

COMMUNICATION

FURTHER REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON APPROPRIATE CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING THE EQUIVALENCE OF THE SHIP RECYCLING CONVENTION WITH THE BASEL CONVENTION

The Secretariat refers to the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting (Decision IX/30) requesting the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) to carry out a preliminary assessment on whether the ship recycling convention, as adopted, establishes an equivalent level of control and enforcement as that established under the Basel Convention, in their entirety.

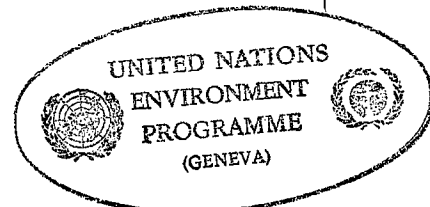
In its decision, the Conference of Parties also requested the OEWG to develop the criteria necessary for such assessment and, in doing so, to take into account:

- i. the special characteristics of ships and international shipping;
- ii. the principles of the Basel Convention and the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;
- iii. the comments submitted by Parties and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate.

To that end, the Conference of Parties invited Parties to provide to the Secretariat by 31 January 2009 comments on appropriate criteria to be used.

Whilst the deadline has now passed, the Secretariat wishes to advise that, in response to requests from numerous Parties, it will accept submissions pursuant to this decision received by **31 March 2009**. As they are received, submissions will be posted on the Basel Convention website at:
<http://www.basel.int/ships/index.html>.

Thank you in advance for your kind assistance and cooperation.



Secretariat of the Basel Convention
Geneva, 9 February 2009

To: Focal Points and Competent Authorities of Parties and Signatories to the Basel Convention

cc: Permanent Missions to the United Nations, Geneva