

4th Teleconference of the Environmental Network for Optimizing Regulatory Compliance on Illegal Traffic (ENFORCE)

04 November, 2015 – 15:00-16:30 h (Geneva time)

Participants:

Ms. Leila Devia, BCRC-Argentina (Chair)	Ms. Gordana Vešligaj, Croatia
Mr. Christian Dijkens, IMPEL/INECE	Ms. Dana Lapesova, BCRC-Slovakia
Ms. Nancy Isarin, consultant/IMPEL	Mr. Michel Seck, BCRC-Senegal
Ms. Tamara Kutonova, OSCE	Ms. Lina Fortelius, BRS Secretariat
Mr. Matthias Kern, BRS Secretariat	Mr. Patrick Micheli, BRS Secretariat

Summary of the meeting

Item 1 – Opening of the Meeting

- The Chair, Ms. Leila Devia, welcomed the participants to the 4th teleconference of the ENFORCE.

Item 2 – Adoption of the agenda

- The proposed agenda was adopted by the participants without any change.

Item 3 – Change of officer in the Secretariat supporting the network

- The Secretariat informed that Mr. Tarcisio Hardman Reis has been appointed to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on a temporary basis. Mr. Matthias Kern, who has been following ENFORCE activities as backup before, will take over issues related to ENFORCE from now on.

Item 4 – Review of the implementation of the Roadmap of activities

(a) Development of the website for disseminating tools and materials

a. Current status

- The consultant gave an update on the website development as agreed few months ago. The website is already online and available to the public. The website is currently hosted by an external provider who also hosts the IMPEL website. Members are requested to check if all information is correct and to submit additional content to be uploaded if available.

- One member recalled that the group had decided before to keep the ENFORCE website independent. He raised the issue of possible consequences for the ENFORCE website due to the COP decision BC-12/21 on the Clearing House Mechanism for Information Exchange (CHM). The Secretariat indicated that illegal traffic is part of the CHM decision. The group should ensure not to duplicate the work and find a way to move forward with these two mandates from the COP on CHM and ENFORCE on its website and how to link them. It was agreed to further explore the possibilities, consequences and costs for linking the ENFORCE website to the CHM. This agenda item was discussed together with item 4 (a) b. and c.

b. Criteria for inclusion of information on the website

- The chair indicated that it is important to define some criteria for inclusion of information on the website to ensure credibility and sustainability of the network.

c. Fund raising for 2016

- The Netherlands offered to cover the costs of hosting the website, the transformation for the website and the maintenance for 2015, which can be estimated at 15,000 EUR, provided that 2015 will be used to find financial resources for 2016 and thereafter. IMPEL is considering to make a contribution of 2,500 EUR for the maintenance and hosting of the website in 2016 under the condition that additional co-funding is provided from elsewhere.
- Additional funding is needed mainly for updating and uploading of new information to the website and eventually for further web-design work and back-up. It was mentioned that the preferred option would be to have one designated person for this work which is estimated to cost 12,000-15,000 USD per year.
- The Secretariat indicated that no extra funds have been received for the ENFORCE website as per today. Members were invited to explore possible contributions for 2016 and beyond.

(b) Exchange of information

- The chair presented the “Latin American Environmental Prosecutors Network” and suggested to integrate this network to ENFORCE (<http://www.mpambiental.org/site/>).
- It was mentioned that IMPEL plans to organize a conference in May 2016 in the Netherlands bringing together four European networks, environmental prosecutors and judges specialized on environmental issues to strengthen their cooperation. Waste will be one of the topics.
- Information was provided on the annual TFS IMPEL conference that was held in Slovenia last September, bringing together more

than 100 participants and that was attended, among others, by the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, INTERPOL and the Asia Network. The UNEP report “Waste Crime - Waste Risks: Gaps in Meeting the Global Waste Challenge”

(<http://www.unep.org/environmentalgovernance/Portals/8/documents/rra-wastecrime.pdf>), some case studies and current projects were presented.

- An e-waste workshop for the African region was held in Lagos, Nigeria in October, where among others the control of illegal traffic of e-waste was discussed

(<http://www.basel.int/Implementation/TechnicalAssistance/Partnerships/PACE/Workshops/WSNigeriaOct2015/tabid/4619/Default.aspx>).

Item 5 – Next face-to-face meeting

- The Secretariat reminded that the ENFORCE face-to-face meeting which was tentatively scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2015 had to be postponed to early next year due to the change of the UN administrative system (UMOJA), which caused administrative delays in organizing meetings. The Secretariat already received 40,000 USD funding provided by the Government of Japan to hold the meeting.
- It was agreed to hold the next ENFORCE face-to-face meeting in March 2016 in Latin America to reach out to another region, as the first meeting of ENFORCE was held in Asia.
- The chair will consult with colleagues from different South American countries, who could host the meeting.

Item 6 – Other matters

- No other matters were raised.

Item 7 – Closure of the meeting

- The chair closed the meeting thanking all participants for the lively discussion and constructive input.