

Asian Network Workshop 2015

Implementation of E-waste Guidelines in National Policies/
Regulations on Control of UEEE and E-waste

Mr Quek Yong Seng
Engineer
National Environment Agency
Singapore

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Discussion Topics



Developments in Basel Convention on UEEE and E-waste



Singapore's Experience with Transboundary Movement of UEEE and E-waste

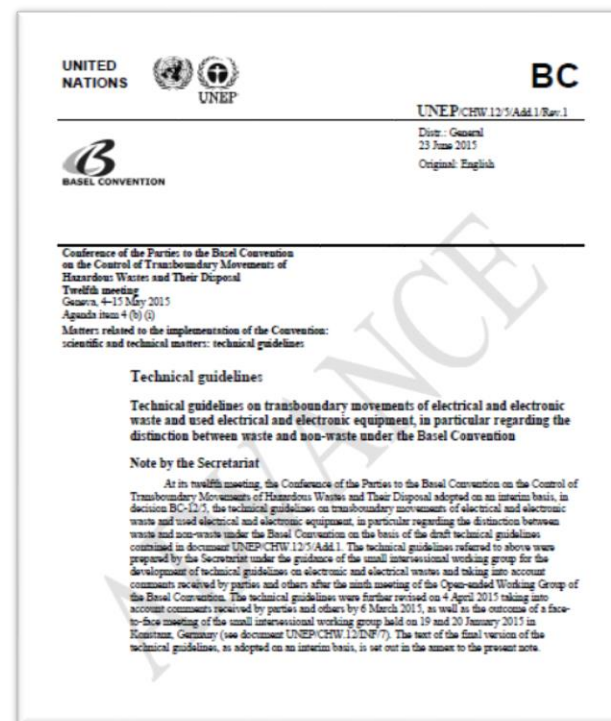


Current Challenges and Future Steps towards Harmonizing the control of UEEE and E-waste

Developments in Basel Convention

Technical Guidelines on transboundary movements of e-waste and UEEE, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention

- At COP-12 of Basel Convention, the Technical Guidelines for e-waste and UEEE was adopted on an interim basis
- Aims to clarify aspects related to transboundary movements of e-waste and UEEE that may or may not be waste.
 - To assess whether the e-waste fall under the provisions of Basel Convention
- Intended to assist government agencies that wish to implement controls on transboundary movements of e-waste and UEEE



Technical Guidelines on e-waste and UEEE



E-Waste

- Can cause significant harm to human health and environment if mis-managed
- If recycled in an ESM manner, precious metals such as gold, silver, platinum can be recovered from e-wastes, promoting conservation of resources



UEEE

- Direct reuse of UEEE or reuse after repair or refurbishment can contribute to sustainable development by extending the lifespan in use
- May carry a risk that e-waste is disguised as UEEE and illegally imported or exported

Technical Guidelines on e-waste and UEEE

Paragraph 31 states:

Situations where UEEE should not be considered a waste

Re-use

- Copy of the invoice/sales agreement
- Signed declaration and documentation with full details on importer/exporter
- Certificate of testing, i.e. proof of functionality
- UEEE is individually packaged to protect against damage

Repair and Refurbishment

- Signed declaration and documentation with full details on importer/exporter
- Valid contract exist between the responsible person and repair facility, containing provisions such as management of residual hazardous waste, allocation of responsibilities, providing feedback report, etc.
- UEEE is individually packaged to protect against damage

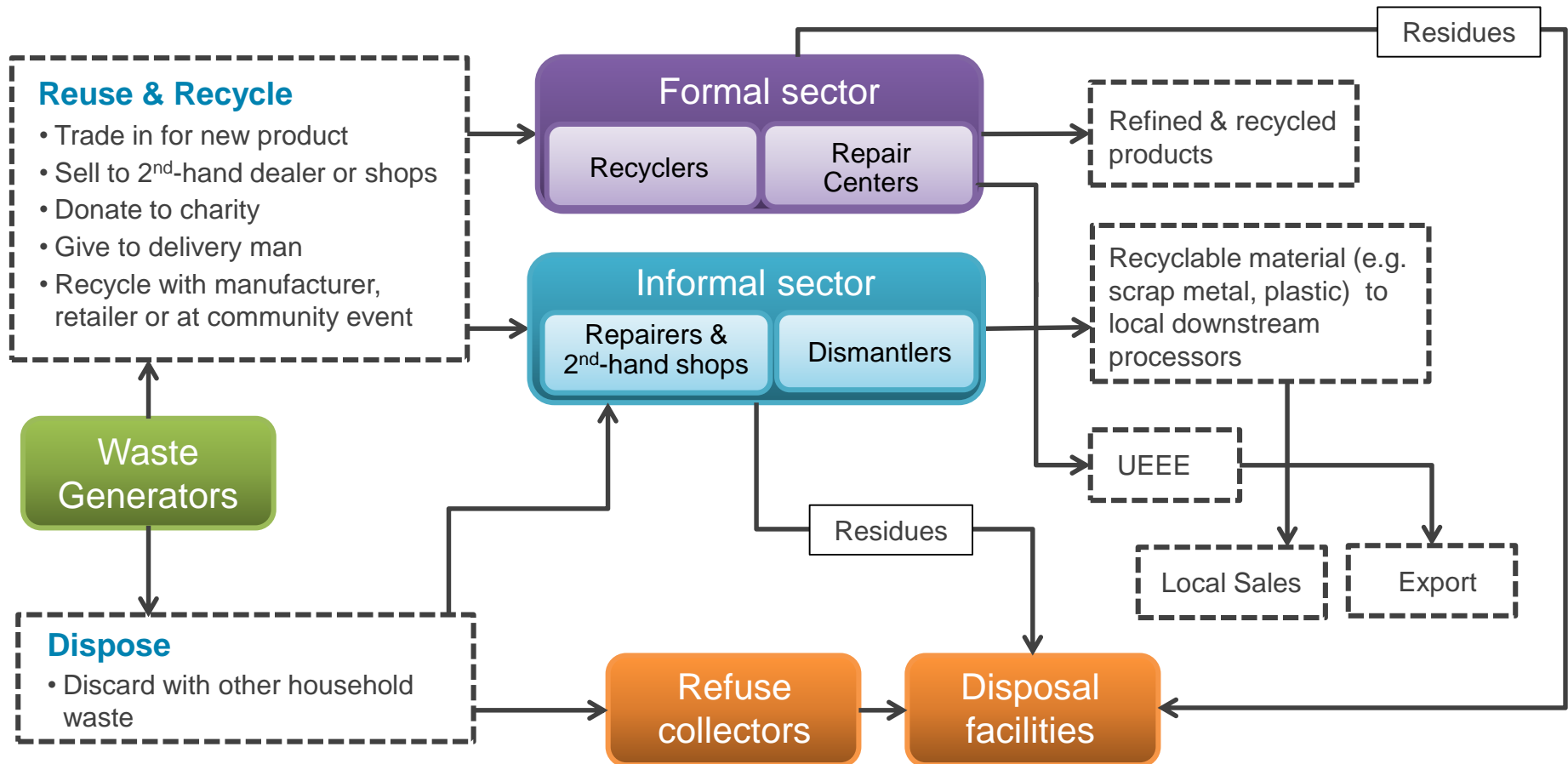
Technical Guidelines on e-waste and UEEE

Paragraph 30 states:

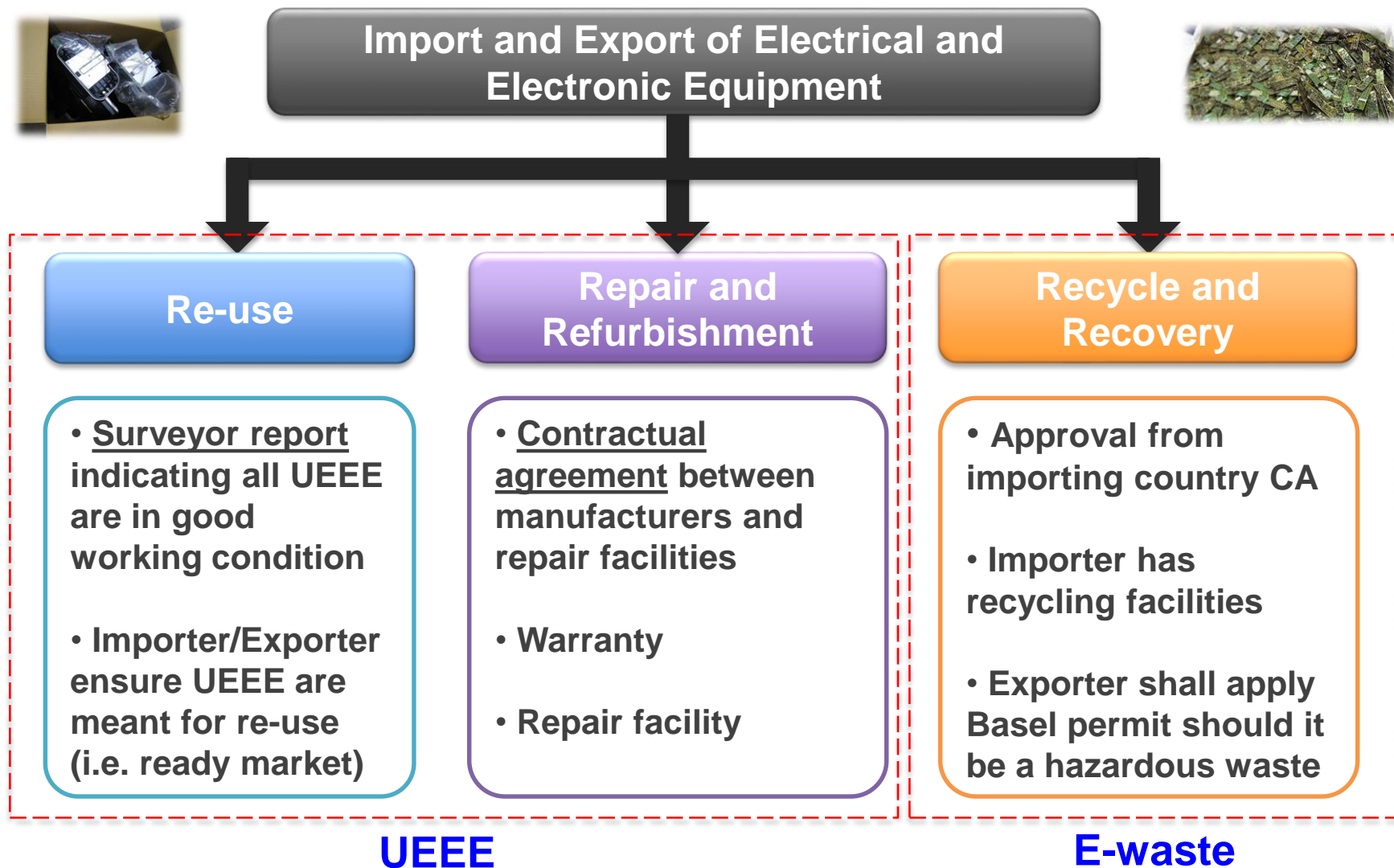


Singapore's Experience on e-waste and UEEE

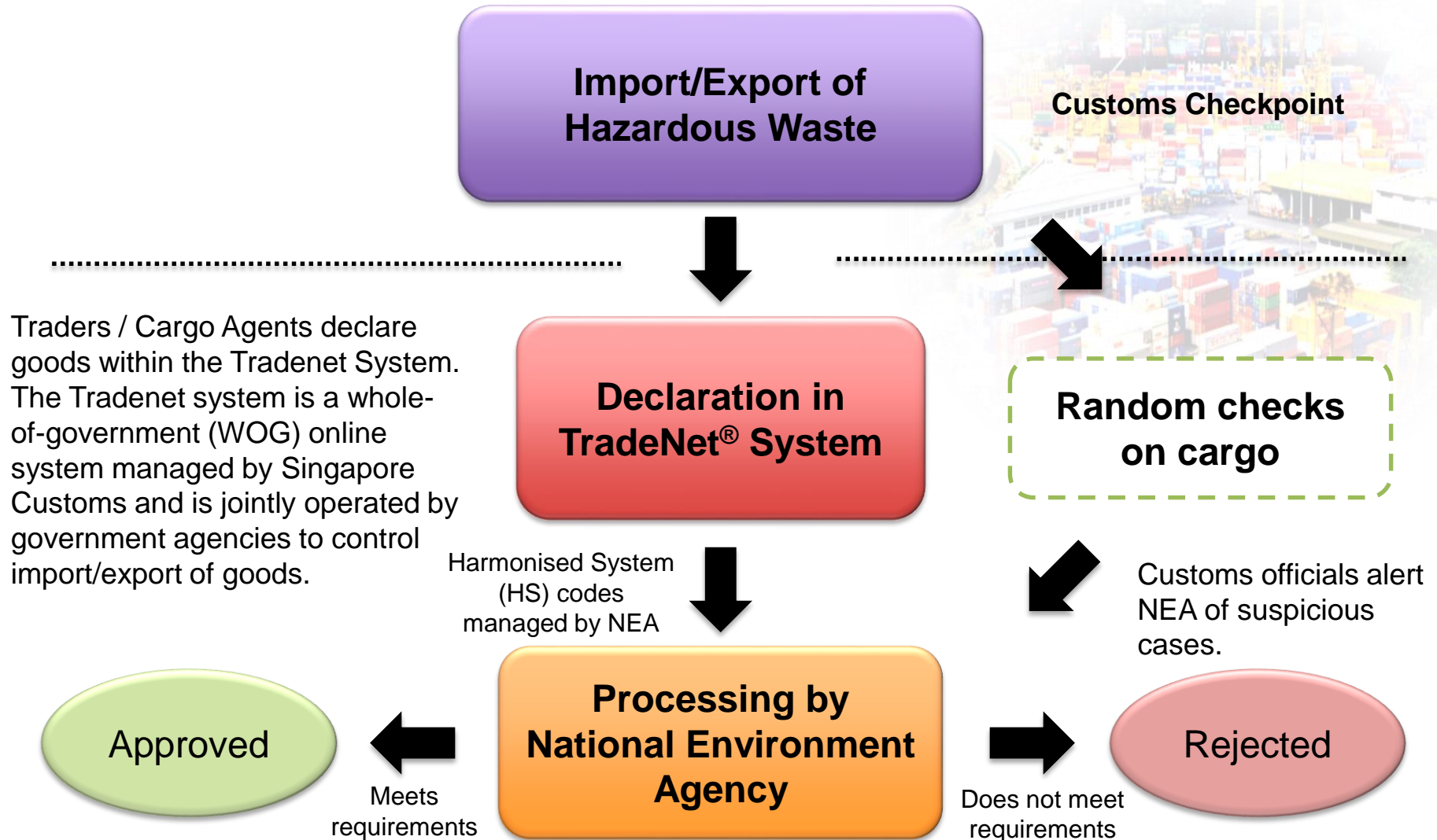
Simplified Flow of UEEE and E-Waste in Singapore



Guidelines on import/export of e-waste and UEEE



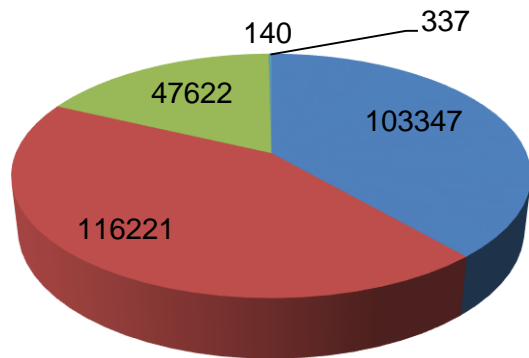
Controls on Transboundary Movement of e-waste and UEEE



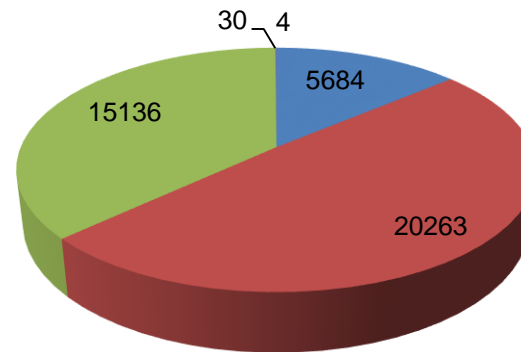
Statistics of UEEE imported/exported

Statistics on UEEE imported/exported (for common types of UEEE)

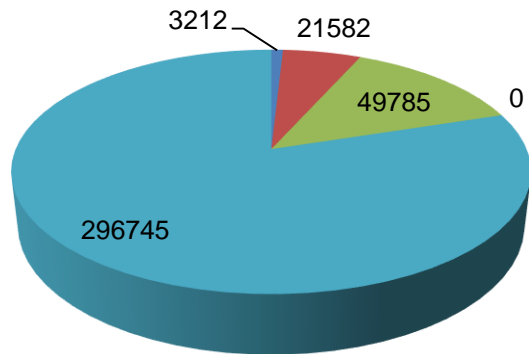
Import for Reuse (2014)



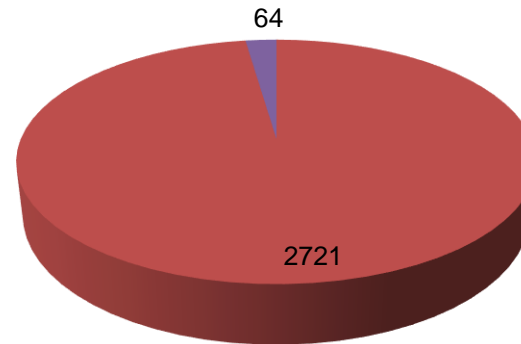
Export for Reuse (2014)



Import for Repair/Refurb (2014)



Export for Repair (2014)



- Photocopiers/Printers
- Computers/Laptops/Parts
- Telecommunication Equipment
- Monitors
- Electronic parts

** Numbers are in pieces (pcs)*

Implementation Challenges



Constraints on border controls for EEE

- Everyday, large volumes of EEE are moved through the checkpoints of Singapore, creating a challenge for Customs officials to inspect every container for e-waste
- Risked based approach taken to conduct random inspection on containers



Scope of EEE to control

- EEE is a broad term that can refer to many types of equipment that contain electrical or electronic components
- Focus on EEE such as computers, laptops, mobile phones, monitors, printers, photocopiers, PCBs, etc.



Informal Sector

- The informal sector is often unregulated and consists of small businesses that is transient
- Collection of UEEE is not tracked and resold in open market to foreign customers who bring back to their country

Future Plans for Singapore

- Singapore strives to keep in line with international developments in the Basel Convention
- Take guidance from the newly adopted technical guidelines on e-waste and UEEE to revise the current guidelines
 - Current set of guidelines is largely in line with that in the Basel Convention
- NEA will conduct industry consultations with the relevant stakeholders to study the feasibility of incorporating the guidance in the technical guidelines

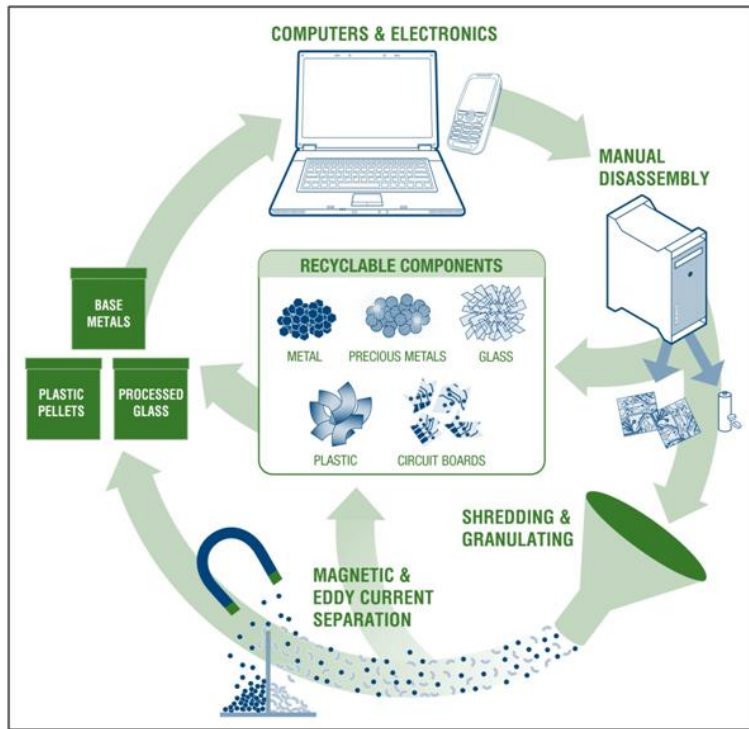
Challenges and Future Steps towards Harmonization

Some issues remain unresolved in COP-12 within Appendix V that requires further discussion in COP-13

With reference to Para 27 and 29, a notification system needs to be in place for Parties to disseminate the information, through the Secretariat, on country's acceptance or non-acceptance of UEEE

As national regulations still take precedence over technical guidelines, situation still exists where countries adopt their own classification of e-waste. Should there be a move towards standardization of classification?

As the technical guidelines are non-legally binding in nature, would there be a need to consider legally binding changes in Annexes of the Basel Convention Text?



Say “YES” to environmentally sound management of e-waste



Say “NO” to indiscriminate dumping of e-waste

Our Environment

Safeguard • Nurture • Cherish