

# Updates of National Regulations, Implementation Status and Import/Export Statistics

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# National Definition

National Definition of waste used for the purpose of transboundary movements of waste exists in Lao PDR.

Environmental Protection Law (revised in 2012) entered into force since 18 December 2012:

“Waste” means objects, chemical substances or anything that person or legal entities do not want and can not recycle such as used oil, rubbish, waste water and others, which are toxic or non-toxic.

# Mandate of Pollution Control Department

PCD is the national agency within Lao PDR' Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment with the mission to control, prevent, reduce and eliminate pollution and to conserve and rehabilitate the environment for the benefit of all Lao PDR.

## Article 3: Duties of PCD

3.7 Develop, update hazardous and toxic waste and others waste management plan.

3.13 Cooperate and implement obligations of convention, protocol, contract and international Environment Agreement related to pollution control which is member as a party by Lao PDR.

# PCD as BC Competent Authority

- Designation as Competent Authority and National Focal Point on August 2015 (before was Lao National Mekong Committee (LNMC)).
- According to Articles 35, 38, 39 and 40 in Chapter 2 Part III and Articles 78, 79 and 80 in Chapter 1 Part X of the Environmental Protection Law (*Revised*) No. 29/NA, dated 18 December 2012.
  - Development and dissemination of Ministerial Instruction on Hazardous Waste Management since February 2015.
  - Continue to develop regulations, technical guidelines related to control of hazardous wastes.

# Ministerial Instruction on Hazardous Waste Management

**Objectives** - to identify hazardous wastes' classification, ensure that all stakeholders including public and private sector who generate the hazardous wastes and communities concerned for having the same understanding in detail and implementation approaches related to import, export, transfer, storage, use, recycle and dispose of hazardous wastes in entire country which aims to prevent and reduce hazardous wastes generation, operate advance notification regulation and approval procedure by the Competent Authority as well as the National Focal Point of Basel Convention.

# BC implementation

- Technical team comprise with Pollution Control Department, Department of Investment, Department of Industry, Department of Hygiene and Sanitation, Department of Agriculture, Department of Customs, Department of Environmental Police and Provincial Authorities.
- Different opinions between involved Departments, particularly recycling of hazardous wastes and used equipment or goods.
- Joint inspections when suspicious items are found e.g. import of used lead-acid batteries.
- Information exchange, sharing the report on suspicious item is found among technical team.

# Challenges

- Lack of notification and cooperation with competent authorities of the export countries.
- Awareness raising of importers regarding Basel Convention on transboundary movements procedure.
- PCD as the Competent Authority, Department of Customs, Department of Environmental Police should be in charge of tackling illegal traffic.

# Import/Export Statistics

- Not applicable.
- No any infrastructures which are authorized or licensed by the Government to recycle E-wastes.



# Next steps

- Strengthening the cooperation with other enforcement officials such as Department of Investment, Department of Industry, Department of Customs, Department of Environmental Police and Provincial Authorities etc.
- Improvement of information exchange between technical team members.
- Make clear responsibility each of involved departments.
- Development of Law on Chemicals is in progress.



*Thank you*

*for*

*your kind attention*