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Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal Seventh meeting
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Report on the implementation of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.

Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention

Report on progress

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

- 1. By decision VI/1, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention to 2010. The Strategic Plan is the mechanism for operationalizing the Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management.
- 2. By decision VI/2, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to organize and compile project proposals to implement the Strategic Plan submitted by Parties or the Basel Convention regional centres for further submission to the Open-ended Working Group. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties further requested the Open-ended Working Group to consider the proposals submitted and provide funding to selected projects in accordance with the criteria set out in the appendix to the decision.
- 3. By decision VI/41, the Conference of the Parties agreed to allocate \$1,200,000 for the period 2003–2004 to implement projects under the Strategic Plan. In accordance with that decision, the Openended Working Group allocated \$880,000 to 15 of the 35 project proposals submitted at its first session and \$320,000 to six project proposals submitted at its second session.

II. Implementation

4. Following the decisions of the Open-ended Working Group at its first and second sessions, the Secretariat made arrangements for the disbursement of funds for the 21 project proposals in consultation with the originators of these projects and in accordance with the requirements of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). To date funds have been disbursed for the implementation of 20 projects approved by the Open-ended Working Group at its first and second sessions. The annex to the present note contains a table summarizing the status of implementation of all the projects implemented under the Strategic Plan. As of August 2004, six projects had been completed and a further seven are under implementation, with approximately half of their planned activities completed. It is estimated that all projects will be completed before the end of 2005.

A. Preparation and approval

- 5. Document UNEP/CHW/OEWG/3/2 provided a summary of the funds allocated to the 21 selected projects under the Strategic Plan of the Basel Convention. The document also identified a number of issues associated with the disbursement of funds. The issues originally raised in this document may be summarized as follows:
- (a) There is a need for training to familiarize the staff of the Basel Convention regional centres with UNEP procedures for project development;
- (b) The Basel Convention regional centres have proved an efficient mechanism for channelling funds in support of the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan;
- (c) The Basel Convention regional centres have been prevented from making full use of their potential by limited financial resources and staff constraints.

B. Analysis of the approved projects in the context of the Strategic Plan

- 6. The implementation of the projects approved by the Open-ended Working Group and funded by the Basel Convention Trust Fund have directly assisted in the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The following paragraphs analyse the information provided in tabular form in the annex to the present note.
- 7. Several priority waste streams have been addressed through the implementation of the projects. There are two projects on lead acid batteries, two projects on electronic waste (e-waste), two projects on used oils; one project on medical waste, and one project on persistent organic pollutants (POPs) as waste. Regarding electronic waste, \$196,000 of Convention funds have been spent, with a small amount of extra funds from other sources. All e-waste projects have been carried out in Asia. The total cost of projects on lead acid batteries comes to more than \$121,000, but a further \$70,000 is also available from other sources contributing to the project in Trinidad and Tobago. The other project on lead-acid batteries, implemented in Cambodia, should also provide information to countries in the region. The project on used oils has a budget of \$75,000 and is implemented in the Caribbean. Projects addressing the issues of medical waste and POPs are currently under implementation in Asia, Latin America and the Eastern European and Central Asian regions and cost approximately \$50,000 each. Accordingly, most funds have been spent on projects related to the environmentally sound management of used lead acid batteries and e-waste.
- 8. Where the different areas of the Strategic Plan are concerned, that which has garnered the most support in terms of numbers of projects is field (e), relating to the improvement and promotion of institutional and technical capacity-building, as well as the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, especially for developing countries and countries with economies in transition. This field includes 11 projects and is also the best supported in financial terms, receiving about 50 per cent of all Strategic Plan funds. Field (b), on active promotion and use of cleaner technologies and production, with the aim of the prevention and minimization of hazardous and other wastes subject to the Basel Convention, is the next best supported area, with five projects dedicated to its implementation. Field (h), on cooperation and partnership, includes two projects. Fields (a), on the involvement of experts in designing communication tools for creating awareness, and (f), on collaborating with existing institutions and programmes to promote the better use of cleaner technology and its transfer, have one project each. Fields (c), (g), and (i) have not been addressed directly by any project. Projects also provide indirect support to different fields of the Strategic Plan, however, including: one for field (c), four for field (g) and three for field (i). Fields (a), (h), (f) are also well supported indirectly. From this

analysis it may be inferred that field (c) in particular, but also fields (g), (h), (i) and (a) have been accorded somewhat lower priority by the Basel Convention regional centres and Parties than fields (e) and (b).

9. In terms of the tools, techniques and approaches used in the projects, a workshop-type format, either as the main methodology or as part of a wider approach, has been the most widely adopted method. Other widely used approaches to the projects include surveys, literature reviews and information gathering, which often provide vital input to workshops or pilot projects.

C. General

- 10. The regional centres submitted 17 project proposals out of a total of 21.
- 11. Several project proposals required funding of less than \$50,000, for which the resources required for the design, preparation and implementation of the projects was the same as for larger projects. The Parties may consider that it is better to manage medium-size or large-scale projects in order to use resources more efficiently.
- 12. Most of the project proposals had to be scaled down to fit within the financial limitations. The cost associated with the elaboration, management and monitoring of the projects was considered too high compared to the cost of the activities which the projects envisaged.
- 13. The implementation of the projects under the Strategic Plan helped the regional centres gain familiarity with the management of UNEP projects and to improve their financial planning skills. These projects brought together several partners, such as the UNEP/United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) national cleaner production centres, the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other divisions of UNEP and several bilateral funding institutions. Collaboration with other multilateral environmental agreements, in particular the Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions, was reinforced for the further implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Basel Convention. The resulting heightened awareness is leading to a better understanding of the role of the Basel Convention and its contribution to the attainment of sustainable development objectives.
- 14. All the project proposals received from the Basel Convention regional centres originated from their business plans for 2003–2004, which reflected the needs of the respective regions. More detailed information on the implementation of the business plans may be found in document UNEP/CHW.7/5.
- 15. As noted above, a predictable and sustainable funding mechanism is required to implement the priority activities of the Strategic Plan. The projects for the implementation of the Strategic Plan included in the business plans for 2005–2006 need funding of nearly \$19 million, as explained in document UNEP/CHW.7/INF/5.

III. Proposed action

16. Please refer to document UNEP/CHW.7/2 on the compilation of the draft decisions forwarded by the Open-ended Working Group to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration and possible adoption.

Annex

Strategic Plan field	Implementer and project title and (BC cost + other source)	Outputs completed and % remaining	Comment on relation to Strategic Plan	Other Strategic Plan fields
Open-ended Worl	king Group projects			
A – waste management	BCRC Beijing – New partnership with local authorities for the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes in urban areas (\$108,781 + other sources)	Demonstration project on collection of e-waste has been started Type 2 agreement has been negotiated National forum has been completed Regional forum is being organised Summary 75% complete	Multidimensional project which helps address a number of the strategic plan priorities. Notably partnerships (especially type two agreements), awareness-raising and use of cleaner technologies through the use of a new incinerator technology in Qingdao. Implementing such a complex project has also been a valuable learning experience for the BCRC. The project also seeks to raise awareness of the role of municipalities in addressing hazardous waste through a regional workshop. The aim is to generate other projects similar to the one in China	E, H, F – a strong partnership component
B – clean technologies	BCCC Uruguay – Pilot programme for the minimization of impacts generated by hazardous waste (\$32,090+\$58.850 from the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment)	Pilot project in three Brazilian states Identification and evaluation of sectors with most environmental impact Methodology for the systematisation of information on hazardous waste in the productive sector Elaboration of strategies to address the sectors studied under the project Project will commence October 2004 with the active participation of the Brazilian government, IDRC, and the national cleaner production centre	The project is primarily designed to promote cleaner technologies in order to minimize the generation of hazardous wastes. Using information on the specific sectors provided by the centre, a local analysis, considering social, technological and economic concerns, would be carried out to design strategies with the view of minimizing the generation of waste and their impact in the environment. Other strategic plan objectives will be covered through the close collaboration with the industrial sector to study their generation of waste and their impact in the environment.	H, F
	BCRC Bratislava – International training on implementation of waste minimization: cleaner production project (\$30,687 + \$6,010 other funds)	Implement cleaner production strategies in several industries of the BCRC Bratislava region in order to realize the goal of waste minimization Awareness-raising about environmental impacts and the importance of a preventive approach and environmental policies at the enterprise level Capacity-building in evaluation of cleaner production implementation strategies and the corresponding tools Summary 100% complete	This project successfully raised awareness on the issue of cleaner production and the roles of cleaner production centres. The training course came out with the following main recommendations: 1. National cleaner production centres should be established in all CEE countries; 2. Subregional projects tailored to the needs of particular countries should be implemented; 3. Training activities on cleaner production should be supported also in future in order to improve awareness of cleaner production of managers of industrial enterprises and improve their skills in cleaner production project management.	G, H, F

Strategic Plan field	Implementer and project title and (BC cost + other source)	Outputs completed and % remaining	Comment on relation to Strategic Plan	Other Strategic Plan fields
	BCRC Nigeria – Regional workshop on successful case studies of recycling, reuse and recovery methods towards the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and implementation of the Basel Convention in Africa (\$90,651)	Organization of regional workshop on successful case studies of recycling, reuse and resource recovery methods towards the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes in Africa within the context of the Basel Convention Information gathering on successful cases studies and best available technologies for the African region, with potential for replication Development of project proposals taking into account the findings of the workshop on the cases studies: under way Summary 75% complete	Several recommendations on how to address the hazardous wastes problem in the African continent were put forward. It is expected that several project proposals based on these cases studies are going to be prepared within this project. These proposals will practically implement the knowledge on ESM of hazardous wastes acquired during this workshop and replicate the successful cases studies.	A, G, F
	Germany – Scoping paper on the transfer of national experiences with waste prevention and minimisation to a transregional (13,402 + other sources)	Research into the transfer of experience in waste management between different countries Recommendations regarding the need for agreed on and widely understood terminologies in waste management Recommendations on standardizing terminology in the Basel Convention Summary 100% complete	This project is aimed at assisting the transfer of clean technologies through standardising terminology it also has strong awareness-raising aspects for the strategic plan	A, G -
C – reduce transboundary movement	No project focused on this	field		
D – illegal traffic	BCRC Argentina – Implementation of the control, detection and prevention of the illegal traffic of hazardous wastes (\$36,260)	Organization of regional workshop on the prevention and control of illegal traffic of hazardous wastes in South America Collection of information on legal gaps at national level to address specific cases of illegal traffic Recommendation from the participants to elaborate a thorough project fully to address illegal traffic in the region Summary 100% complete	Need for further action in order fully to implement the illegal traffic aspect of the Strategic Plan. The regional workshop was an initial needs assessment exercise. The intention of the centre and countries in the region is to obtain additional substantial funding to address illegal traffic of priority waste streams at national and regional levels	I, C
E – capacity building and technology transfer	BCRC Senegal – Inventory of hazardous wastes in three French-speaking countries covered by BCRC Dakar (\$97,903)	First technical missions and training workshops completed National inventories under way National final restitution workshops under preparation (last trimester 2004) Summary 40% complete	Directly related to Strategic Plan field E on the development and enhancement of national capacity for the preparation and conduct of detailed inventories as well as waste audits for priority waste streams to assist in disposal/recovery operations and in the prevention and minimization of such wastes. The project has an important potential for replication in other countries in Africa.	
	BCBC Nigeria- Assessment and recycling of used oils in Africa	This project is under preparation. It will be constituted by: Organization of a technical workshop Preparation of a national analysis (desk study, filed visits, surveys) Feasibility study and recommendations for a preliminary national plan for the environmentally sound management of used oils in Nigeria Development of recommendations for a partnership programme for used oils in Africa Organization of a final workshop	Addresses a priority waste stream in the African region. Proposes to develop a national plan for the ESM of used oils in Nigeria. This will be used as a case study for other areas in Africa. This project will also be the first milestone for the launching of the Partnership with major oil companies operating in the region, to put in place environmentally sound management practices for used oil, as requested of the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting by the African Group.	Н.

Strategic Plan field	Implementer and project title and (BC cost + other source)	Outputs completed and % remaining	Comment on relation to Strategic Plan	Other Strategic Plan fields
	Cambodia – Inventories of waste lead acid batteries (\$45,688)	Training on inventories and identification of lead acid battery recycling facilities has been completed Desk based study is complete Field survey is complete National workshop to discuss results is complete Report on the inventory is complete Training on the transfer of skills to other waste streams is occurring in September 2004 Summary 85% complete	This project aimed to build the capacity of the Government of Cambodia to undertake inventories of hazardous waste. Lead acid batteries were identified as the priority waste stream. The project seeks to transfer the lessons learnt in this area to other waste streams	A, H
	BCCC Uruguay – Training programme for municipal officers in the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes (\$44,600+\$ 13,000 from the Canadian IDRC and \$15,000 from Ministry of Housing, Land Planning and Environment, Uruguay)	Establishment of an electronic network among municipalities in the Latin American and Caribbean region Provision of internet courses through the network Provision of classroom courses to 10 municipalities in two countries Exchange of information among municipalities on specific waste streams The project will commence September 2004.	The project envisages the establishment of a network among local authorities to allow for collecting and exchanging information and know-how related to treatment of wastes at municipal levels. This information will also enable the centre to identify specific needs related to the prevention, minimization, recycling, recovery and disposal of particular waste streams in different areas of the Latin America and Caribbean region.	G, F
	Egypt – Hazardous wastes landfill (site selection, design and preparation of operating plans) in the Arab region (\$135,541)	First workshop on site location and EIA tools complete Final EIA site selection and EIA guidance is being prepared Two more workshops on landfill design and the case study remain (the next workshop is scheduled for November. Summary 33% complete	Technical project designed to identify international good practice in landfill and adapt it to hyper-dry regions. The project is helping to build the capacity of the BCRC to run large projects. The workshop's format is useful for encouraging capacity-building of the participants. Once all the guidelines are complete these will be distributed to focal points in the region so that countries will be better able to design and implement landfill projects appropriate to their local conditions.	A, F, H -
	BCRC El Salvador and Trinidad and Tobago – Preparation of a regional strategy for the ESM of used lead-acid batteries (\$75,521 + \$70,000 other)	Steering committee has been established First meeting of steering committee has been held Draft regional strategy for the ESM of lead acid batteries has been drafted Second meeting and finalization of the strategy under preparation Additional funds from several sources have been collected to expand the project Summary 50% complete waiting for the disbursement of funds before completing the second part	Addresses a priority waste stream in Central America and the Caribbean region. Proposes the development of a regional approach, in partnership with stakeholders from different horizons, including Governments from the region, regional political organizations, specialized agencies, industry, the academic sector and non-governmental organizations. Will aim at positioning the Basel Convention as the adequate mechanism for solving the used lead acid battery problem in the region through the promotion of a regional ESM solution. May have important replication potential for other regions.	H, F
	BCRC Trinidad and Tobago – Preparation of a regional strategy for the ESM of used oils in the context of the Basel Convention and the MARPOL Convention (\$75,521 + \$55,000 other)	A first regional assessment workshop has been held and a way forward decided upon with the countries in the region Each country to carry out a national project Follow up regional workshop still to be organized Summary 40% complete.	Addresses a priority waste stream in the Caribbean region. Proposes to develop a regional strategy, through differentiated country approaches. Aims at promoting the development of regional and national policies concerning the joint implementation of the MARPOL and Basel Conventions.	F

Strategic Plan field	Implementer and project title and (BC cost + other source)	Outputs completed and % remaining	Comment on relation to Strategic Plan	Other Strategic Plan fields
	BCRC Beijing – Survey of the import and the environmentally sound management of electronic wastes in Asia Pacific region (\$87,302)	Design of survey forms has been completed Selection of participating countries is complete Selection of national consultants in participating countries is partially complete (Cambodia has been identified) Malaysia, Thailand and Philippines have almost finished selecting the consultants. Other countries are still being identified National workshop on e-waste will be organised in some countries Project will be complete in first quarter of 2005	This a comprehensive project designed to create a picture of the movements in one waste stream in on region. The project is practical and focussed. It provides vital baseline information allowing countries in the region to better act to address the issue of e-waste	D, I, F
	BCRC Indonesia – Pilot project on the inventory of hazardous waste generation in selected member countries (\$68,111)	A hazardous waste inventory questionnaire has been designed The questionnaire has been sent out to countries in the region to test it out One country (the Philippines) has been selected and assisted in completing a full national level inventory The country study is used as a case study to help adapt the Basel Convention manual on hazardous waste to the region Summary 50% complete currently the Philippines has been selected as the case study	This is a project that uses a case study approach to capacity building rather than a purely training approach much like the Cambodia lead acid battery project it aims to build capacity through learning by doing. The project will result in new guidance on inventories, which will be specific to the region, so that the project can be replicated.	
	BCRC Moscow — Preparation of a review on the existing national and international legislation on monitoring and control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal (\$36,860)	First expert meeting completed (April 2004) Collection of information on legislation on trans boundary movements and ESM of Hazardous waste is in progress. Translation partially completed Second meeting completed (September 2004) Analysis is in progress. Summary 75% complete	This project is aimed at giving the decision-makers in the selected countries the opportunity to be informed on, and improve or develop national legislation on monitoring and control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their environmentally sound management.	I, F
	Jordan – Hazardous waste management in small and medium-sized enterprises in the context of the integrated life-cycle management of materials (\$43,512 +\$ 76,000)	First national workshop completed and national survey of industrial activities to be surveyed First draft guidelines prepared Summary 60% complete	First project to address the conditions of the minimization of hazardous waste in the small and medium-sized enterprises, which normally count for the biggest share of the economy in many developing States. Has considerable potential for replication.	A, G
	Bangladesh - Training in the environmentally sound management of biomedical wastes in Dhaka (\$42,308)	Project envisages providing training on how to handle medical waste to a variety of workers in hospitals in Dakar Memorandum of understanding still being negotiated	This is a training project which deals with one of the priority waste streams of the Basel convention. It also seeks to engage with the private sector through clinics.	A, h
F – develop BCRCs	South Africa – Development of database of a database for use by countries in the region (\$19,581)	Development of a database with information collected from the subregion, for easy access to data as required for the web site Created search and results pages for organisations, experts, projects, and publications accessible on the web site (see www.baselpretoria.org.za) Summary 100% complete	The updated database and web site integration has facilitated access to information on organizations, experts, projects and publications in the Centre's network. Networking has been enhanced throughout the region and stakeholder information updated more regularly. Will need regular updating in the future. This projects helps the BCRC serve its constituent countries more easily	G, E, H

Strategic Plan field	Implementer and project title and (BC cost + other source)	Outputs completed and % remaining	Comment on relation to Strategic Plan	Other Strategic Plan fields
G – awareness	No projects focused on this field			
H – partnership	BCR Slovakia – Regional workshop on the preparation of a regional approach for the environmentally sound management of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) as wastes in selected central and eastern European countries (US\$ 52,709)	Developed recommendations for a regional approach for the ESM of POPs waste Made recommendations on how to undertake national inventories of POPs waste Developed national strategies for the elimination of POPs waste Undertook first investigations on which technologies are available and could be chosen for the environmentally sound transport, storage and destruction of POPs waste, taken into consideration cost-effectiveness Increased policy-awareness of the POPs waste issue in the region Summary 100% complete	The project significantly contributed to building awareness amongst decision makers to accept the need for a cooperative approach within the region in order to effectively deal with POPs as waste. Recommendations include: • Ensure synergies and coordination between POPs related regional initiatives • Develop and deliver communication strategies, such as information materials, media outreach, education materials, etc. • Share knowledge and experience in all aspects related to the management and elimination of POPs waste and related wastes (obsolete pesticides) and provide a discussion platform	E, F
	Slovakia – Workshop on strengthening the cooperation among the chemical and hazardous wastes conventions (\$25,858)	Background documents: § On the transboundary movement of relevant waste streams (PCBs, POPs, ODS, etc.) and the prevention, detection and monitoring of their illegal traffic § On the ESM of these waste streams § On the situation regarding technical capacity, available technology and guidelines in connection with these waste streams Publication of the lessons learned of the workshop, which shall include a plan for strengthening future cooperation between the authorities involved in the implementation of the four concerned multilateral environmental agreement • Final report • Summary 100% complete	The project looked at synergies between the multilateral environmental agreement with view to strengthening the implementation of them all. This approach aiming at implementing the conventions in a coordinated manner helps foster a cooperative approach to chemicals and waste	E
I -implementation	No projects focused on this	field		·

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