

**Workshop 2011 of the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary  
Movement of Hazardous Wastes  
29 November-1 December, 2011, Shenzhen, China**

**Chair's Summary**

30 November 2011

1. Workshop 2011 of the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes was held during 29 November-1 December, 2011, in Shenzhen, China. The workshop was attended by 37 representatives from the competent authorities and the focal points to the Basel Convention from the participating countries, the Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Asia and the Pacific (BCRC China) and the Basel Convention Regional Centre for South-East Asia (BCRC-SEA) as well as other international organizations, research institutes, resource persons and observers.
2. In the opening session, Mr. Li Xinmin (Director General of Department of Pollution Prevention and Control, Ministry of Environmental Protection, China) gave a welcome speech and expressed deep gratitude for the attendance from the participating countries and the relevant organizations. He then introduced the current waste management issues in China and stressed that the Asian Network was an important platform of information and experience sharing for countries in the region. Mr. Kazuhiro Yoshida (Director, Office of Waste Disposal Management, Waste Management and Recycling Department, Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)) mentioned that this workshop was very timely since the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP10) of the Basel Convention was just held in Colombia and it would be a valuable opportunity for officers of Basel Convention to have a face-to-face meeting to exchange relevant information and knowledge. He also expressed the support of the Japanese Government for developing guidelines for environmentally sound management (ESM) of hazardous wastes, which was one of the key elements of the decisions adopted by COP10 in order to enhance the effectiveness of the Basel Convention. Dr. Li Jinhui, Executive Secretary of BCRC China, expressed sincere appreciation to all the participants and introduced activities that BCRC China had implemented.
3. After the adoption of the agenda, four session coordinators were nominated: Dr. Li Jinhui (BCRC China) for session 1, Dr. Shunichi Honda (MOEJ) for session 2, Ms. Juliette Kohler (Secretariat of Basel Convention, SBC) for session 3 and Mr. Aboejoewono Aboeprajitno (BCRC-SEA) for session 4.
4. In session 1, after introduction of the objectives of the workshop by BCRC China, presentations were made by China, Hong Kong SAR China, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand. The presentations focused on the updates of the regulations

regarding transboundary movements of waste and the implementation of Basel Convention. In some presentations, the newly drafted legal framework on environmentally sound collection and recycling of E-waste and some good practices and examples of shipment verification and repatriation were introduced.

5. Followed by the six presentations mentioned above, Shenzhen Customs gave a presentation of their border control activities and introduced recent good practices on waste shipment inspections and specific cases for detecting illegal trade of hazardous wastes.
6. Session 2 focused on the primary outcomes of COP10. In the beginning of this session, after the introduction of the scope of the session by the Secretariat of the Asian Network,, SBC introduced the important decisions on strategic issues, legal, compliance and governance matters, technical guidelines, partnership programme, financial matters and the Cartagena Declaration. Further, BCRC China and BCRC-SEA introduced their own expertise, plans and possible roles of BCRCs in promoting ESM of hazardous waste and the legal clarifications.
7. After the presentations, active discussion was conducted among the participants regarding COP10 decisions and the implications to the Asian region. BCRCs were considered to play a more important and active role in the future. The importance of promoting ESM with the support of various stakeholders including industries and providing legal clarity for Basel Convention terminology and related terms were also recognized. The participants also discussed the development of the ESM guidelines. Views were expressed on the information to be included in the ESM guidelines and the level of ESM to be pursued. It was also pointed out that active involvement not only from developed countries but also from developing countries would be important to reflect the social economic and technical diversity in Asia.
8. Session 3 focused on the current practices of recycling and treatment of hazardous wastes and mapping of ESM facilities in Asia. In the first half of the session, after the introduction of the scope of the session by the Secretariat, the current practices of recycling and treatment of hazardous wastes were introduced by Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam. After the presentations, participants expressed their views on approaches to develop the ESM guidelines, such as identifying the measures to harmonize the various existing guidelines. Some participants stressed the importance of promoting comprehensive activities including capacity building and training in parallel with discussion on development of the ESM guidelines. It was also pointed out that further elaboration is required for definition of ESM.
9. In the second half of Session 3, five presentations were given by the experts. The WEEE Forum introduced the function, overview, objectives and purposes of the forum, standards and conformity verification of WEEELABEX and compliance system in

Europe. Canada introduced the Basel Convention Guidance for ESM developed by Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE) which focused on facility-level ESM recommendations. Institute of Developing Economies - Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO) introduced various approaches in promoting ESM and suggested a combination of minimum requirement and higher standards; National Institute of Environmental Studies, Japan (NIES) presented studies on comparison of formal and informal recyclers of E-waste and pointed out that occupational health issues, reduction of environmental burden and high efficiency of material recovery should be considered in the E-waste recycling. Infocomm Technology Group, an organization of multinational EEE (electrical and electronic equipment) manufacturers, introduced criteria on selection of ESM facilities from the business perspective and some good practices on promoting the collection of WEEE.

10. The outcome of a series of studies conducted by the Secretariat on the current status of development of ESM facilities, existing ESM guidelines, possible concepts and components of ESM guidelines applicable to Asia and good practices for ensuring ESM at hazardous waste recycling and treatment facility level in other regions as well as the practices conducted by the industry was also introduced in the session. After the presentation, it was pointed out that further discussion and information would be required to elaborate the objectives and the concept of ESM applicable to Asian countries.
11. Session 4 discussed possible collaboration between the Asian Network and other regional networks. After introducing the update of the Network activities by the Secretariat, the European Network for Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law Transfrontier Shipments of Waste (IMPEL-TFS) and International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE) introduced their recent activities and possible collaboration with the Asian Network.
12. In the following discussion in session 4, the participants discussed the possible cooperation among the regional networks and issues to be addressed at the next Asian Network workshop. It was suggested that possible joint projects, which include take-back guidance and providing legal clarity for distinction between WEEE and second-hand EEE should be further considered among the networks.
13. In the closing remarks, Mr. Yu Keli, on behalf of BCRC China, acknowledged the valuable contributions and active participation by all the participants of the workshop.