

## **Workshop 2010 of the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes in Cambodia**

### **Chair's Summary**

1. Workshop 2010 of the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes in Cambodia was held on November 30-December 2, 2010. The workshop was attended by representatives from the competent authorities and the focal points to the Basel Convention from the participating countries, the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (BCRC China), and the Basel Convention Centre for South-East Asia (BCRC-SEA). The workshop was also attended by observers from other countries, international organizations, and research institutes. A resource person from a multinational company also attended the workshop.
2. Prior to the Asian Network workshop, the Second Workshop of International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, Seaport Environmental Security Network (INECE SESN) on Combating the Illegal Trade in Hazardous Wastes through Seaports, was held as back-to-back workshop on November 29 for strengthening collaboration of the two networks. The back-to-back workshop was attended by participants from Africa, Europe, the United States of America (USA) and Asia and exchanged valuable information and shared many good practices on inspection and intelligence led risk-profiling activities. Also the website of the Waste Shipments Compliance and Enforcement Platform was launched.
3. In the Opening Session of Asian Network Workshop on November 30, three opening remarks were delivered by the distinguished speakers. First, Mr. Kazuhiro Yoshida, Director, Office of Waste Disposal Management, Waste Management and Recycling Department, Ministry of the Environment, Japan overviewed the scope of the workshop and stressed the importance of having face-to-face meeting for information and experience exchange which greatly contributes effective implementation of the Basel Convention. Mr. Aboejoewono Aboeprajitno, Director of BCRC-SEA, expressed deep gratitude for a large attendance from participating countries as well as the support by both Cambodian and Japanese governments. H.E. Mr. Khieu Muth, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia (MOEC) introduced the current waste management issues in Cambodia and stressed that the Asian Network is the important platform of information and experience sharing for participating countries in the region, especially for developing countries, for improvement of enforcement of the Basel Convention. The workshop was chaired

by Mr. Heng Nareth, Director of Pollution Control Department, MOEC, and remaining sessions were facilitated by Mr. Geri Geronimo Sañez (Philippines), Ms. Juliette Kohler (Secretariat of Basel Convention (SBC)), Dr. Shunichi Honda (Japan) and Mr. Chhun Vannak (Cambodia) respectively. Secretariat of the Asian Network explained overall objectives and expected outcome of the workshop in the Opening Session.

4. During the Session 1, the representative of SBC reviewed the recent activities and the progress under the framework of the Basel Convention and outlined the expected discussion at the tenth Conference of Parties to the Basel Convention (COP10) to be held in October 2011. The presentations were made by competent authorities of six participating countries (Brunei, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, and Vietnam) regarding the update on enforcement activities with the newly introduced and recently amended regulations on hazardous wastes, transboundary movement statistics, illegal cases as well as relevant policies on recycling and environmentally sound management (ESM) of hazardous wastes including E-waste. A participant from Lao PDR, firstly invited to the Asian Network workshop, stressed in his presentation the importance of cooperation with countries in the region because it has been only a few months since the country ratified the Basel Convention.
5. Through the Session, the participants learned the latest information on rules and regulations on hazardous wastes and secondhand electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) of participating countries which made the presentations. Some presentations highlighted the newly drafted legal framework on environmentally sound collection and recycling of E-waste and active discussion was made on the current implementation status of rules and regulations.
6. At the beginning of the Session 2, Secretariat of the Asian Network reviewed the relevant discussion of the previous workshop in Yokohama as well as the summary of the questionnaire. Followed by the presentation, Cambodia, Singapore and Thailand introduced their border control activity with focusing on their experience and remaining challenges on risk profiling and takeback procedure. Some countries maintain close collaboration with customs and share information which is relevant to risk profiling and some countries appropriately put the takeback procedure in place through the collaboration among the concerned stakeholders, especially on identification of the specific Harmonized System codes (HS codes) with high risk of deliberate disguised declaration. On the other hand, some countries stressed the difficulty for sharing important information with relevant authority.

7. The representatives of the European Network for Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law Transfrontier Shipments of Waste (IMPEL-TFS) and USA introduced their activity and idea on risk profiling activities, takeback procedures specific cases especially on collaborative activities with customs and enforcement body. The Session was followed by the presentation of World Customs Organization Regional Intelligence Office for Asia and the Pacific (WCO RILO/AP) and United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP/ROAP) which introduced their ongoing activities for risk profiling and takeback guidance on illegal transboundary movement of hazardous wastes.
8. At the first half of the Session 3, Secretariat of the Asian Network firstly introduced scope and objective of the Session. A representative from Indonesia made a presentation as a co-chair of the Swiss-Indonesian Country-led Initiative (CLI) in terms of the background, purpose, outcome of the past three CLI meetings and the time line for finalizing the recommendation to the COP10. Among many items raised in the series of the meetings, it was reported that ensuring ESM is important and standards and guidelines for ESM would be one of the key elements ensuring ESM which Ban Amendment originally aims for.
9. Various views were presented and exchanged on mapping activity for ESM facility of certain waste proposed by a participant. Participants understood the needs in principle for continuous information collection on the existing ESM facility as it helps understanding the status of ESM in the region, while some opinions were shown on how to define the facility to be mapped. It was understood that mapping activity can be helped by building some kind of guiding tool or document for ensuring ESM in transboundary movement of hazardous waste.
10. At the second half of the session 3, a resource person from IBM Japan, Ltd presented the company's activity for conducting due diligence by visiting suppliers facility to ensure that it is compliant with the IBM environmental criteria. Followed by the presentation, Japan introduced the updated study regarding an overview of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and secondhand EEE as well as ESM criteria practiced by Asian countries. The representatives from China, Philippines, and Thailand have also introduced the facilities ensuring ESM of the hazardous wastes in the respective countries. Many participants have pointed out that such fact should be included in the CLI's recommendation to the COP 10.
11. Through the discussion, the participants understood that there are many ESM facilities being developed in the Asian countries. The participants discussed the possibility to collect and share continuously relevant information on the status of

ESM facility development and the existing criteria which defines or authorizes such facility as well as developing a possible ESM criteria commonly applied in Asian nations.

12. At the Session 4, BCRC China made presentation on the work plan and its project concept. BCRC-SEA also made the presentations on their work plans and expressed continuous support for the Asian network activity. Followed by the discussion, the secretariat introduced the recent work on reconstruction of the Asian Network website. The participants are kindly requested to provide their comments for the trial version of the new web site by the end of December 2010.
13. Japan reviewed the history of the Asian Network since the beginning in 2004 and showed the options of future direction of the Asian Network. Some participants acknowledged the lead taken by Japan since the launch of Asian Network and welcomed the progress and upgrades which have been made. The participants exchanged the views on future direction of the Asian Network and are kindly requested further comments to be made on proposed options by the end of December, 2010.
14. In the Closing Session, the final remark was made by H.E. Mr. Khieu Muth of MOEC. He has acknowledged all the contributions and active participation made for the workshop.