

# **Country Updates & Response to Plastic Amendment of Myanmar**

**Dr. Tin Aung Win  
Deputy Director**

**Environmental Conservation Department  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation**

# Introduction

- Myanmar ratified the Basel Convention on **6 January 2015** and the Convention entered into force for Myanmar on **6 April 2015**.
- **Focal Ministry** for Implementation of Basel Convention in Myanmar – Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (**MONREC**). Environmental Conservation Department is the focal department under Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) regarding the implementation of Basel Convention.

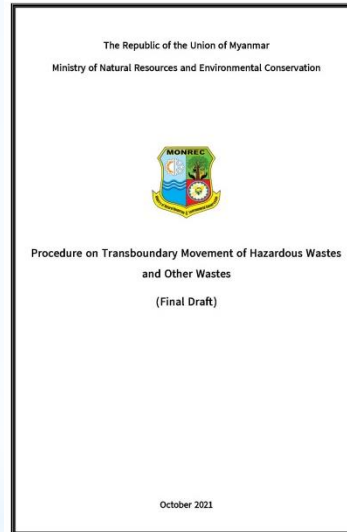
# **Environmental Law & Regulations related with Waste Management / Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes**

- Environmental Conservation Law (2012)
- Environmental Conservation Rules (2014)
- Environmental Impact Assessment Procedures (2015)
- National Environmental Quality (Emission) Guidelines (2015)
- Myanmar National Waste Management Strategy & Master Plan (2018-2030)
- Myanmar National Hazardous Waste Management Master Plan (Final Draft)
- Procedure on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (Final Draft) – **Already revised the procedure according to the COP14 decisions to follow the plastic waste amendments**
- Hazardous Waste Management Rules (4<sup>th</sup> Draft)

# Procedure on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (Final Draft)

## Objectives

- To control the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and other wastes
- To control the impacts on human health and environment
- To implement on the obligations of the Basel Convention






## Content of Procedure on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (Final Draft)

- Duties and Powers of the Ministry relating to Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes
- Duties of the Importer and Exporter relating to Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes
- Exporting Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes
- Importing Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes
- Transshipment of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes through the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
- Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes
- Export to or Import from States which are not Parties to the Convention (Non-parties)
- Inspection and Monitoring
- Prohibitions and Taking Actions

# Plastic Waste Amendments to the Basel Convention

- COP-14 of Basel Convention adopted the new plastic amendments to Annexes II, VIII and IX to the Convention and entry into force in 1st January, 2021.
- Procedure on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (Final Draft) is already revised according to the COP14 decisions to follow the plastic waste amendments
- The current situation for import/export of plastic waste is as follows:

New Entry	Brief Description	Export Case (PIC)	Import Case
<b>Annex IX: B3011</b>	Plastic waste presumed not to be hazardous, destined for recycling in an environmentally sound manner and almost free from contamination and other types of wastes		Myanmar only allows the recyclable plastic scraps ; clean, homogenous and ready to use, free from contamination
<b>Annex VIII: A3210</b>	Clarifies the scope of plastic waste that are hazardous		Not allowed to import in Myanmar
<b>Annex II: Y48</b>	Plastic waste, including mixtures of such wastes (excluding those that would fall under A3210 or B3011)		Not allowed to import in Myanmar

# **Import & Export of Hazardous Wastes & Other Wastes including Plastic Wastes**

## **Regulations regarding Import & Export of Hazardous Wastes & Other Wastes including Plastic Wastes**

- Environmental Conservation Law (2012)
- Procedure on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (Final Draft)
- Laws & Regulations of the relevant ministries
- Procedure of the Basel Convention



# **Import & Export of Hazardous Wastes & Other Wastes including Plastic Wastes (Contd.)**

## **Import regulation of plastic waste**

- Importer/exporter license is required for importation/exportation
- Allow to import and export of recyclable wastes and scraps with recommendation letter from Environmental Conservation Department (ECD)

## **Import Negative List**

- Department of Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar issued the notification No 22/2019 concerning the Import Negative List.
- H.S Code 39.15 Waste, parings and scrap, of plastics

# **Import & Export of Hazardous Wastes & Other Wastes including Plastic Wastes (Contd.)**

## **Relevant Ministries**

- Ministry of Commerce
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
- Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations
- Ministry of Industry



# **Import & Export of Hazardous Wastes & Other Wastes including Plastic Wastes (Contd.)**

**All Hazardous Wastes defined  
by Basel Convention are not  
allowed to import**

**Transit Trade of all wastes is  
not allowed**

**According to **Myanmar Investment Law**, Chapter X, Article 41, Section (a) stated  
that “Investment activities which may bring or cause hazardous or poisonous wastes  
into the Union shall be stipulated as the prohibited investment”.**

# Required Documents for Import & Export of Hazardous Wastes & Other Wastes including Plastic Wastes

- Related Documents of Import Company (Company registration, Importer / Exporter License,...)
- Related Documents of recycling facility (License from City Development Committee,...)
- Sales Contract or Invoices
- Color photos of material
- Samples of material
- Quantity and duration
- Approval Letter of **Environmental Management Plan (EMP) or Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)** of recycling facility by Environmental Conservation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

# Criteria of Raw Materials for Importing

- Recyclable Scrap
- Clean
- Homogenous
- Direct-used in production process
- Free from contamination and other types of wastes



# Approved Cases

**PET Scrap**



**PE Film**





# Approved Cases

**Plastic Pellets &  
PET Scarp**

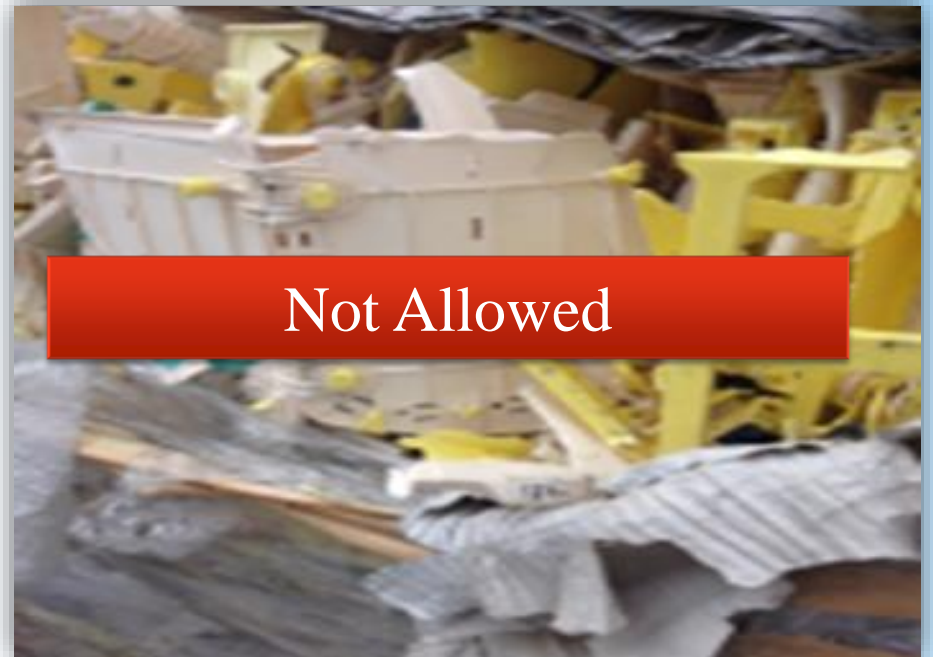


**Plastic Pellets**





Not Allowed



Not Allowed



Not Allowed



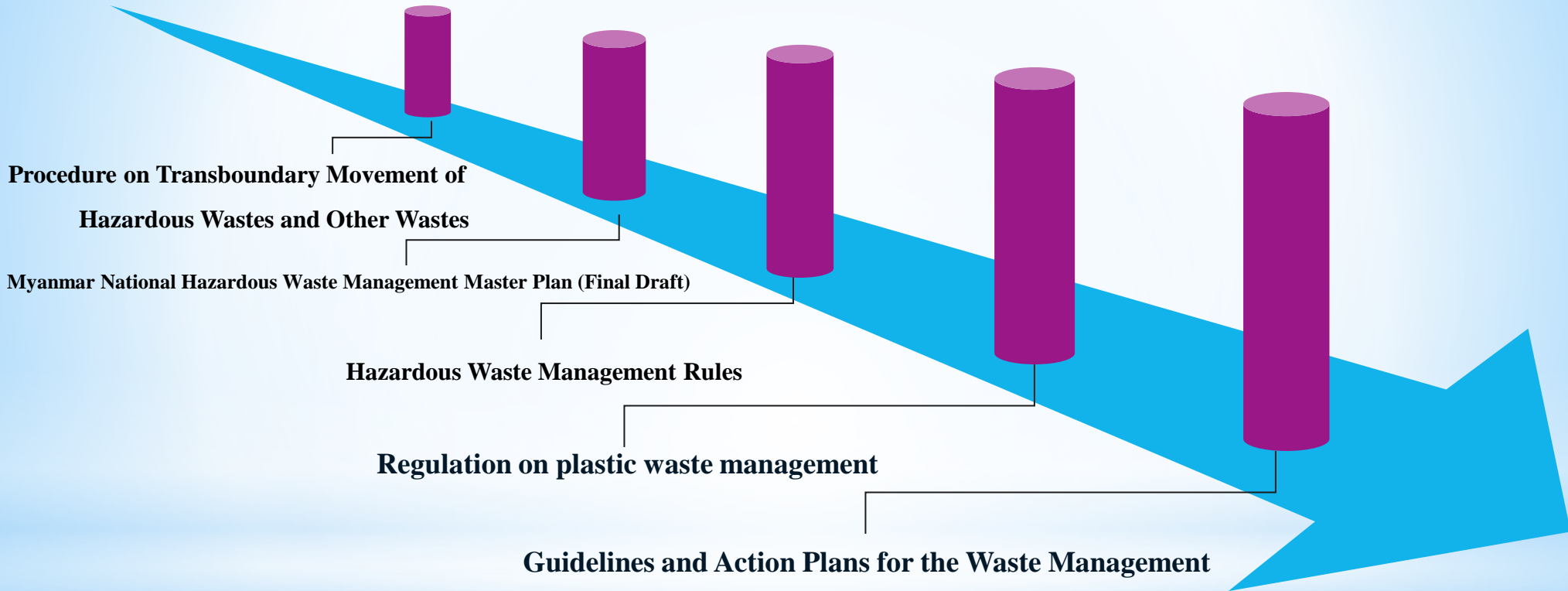
# Challenges

- Difficult to interpret the terminology of the content of wastes and scraps
- Difficult to identify plastic wastes that are hazardous or not
- WCO H.S Code that align with Basel Amendments
- WCO H.S Code that align with clean, homogenous and recyclable plastic scraps
- Gap between Informal sector to Formal sector for recycling
- Inadequate recycling technology in accordance with Environmental Sound Manner

# Gaps



# Way Forward



# Conclusion

- The disposal of the plastic wastes into the environment causes global problems in the form of marine litter and microplastics.
- The new plastic waste amendments to Annexes II, VIII and IX to the Basel Convention in accordance with the decision BC-14/12 are appreciated for the implementation.
- These new amendments will benefit to get better control on transboundary shipments of plastic wastes and balance in the approach of trade in the plastic wastes and environmental concerns.
- We will continue the collaboration and coordination with the Basel Convention, Basel Convention Regional Centers and Asian Network.

# Information

**Competent Authority** Director General,  
Environmental Conservation Department  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation  
Office No.58, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar  
[hlamaungthein.env@gmail.com](mailto:hlamaungthein.env@gmail.com), [dg.ecd@mocaf.gov.mm](mailto:dg.ecd@mocaf.gov.mm)

**Focal Point** Deputy Director General  
Environmental Conservation Department  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation  
Office No.58, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

[www.ecd.gov.mm](http://www.ecd.gov.mm)

[www.monrec.gov.mm](http://www.monrec.gov.mm)



**Thank You for Your Kind Attention !**

