

Teleconference of the Working Group of the Partnership for Action on Challenges relating to E-waste (PACEII)

15 December 2022

Report

Participants

Abiola Olanipekun, BRS Secretariat; Alev Somer, Bureau of International Recycling; Alfredo Cueva, UNIDO; Dana Lapešová, Slovak Environment Agency, BCRC Slovakia (co-chair); Dan Dar -ziv, BRS Secretariat; Francesca Cenni, BRS Secretariat; Helen Rockey, UK; Isabelle Baudin, FOEN, Switzerland; Jeyanthi Subramanian, Experiential Math Solutions, Joseph Molapisi, Africa Institute; Juan Facundo Domínguez, Argentina; Kata Tisza, StEP Initiative; Khawla Awdallah, Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR), Sudan; Koutoua Thomas Daquin Gnameessou, Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, Cote d'Ivoire; Leila Devia, BCRC Argentina (co-chair); Maurice Alexander, BCRC Caribbean; Nathaniel Chalamanda, UK; Nicole Ocan, Panama; Pavel Bubnov, BCRC Russia; Patrick Hertveld, Umicore; Philomena Joseph, BRS Secretariat; Qingyin Dong, BCRC SCRC China; Quanyin Tan, BCRC SCRC China; Rachel Ramsey, BCRC-Caribbean; Reinaldo Duncan, BCRC- SCRC Panama; Reyna Ubeda, ITU; Sujani Hatharasinghe, Sri Lanka; Yorg Aerts, DG Environment - EU.

1. Welcome and introduction

The co-chairs Ms. Dana Lapesova and Ms. Leila Devia welcomed the participants.

Ms. Dana Lapesova introduced the objectives of the teleconference which were to:

- Provide updates on the implementation of the action points agreed at the past teleconference.
- Receive a report from the joint meeting of project groups 2 and 3.
- Discuss the table of content of the ESM guidance documents in the POW for 2022-2023 with a view to approve them in principle to start the development of draft guidance.

- Receive an update on the tentative schedule for work of the working group until COP16.
- Approve the draft Programme of Work for 2023-2024 to be submitted to both OEWG13 and BC COP16.

2. Review and approval of the agenda

Ms. Leila Devia introduced the agenda. The working group adopted the agenda without changes.

3. Approval of the report of the previous teleconference

Ms. Leila Devia asked if there were any comments on the draft report of the previous teleconference, organized in September 2022. The draft report was circulated by the Secretariat in advance of the teleconference and no comments were received by the Secretariat. The working group approved the report without changes.

4. Membership

The Secretariat provided a report on the progress in the mailing out of last letter to be sent in the name of Rolph Payet, inviting entities to join the working group. This letter, prepared by the Secretariat, would be sent to international organizations, MEAs, development agencies, funds and other entities which were not yet invited to join the partnership working group. The working group included 61 members, including 19 Parties, 4 intergovernmental organizations, 21 regional centres, 2 governmental bodies or agencies, 3 non-governmental organizations and 12 industries or industry associations and 8 observers. The Secretariat was in communication with the Circular Electronics Partnership, hosted by the Business Council for Sustainable Development, APPLIA, BIR and EERA and EPEE (The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment) to join the partnership working group.

5. Reports on work of project groups

Ms. Helen Rockey, co-chair of project group 2 on ESM guidance on TVs, audio and video equipment, presented the outcomes of the first joint meeting of project groups 2 and 3, where the joint table of content of the ESM guidance was further developed, following the suggestions collected after the previous teleconference.

The representative of the EU and its Member States introduced the comments provided and the requested to start working on the tables of content in two separate files to introduce specific sub-chapters to each guidance document. Other changes were suggested during the teleconference by members. The working group decided that the project groups 2 and 3 would meet in January, in a date to be identified by the Secretariat, to prepare two separate tables of contents of respectively the ESM guidance on TVs, audio and video

equipment and on Refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment, for circulation prior to the following teleconference, in January 2023.

6. Tentative schedule of work until BC COP16

The secretariat shared the tentative schedule of work and the deadlines for the preparation of documents to be submitted to OEWG13 and BC COP16, including the proposed dates for the following teleconference and working groups meetings. The following teleconference would be organized on Thursday 19 January 2023. The working group agreed to hold it in this date.

The Secretariat informed that the working document on the Partnership Programme, including on PACEII II, to be submitted to OEWG13 had been submitted for processing and publication on the web. One additional information document would be prepared to be submitted to OEWG13 (INF/15) on the draft ESM guidance on TVs, audio and video equipment and on refrigerators, cooling and heating equipment. The draft programme of work for 2024-2025 would be submitted as Add.1 to the Partnership Programme working document, so that it would be translated in six UN languages.

During the OEWG13, the co-chairs or the Secretariat would provide an oral report on progress in the work of the partnership working group. The Parties would decide if comments were to be collected on the POW for 2024-2025, after the OEWG13, tentatively by 31 March 2023 or earlier, to be placed on the web side, for consideration of BC-COP16. The Parties would also consider, at OEWG13, to provide comments on the draft ESM guidance, by end of February 2023 and request to prepare a new version of the draft guidance documents, to be submitted to COP16, by 7 March 2023.

The discussions and the recommendations of OEWG13 would be included in an outcome document which would cover all the OEWG13 agenda items.

A similar working document on the Partnership Programme was processed by the Secretariat and submitted to BC COP16. One part of the document would be on PACE II. Two information documents would be prepared for BC COP16 on PACE II: INF/31 on the guidance documents and the draft programme of work for 2024-2025; and INF/32 would include the report on progress in the implementation of the activities of the partnership. All information documents for both OEWG13 and COP16 would have to be prepared by 24 January 2023, for internal processing. The INF documents would be circulated for final input by 23 January and after that the secretariat would consolidate the comments for the development of the information document by 24 January 2023.

The Secretariat introduced the programme of work for 2024-2025, seeking the agreement of the working group on presenting the same POW to be continued from the current biennium. The working group agreed to submit to OEWG13 and BC COP16 the same programme of work considering that there had been only about six months to implement it and more time would be needed to complete its implementation.

7. Logo

Ms. Dana Lapesova recalled that the logo of the partnership was adopted, at the past teleconference and that it was circulated by email to all members to make sure that there

were no objections to its adoption by any of the members that were not present at the previous teleconference. No objections were received by the Secretariat and the logo was therefore adopted by the working group of the partnership.

Ms. Dana Lapesova informed that the Secretariat had asked to pause the use of the logo because a new policy on logos of UN entities was developed by UNEP. The PACE II logo required to be checked against the requirements of this policy. This policy was developed by UNEP, in Nairobi. The Secretariat was requested to review the graphic design of all logos of the BRS Conventions, regional centres and partnerships in view of the new UNEP policy. At the end of this analysis, the Secretariat would inform the partnership working group if there were changes to be included in the graphic design of the logo. For this reason, until this analysis would be concluded the logo could not be utilized by the members. The timeline indicated for this analysis would be, tentatively, by the end of the 2023 BRS COPs.

8. Other business

Ms. Leila Devia asked if there were any other issues under other business or information to be shared. Ms. Dana Lapesova introduced that the next webinar of the series prepared by BCRC Slovakia would be on e-waste standards for recycling.

Reyna Ubeda, of the ITU, informed on the plan to organize the Green Standards Week in Argentina, in cooperation with BCRC Argentina.

Since there was no other business suggested, the co-chairs closed the last teleconference of the year 2022 and extended their best wishes for the new year 2023.