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**Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention  
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of  
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal  
Twelfth meeting**

Geneva, 1–3 September 2020 and Nairobi, 4–6 April 2022  
Agenda item 3 (d) (i)

**Matters related to the work programme of the  
Open-ended Working Group for the biennium  
2020–2021: international cooperation and coordination:  
Basel Convention Partnership Programme**

**Recommendations from the follow-up partnership to the  
Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment working  
group, notably on adding further types of e-waste to the scope  
of the terms of reference and on a draft work programme for  
the biennium 2022-2023**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The annex to the present note sets out recommendations from the working group of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment, notably on adding further types of e-waste to the scope of the terms of reference and on a draft work programme for the biennium 2022–2023, as amended and agreed to by the face-to-face segment of the twelfth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group<sup>1</sup>. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

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<sup>1</sup> See decision OEWG-12/1 Follow-up Partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment.

## Annex

# Recommendations from the working group of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment, notably on adding further types of e-waste to the scope of the terms of reference and on a draft programme of work for the biennium 2022-2023

## I. Introduction

1. In Part I of its decision BC-14/19 on the Basel Convention Partnership Programme, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention requested the working group of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (hereinafter “the partnership”) to undertake the activities in the programme of work of the partnership for the biennium 2020–2021<sup>1</sup>. Under activity 4 of the programme of work on “additional equipment”, the working group was requested to develop a document which provides an analysis of potential new e-waste types, to be the focus of the partnership.

2. As outlined in the programme of work for the biennium 2020–2021 for the partnership,<sup>2</sup> the working group of the partnership was tasked with further development of its terms of reference and preparation of a draft programme of work for next biennium (2022–2023); the expected output of this activity being a document on suggestions to amend the terms of reference, notably on adding further types of e-waste to the scope and draft programme of work for 2022–2023.

3. In addition, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, in the above-mentioned decision, requested the Secretariat to collect and disseminate information on the steps taken by Parties to enhance the environmentally sound management (ESM) of electronic and electrical waste at the national level.

4. To collect information on the needs of Parties on new potential e-waste types to be proposed for inclusion in the scope of the partnership terms of reference and in the programme of work for 2022–2023 and to collect information on the steps taken by Parties to enhance the ESM of e-waste at the national level, the working group prepared a questionnaire. The questionnaire was submitted to Parties and signatories of the Basel and Stockholm conventions as well as to the partnership working group members and observers, in November 2020. Responses to questionnaire were collected until February 2021.

5. The questionnaire included two parts: the first part focused on questions related to new potential e-waste types which were problematic at the national level; and the second part focused on information on steps taken by Parties to enhance the ESM of e-waste at the national level and on capacity building needs. The Secretariat received responses from all UN regions, including one response from the European Union and its Member States. Sixty-two (62) Parties responded: 31 developed country Parties and 31 developing country Parties. The other responses were from regional centres (8), academia (1), international organizations (2), private sector stakeholders (2) and non-governmental organisations (2). The questionnaire is provided in Annex III to the present recommendations.

6. The responses to the questionnaire were analysed by project group 3, established by the working group, to develop the proposal on new e-waste types. The working group initially developed a table of contents for an information document on new proposed e-waste types and project group 3 developed various versions of the document which were commented on by the working group.

7. The present recommendations include the following sections:

- (a) Section I (the current section) provides an introduction and overview of the work;
- (b) Section II presents the analysis of the responses to the first part of the questionnaire on new e-waste types;

<sup>1</sup> Annex III of UNEP/CHW.14/INF/30.

<sup>2</sup> Annex II of document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.12/INF/32 Rev.1.

- (c) Section III presents the analysis of the responses to the second part of the questionnaire on ESM of e-waste and on the status and needs of Parties to the Basel Convention;
- (d) Section IV lists the recommendations of the working group for adding further types of e-waste in the scope of the terms of reference of the partnership, and on a draft programme of work for 2022-2023;
- (e) Annex I of the present recommendations include the revised terms of reference of the partnership reflecting the proposal for inclusion of new e-waste types;
- (f) Annex II of the present recommendations include the proposal for the programme of work of the partnership for the biennium 2022–2023;
- (g) Annex III of the present recommendations include the abovementioned questionnaire.

## II. Additional e-waste types to be potentially included in the scope of the partnership, addressed in the comments received from Parties and others

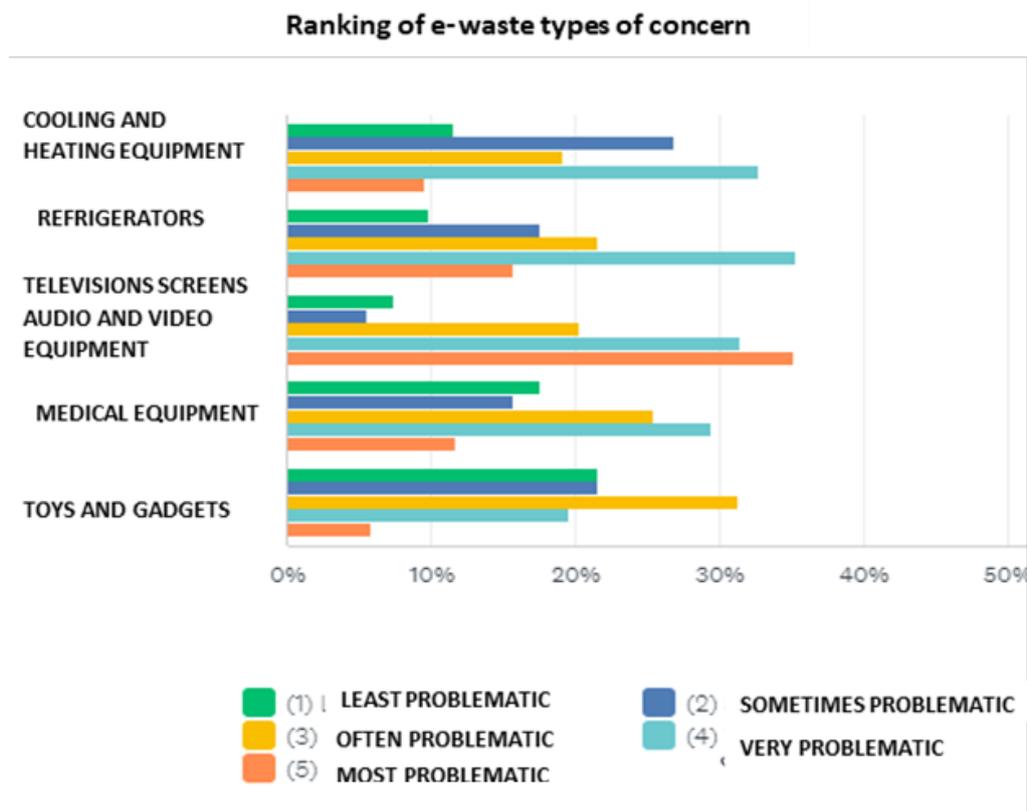
8. The questionnaire proposed a list of six e-waste types and asked which e-waste types of those mentioned represented a problem, both nationally and globally, whereby work under the partnership would be beneficial.

9. The respondents were requested to rank the e-waste types as: most problematic (5), very problematic (4), often problematic (3), sometimes problematic (2) and least problematic (1). The list included the following e-waste types:

- (a) Cooling/heating equipment (e.g. air conditioners);
- (b) Refrigerators;
- (c) Televisions, including CRT, LCD and LED screens; video and audio equipment;
- (d) Medical equipment;
- (e) Toys, gadgets.

10. An open question was also available to list “other” e-waste types.

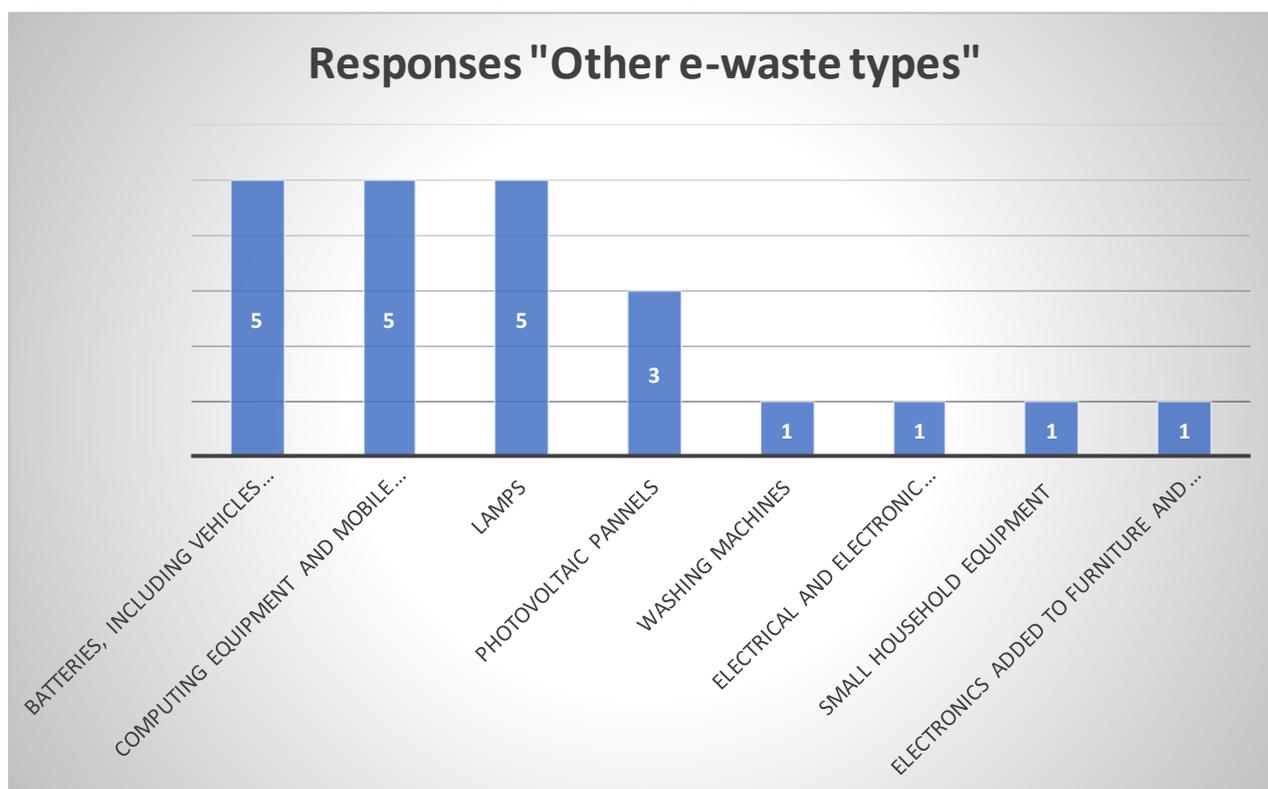
Fig. 1: Responses on e-waste types of concern, by projecting their ranking.



11. Televisions, including CRT, LCD and LED screens; video and audio equipment were ranked as most problematic (ranking 5) by most of the respondents. Cooling and heating equipment, refrigerators and medical equipment were ranked as very problematic (ranking 4). Toys and gadgets were ranked as often problematic (ranking 3). Seventeen (17) respondents added other e-waste types in the open question and the following e-waste types were indicated in addition to computing equipment and mobile phones:

- (a) Batteries, including various types of vehicles batteries, by five (5) respondents;
- (b) Lamps, by six (6) respondents;
- (c) Photovoltaic panels, by three (3) respondents;
- (d) Washing machines, by one (1) respondent;
- (e) Electrical and electronic components in vehicles, by one (1) respondent;
- (f) Small household equipment, by one (1) respondent;
- (g) Electronics added to furniture and fabrics, by one (1) respondent.

Fig. 2: Additional e-waste types indicated as problematic in responses.



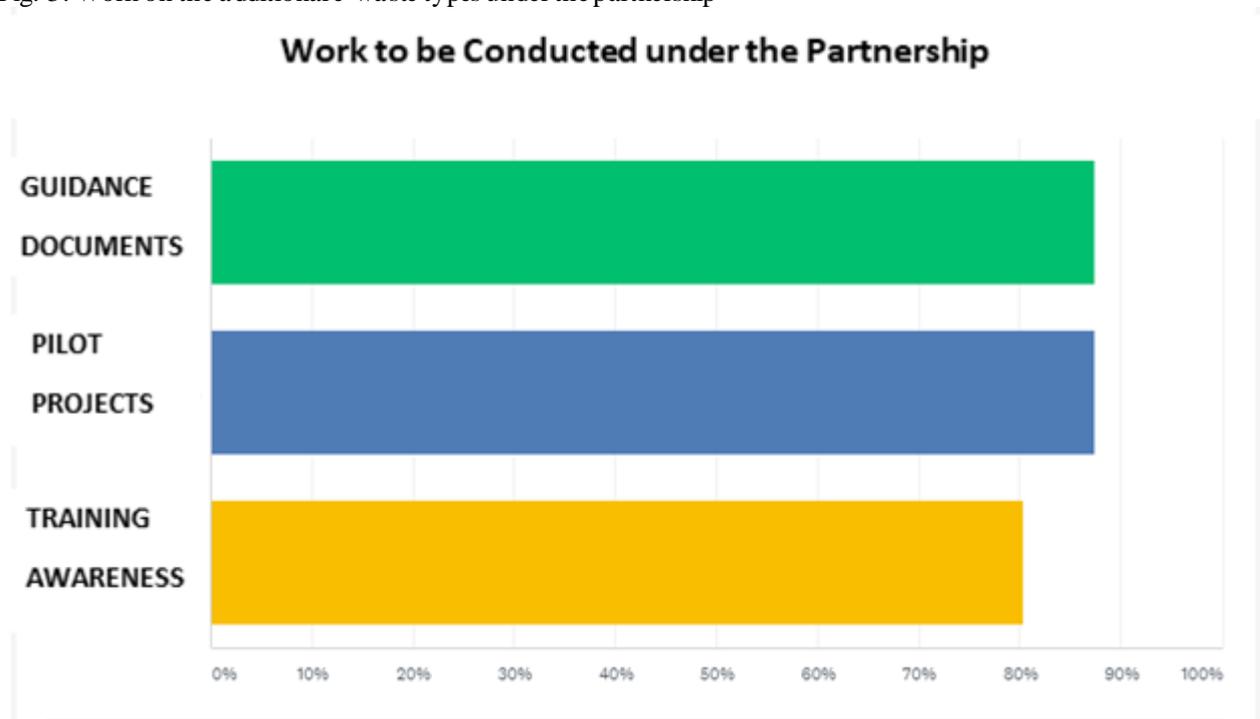
12. In summary, the following e-waste types were mentioned either as ranked as problematic in the multiple-choice question or mentioned in the open question:

- (a) Televisions, including CRT, LCD and LED screens; video and audio equipment;
- (b) Refrigerators;
- (c) Cooling and heating equipment;
- (d) Medical equipment;
- (e) Toys and gadgets;
- (f) Batteries, including vehicle batteries;
- (g) Computing equipment and mobile phones;
- (h) Lamps;
- (i) Photovoltaic panels;
- (j) Washing machines;

- (k) Electrical and electronic components in vehicles;
- (l) Small household equipment;
- (m) Electronics added to furniture and fabrics.

13. These e-waste categories were ranked as “most”, “very” and “often” problematic because of their short life span as new products, the growing number of such products placed on the market and the lack of knowledge of new technologies and hazardous content of such new products, especially as regards to their environmentally sound dismantling, repair, refurbishment, recycling and other disposal. The respondents also highlighted challenges related to the informal waste picking and recycling sectors and to a lack of recycling capacity in their countries.

Fig. 3: Work on the additional e-waste types under the partnership



14. Figure 3 shows responses to the question on which work should be conducted under the partnership on the e-waste types ranked previously. Although the responses are nearly equally distributed among the multiple choices available, which were: guidance documents on ESM of the new e-waste types, e.g., on prevention, minimization, reuse, recycling, etc.; pilot projects; and training and a awareness raising, most of the responses indicated that guidance documents on the ESM of new e-waste types and pilot projects were the preferred options.

15. An open question was proposed, where the respondents could indicate suggestions for additional work under the partnership on the new e-waste types they had suggested and the following responses were received:

- (a) On waste photovoltaic panels, it was suggested to promote global agreements with major brands;
- (b) On e-waste in general, it was suggested to propose the development of national action plans and strategies for ESM and to develop models for licensing companies in the reuse, recovery, refurbishment and disposal of e-waste.

### **III. Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste: status and needs of Parties to the Basel Convention, as reflected in the responses by Parties and others**

16. Part II of the questionnaire was developed to collect information on the steps taken to enhance the environmentally sound management of electronic and electrical waste at the national level and to identify the needs of Parties in achieving the ESM of e-waste.

17. The first question was on legislation: “Does your country have legislation / policies / administrative acts addressing the ESM of e-waste?” Sixty-two percent (62%) of the respondents answered yes and thirty-eight percent (38%) provided a negative answer. In analysing the ratio of “yes” and “no” answers in responses grouped by region, there was no significant difference except for responses from developed countries (100% yes; 0% no).

Fig. 4: Responses to the question on existence of national legislation, policies or administrative acts addressing e-waste.

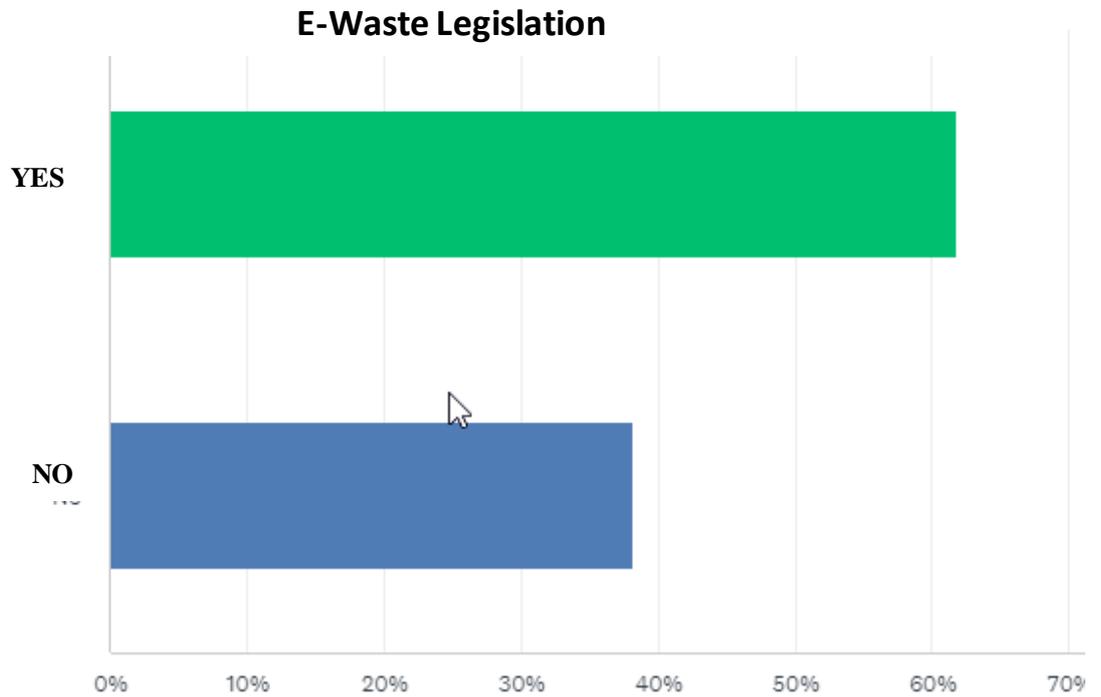
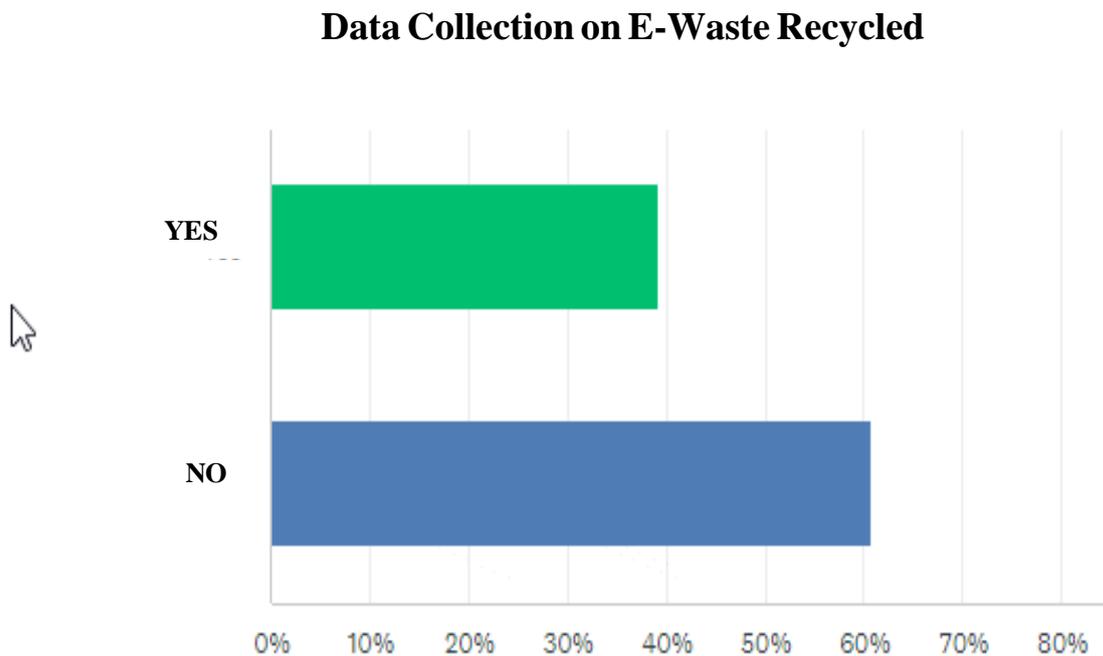


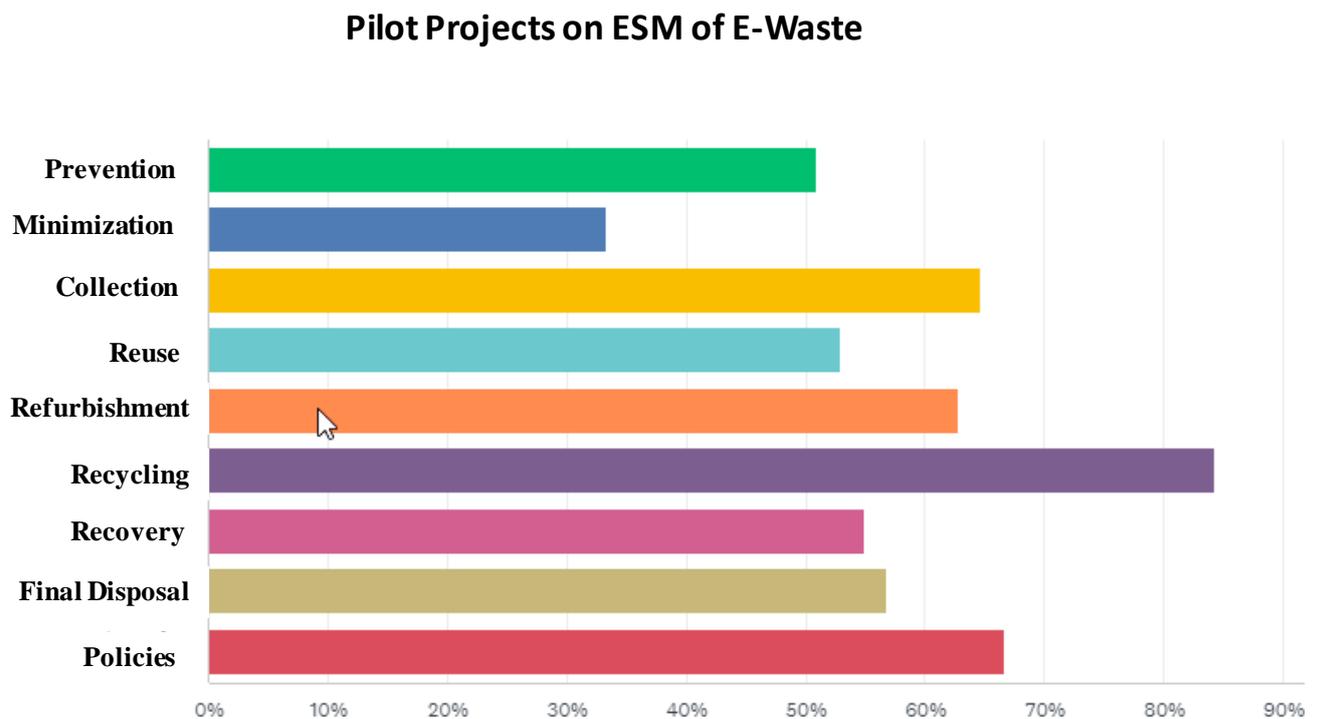
Fig. 5: Responses to the question on national data collection on the percentage of e-waste collected which is recycled.



18. Figure 5 shows the responses to the question: “Do you collect, nationally, data on the percentage of e-waste collected which is recycled?” In this case, the results were reversed compared to the previous question, since sixty-one percent (61%) of the respondents answered negatively and only thirty-nine percent (39%) of the respondents answered positively. The discrepancy in the responses received for the above two questions may indicate that some countries with legislation on ESM of e-waste do not yet have in place a system to monitor the implementation of the adopted measures and key indicators for e-waste recycling. The responses also suggested that many countries may need technical support to achieve this goal and fully implement and monitor the ESM legislation in place. In analysing the ratio of “yes” and “no” answers in responses grouped by region, there was no significant difference except for responses from developed countries (100% yes; 0% no).

19. The last question was: “Would you be interested in the implementation of pilot projects on the ESM of e-waste which the partnership could support? Please specify.” The choice of the different ESM stages listed below was provided. The answers are shown in Figure 6.

Fig. 6: Areas in which pilot projects on ESM of e-waste would be beneficial.



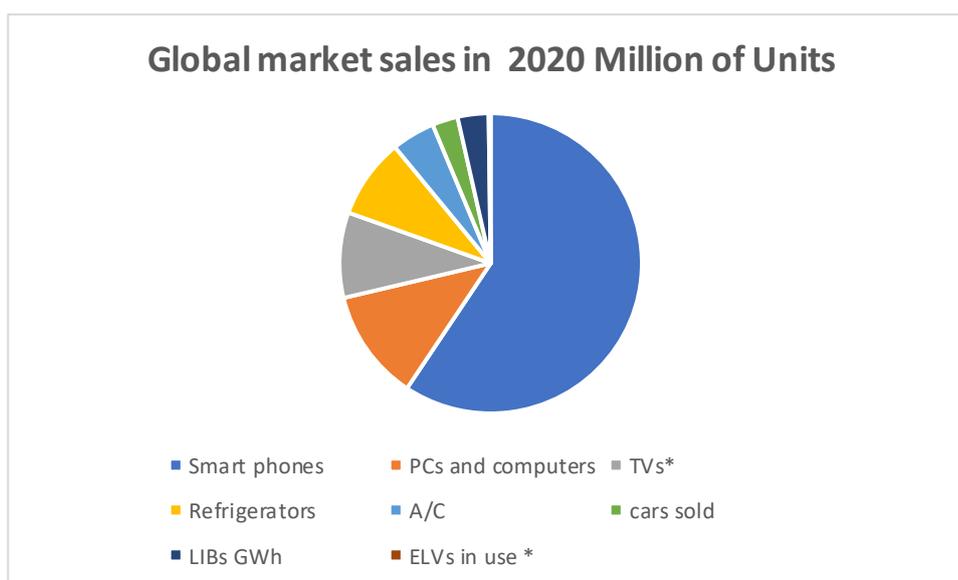
20. Eighty-five percent (85%) of the respondents highlighted a need for pilot projects on e-waste recycling, followed by projects for the development of policies for ESM of e-waste and refurbishment (67%), collection (65%), final disposal and recovery (57%), prevention and reuse (51%) and on minimization (33%) of e-waste.

Table 1: Units of e-product categories related to new e-waste types sold or in use in 2020.

Global Market sales e-products in 2020	Units in Million
Smart phones	1,380 <sup>3</sup>
PCs and computers	278 <sup>4</sup>
TVs*	214 <sup>5</sup>
Refrigerators	200 <sup>6</sup>
A/C (Air Conditioners)	107.9 <sup>7</sup>
Cars sold	63.8 <sup>8</sup>
LIBs GWh (Lithium-Ion Batteries in Giga watt-hour provided)	77 <sup>9</sup>
ELVs in use * (Electrical Vehicles)	5 <sup>10</sup>

\* 2019 data

Fig. 7: Million of units of e-products related to new e-waste types, sold or in use in the world, in 2020.



<sup>3</sup> Smartphones - Statistics & Facts | Statista (visited in January 2022).

<sup>4</sup> PCs - statistics & facts | Statista (visited in November 2021).

<sup>5</sup> [Lionel Sujay Vailshery \(visited in January 2022\).](#)

<sup>6</sup> Global: refrigerator sales 2012-2025 | Statista (visited in January 2022).

<sup>7</sup> Global Air Conditioning Systems Market Report 2021-2026 (visited in January 2022).

<sup>8</sup> Global car sales 2010-2021 | Statista (visited in January 2022).

<sup>9</sup> Projected global battery demand by application | Statista (visited in January 2022).

<sup>10</sup> (JEM2020): Journal of Environmental Management, 264 (2020) 110500. Lithium-ion batteries towards circular economy: A literature review of opportunities and issues of recycling treatments Elena Mossali, Nicoletta Picone, Lua Gentilini, Olga Rodríguez, Juan Manuel Perez, Marcello Colledani.

## IV. Recommendations related to adding further types of e-waste in the scope of the terms of reference and on a draft programme of work for 2022-2023

### A. Additional e-waste types

21. The working group of the follow-up partnership developed its recommendations to include new e-waste types in the scope of the terms of reference of the follow-up partnership and the draft programme of work for 2022-2023, taking into consideration the following:

- (a) The responses to the questionnaire presented in the previous part of the present recommendations;
- (b) Available documentation and work done under PACE and MPPI, such as the guidance documents on the ESM of waste computing equipment and mobile phones;
- (c) Ongoing work in the context of the Basel Convention on some of the waste types that were mentioned in the responses to the questionnaire, such as batteries;
- (d) Trends in sales of electrical and electronic equipment and estimated e-waste generation.

22. The working group recommends to the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention to include the following e-waste types in the terms of reference of the partnership:

- (a) Waste televisions, including CRT, LCD and LED screens, video and audio equipment;
- (b) Waste refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment.

23. In line with the work under PACE and MPPI on the refurbishment and repair of used computing equipment and mobile phones, the working group also recommends addressing in the terms of reference of the partnership the environmentally sound refurbishment and repair of:

- (a) Used televisions, including CRT, LCD and LED screens, video and audio equipment;
- (b) Used refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment.

24. The responses to the questionnaire showed that the most problematic e-waste types were televisions, including CRT, LCD and LED screens, video and audio equipment. Refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment were rated as very problematic by most respondents. Summing up the percentage of responses which ranked a specific e-waste type as most problematic and the percentage of responses which ranked the same e-waste type as very problematic, leads to the following ranking for waste of:

- (a) Televisions including CRT, LCD and LED screens; video and audio equipment (66.67%);
- (b) Refrigerators (51%); and
- (c) Cooling and heating equipment (42.31%).

25. Considering the sales data in 2020, presented in millions of units, the partnership, with the addition of the three proposed e-waste types to waste mobile phones and computing equipment, which are already included in its scope, would cover over 93.93% of the e-wastes generated by the sales of the equipment categories shown in figure 7, showing that the partnership would focus on e-waste types from some of the most sold e-products in the world, in millions of units.

26. Batteries, including vehicle batteries and lamps, were also placed on the market in considerable quantities comparable with the amounts of mobile phones and computing equipment placed on the market in 2020. Nonetheless, guidance on the ESM of waste batteries is being considered in the context of other activities under the Basel Convention, such as updating the technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries. Furthermore, guidance on lamps is already available, for example in the “En.lighten Tool Kit”, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and UNEP guidance on phasing out inefficient lighting equipment, including collection, recycling and final disposal<sup>11</sup>.

<sup>11</sup> The toolkit is available at: <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/new-toolkit-gef-and-unep-will-assist-countries-phase-out-inefficient>.

**B. A new name for the partnership**

27. The working group of the partnership, in view of the proposal to enlarge the scope to include new e-waste types, recommends to the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention to adopt a new name for the follow-up partnership to PACE. The proposed new name is “Partnership for Action on Challenges relating to E-waste” in short “PACE II”. This name would clearly recall the former Partnership, PACE, which was disbanded in 2017, indicating a new phase of its work. The new words included in the acronym redirect the focus of “action” to address challenges related to e-waste rather than on just used and waste computing equipment.

**V. Activities on the e-waste types identified in the questionnaire**

28. The working group considered that the e-waste types identified and suggested as problematic in the questionnaire should be addressed by other bodies, by partners or by the technical assistance programme to enhance the implementation of the Basel Convention as follows:

(a) Compilation of standardized information on e-waste streams identified in the questionnaire could be developed in the context of the technical assistance programme under the Basel Convention (e.g., short compilation of data (e.g. 1-4 pages) with a focus on sales data, waste generation and related impacts on the environment) on waste consisting of:

- (i) Medical equipment;
- (ii) Electrical and electronic toys and gadgets;
- (iii) Lamps;
- (iv) Photovoltaic panels;
- (v) Washing machines;
- (vi) Electrical and electronic components in vehicles;
- (vii) Small household equipment;
- (viii) Electronics added to furniture and fabrics;

(b) International, regional and national standards and guidance could be developed to promote best practices and methodologies to facilitate the environmentally sound prevention, minimization, collection, repair, refurbishment, recycling and final disposal of the e-waste identified in the questionnaire which is not addressed under the partnership, taking into consideration ongoing or planned work under the Basel Convention as well as other international initiatives, thereby avoiding duplication of work.

## **Annex I to the recommendations from the working group of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment**

### **Proposal for inclusion of new e-waste types in the scope of the terms of reference of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment**

#### **Terms of reference for the ~~Follow-up Partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment~~ Partnership for Action on Challenges relating to E-waste (PACE II)**

#### **I. Goal**

1. The goal of the Partnership is to strengthen the environmentally sound management (ESM) of used and waste computing equipment, mobile phones, television screens, including CRT, LCD and LED screens, video and audio equipment, refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment, as well as the environmentally sound refurbishment and repair of used computing equipment, mobile phones, television screens, including CRT, LCD and LED screens, video and audio equipment, refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment, at the regional, national and local levels, taking into account social responsibility, the concept of sustainable development and life-cycle thinking.

#### **II. Scope**

2. The scope of the Partnership covers computing equipment (personal computers (PCs), laptops, notebooks and tablets, and associated displays, printers and peripherals)<sup>12</sup>, mobile phones, television screens, including CRT, LCD and LED screens, video and audio equipment, refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment.

#### **III. Overall tasks**

3. The overall tasks of the Partnership are the following:

(a) Undertake and/or contribute to outreach, dissemination, education and awareness raising activities on the ESM of waste equipment and the environmentally sound refurbishment and repair of used equipment, covered by the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership among relevant stakeholders, especially the youth, to enhance public participation in e-waste management activities and decision-making at the regional and national levels;

(b) Undertake, facilitate the implementation and scaling up of pilot projects, for example on private sector engagement in the environmentally sound management of used and waste equipment in the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership, in particular, their collection and disposal, extended producer responsibility, policy and strategy development, and experience and information-sharing;

(c) Develop or update guidance documents on the ESM of waste equipment and the environmentally sound refurbishment and repair of used equipment in the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership;

(d) Transfer knowledge, experiences and information, for example by facilitating capacity building and technology transfer to strengthen and implement policies, strategies and regulations to improve e-waste management at the international, regional and national levels where relevant by taking into consideration local situations and needs;

<sup>12</sup> Personal desktop computer, including the central processing unit and all other parts contained in the computer. Personal notebook, laptop and tablet computer, including the docking station, central processing unit and all other parts contained in the computer. Computer monitor, including the following types of computer monitor: cathode ray tube; liquid crystal display; plasma. Computer keyboard, mouse and cables. Computer printer: including the following types of computer printer: dot matrix; inkjet; laser; thermal: and any computer printer with scanning or facsimile capabilities, or both.

(e) Encourage relevant innovation, research and development in cooperation with partners;

(f) Involve national, central and local governments, and other related stakeholders like original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), international organizations, industry associations and chambers, recoverers, recyclers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and academia to support implementation, knowledge and information sharing and experience exchanges including observation visits of facilities that are engaged in collection, dismantling and recycling of e-waste.

## IV. Working Principles

4. The working principles of the Partnership are the following:

(a) To promote dialogue amongst governments, regional and local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, private sector, non-governmental organizations and academia on initiatives that could be carried out in different regions;

(b) To foster best practice solutions showing concrete and practical results consistent with the Basel Convention through information sharing and implementing pilot projects, where possible, and make recommendations to all interested stakeholders;

(c) To coordinate and cooperate, as appropriate, with other bodies involved in activities on environmentally sound management of e-waste and to build on the body of knowledge currently existing on best practices, successes and challenges, realized by the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE), the Mobile Phones Partnership Initiative (MPPI), the expert working group on ESM and the expert working group for the further development of the “e-waste TBM guidelines”, at local, regional and global levels. To cooperate and contribute to “Solving the E-waste Problem” (StEP), the E-waste Coalition, the Partnership for Advancing the Circular Economy, the UNEP Global Partnership on Waste Management and other relevant initiatives and programmes.

## V. Duration

5. The Partnership working group shall be disbanded upon completion of the activities under its approved workplan unless the Conference of the Parties decides to extend the mandate. The Partnership working group may be disbanded by the Conference of the Parties, at any time.

## VI. Organization

6. The Partnership shall be organized as follows:

(a) Working group of the Partnership established by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in part 1 of its decision BC-14/19;

(b) Project groups established by the working group.

## VII. Working Group

### A. Operation of the working group

7. The working group of the Partnership (hereinafter “working group”) is responsible for overseeing organizational matters pertaining to the implementation of the Partnership’s activities, in particular preparing a draft workplan of the Partnership for the next biennium as needed, reviewing and approving work products and reports prepared by project groups and liaising with the Secretariat to provide financial reports on the Partnership funds retained in the Basel Convention Technical Cooperation Trust Fund, preparing an annual budget for the Partnership, and serves as a forum for information sharing.

8. The working group will decide on the priorities of the Partnership based on the workplan and may establish project groups (hereinafter “project groups”) to work on specific tasks as necessary to assist in the undertaking of specific activities falling within the mandate of the working group.

9. Members of the working group should meet at least twice a year, face-to-face or by electronic means, subject to the availability of resources. Meetings of the working group shall be closed, unless the working group decides otherwise.

10. The working group shall operate under the guidance of and reports to the Open-ended Working Group and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, through the Secretariat of the Basel Convention.

11. The rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention apply mutatis mutandis to the working group, unless otherwise provided in the present terms of reference.

12. The working group will coordinate and collaborate, as appropriate, on activities with other organizations and initiatives to establish synergies and prevent duplication.

## **B. Membership**

13. Membership in the working group is open to Parties and signatories to the Basel Convention, municipalities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private sector and academia dealing with the different aspects of the management of e-waste and used equipment, e.g. collection, transport, refurbishing, repair and reuse, separation, recycling, other recovery, including energy recovery and final disposal of e-wastes, including the sound handling of hazardous objects and substances contained in equipment in the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership, as well as manufacturers, academia, public-interest groups, and Basel and Stockholm Conventions Regional and Coordinating Centres for Capacity Building and Technology Transfer (BCRCs/BCCCs/SCRCs) which have the specific expertise and experience required for the activities of the Partnership and which satisfy the following criteria:

(a) Demonstrated commitment to the principles, practice and promulgation of the concept of environmentally sound management pursuant to the Basel Convention;

(b) Demonstrated commitment to engage in meaningful and constructive dialogue and cooperation with other partners, the Parties and signatories to the Basel Convention, the Basel and Stockholm conventions regional centres and coordinating centres, and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention;

(c) Demonstrated expertise or standing in the subject of the particular project or initiative;

(d) Demonstrated disposition to be proactive, collaborative, and solution-oriented with respect to the goal of the Partnership;

(e) Demonstrated commitment and ability to provide annual membership pledges in accordance with the financial arrangements in paragraphs 31 - 33, as a prerequisite for membership in the working group;

(f) Demonstrated networking capacity and commitment to follow the procedures and practices provided in the present terms of reference, including in particular those related to confidentiality.

14. Members of the working group should seek to achieve a membership that includes a diversity and balance of gender, stakeholders and geographic regions. The participation of members will at all times be voluntary.

15. Admission and suspension of membership to the working group shall be decided by the working group. Any entity wishing to be admitted as a member of the working group shall formally communicate this to the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, stating how the applicant has met the membership criteria under the present terms of reference. Any entity that is not a Party or an observer wishing to be admitted as a member of the working group should apply for observer status in accordance with the relevant procedure and be admitted as such. The Secretariat maintains a roster of membership and shall make it available on the web site of the Convention.

16. All members of the working group shall have equal status and rights regarding the work of the working group.

17. Members of the working group representing a Party or a signatory to the Convention shall be represented by an official from a ministry or a agency which is concerned with the subject matter of the Partnership.

## **C. Officers**

18. The working group shall elect among its members two co-chairs and such other officers as it deems necessary. Members of the working group from municipalities, non-governmental organizations including public-interest groups, private sector and academia will be encouraged to assume leadership roles.

19. The officers' responsibilities include:

(a) Preparing and conducting meetings of the working group, including deciding on the dates, form and venue of the meetings, preparing a draft agenda for consideration by the working

group, deciding whether experts should be invited to attend specific meetings and preparing minutes of meetings;

(b) Preparing draft annual budgets and a draft work plan, based on available resources, for consideration by the working group;

(c) Coordinating the working group's activities, including between the meetings of the working group;

(d) Liaising between the working group and the project groups, and, if required, the Secretariat of the Basel Convention;

(e) Assisting the working group in its responsibilities as required by the working group;

(f) Assisting in the attracting of new members to the Partnership;

(g) Reporting, as necessary, at meetings of the Open-ended Working Group and the Conference of the Parties on the activities of the working group.

20. If an officer resigns or is otherwise unable to continue with his or her functions, the working group will consider the need to elect a replacement.

#### **D. Invited experts and observers**

21. Officers may decide to invite non-member experts possessing specialized technical knowledge on an issue to be discussed at a meeting to participate in that meeting, or parts thereof.

22. Non-member Parties or observers to the Basel Convention, including intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, stakeholders, including manufacturers, recyclers, refurbishers and academia, and BCRCs/BCCCs, SCRCs wishing to participate as observers in meetings of the working group to observe meetings or parts thereof in consideration of joining the Partnership shall address, through the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, a duly motivated request to the working group. The working group shall consider the request. Observers may be allowed to participate in the working group for a limited time, approximately four (4) months from the time they have been invited by the co-chairs.

23. Invited experts and observers are also requested to comply with the terms of reference, as applicable to them.

### **VIII. Project groups**

24. The working group may establish project groups, as necessary, to work on specific tasks to assist in the undertaking of activities falling within the mandate of the working group.

25. The working group will decide on the size, mandate, term and terms of reference of Partnership project groups on a case-by-case basis.

26. The Partnership project groups, through the group chairs, report to the working group.

27. All work products prepared by project groups are subject to review and approval by the working group.

28. The terms of reference of the working group will apply mutatis mutandis to the project groups.

29. Once a project group has completed the objective assigned to it by and reported to the working group, the project group shall be dissolved, unless decided otherwise by the working group.

### **IX. Secretariat**

30. The Secretariat of the Basel Convention, subject to the availability of resources, shall be the secretariat of the Partnership. The functions of the Secretariat shall be to facilitate the activities of the Partnership as necessary, in accordance with Article 16 of the Basel Convention and relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention.

### **X. Financial Arrangements**

31. Contributions from the members of the working group shall be held in trust for the Partnership in the Basel Convention Technical Cooperation Trust Fund.

(a) Contributions from members of the working group may be made as follows: Parties, signatories, other governments and governmental organizations could make voluntary contributions to

the Basel Convention Technical Cooperation Trust Fund, and could target them towards the Partnership generally or towards specific projects of the Partnership;

(b) Industry associations, individual companies, non-governmental organizations and academia are welcome to make financial contributions to the Basel Convention Technical Cooperation Trust Fund, and could target them towards the Partnership generally or towards specific projects of the Partnership;

(c) Intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies and Basel and Stockholm Conventions Regional and Coordinating Centres are welcome to make in-kind and financial contributions towards the Partnership generally or towards specific projects of the Partnership. No annual subscription would apply to these organizations.

32. Industry associations, individual companies, non-governmental organizations and academia that are members of the working group will provide contributions as an annual subscription based on the scale of assessment set out in Table 1 below. Such contributions shall be made promptly by 1 January of the year they relate to. Representatives of industry associations, individual companies, and non-government organizations will be able to participate as partners in the partnership meetings provided that their body has paid the appropriate annual subscription.

33. Experts and observers invited by the officers of the working group can participate in the working group for a limited time at no charge.

**Table 1: Scales of assessment for annual subscriptions to the Partnership**

<b>Total annual revenue or budget (USD)</b>	<b>Annual Partnership subscription (USD)</b>
Over 2 billion	20,000
100 million to 2 billion	10,000
1 million to 100 million	5,000
Below 1 million	500

## **XI. Public Information**

34. Information released on behalf of the Partnership shall be agreed to by all members of the working group. Such information shall be released through the Secretariat of the Basel Convention.

## **XII. Intellectual Property Rights**

35. Nothing in connection with the Partnership operations shall be construed as granting or implying rights to, or interest in, intellectual property of the members of the Partnership working group. However, in the event that the members foresee that intellectual property that can be protected shall be created in relation to a particular activity, project or programme to be carried out under this Partnership, the members shall negotiate and agree on terms of its ownership.

36. Existing intellectual property rights frameworks shall be respected in the conduct of the Partnership's tasks and activities.

## **XIII. Publications, Names, Emblems or Logos**

37. Members of the working group shall not use the names, emblems or logos, and any abbreviations thereof, of the Basel Convention, of the United Nations Environment Programme and of the United Nations in their own publications without the prior written authorization of each of those organizations in relation to each specific use.

38. In no event shall a authorization to use the United Nations' or the United Nations Environment Programme's or the Basel Convention's respective names or emblems or logos be granted for commercial purposes; or be deemed to suggest an endorsement of any of the working group members' products, business practices or services by the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme or the Secretariat.

## **XIV. Liability**

39. Each member of the Partnership working group will be responsible for dealing with any claims or demands arising out of its actions or omissions, and those of its respective personnel.

40. Neither the Partnership nor any of the members of the working group shall be held liable for any direct, incidental, consequential, indirect or punitive damages arising out of any activity, policy, and or other action undertaken by any party, including partners, in the context of the Partnership and its functioning.

41. The United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention and the Secretariat, their officials, personnel and representatives, shall be held harmless and shall not be responsible for dealing with any legal action, suit, claim, demand and liability of any nature or kind, which may arise from or a ttributable to the operation of this Partnership or of the working group, or activities implemented there under.

42. Nothing under the Partnership shall be deemed a waiver of any privileges and immunities of the United Nations, of the United Nations Environment Programme, and of the Secretariat.

## **XV. Overriding authority of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention**

43. The Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention shall have overriding authority over all activities under the Partnership.

## Annex II to the recommendations from the working group of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment

### Revised draft programme of work of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment<sup>13</sup> for the biennium 2022–2023

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Expected Outputs</i>
Guidance documents	2022-2023	Development of, taking into account relevant sections of PACE and/or MPPI guidance documents, a guidance document on the ESM of waste equipment and the environmentally sound refurbishment and repair of used and waste equipment for each of the new e-waste types covered by the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership, to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
Pilot projects	2022–2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Pilot projects to test PACE and MPPI guidance documents and guidelines, to test relevant documents developed by the expert working group on ESM, and on inventories of e-waste streams, as covered by the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership and related awareness raising programmes;</li> <li>(ii) Pilot projects on the ESM of waste equipment and the environmentally sound refurbishment and repair of used equipment as covered by the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership, by mobilizing technical expertise where available, as a follow-up activity to workshops and dissemination activities organized for and in cooperation with various stakeholders, e.g. schools, teachers, national authorities, economic operators in ESM, manufacturers and importers etc.</li> </ul>
Dissemination activities	2022–2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) MPPI and PACE guidelines are translated into additional national languages;</li> <li>(ii) Workshops and other training and awareness raising activities on the ESM of waste equipment and the environmentally sound refurbishment and repair of used equipment as covered by the scope of the terms of reference of the Partnership, including on data gathering for the ESM of such e-waste and in cooperation with Partnership's stakeholders.</li> </ul>
Preparation of a draft workplan for next biennium (2024–2025)	2022-2023	Draft workplan for 2024–2025

<sup>13</sup> The Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting may adopt an alternative name for the Partnership.

## **Annex III to the recommendations from the working group of the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment**

### **Questionnaire on potential new e-waste types and on ESM of e-waste under the follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment**

#### **Part I: new e-waste types**

1. You are kindly requested to answer the questions below and help the Follow up Partnership to PACE to select potential e-waste types to be proposed for inclusion in the scope of the partnership, in the future.
2. Decision BC-14/19 Part I of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention established a Follow-up partnership to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment. According to activity 4 of the programme of work contained in Annex III of UNEP/CHW.14/INF/30, a document which provides an analysis of potential new e-waste types to be included in the scope of the Partnership for the biennium 2022-2023 is to be developed.

#### **Question N. 1**

- (a) Which e-waste types, e.g. those listed below, represent in your country's view a problem, both for your country and globally, whereby work under the partnership could be beneficial? Please rank your choice from 1 (least problematic) to 5 (most problematic)
  - Cooling/heating equipment (e.g. air conditioners);
  - Refrigerators;
  - Televisions, including CRT, LCD and LED screens; video and audio equipment;
  - Medical equipment;
  - Toys, gadgets;
  - Others, please specify. (Open question).
- (b) Which work should be conducted under the Partnership on the e-waste types referred to under (a) above. Please check one or more boxes.
  - Guidance documents on ESM of the new e-waste type (guidance on prevention, minimization, reuse, recycling, etc.);
  - Pilot projects;
  - Training and awareness raising;
  - Others, please specify.
- (c) Please provide some comments to explain your choice. (e.g. rapid growth in sales of the e-equipment; upstream issues, like design, short lifetime of equipment, lack of repair and refurbishment possibilities), specific problems related to hazardous substances in the e-equipment, specific problems with ESM of the e-waste covered by the type, possibilities to have synergies with policies related to used and waste computing equipment and mobile phones, etc.). (Open question)

#### **Part II: Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of e-waste**

3. The Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, in the above-mentioned decision BC-14/19 Part I, requested the Secretariat to collect and disseminate information on the steps taken by Parties to enhance the environmentally sound management of electronic and electrical waste at the national level. You are kindly requested to help the Secretariat to collect this information by answering to the following questions:

#### **Question N. 2**

- (a) Does your country have legislation/policies/administrative acts addressing the ESM of e-waste? (yes/no)

(b) If possible, please specify. (Open question)

**Question N.3**

- (a) Do you collect data, nationally, on the percentage of e-waste collected which is recycled? (yes/no).
- (b) If yes, which is the reported rate of recycling? (e-waste collected nationally, which is recycled nationally or sent abroad for recycling in ESM conditions). Please specify the way you measure this indicator. (Open question)

**Question N.4**

- (c) Would you be interested in the implementation of pilot projects on the ESM of e-waste which the Partnership could support? Please specify:
  - Prevention;
  - Collection;
  - Repair/refurbishment;
  - Recycling;
  - Recovery;
  - Final disposal;
  - Policies for the ESM of e-waste, including in relation to TBM of e-waste;
  - Others. Please specify (Open question).

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