

Updates on National Regulations and Implementation Status of the Basel Convention: *Focusing on Plastic Wastes and Microplastic*



Environmental Management Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
PHILIPPINES



Outline of Presentation

- EMB Mandates
- Overview of RA 6969
- Statistics on Hazardous Waste Management
- Import and Export Statistics
- Current Status of Recycling and Treatment of Plastic Wastes
- Marine plastic litter and Microplastic
- Challenges for Border Control



EMB Mandates



EMB Mandates



P.D. 1586: The Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System of 1978



R.A. 8749: The Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999



R.A. 9003: The Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000



R.A. 9275: The Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004



R.A. 6969: Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act of 1990



R.A. 9512: Environmental Awareness and Education Act of 2008

Under E.O. 192, EMB is also mandated to provide research and laboratory services, and serve as secretariat in the adjudication of pollution cases.



Overview of RA 6969



Republic Act (RA) 6969

“Toxic Substance and Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act of 1990”



Management of industrial chemicals and hazardous wastes in all aspects of its life cycle, “cradle to grave”- generation, transportation, treatment, storage and disposal



What are Hazardous Wastes?



- substances that are without any safe commercial, industrial, agricultural or economic usage and are shipped, transported or brought from the country of origin for dumping or disposal into or in transit through any part of the territory of the Philippines
- by-products, side-products, process residues, spent reaction media, contaminated plant or equipment or other substances from manufacturing operations and as consumer discards of manufactured products which present unreasonable risk and/or injury to health and safety and to the environment



CHARACTERISTICS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

TOXICITY

(TCLP)

REACTIVITY

(explosivity, stability)

IGNITABILITY

(temperature)

CORROSIVITY

(pH)



Classification of Hazardous Wastes

CLASS	WASTE NUMBER
A. Wastes with cyanide (>70 mg/L in liquid waste)	A101
B. Acid wastes (pH ≤ 2.0)	B201 to B299
C. Alkali wastes (pH ≥ 12.5)	C301 to C399
D. Wastes with Inorganic Chemicals	D401 to D499
E. Reactive Chemical Wastes	E501 to E599
F. Inks/Dyes/Pigments/Paint/Resins/ Latex/Adhesives/Organic Sludge	F601 to F699
G. Waste Organic Solvents	G703 to G704
H. Organic Wastes	H802
I. Oil	I101 to I104
J. Containers	J201
K. Stabilized Wastes	K301 to K303
L. Organic Chemicals	L401 to L404
M. Miscellaneous Wastes	M501 to M507



Exempted Wastes

- **Household wastes such as garbage under RA 9003 except **Special Wastes****
- Wastewaters which are disposed of on-site through the sewerage system
- Materials from building demolition except those containing asbestos
- Septic tank effluents and associated sullage wastewaters
- Untreated spoils from mining, quarrying and excavation works but not materials in the nature of tailings, commercially treated materials and mine facility consumables



- Plastic wastes is covered by Republic Act 9003, otherwise known as the “Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000”. The local collection, recycling and disposal of plastic wastes is devolved to the Local Government Unit (LGU).



Import and Export Statistics



Basel Convention

- ▶▶ adopted by the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries on 22 March 1989 in Basel, Switzerland
- ▶▶ entered into force 05 May 1992
- ▶▶ ratified by the Philippine Senate on 21 October 1993 thus the Philippines became a signatory and a contracting party
- ▶▶ entered into force on 01 January 1994
- ▶▶ the **Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Environmental Management Bureau** is the Focal Point and Competent Authority to the Convention



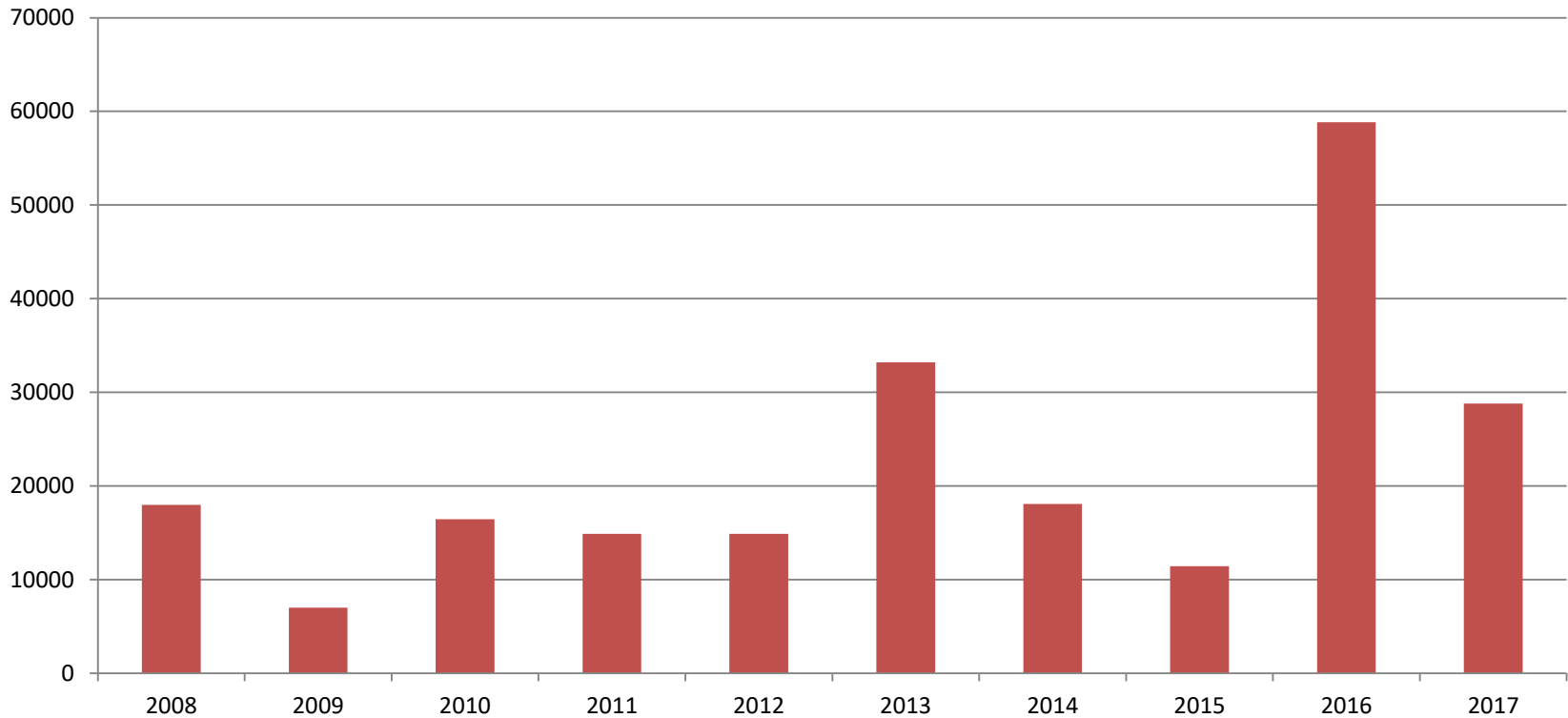
DAO 2013-22

- ▶▶ **Allows the importation of the following recyclable materials:**
 - ▶▶ scrap metals (lead acid batteries & metal bearing sludge)
 - ▶▶ solid plastic materials
 - ▶▶ electronic assemblies and scraps
 - ▶▶ Used oil
 - ▶▶ Fly ash

- ▶▶ **All importation must follow the requirements and procedures of the Basel Convention**
 - ▶▶ Notification and Consent between Parties
 - ▶▶ Wastes to be Imported must have a definite receiving facility with the essential environmental permits and clearances



Importation of Scrap Plastic (ton)



Sources: Japan, Korea, USA. India, Germany, Belgium, Canada, Australia, UAE, China, Hongkong, Thailand, Vietnam, Taiwan, Singapore, Belgium, Netherlands, UK, Malaysia, Israel, Indonesia,, Nigeria, Federated states of Micronesia, Poland, Spain, England, South Africa, Haiti, Sweden, Romania, KSA

Types of Recyclable Materials: HDPE, LDPE, PET, PP, PS, PVC, PS, PE, nylon, plastic scrap



Export of Waste Plastics

- Currently, the EMB-DENR is not regulating the export of plastic wastes, therefore we don't have any data on its export.



Current Status of Recycling and Treatment of Plastic Wastes



Current Status of Recycling and Treatment of Plastic Wastes



- Currently, there are 43 registered importers of waste plastics in the Philippines.
- This can be attributed to the recent importation ban imposed by China. Many investors or companies are diverting to other ASEAN countries that allow the import of plastic wastes destined for recycling.



- There is a draft policy or guideline on Waste to Energy that only soiled plastics or residual plastic wastes are allowed to be disposed of or fed as fuel.



Marine plastic litter and Microplastic



- Plastic pollution is generally caused by littering, throwing or dumping of plastic wastes in canals or river streams that eventually goes to the seawater.



- In the Philippines, particularly in Metro Manila, use of plastic bags is already controlled. Citizens are encouraged to bring their own ecobags or any type of reusable bag to put the items they have bought. A fee of Php 2.00 is charged to every plastic a person will buy in grocery stores.





If you can't reuse it, refuse it  

Refill

**Every bottle that is refilled will
mean one less bottle that
has to be produced.**





1000+
Refillers

Guiguinto

APRIL 27, 2018

June 5, 2018

City of San Fernando



1500+
Refillers

1000+
Refillers



Bocaue

5000++
Bottles
REUSED

June 26, 2018



- Each leg was able to refill approximately 49,000 kilograms of basic condiments (vinegar, soy sauce), cooking oil and other liquid household products (dishwashing liquid, fabric conditioner, hand soap, liquid detergent)
- Translate to 32,666 (1.5 Li bottles) reused (per leg) OR 245,000 pcs of single use sachets (200mL)



- When it comes to incentives, there's a competition entitled "Search for the Greenest and Cleanest LGUs (Barangays)".



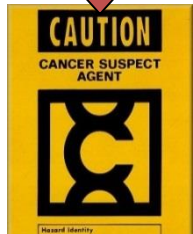
Challenges for Border Control



- Mixture with other scraps
- False Declaration

(some importers are shipping types of plastics which are not recyclable and are destined for disposal)





**THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

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