INDONESIA - SWISS COUNTRY-LED INITIATIVE (CLI)
TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BASEL CONVENTION

To: Basel Convention Focal Points, The Missions in Geneva, and other interested stakeholders

Date: 07.07.2009 - p/ver

From: The co-chairs of the CLI

Concerns:
Invitation to submit comments and additional information to the Country-Led Initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention

It is our pleasure to inform you about the progress made on the Indonesian-Swiss Country-Led Initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention (CLI) which was launched based on the Decision IX/26 on the President's Statement on the possible way forward on the ban amendment at the 8th Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. The objective of the CLI is to develop recommendations for consideration by Parties at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) for a way forward to ensure that the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes, especially to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, constitute an environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, as required by the Basel Convention. The attached Report provides information on the first CLI meeting, which took place in Bali, Indonesia, from June 15-17, 2009, and the further process of the CLI. Further information on the CLI and its first meeting is available on the Basel Web-site (http://www.basel.int/convention/cli/index.html).

The discussion at the first meeting of the CLI addressed specifically the possible reasons for transboundary movement of hazardous wastes where environmentally sound management cannot be ensured. Topics discussed included economic issues, legal issues, enforcement issues, and awareness/infrastructure, which are reflected in the attached list of possible reasons. The participants to the CLI have agreed that the CLI would strongly benefit from additional information on the concrete problems and challenges faced by countries, other than those that attended the Bali meeting, when implementing the Basel Convention.

We would therefore strongly appreciate if you could provide us with your comments and additional information on the list of possible reasons discussed at the 1st meeting of the CLI and to the attached 5 questions. Comments should be submitted by July 19, 2009 to:

Ms. Gabri Eigenmann
Scientific advisor
International Affairs Division
Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)
CH-3003 Bern
Tel. +41 31 322 93 03
Fax +41 31 323 03 49
Email: gabri.eigenmann@bafu.admin.ch

Yours Sincerely,

Emma Rachmatuly
Assistant Deputy Minister for Management of Hazardous Substances and Wastes' Manufacture and Agro Industry
Ministry of Environment, Indonesia

Franz Xaver Parrez
Head of Section Global Affairs
Federal Office for the Environment
Switzerland