

Asian Network Workshop 2012

- Technical Assistance – Implementing Take-Back

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1 Key Challenges and Approach taken for implementing take-back

Key Challenges

- a) Lack of shared understanding on how to operationalize take-back
- b) Implementation of take-back might be complicated by numerous intermediary (transit) routes

Approach for implementing take-back

- Singapore Customs (SC) seals shipment upon detection of suspicious shipment
- Joint inspection of shipment between NEA and SC
- NEA conducts investigation and initiates enforcement actions against offender if offender is found guilty
- NEA contacts exporting country to implement take-back provision

1 Case Study – Import and Repatriation of a container of lead acid batteries

Background

- A consignment declared as “Scrap Metal” was intercepted by Singapore Customs
- Inspection showed about 20 tons of lead acid batteries imported without a Basel permit
- Investigation revealed that that this was a mistaken shipment (with exporter claiming full responsibilities to return this shipment)
- NEA contacted Competent Authority (CA) of exporting country
- CA and exporter expedited the repatriation of the shipment within a month.



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