

VIETNAM ENVIRONMENT ADMINISTRATION (VEA)
Waste Management and Environment Promotion Agency (WEPA)

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Hanoi, 28 May, 2009

Ms. Katharina Kummer Peiry
Executive Secretary
The Secretariat of the Basel Convention

Subject: The Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention

Dear Ms. Katharina Kummer Peiry,

On behalf of Waste Management and Environment Promotion Agency (WEPA) - Vietnam Environment Administration (VEA), I would like to respond to your letter dated 17 December 2008 regarding the Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention as follows:

1. During the implementation of Basel Convention in Vietnam, we have faced a lot of obstacles, in which the most significant ones are as follows:

1.1. Internal obstacles:

- There is a lack of human and financial resources;
- The coordination between relevant agencies is not effective and quick;
- The awareness of Basel Convention and hazardous waste has been improved but still inadequate.

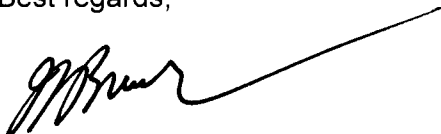
1.2. External obstacles:

- It is not clear to define the hazardous wastes according to Basel Convention;
- It is not clear for the procedure of transboundary movement between Parties and Non-Parties;
- The Focal Points/Competent Authorities of some Parties could not be reached because of many reason, e.g. their contact details are out of date, and they decentralize Basel Convention procedure management to local levels without clear information;
- Some countries don't accept communication and notification through email where as it takes a lot of time for postmail.

2. We would like to nominate the contact person to facilitate liaison with the Secretariat in the review of the Strategic Plan as follows:

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Best regards,



Nguyen Hoa Binh
Director General of WEPA