

Asian Network Workshop 2022

Waste Import and Export Control Good practices and challenges for implementing and facilitating PIC procedure

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Introduction

Introduction

- ▶ EPD is the Competent Authority for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China
- ▶ The Basel Convention's Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure is incorporated in Hong Kong's Waste Disposal Ordinance, Cap. 354

Implementation of PIC Procedure



Implementation of PIC Procedure

- ▶ Written request sent to state of import and state(s) of transit for any export proposal of waste controlled under the Basel Convention
- ▶ Written consent from state of import and state(s) of transit is prerequisite to Hong Kong's issuance of export permit

Implementation of PIC Procedure

- ▷ Notification and supporting documents provided to competent authorities by e-mail and by post

Implementation of PIC Procedure

- ▶ Capacities of Hong Kong recycling facilities are limited – import consent will only be issued with sufficient justifications
- ▶ Adhere to principle of minimizing transboundary movement of waste subject to control by the Basel Convention

Implementation of PIC Procedure

- ▶ Typical conditions for issuing consent to transit of waste via Hong Kong,
 - the shipment would not be discharged from the incoming vessels (or other vehicles) on which it is brought into Hong Kong
 - covered by insurance and financial guarantee
 - undertaking by state of export to take-back the waste in case of emergency

Implementation of PIC Procedure

- ▶ In 2021, Hong Kong received import consent for the following transboundary movement of waste

State of Import

Singapore, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland

Type of Waste

Lead-acid batteries, primary and rechargeable batteries, printed circuit boards, refrigerant, metal containing sludge, mercury waste,



Implementation of PIC Procedure

- ▶ In 2021, Hong Kong issued consent to the following transit of waste

State of Export	Brunei, Greece, Mauritius, the Philippines,
State of Import	Japan, the Republic of Korea
Type of Waste	E-waste, steel mill dust, lead-acid batteries



Implementation of PIC Procedure

- ▶ Noting competent authorities may have different interpretation on the following:
 - waste / non-waste; or
 - whether some waste stream not controlled under the Basel Convention would be subject to PIC procedure
- ▶ Hong Kong welcomes liaison and clarification from other competent authorities



Challenge



Challenge

- ▶ Long response time to notifications from overseas competent authorities required for some cases
- ▶ Trades request for shorter time for processing PIC notifications

Closing Remarks

Closing Remarks

- ▶ Appreciate timely response to notifications
- ▶ Welcome information exchange on control schemes, classification of waste

Contact

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Thank you