

Strategic Plan for the implementation of the Basel Convention

Dear Mr. Sabogal

I am pleased to submit our comments on the development and obstacles in the implementation of Strategic Plan of Basel Convention to 2010
In compliance with request of Basel Convention some steps forward have been made.

A. Development

In field of legislation:

Several of legal acts are prepared and adopted for management of industrial and urban waste

- Law No.8934 date 05/09/2002 "On Environmental Protection"
- Law No. 9010 date 13/02/2003 "On environmental management of solid waste";
- Law No.8990 date 23/01/03 "On environmental impact assessment";
- Decision of Council of Ministers No 26 1/31/1994 on Hazardous Waste and Residues;
- Decision No. 541 of Council of Ministers dated 25 September 1995 "On Duties that Ministers, Institutions and Physical and Juridical Persons have in Environmental Monitoring and Control Process";
- Law no.9108, date 17/07/2003 "On the Chemical Substances and their compounds"
- Decision of Council Ministers No 824 date 11.12.2003 "On classification, packaging, labeling and storage of hazardous chemicals".
- Law No 9537 date 18.5.2006 "On Hazardous Waste Management,

Strengthening of Institutional Capacity:

- Coordinated inter Government environmental policies, strengthening environmental management.
- Establishing and improving the environmental inspection system, through strengthening control of the inspectors which operated in local environment agencies in all over Albania, and close cooperation with local authority.
- Establishing National Agency Environment and Forestry, National Agency for Natural Resource etc

Studies and implementation:

- Inventory of chemicals in industrial sector was prepared.
- Identification, Repackage, transportation and storage of some hazardous waste in more appropriate condition.
- Experimental efficient ways for disposal of the cyanides waste is completed.
- Treatment of sodium arsenical solution in fertilizer plant is completed too. Now, the project is in the implementation phase.
- Implemented study upon mercury pollution in soil of ex soda- P.V.C. plant, in collaboration with GEO test Brno, Czech Republic.
- Assessment risk and assessment environmental situation in some hot spots area polluted by pesticides
- Disposal of the military toxic chemicals through incineration method is realized.
- Some monitoring is done on heavy metals, and chlorinate pesticides in the coastal waters, under the MEDPOL programmed
- Inventory of PCB-s, in transformers and capacitors is realized
- In Collaboration with UNDP and UNEP, Preliminarily site investigation of hotspots is prepared, etc.

B. Obstacles

- Lack of National Strategic Plan for hazardous waste management;
- Lack of regulation and sub legal act for sound management of hazardous waste (reduce, reuse, recycled, incineration, landfill)
- Lack of funds for training of specialists for treatment of hazardous waste, (incineration, management elements for hazardous waste landfill etc)
- Lack of necessary data concerning waste production and management;
- Development of hazardous waste list, inventory and identification of new hazardous waste;
- National information systems and information exchange is yet weak. Lack of necessary data concerning waste production and management (hazardous waste generation, quantity, physic – chemical properties, producers of waste) etc

- Strengthening activity in regional or local level and role of the local inspectors.
- Strengthening of the analytic laboratory, physical – chemical and toxicological analysis, labeling etc);
- Risk assessment through sampling and analyses;
- Interministerial coordination (establish of the national office as a coordinator for information and dissemination, registration of the life – cycle wastes etc);
- Resource mobilization, (local authority, local inspectors, N.G.O, etc);
- Awareness raising;
- Lack of industrial landfill for treatment of hazardous waste that are not reused or recycled;
- Only one Incinerator for medical waste with low technical level that do not meet the requirements of the atmospheric protection by toxic elements (dioxin and furans);
- Lack of technology and experience for treatment and disposal of hazardous waste
- Technology transfer, recycling of waste and the last solution their disposal, (incinerate, industrial landfill, etc);
- Lack of new technology in order to provide cleaned production and reduce of hazardous waste production;
- Pilot projects for safe removal of hazardous waste (mercury waste and oil extraction and refinery)

Recommendation

1. Assistance for regional coordination centers for treatment or incineration of hazardous waste;
2. Promoting and assistance for recycling and reuse of hazardous wastes (Particularly electrical and electronic waste);
3. Encourage the Tran boundary movements of shipments of material waste for incineration from developing country to developed country due to a lack of proper experience and technology installation for treatment such waste;
4. Waste shipped between the member States is better treatment, but not for all types of waste.
5. Implementation of Basel Convention; and legal act for treatment of hazardous waste, especially for developing country, need close cooperation and coordination of technical assistance.

Kind Regards

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