

Progress of the Transboundary Movement of Waste Under the Framework of the Basel Convention

Ibrahim Shafii
Secretariat of the
Basel Convention



Control of Transboundary Movements: Illegal Traffic



Illegal Traffic refers to any transboundary movement of hazardous wastes (Art. 9):

- Without notification to all States concerned
- Without the consent of a State concerned
- With consent obtained from States concerned through falsification, misrepresentation, or fraud
- That does not conform in a material way with the documents
- That results in deliberate disposal (e.g. dumping) of hazardous wastes

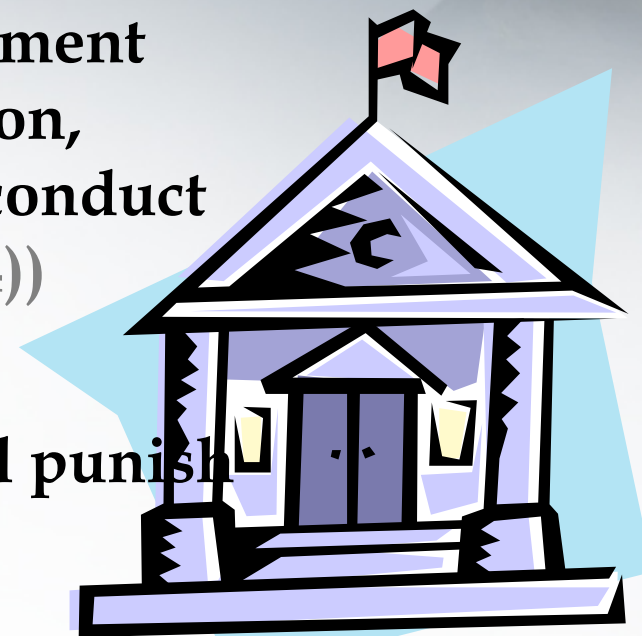
Illegal traffic is criminal (Art. 4(3))

National Implementation



Each Party shall take appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to implement and enforce the provisions of this Convention, including measures to prevent and punish conduct in contravention of the Convention (Art. 4(4))

Each Party shall introduce appropriate national/domestic legislation to prevent and punish illegal traffic (Art. 9(5))



Model National Legislation to assist Parties in drafting national legislation (COP Dec. II/5)

Checklist for the preparation of national legislation for the implementation of the Basel Convention (COP Dec. VII/32)

The Ban Amendment (1)



COP Decision III/1: New Article 4 A

**Each Party listed in Annex VII
(Parties and other States which are
members of OECD, EC and
Liechtenstein) shall prohibit all
transboundary movements of
hazardous wastes which are
destined for final disposal
operations to States not listed in
Annex VII**



Ban Amendment (2): Status



- **Adopted at COP3 in 1995**
- **63 Parties have ratified**
- **Not yet enter into force**



E-Waste: Classification in Basel Convention



Annex VIII (hazardous waste):

- A1180- WEE assemblies
- A1190- Cables
- A1150- Ashes from printed circuit boards incineration
- A 2010-Cathode ray tubes
- A1010, A1020, A1030, A1090 (waste containing heavy metals e.g. lead, mercury, copper, cadmium, etc)

Annex IX (non-hazardous waste):

- B1110 (electrical and electronic assemblies)



The COP Mandate on E-waste



COP6 (Dec, 2002)

- *Adopted Strategic Plan for Implementation of the Basel Convention;*
- *Identify priority waste streams (incl. e-waste)*
- *Adopted MPPI*

COP7 (Oct, 2004)

- *Adopted Ministerial Statement on Partnership for Meeting the Global Waste Challenge*
- *Adopted partnership approach (incl. on e-waste)*
- *Adopted Work Programme (incl. on e-waste)*

COP8 (Nov-Dec, 2006)

- *World Forum on E-waste was held*
- *Adopted Nairobi Declaration on ESM of E-waste*
- *Adopted decision VIII/2*



E-waste problem in Asia



- **Generation and flow**

- E-waste generation is increasing both in developed and developing countries.
- Material flow is unclear in most Asian countries.
- Uncontrolled "Invisible flow" exists out of regulated recycling system, and it is likely to cause the inappropriate handling.
- **International trade**
- International trade of **secondhand products** or **dismantled parts/materials** to Asian developing countries is increasing.
- **Illegal trade** such as disguise or smuggling can be found, that would lead to inappropriate reuse/recycling.
- Asian-wide cooperation is needed for identification of secondhand products and for controlling illegal trade.



Recycling of E-waste



- **Environmental effects**

- Environmental pollution is caused by uncontrolled recycling activities such as open burning of wires and cables.
- Two types of pollution are identified.
 - **Toxic compounds:** PAH, PCB, PBDE, PCDD/DFs and heavy metals are reported for Guiyu, China.
 - **Open dumping:** Residues from uncontrolled recycling.
- Health or risk assessment is also being carried out.





Separation of PCs and other E-waste on the road

Photo: Terazono (2006)

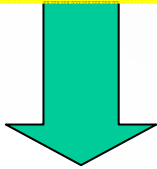


Usual scenery of **print circuit board heating for removing IC-chips and Pb at Guiyu**

Photo: Yoshida (2004)



Removing valuable parts and metals



Effluents after Cu recovery



Storage at river side



**Crushing and
Cu recovery (no photo)**



**Open dumping of
pulverized residues**

Serious adverse impacts to environment and damage to the public health by inappropriate way for recycles and disposals of e-wastes in China



Case Study:China

Open dumping of E-waste recycling residues and residential waste along the river at Guiyu



Natural burning

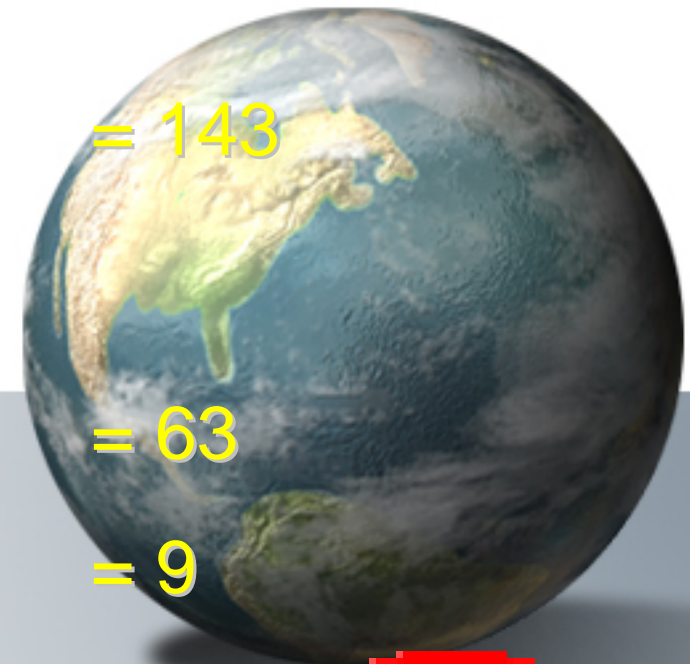
Hong Kong's Observations

- Increasing flow of used electronics from developed countries
- Transshipped in the name of second-hand goods such as used appliances
- Sometimes even under the disguise of green wastes as such metal scrap or plastic waste



Hong Kong: Enforcement (Jan 04 to Sept 05)

- Suspected Illegal Shipments = 143
- Prosecutions Initiated
 - ✓ Illegal shipments = 63
 - ✓ Illegal e-waste sites = 9
- Waste Shipments Returned = 118



Hong Kong: Enforcement Difficulties

- Heavy marine traffic and high cargo turnover rate
- Misleading declarations
- Import under the disguise of second hand products
- Difficulty to distinguish waste from secondhand goods



Background of the Asia Pacific

E-waste Project



- The AP Countries considered e-waste as a priority -
Scoping Workshop on ESM of E-waste, Tianjin, China,
Nov. 2002
- Obstacles identified to manage e-waste properly -
Lack of trained personnel, legislations, infrastructure, public
awareness, etc.
- The 4-year AP Programme is carried out through concrete
and well-targeted national and regional efforts by SBC and
other partners (Governments, IGOs, UNEP, NGOs and
industry) based on needs



The Asia Pacific E-Waste Project



Launched: November 2005

Participating countries:

Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Pacific Island countries

Basel Convention Regional Centres:

- *Beijing, Jakarta, SPREP*

Funding:

- *Canada, Japan, Netherlands*



The Asia Pacific E-Waste Project



Goal:

- *To enhance the capacity of Parties to manage e-waste in an ESM through public-private partnership, and preventing illegal traffic of hazardous e-waste*

Strategic Objectives:

- *Assessment of situation: national inventories, information exchange, etc.*
- *Prevention and minimization: goals on waste reduction and minimization of quantities and quality*
- *Management: achieving ESM facilities*
- *Information and training: awareness, capacity building, exchange of best practices and technologies*



The Asia Pacific E-Waste Project



Ongoing Activities:

Country	Project	Level
Sri Lanka	Development of national implementation plan for e-waste management	National
India	Facilitating partnerships for ESM of E-waste: Phase I (NGO Project)	National



The Asia Pacific E-Waste Project



Ongoing Activities (cont):

Country	Project	Level
Indonesia	Preliminary Inventory of e-waste	National
BCRC SEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Development of technical guidelines on methodology on Inventory of E-waste•Development of technical guidelines on ESM Recycling, Reuse, Repair, Refurbishment and Disposal of E-waste	Regional
SPREP	Pilot inventory of E-waste in 5 Pacific Countries	Subregional



The Asia Pacific E-Waste Project: Ongoing Activities



Country	Project	Level
BCRC SEA	Training workshop on ESM of e-waste	Regional
Cambodia	National inventory of e-waste	National
Malaysia	National inventory of e-waste	National
Thailand	National inventory of e-waste	National
Vietnam	National inventory of e-waste	National
Malaysia/Thailand /Singapore	Pilot project on collection of mobile phones (DOWA)	Subregional



The Asia Pacific E-Waste Project



Completed Activity:

Country	Project	Level
BCRC Beijing, China	Feasibility Analysis to Develop a Centre of Excellence of Information on the ESM of E-waste at BCRC Beijing	Regional



Work Programme 2007-2008 and beyond



The Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative – Phase 2

- *Data collection on TBM of MP*
- *1-2 pilot collection of used and EoL MP*
- *Workshops on technical guidelines*

Global Partnership on E-waste

- *Continuation of projects and activities in AP*
- *African and Latin American regions*

Global Partnership on computing equipment

- *Opening dialogues with stakeholders*
- *Providing new and innovative information, guidance, and standards for evaluating/testing and labelling*



Work Programme 2007-2008 and beyond (contd)



Activities under the Nairobi Declaration:

- *Development of Work Plan for ESM of E-waste*
- *Preparation of technical guidelines*
- *Monitoring development on ESM of e-waste*
- *Initiation of relevant activities through:*
 - ✓ *Role of BCRCs*
 - ✓ *Strategic partnership targeting e-waste*
 - ✓ *Increased financial support*
 - ✓ *Development of pilot projects and take-back systems*
 - ✓ *Collaboration in preventing and combatting illegal traffic*
 - ✓ *Life-cycle approach, promotion of clean technologies and green design*
 - ✓ *Prevention of exports of end-of-life equipment in donations*



Coordination with other E-Waste Related Activities



G8 3Rs Initiative

- *SBC participated in Ministerial Conference (April, 2005), Senior Official Meeting (March 2006), Asia 3R Conference (Oct 2006), 3R Workshop for East and SEA, ADB (Feb 2007)*
- *E-waste project in AP accepted as a concrete outcome of 3R Initiative*

European Legislations on E-waste

- *WEEE Directive and RoHS Directive*
- *Amendments to Waste Shipment Reg. on e-waste*

Solving the E-waste Problem (StEP)

- *UNEP/UNU initiative: mainly academic approach*

Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI)

- *UNEP/DTIE and mobile phone manufacturers/service providers*

UNEP/DTIE IETC: *e-waste guidelines development*



FURTHER INFORMATION



Secretariat of the Basel Convention
International Environment House
15 Chemin des Anemones
Chatelaine CH-1219
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
Website: www.basel.int
E-mail: ibrahim.shafii@unep.ch

