

WORKSHOP ON THE ASIAN NETWORK FOR PREVENTION
OF ILLEGAL TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENT OF WASTES
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COUNTRY PAPER

ON

EXPERIENCE IN IMPLEMENTING
THE BASEL CONVENTION IN CAMBODIA

Status of Basel Convention Ratification

- Cambodia had ratified the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal on 02 Mach 2001.
- Ministry of Environment is the Competent Authority and Focal Point to the Basel Convention.

Status of Basel Convention Ratification-cont.

- **Ban Amendment-** Cambodia Ministry of the Environment has already submitted a document to the Council's Minister for approval.

Legal and Institutional Arrangement

- Set up the Steering Committee which consists of relevant governmental institutions such as MIME, MoH...etc. for Basel Convention Implementation.
- Establishment of the Environmental Law. It was enacted in 1996 and has 11 chapters and 27 articles.

Legal and Institutional Arrangement- cont.

- Establishment of the Sub-Decree on Solid Waste and Hazardous Substances Management in 1999. There are 6 chapters and 32 articles.
- Establishment of MoE declarations for Waste Management. These declarations were established in order to promote Sub-Decrees and authorize the local authorities to implement waste collection in the provinces and cities. It is the joint declaration between the MoE and Ministry of Interior (MoI).

Disposal and Recovery Facilities

- There are two types of the disposal facilities:

⇒ Open Dumping Sites

⇒ Sanitary landfill

Open dumping site



- *All open dumping sites are managed by the Municipal authorities. Up till now , there is no regulation or guideline for the open dumping site control in the country.*

Sanitary Landfills



There is only one sanitary landfill with the clay layer in the country. It is operated since 2002 by private company but controlled by the Ministry of the Environment.

Data of Hazardous Wastes

- Generation: There is no data available in the country
- Import and Export: No import and export

Hazardous Wastes Inventory

- Lead-Acid Battery waste inventory in 2004 supported by Secretariat of Basel Convention
 - ⇒ Development the National Action Plan
 - ⇒ Organizing the National Workshop
- E-Waste inventory in 2004 supported by Secretariat of Basel Convention and Basel Convention Regional Center in China

Illegal Dumping of Hazardous Wastes

- There were four cases of illegal import of hazardous waste into the country since 1998.
 - ⇒ Mercury waste.
 - ⇒ Film waste.
 - ⇒ Plastic crap of cable waste.
 - ⇒ Scrap of plastic bags waste.

Illegal Dumping of Mercury Waste



- 3000 tons of mercury waste were dumped illegally in Sihanoukville around 245 km from Phnom Penh in 1998. The waste was imported from Taiwan by Cambodian private company.

Illegal Dumping of Mercury Waste-cont.



- Reload of the mercury waste before returning back to Taiwan

Illegal Dumping of Mercury Waste-cont.



The process of cleaning up the soil at dump site

Illegal Dumping of Mercury Waste-cont.



Checking the mercury concentration in soil after cleaning up and sampling the the ground water

Illegal Dumping of Film Waste



- 650 tons of film waste was illegally dumped in Sihanoukville in 1999. The waste was imported from South Korea by Cambodia private company.

Illegal Dumping of Film Waste-cont.



- The waste was taken back to South Korea

Illegal Import of Scrap Plastic of Cable

- 20 tons of scrap plastic of cable was found at the Dry Port of Phnom Penh in the year of 2001. The waste was illegally imported from Taiwan by Cambodian Private Company.
- The waste was taken back immediately to Taiwan after found by authority

Illegal Import of Plastic Bag Waste



- 650 tons of scrap of plastic bag waste was found in the Dry Port of Phnom Penh in year of 2002. The waste was imported illegally from China by Cambodian private company.

Illegal Import of Plastic Bag Waste-cont.



The waste was taken back to China after short negotiation

Difficulty in Basel Convention Implementation

- Law and Regulation are not sufficient for Hazardous Waste Management including the control of transboundary movement of hazardous waste.
- Poor cooperation among relevant agencies.
- Deficiency of financial support from all sources, especially from the Government.
- Lack of expertise in the field of hazardous waste management.

Conclusion

- Cambodia has a plan to take some administrative and legislative measures to manage the hazardous wastes including the control of its transboundary movement in a manner sufficient to meet the obligation of the Basel Convention, Therefore the human resource capacity and financial assistance is needed indeed in Cambodia.

Thank y u



for your attention !