

EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENT OF WASTE/RESOURCES IN ASIA

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Contents

- **Introduction to the Basel Convention**
- **Control of transboundary movements**

INTRODUCTION TO THE BASEL CONVENTION

- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
- Adopted in May 1989
- Entered into force in May 1992
- Current Parties: 172 states and the EC

Introduction to the Basel Convention

- The main goal is to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects of HWs and other wastes:
 - generation;
 - transboundary movement; and
 - management.
- Objectives:
 - reducing transboundary movements of HW;
 - minimizing the quantity and hazardousness of wastes generated;
 - ensuring ESM of HW and other wastes; and
 - assisting developing countries in ESM of HW and other wastes.

Introduction to the Basel Convention

- BC has established systems to **regulate** and **restrict** export and import of HW and other wastes:
 - notification; and
 - prior informed consent procedures.
- BC does **not permit exports or imports** of HW and other wastes between **Party and non-Party**, unless w/ bilateral agreement (Art. 11).
- BC adopted Decision on Ban Amendment, 1995
 - bans exports from specified countries (Annex VII) to other Parties (non-Annex VII),
 - still to enter into force.

Introduction to the Basel Convention

- BC's central policy instrument, ESM of HW and other wastes through strict controls:
 - generation;
 - storage;
 - transport;
 - treatment;
 - **reuse, recycling, recovery**; and
 - final disposal.

Measures to control TBM:

- To strengthen measures applying to the entire waste cycle, moving mindset from “waste” to “resources”:
 - Inclusion of 3R-related principles in the New Strategic Framework of the Convention
- Includes minimizing the production of wastes to ensuring that wastes are disposed of as close to source as possible & promoting recycling and sound environmental management;
- Hazardous wastes cannot be meaningfully addressed in isolation from the entire economic, social and other waste issues;

Measures to control TBM (2):

- The problem of illegal traffic of hazardous wastes still exists e.g. Probo Koala (Cote d'Ivoire, 2006) --> combating illegal trafficking requires close international cooperation, harmonised international laws, high-level technical expertise, trained enforcement personnels;
- Promoting modern waste management in all countries;
- Need to change the attitude and raise awareness at all levels to promote waste **minimization**, source segregation, and proper disposal of waste.

Measures to control TBM (3):

- **Need to solve issues related to the Ban Amendment -
→ Country Led Initiative (CLI) by Indonesia and
Switzerland may be an answer;**
 - CLI identified these issues are interplay → Economic issues; legal issues; enforcement issues; awareness raising and knowledge.
- **Need for ESM facility-related technical standards to be developed under the Basel Convention;**
- **Legal clarity required for used materials destined for reuse, repair, refurbishment, or upgrading in the importing country.**

Other measures

- Information and **awareness raising**;
- **Capacity building** activities e.g. BCRCs;
- **Strengthen cooperation** and **synergy** with other MEAs in chemicals and wastes area (e.g. SC, RC, SAICM, UNEP and other IGOs);
- Tools (technical guidelines, manuals) and projects on ESM, and preventing and minimizing waste, particularly promoting the **life-cycle approach** of **priority waste streams**;
- **Strategic Partnerships** with Parties, industry, NGOs and local governments (MPPI, PACE, ULAB, co-processing in cement kilns; and
- **Resource mobilization** efforts.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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