

Summary of Working Group B

GMS Training Workshop on Building
Capacity to Deal with the Illegal
Shipments of E-waste and Near EOL
Electronics

Politics and Economics of E-waste: Need better understanding of different industrial structures and priority issues

	Economic situation	Policy concern
Emerging Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •High resource demands (thus demand in scraps) because of emerging material and manufacturing industries (part of world factory) •Volume of imported and generated scrap is high (increasingly difficult to monitor)... •Rapidly increasing consumption of E-products •Less demand in secondhand goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Regulation on E-waste started to be developed •Concern over import of mixed scrap/illegal import. Embedded economic incentive for illegal trade of e-waste as scrap. Some start to cut off such domestic demands for e-waste as scrap in improper facilities. •Concern over disguised trade of e-waste as scrap as secondhand goods •Informal (decentralized small-scale recycling)VS Formal (centralized large-scale recycling)
Less developed economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Still less concern on import of e-waste/ e-scrap •Volume of imported and domestically-generated scrap is not so high (can still monitor) •Depending on primary industry •But some concern on other haz. wastes such as mining wastes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •No Regulation on E-waste •Need to have improved waste management mechanism in general •High demand of second-hand goods (concern over short-life period but provide job opportunity for repairing industry) (concern over tax fraud) •How to ensure ESM in the future.

Policy

- **Definition/distinction of e-waste** (including harmonized HS code): There is a limitation in regional/sub-regional approach. Need international/global approach such as utilizing Basel COP. Based on the knowledge of the actual flow and characteristics of different trade, need to revise HS-code Information . Mixed metal/mixed cargo is difficult but needed to be tracked. Need a guideline to differentiate secondhand products and e-waste.
- **Specific regulation for e-waste:** Logistics and collection is a part and should be a part of ESM regulation/recycling mechanism. ESM facility often cannot secure enough amount.
- Awareness on e-waste issue: general information and information on consequences of illegal traffic

Leadership from Industrial Sector

- Trade of e-waste as scrap would be influenced by industrial structure and industrial policy (in addition to environmental and recycling policy).
- **Recycling Technology:** Sustainable and localized technologies is needed for ESM.

Precious metal recovery method (fundamental) exist. But, cost is high because of pollution control device. One way is to send to quality facility outside of the country (example of India to Belgium). Rapid changes in material demand (phasing-out of CRT) is another challenge. Import of used treatment equipment (B to B) can be a way for treatment of e-waste.

- **Collaboration with industrial sector/association is a key (encouraging leadership from industrial sector for proper e-waste management):** Collaboration of producer and recyclers for DfE. However, life-time of e-product such as PC is depending on changes in OS (so, some limitation in DfE/extension of lifetime). **Financial/economic incentive to encourage DfE.**
- Environmental products often focusing on energy-use and chemical in products. But need to incorporate DfE/Easy to recycle aspect in the future.
- Training for workers engaging in recycling activities (part of formal training/education/diploma) such as NGO activities or industrial association activity endorsed by the government.

Inter-agency collaboration and international collaboration

Inter-agency collaboration: Knowledge on Basel-regulated materials is often accumulated in focal point/competent authority but not in customs. On the other hand, there is a low capacity at CUSTOMS office to implement Basel.

International collaboration: Improved cooperation between WCO and SBC. Various layers of channels should be used.

Improved communication: up-to-date information on person in charge. Information exchange portal(i.e.: existing Asia Pacific Network). Many ways to improve communication (for example)web-based communication.

Existing Efforts and Improved Communication among Customs

- Customs office share information through electronic platform such as CEN (customs enforcement network) under WCO. Also through RILO. Between developing countries, bilateral MOU to share information exist. Utilization these channels would be useful. Share information on risk profile (black-list/suspicious-list).
- Customs office covers many issues such as revenue collection, national security, health issue, criminal act..Thus, e-waste is just one of such many issues to be tackled. In many countries, scanning machine is already located. Companies are ranked with reliability and checked accordingly.
- After port, is there any monitoring system to track materials? Legal shipment: importer get permission thus able to track. Illegal shipment: we cannot find real importer. Monitoring of recycling facilities.

Cost matters

- **Take-back case:** Who will pay transportation(import and export) .Transparency in contract is essential. For example, when stakeholders disappears, government of exporting countries finally take care take-back issue.
- **Customs and TBM:** How to identify possible source of financing for capacity development of customs office and prosecuting seized goods and handling in ES manner. When the company disappear, how to cover this cost.
- **Domestic funding mechanism.** Recycling: recycling fee should be collected. Pollution control should be paid by recyclers. How to cope with external environmental and social costs associated with recycling activities in informal sector(policy would be different to country-to-country. One way to solve this issue is to associate and integrate with local developmental issues such as poverty eradication).

Future Design is needed

- For those without ESM facilities, one of current options is shipping to ESM facility such as smelter in Japan or Belgium.
- TBM is important however, we need to consider grand-design based on future trend of production and consumption of e-products. We should consider how to deal with increasing generation of e-waste. One way is to establish ESM facility internationally/regionally.
- If we only talk about TBM, cost issue only discuss about cost on prosecution and shipping back. But if we talk about ESM as a whole, when we establish harmonized recycling mechanism among different countries, we can discuss international funding mechanism to ensure ESM.