

BC-14/9: Cooperation with the World Customs Organization on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

The Conference of the Parties

1. Takes note of the report on the status of work of the World Customs Organization on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System related to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;¹

2. Also takes note of the revised list of types of wastes submitted by Parties in response to decision BC-10/10, taking into account the progress made by the Harmonized System Committee and its Harmonized System Review Subcommittee, as well as of the information received from Parties on the types of wastes for which it would be useful to request the World Customs Organization to introduce codes in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;²

3. Requests the Secretariat:

(a) To submit to the World Customs Organization a proposal for amending the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to allow the identification of the following types of wastes:

(i) With higher priority:³

1. B1110 and A1180 – Electrical and electronic assemblies;⁴
2. A1160 – Waste lead-acid batteries, whole or crushed;⁵
3. A3210, B3011, Y48 – Plastic waste;
4. A1010, A1020, A1030, A1040 – Metal wastes/compounds;
5. A3020 – Waste mineral oils unfit for their originally intended use, together with A3180 – Wastes, substances and articles containing, consisting of or contaminated with PCB, PCT, PCN or PBB or any other polybrominated analogues of these compounds;
6. A4030 – Wastes from production, formulation and use of biocides and phytopharmaceuticals, including waste pesticides;
7. B1250 – Waste end-of-life motor vehicles, containing neither liquids nor other hazardous components;
8. B3140 – Waste pneumatic tyres;

(ii) With medium priority:⁶

1. A3090 – Waste leather dust, ash, sludges and flours when containing hexavalent chromium compounds or biocides;
2. A3100 – Waste paring and other waste of leather;

¹ UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/INF/34; UNEP/CHW.14/INF/14, annex I.

² UNEP/CHW.14/INF/14, annex II.

³ For the full entries, see Annexes VIII and IX to the Basel Convention.

⁴ Amendments to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to allow for the identification of this type of waste have been provisionally adopted by the Harmonized System Committee and will be included in the 2022 edition of the System, pending a final decision under the World Customs Organization.

⁵ Amendments to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System to allow for the identification of this type of waste have been provisionally adopted by the Harmonized System Committee and will be included in the 2022 edition of the System, pending final decision under the World Customs Organization.

⁶ For the full entries, see Annexes VIII and IX to the Basel Convention.

3. A3110 – Fellingmongery wastes containing hexavalent chromium compounds or biocides;
4. A4130 – Waste packages and containers containing Annex I substances;
5. A4080 – Wastes of an explosive nature (but excluding such wastes specified on list B);

(b) To continue, under the guidance of the Open-ended Working Group, its cooperation with the Harmonized System Committee and relevant subcommittees of the World Customs Organization in order to facilitate the inclusion of wastes covered by the Basel Convention in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;

(c) To report on progress achieved in the implementation of the present decision to the Open-ended Working Group at its twelfth meeting and the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.