOND

Further exchange information with Basel FPs

- List of importers and exporters
- Time and amount of used lead-acid batteries import-export

National authorities work and collaborate closely together

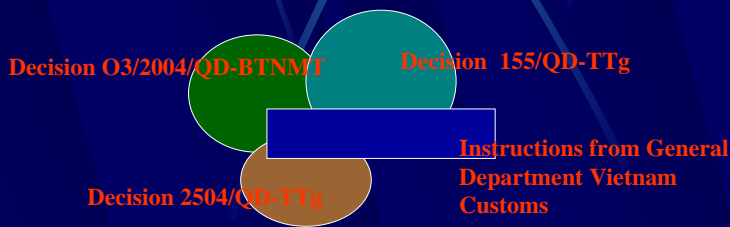
- Investigate the steam of illegal import-export of used batteries
- Strictly control of the importation at ports

- Issue the regulations to absolutely prohibit/control the importation of used lead-acid batteries:

- *Resend the Decision 03/QD-BTNMT (by MONRE)*
- *Issue Decision 2504/2005/QD/BTM (by MoTrade)*
- *Instructions from General Department of Customs to local Customs Offices*

**Decision 2504/2005/QD/BTM dated 10/10/2005
issued by Ministry of Trade**

- Regulations on management of businesses on “temporary import for re-export” and “transit” of commodities prohibited or suspended from importation
- Identify the organizations to issue permits of temporary import for re-export and transit of commodities
- Provide the list of commodities prohibited or suspended from import (in which the importation of scraps materials is referred to the Decision 03/2004/QD-BTNMT)



.... prohibit the import-export of used lead-acid batteries

**further activities on implementation of
Basel Convention**

Legislation:

- The Law on environment protection
 - Revised and issued in 2005
- Decision No 155/QD-TTg
 - Being revised to adapt the the current issues and further facilitating the management of HW in Vietnam
- Decision 03/QD – BTNMT
 - Revise to add clean scrap cotton/fabrics as secondary materials

Coordination activities among national authorities

- Clearly define management responsibilities
- Strengthen collaborative works
- Increase control and enforcement
- Take legal actions for violations of regulations on HW trade
- Closely monitor the importation of “used commodities”

Recommendation for cooperative actions

Continue to strengthen the activities of Asian Basel Network

Support in adaptation/integration of BS requirements into local legislation system

Capacity building to implement Basel Convention guidelines

- Provide in information and training for local authorities to identify and prevent the importation of wastes
- Study tours to understand the legal and institutional systems regarding management of wastes /secondary materials in other nations
- Increase the collaborative works and support

New area to be focused on: E-waste

Thank you !

and discussion