

10. Invitation related to decision OEWG-11/14 on cooperation with the World Customs Organization on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

Decision: OEWG-11/14: Cooperation with the World Customs Organization on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

Background:

By its decision BC-13/7, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to continue, under the guidance of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG), 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 (Harmonized System) and to report on progress in that regard to OEWG-11 and COP-14.

As was reported to COP-12 (see document UNEP/CHW.12/7), at its forty-sixth session, held in Brussels in November 2013, the Harmonized System Review Subcommittee considered a proposal by the Secretariat for amending the Harmonized System (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/19, annex IV) that had been prepared on the basis of information on the types of wastes submitted by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Peru pursuant to decision BC-10/10 (UNEP/CHW.11/9, annex). As described in the report on the status of work of the World Customs Organization on the Harmonized System related to the Basel Convention (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/19), after extensive discussions on the proposal at its forty-eighth session, held in April 2015, the Harmonized System Review Subcommittee agreed to focus its discussions on how to amend section XVI of the Harmonized System to allow for the classification of electrical and electronic waste. The Subcommittee also agreed that after working on these amendments it would decide on the possibility of extending its discussions on this topic to other chapters and categories of waste.

As a conclusion may be reached regarding the amendment to the Harmonized System in relation to electrical and electronic waste during the current review cycle of the Harmonized System, the Harmonized System Review Subcommittee could consider proposals for amendments related to other types of waste during the seventh review cycle, which is due to begin in the second half of 2019. In consideration of this, OEWG-11 requested the Secretariat to revise, by 30 September 2018, the list of types of wastes submitted by Parties in response to decision BC-10/10. Parties are invited to inform the Secretariat, by 31 October 2018, of the types of waste in the revised list referred to above for which it would be useful to request the World Customs Organization to introduce codes in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, ranked in order of priority.

Invitation:

	Invitation	Respondents	Method of submission	Deadline for submission
(a)	Parties invited to inform the Secretariat of the types of waste in the revised list referred to in paragraph 3 of decision OEWG-11/14 for which it would be useful to request the World Customs Organization to introduce codes in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, ranked in order of priority	Parties	Please inform the Secretariat of the types of waste in the revised list referred to in paragraph 3 of decision OEWG-11/14 for which it would be useful to request the World Customs Organization to introduce codes in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, ranked in order of priority. The revised list is annexed to the present communication.	31 October 2018

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