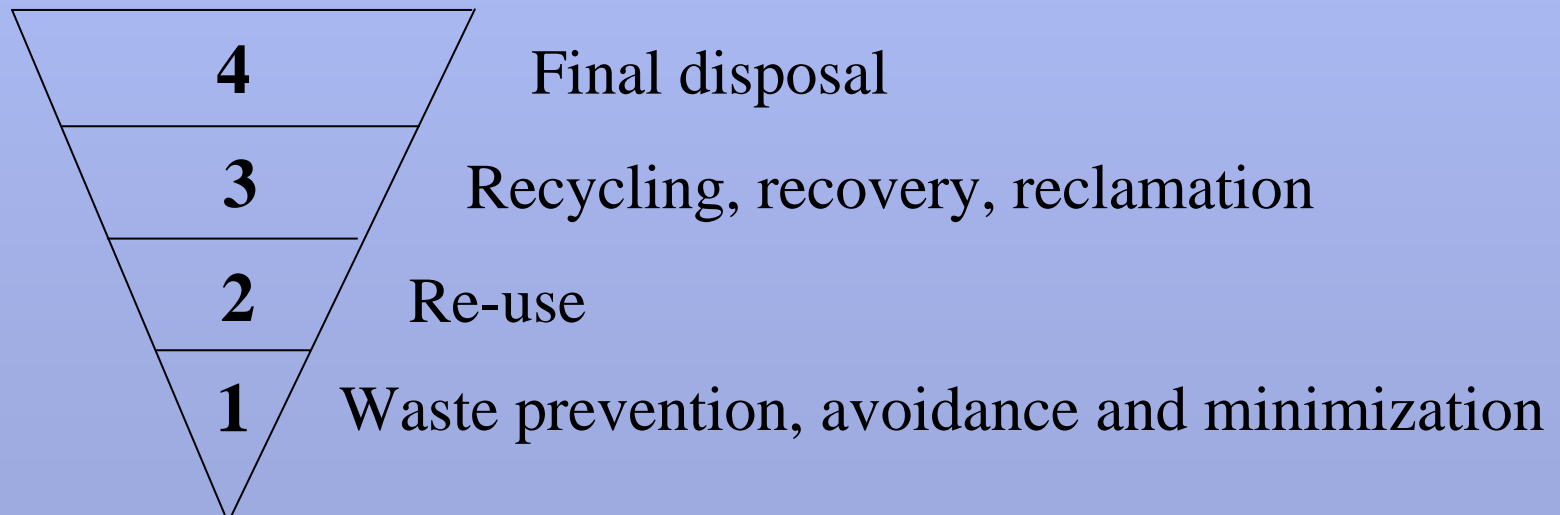

A CONTRIBUTION OF THE BASEL CONVENTION TO THE 3R INITIATIVE

Ms Sachiko Kuwabara-Yamamoto
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Basel Convention
6 March 2006

A WASTE HIERARCHY

- The Parties to the Basel Convention have recognized that strategic assessment of management options should be based on a hierarchy, namely.



- Environmentally sound management in the context of the Basel Convention encompasses the controls necessary to achieve the objectives of preventing and minimizing harm or risk of damage to human health and the environment which can be caused by *ALL* wastes and in particular hazardous wastes. (Source: Guidance in developing national or regional synergies for the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes. Adopted by COP2 in 1994).

It means:

- Controlling transboundary movements of hazardous and other wastes
- Reducing transboundary movements of such waste
- Treating and disposing of hazardous and other wastes as close as possible to their source of generation.
- Minimizing their quantity and hazardousness

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

- The improvement of environmental performance of recycling markets for electrical and electronic wastes, used lead-acid batteries, used oils, end-of-life vehicles or ships will
 - minimize risks of lead poisoning
 - reduce respiratory diseases from pollution (eg. from dioxins)
 - improve water quality
 - minimize intake of poisons or toxic chemicals or minerals (eg: mercury or asbestos poisoning)
- Such improvements will need to be framed in the context of law, regulations and voluntary measures to apply the life-cycle approach to chemicals or materials and integrated waste management whereby hazardous components of households wastes are segregated and treated separately

AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

- There is a need to establish a regional level playing field among economic operators involved in trade in recyclables whether hazardous or not, through enhancing:
 - PREDICTABILITY (eg: Basel Convention control system; WCO – HS; regional certification scheme)
 - TRANSPARENCY (eg: what moves accross frontiers; classification; characteristics; properties)
 - TRACEABILITY (eg: where materials come from and where do they go; and how are these materials dealt with; extended producer responsibility)

REGIONAL PROJECTS

Project Areas	Region/Country	Year	Region/Country
Used Lead-Acid Batteries	Latin America & the Caribbean	2003-2005	Preparation of a regional strategy for the environmentally sound management of used lead-acid batteries in Central America and the Caribbean
Used Oil	Africa and Caribbean	2003-2005	Assessment and recycling of used oils in Africa. Collection and management in the Caribbean
Mobile Phones	To be decided	2002-2006	Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative. Two pilot projects on collection and refurbishment
E-waste	Asia / Pacific and Latin America	2006-2009	Project on the ESM of E-waste
Life-cycle management	Jordan	2003	Hazardous Waste Management in Industry within the Context of Integrated Life Cycle of Materials (pilot project)
Waste minimization	Central and Eastern Europe	2004	Implementation of Waste Minimization – Cleaner Production Project
Recycling	Africa	2004	Regional Workshop on Successful Case Studies of Recycling, Reuse and Resource Recovery Methods Towards the Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of Hazardous Wastes in Africa within the context of the Basel Convention



Africa and West Asia

- 1 Basel Convention Regional Centre for the Arab States in Egypt
- 2 Basel Convention Regional Co-ordinating Centre in Nigeria
- 3 Basel Convention Regional Centre in Senegal
- 4 Basel Convention Regional Centre in South Africa
- 5 Basel Convention Regional Centre in Tehran



Asia and Pacific Region

- 6 Basel Convention Regional Centre in China
- 7 Basel Convention Regional Centre in Indonesia
- 8 Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the South Pacific region



Central and Eastern Europe

- 9 Basel Convention Regional Centre in the Russian Federation
- 10 Basel Convention Regional Centre in Slovakia



Latin America and the Caribbean

- 11 Basel Convention Regional Centre in Argentina
- 12 Basel Convention Regional Centre in El Salvador
- 13 Basel Convention Regional Centre in Trinidad and Tobago
- 14 Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Latin America and Caribbean region in Uruguay

- The 14 Basel Convention Regional Centres, operating on all continents, have the capacity to contribute to the promotion of environmentally sound recycling by:
 - Delivering regional certification schemes for the ESM of recyclables to improve environmental performance of recycling facilities
 - Providing services as centre of excellence for information sharing on sound technologies and best practices, for access to knowledge and know-how on wastes, and for building an information base on the ESM of recyclables

AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

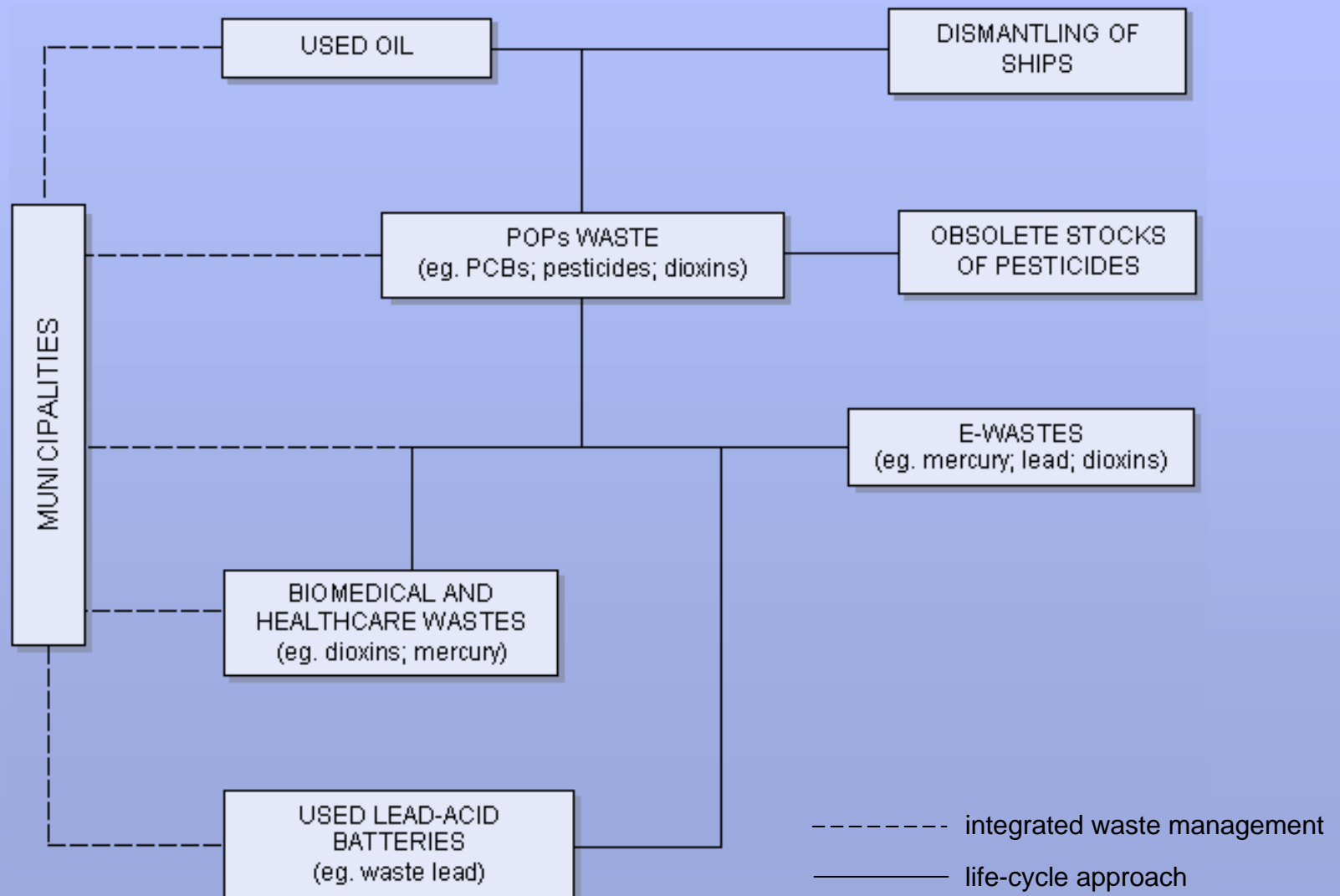
- The Basel Convention is a unique international operating forum where public and private partners work together to agree on common approaches that are mutually beneficial and acceptable to environment and trade in recyclables. The MPPI is an example. It concerns:
 - Reuse of used mobile phones after refurbishment
 - Collection of used and end-of-life mobile phones
 - Transboundary movement of used and end-of-life mobile phones
 - Recovery and recycling of end-of-life mobile phones
 - Awareness raising on design consideration



- The Mobile Phone Working Group has completed 4 sets of specific guidelines on the above aspects covering the life-cycle of mobile phones.
COP8 of the Basel Convention (Nov. 06) will consider a synthesis guidance document for approval including the recommendations included in the 4 sets of specific guidelines
- The Basel Convention is a forum where all concerned stakeholders can work together to elaborate strategies and plans to build the capacity of developing countries to reduce, recycle and treat the waste they generate or import in a way to protect human health and the environment. The Basel Convention Partnership Programme with its focus areas is pioneer in this domain (see next slide)



Strategic Plan focus areas



- The Basel Convention operates at 3 levels in an integrated and comprehensive way

