# The Import/Export Management of E-Waste and Used EEE-Import/export Criteria Research and Regional Workshop

Jinhui Li (Ph.D./Professor)

Basel Convention Coordinating Center
for Asia and the Pacific
Beijing, China

## About the project

- The sponsors: MOE of Japan, Canada Environment
- MOU is in processing between SBC and BCRC China;
- The total budget: US\$40,000+CD\$25,000
- Duration: Feb, 2008 Jun, 2009
- Purpose: In order to ensure all countries to know the regulations in each country, and to support them to formulate and improve their waste exporting and importing management, the following research is to be conducted by the BCRC China under the cooperation with Secretariat of Basel Convention with supports from the Ministry of Environment of Japan.

## Scope

The scope of the project is as follows;

- (1) Items: TV (CRT and Liquid crystal), Air conditioner, Refrigerator, Washing machine, Personal computer, Mobile phone
- (2) Countries: 11 Asian countries (Brunei, Korea, China (including Hong Kong SAR), Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippine, Japan)

#### **Activities**

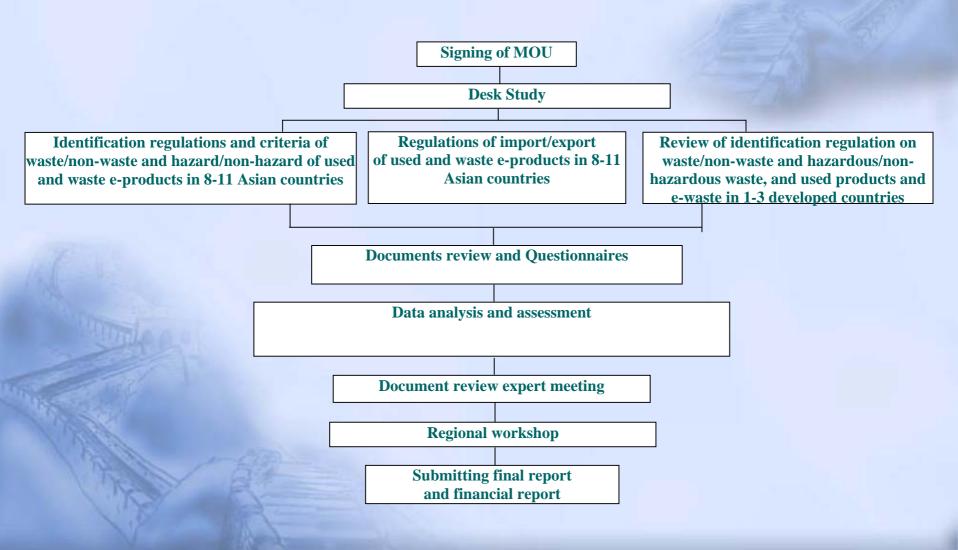
Followings are draft work activity plan. Specific work is to be prioritized.

- 1. National level:
- Review of waste/non-waste identification criteria on used EEE, and import regulations and export regulation
- Review of hazardous / non-hazardous identification criteria on used EEE, and import regulations and export regulation
- National expert consulting meeting on research scheme (To be possibly held depending upon resource availability)
- 2. Regional Level
- Workshop on waste export/import management scheme attended by participating countries
- Regional meeting of project output delivery, (To be possibly held depending upon resource availability, or back-to-back with other meetings)

## Highlights of the activities

- Review of waste/non-waste identification criteria on used EEE, and import/export regulations;
- Review of hazardous / non-hazardous identification criteria on used EEE, and import/export regulations;
- Regional Workshop on waste export/import management scheme attended by participating countries

#### Implementation Framework



#### Regional Workshop Arrangement

- BACK-TO-BACK meeting to the Third Waste Management and Technology Conference, held in November 5-7, 2008
- The Regional workshop is planned in November 3-4 for the output discussion and information deliver

#### Work Plan and Timetable

•02.2008—03.2008  DESK STUDY and Questionnaires	<ul> <li>(1) Design of the project framework</li> <li>(2) Desk study, country communication, and domestic field investigation</li> <li>(3) Review of hazardous / non-hazardous identification criteria on used EEE, and import regulations</li> <li>(4) Phase Report for e-waste and non-e-waste identification</li> </ul>
•04.2008—08.2008	<ul> <li>(1) Further review of waste/non-waste identification criteria on used EEE, and import regulations</li> <li>(2) Further review of hazardous / non-hazardous identification criteria on used EEE, and import regulations</li> </ul>
•09.2008—10.2008	<ul><li>(1) Project report preparation</li><li>(2) Regional workshop preparation</li></ul>
•11.2008—12.2008	<ul><li>(1) Regional workshop</li><li>(2) Regional meeting of project output delivery</li></ul>
•01.2009—06.2009	<ul><li>(1) Project report finalization</li><li>(2) Submit Final Report and Financial Report to SBC</li></ul>

#### **Current Progress**

- MOU is in legal issue review by UNEP/SBC
- Regional workshop in planning
- Desk study is starting
- Questionnaire with cover letter is prepared jointly with EX Corporation

#### Status of Recent Desk Research

Related laws of import and export of e-waste	Management of import and export of e-waste	Criteria / Notes
China		
<ul> <li>Law of the People's Republic of China on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution by Solid Wastes</li> <li>Management Regulation on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution by Electric and Electronic Wastes</li> <li>Management Regulation on Environmental Pollution of Imported Wastes</li> <li>Catalogue of Prohibited Imported Goods</li> <li>Guideline for Solid Waste Identification</li> </ul>	Prohibited import and transit	No specified criteria.  •National Catalogue of Hazardous Wastes Identification;  •Identification Standard For Hazardous Wastes;

#### Status of Recent Desk Research

Related laws of import and export of e-waste	Management of import and export of e-waste	Criteria/Notes
Cambodia		
<ul> <li>Sub-Decree on Solid Waste Management;</li> <li>Inter Ministerial Declaration on SWM In Cities and Provinces.</li> </ul>	Brand new EEE and UEEE are allowed to import for domestic consumption. It is not a country of producing EEE products and/or exportation.	Not clear yet.
Hong Kong, China		
• Advice on import and export of used electrical and electronic appliances having hazardous components or constituents.	<ul> <li>If shipped to the importing country for direct re-use, no waste import/export permit will generally be required;</li> <li>To control the import and export of waste e-product containing hazardous constituents or components through a permit system.</li> </ul>	No specified criteria.  For the purpose of waste import and export control, any article once given up by its original user is considered as waste. To distinguish disguised WEEE from secondhand EEE:  1) Genuine demand in HK;  2) Good conditions and meeting both the technical specifications and safety standard;  3) Compliance testing results and certificates;  4) Proper and sufficient individual protective Packaging;  5) Prior contractual agreement with concerned parties

		THE RESERVE AND THE PARTY OF TH
Related laws of import and export of e-waste	Management of import and export of e-waste	Criteria/Notes
Indonesia		1923
•Act Number 23 Year 1997, regarding to Environmental Management	Imported product should be a new product;	No specified criteria, refer to BC.
•Presidential Decree Number 61	It only allows for export	e-waste under the Annex VIII
Year 1993, Basel Convention Ratification	but prohibit for import.	stated is categorized as
•Decree of Ministerial Trade and		hazardous wastes, e-waste which do not have the characteristic
Industry Number 229 Year 1997.		under the Annex III is not
		categorized as hazardous waste.
Republic of Korea		
•Waste Control Act; •Toxic Chemicals Control Act; •Act on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (Basel Convention); •Act for Resource Recycling of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Vehicles.	In principle, the export and import of hazardous wastes for final disposal is prohibited; Import of 2nd-hand electronic goods (for recycling purposes as well) requires the Permission;	No specified criteria, refer to BC.

STREET, SQUARE,

Related laws of import and export of e-waste  Malaysia	Management of import and export of e-waste	Criteria/Notes	
•Customs (Prohibition of import) Order1998,(amendment)2006,P. U.(a) 434; •Customs (Prohibition of export) .Order1998,(amendment)2006,P. U.(a) 433; •Guidelines on export, import and storage (CD).	Prohibit import and export of e-waste.	No specified criteria, refer to BC.	
Philippine			
•Republic Act 6969 •Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act	It only allows for export; To prohibit import, but has not issued any directive to reverse the country's policy against the importation of toxic and hazardous wastes.	It has not issued any directive to reverse the country's policy against the importation of toxic and hazardous wastes.	

Related laws of import and export of e-waste	Management of import and export of e-waste	Criteria/Notes		
Singapore	Singapore			
•Hazardous Waste (Control of Export, Import and Transit) Act 1998	Export, import or transit hazardous wastes require a permit from Pollution Control Department (PCD)	No specified criteria, refer to BC.		
Thailand	Thailand			
•Hazardous Substance Act 1992; •Ban on the import of wastes for final disposal • Restriction on the import of waste for 3Rs; •Regulation for the import control of the used EEE	29 items of used EEE are required the import permission;  Import of used EEE is allowed only for activities of resale, reuse, repair/ refurbish as it original purposes, disassembly and recycle/recovery with	"Regulation for the import control of the used EEE and its parts/components"  In Thailand, There is different standard depends on the purpose of import, such as reuse, repair/refurbish, resale etc (Criteria for determination )		
and its parts/ components	different conditions from Parties			

#### **Example: Criteria for determination in Thailand**

#### In case of reuse:

- Limited age (≤ 5 yrs for photocopier; ≤ 3 yrs for others)
- Meet with TISI's compulsory std.
- Certified quality.

In case of repair/refurbish, disassembly & recycle/recovery:

- Still have enough economic value
- Facilities must obtain a permit in accordance with Factory Act, 1992
- Appropriate amount compared to the facility capacity
- Consent that all residues from the process will be taken back to the Exporting Country is required, if such residues can not be handled in Thailand.
- Issues to be amended:
- Extend the scope of refrigerator to cover water cooler and freezer (using CFCs)
- Reduce the age of used EEE to be imported for resale from ≤ 3 yrs to ≤ 2 yrs
- Quality certificate must be comparable to international standard
- For recycling and recovery, comply with PIC procedure and domestic permit system
- For Resale: import of 7 types of used E-products is prohibited. (older than 3 years old)
- For repair/refurbish, disassembly or recycle/recovery:
  - Refrigerator using CFCs is definitely banned.
  - Other products depending on the economic value, certified quality, capacity of facility and shipping back of unmanageable residues to the exporting country.
  - \* For recycling/recovery, comply with PIC procedure and domestic permit system when the amended notification is effective.

Related laws of import and export of e-waste	Management of import and export of e-waste	Criteria/Notes
Vietnam		
•Decree No. 12/2006/ND-CP; •Decision No. 23/2006/QD-	To ban import of waste and second hand commodities;	Not clear yet.
BTNMT;	Export of HW should follow BC procedure;	
•Circular No. 12/2006/TT-BTNMT.	If second hand automobiles can still run for 6 months to 5 years with a mileage of no less than 10,000 kilometers, second	
	hand automobiles are allowed into the country.	

Related laws of import and export of e-waste	Management of import and export of e-waste	Criteria/Notes
Australia		
Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989	<ul> <li>The equipment which is not defined as hazardous waste and may be exported without a permit;</li> <li>Equipment that is certified not to be a waste may be exported without a permit;</li> <li>Equipment which is defined as hazardous waste and must not be exported without a permit.</li> <li>Used e-products which is not defined as hazardous waste or not defined as waste under the criteria and regulation may be exported without permit. Otherwise, used e-products will be required permit application as Hazardous Waste Act 1989 when export or import.</li> </ul>	"Criteria for the export and import of used electronic equipment"  The criteria includes the standard of waste/non-waste for e-products and hazardous/non-hazardous standard for used e-products, and also provide the definition of "waste" and "hazardous waste".

Related laws of import and export of e-waste	Management of import and export of e- waste	Criteria/Notes
U.K.		
•The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations2006 (SI3259) (the WEEE Regulations); •The Transfrontier Shipments of Waste Regulations 2007 (the TFS SI); •U.K. Plan for shipments of waste (enters into force on 9 August 2007,)	<ul> <li>•U.K. Plan for shipments of waste sets out government policy on shipments of waste for disposal to and from the United Kingdom.</li> <li>•Import/export of any waste for disposal is prohibited.</li> <li>•The export of WEEE for recovery is permitted but is controlled by the Waste Shipments Regulations.</li> <li>•Hazardous WEEE can't be exported for recovery to countries outside the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).</li> </ul>	Not clear yet.

#### Australian:

- 1. (OECD)ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE----Waste Management Policy Group: FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR DISTINGUISHING WASTE FROM NONWASTE, Paris, 23-24 April 1998
- 2. Distinguishing Wastes from Non-Wastes under Australia's Hazardous Waste Act, June 2001 Fourth Edition. Information Paper

## Thanks

**Contact Information:** 

Email: jinhui@tsinghua.edu.cn

Tel: 86-10-62794143 Fax:86-10-62772048

BCRC China, Basel Convention Coordinating Center for Asia and the Pacific

Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Tsinghua University

HTTP://WWW.BCRC.CN