

## Online Consultation of the Small Intersessional Working Group on Waste Batteries

12 September 2024

The online consultation had following objectives:

-To introduce briefly the comments received by 31 August 2024 on both the TGs on ESM of WLAB and the TGs on ESM of OWBs and receive feedback on the text to be prepared for the face-to-face meeting of the SIWG on WB. (Comments available at these pages:

WLAB

TGs:

<https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Wastebatteries/DevelopmentofWLABTGs/tabid/9545/Default.aspx>;

OWBs

TGs:

<https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Wastebatteries/DevelopmentofOWBTGs/tabid/9671/Default.aspx>)

-To discuss the preparations for the second face-to-face meeting of the SIWG on Waste Batteries, which will take place from 18 to 22 November 2024, in Geneva, as well as the time allocation to the negotiations of each of the two documents to be considered during the meeting.

-To discuss the tentative schedule for work and next steps, until BC COP17.

During the online consultation it was agreed:

**On the recommendations for the next versions of the two TGs** being prepared for the November meeting it was mentioned that there is still a lot of work to be done on the technical guidelines on the ESM of WLAB to prepare them for adoption at COP17. This work may take longer than foreseen, during the upcoming meeting. It was suggested to collect more information from Industry participating in the SIWG on WB on plastics recycling in WB, on POPs in waste batteries and on nanomaterials and their management in waste batteries. It was mentioned that information on new technologies for the recycling of WLAB could be added in the TGs and that more information on new technologies would be required from recyclers.

**On the organization of the face-to-face meeting in November**, with focus on the time allocation for each TG document, it was agreed that 3.5 or 4 days could be dedicated to the TGs on WLAB and 1.5 days or 1 day to the TGs on OWBs. It was mentioned that the group should prioritize the discussion on WLAB TGs, starting from Monday 18 November, remaining flexible to extend the discussions on this TGs for longer than foreseen in the tentative schedule for the meeting, in case it was needed.

**On the deadline for circulation of the version of the two TGs to be discussed at face-to-face meeting,** it was agreed that this could be on 16 October. It was mentioned that online negotiations on specific parts of the TGs could be organized prior to the face-face meeting, to advance the work in view of the meeting, but the participants agreed to defer the negotiations to the face-to-face meeting. The secretariat would receive suggestions for organizing negotiations online on specific parts of the TGs, prior to the November meeting (one or two weeks before), by **Wednesday 18 September.**

**On the tentative schedule of work:** Options for continuing the development of the TGs on OWBs after the November meeting were debated and it was agreed to try to have three rounds of comments (two internal for the SIWG and one public) and two versions of the TGs on OWBs developed after the meeting in November, to the extent possible. One Party expressed that three rounds of comments on the OWBs technical guidelines represented a lot of work and indicated a preference for two commenting periods on the basis that the OWBs TGs are not being submitted for adoption and more time is available. The tentative schedule, including the changes discussed during the online consultation are included in Annex to these notes.

## Annex

### Tentative schedule for the work of the SIWG on the technical guidelines (TGs) on the ESM of Batteries - between BC COP-16 and BC COP-17

(revised on 12 September 2024)

Activity	Deadline	Responsible person/organization	Status/Note
Parties to indicate to the Secretariat their willingness to continue to take the lead in updating or preparing technical guidelines WLAB and other batteries (para 5, decision BC-15/11)	14 June 2023	Parties	Done WLAB: Uruguay and China Other batteries: EU and China
Invitation to send specific information on parts to be further developed such as health, invitation to WHO to participate in the SIWG prior to 30 September	Invitation to be sent on Friday 23 June, including information on March, May and September comments to be taken into account	Invitation-Secretariat	Done
Secretariat to hire a consultant to work on TGs on the ESM of WLAB and ESM of Other Batteries	Tentatively 30 September 2023	Secretariat	Ongoing
Parties and others to nominate experts to participate the SIWG (para 4, decision BC-16/6)	30 September	Parties/others	Done
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Online informal consultation on the tentative work schedule</b>	<b>02 October 2023</b>	<b>SIWG</b>	<b>Done</b>
Secretariat to circulate the revised version of the TGs on WLAB, prepared by consultant, taking into consideration the March comments, the COP document comments and the comments received by 30 September	15 November	Secretariat/co-chairs	
Secretariat to circulate the first version of the TGs on other waste batteries	21 November	Secretariat	Done

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Responsible person/organization</b>	<b>Status/Note</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> online informal meeting of the SIWG after COP-16</b>	<b>11 December 2023</b>	<b>Secretariat</b>	<b>Done</b>
SIWG Parties and observers to provide comments and input on new draft of the WLAB TGs and the OWB TGs, circulated on 15 November, commented on 6 December	15 December-WLAB and 20 December OWB	SIWG	Done
Secretariat to circulate draft versions of the two TGs, prepared by consultants, taking into consideration the 11 December comments and the 15 and 20 December written comments	19 February 2024	Secretariat	Done
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Face-to-face meeting of the SIWG</b>	10-12 March 2024 Geneva	BRS Secretariat parties/others	
SIWG to provide any additional information on drafts based on outcome of the meeting for WLAB and for OWBs referred to during the meeting	25 March	SIWG	
Secretariat to prepare revised draft TGs on the ESM of WLAB, and OWBs in consultation with co-lead countries, for submission to OEWG14	10 April 2024	Secretariat/Experts	
<b>OEWG-14 meeting (in Geneva)</b>	<b>25-28 June 2024</b>	Secretariat	
Public consultation (All Parties and observers) to receive comments on the version discussed at the OEWG14	31 August 2024	Parties/others	
Online consultation	12 September 2024	Secretariat/co-chairs	
Secretariat to prepare a version of the revised TGs including comments received after the OEWG14, (2 documents)	16 October 2024	Secretariat	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Face-to-face meeting of the SIWG after COP-15</b>	<b>18-22 November 2024</b>	<b>Secretariat</b>	A second face-to-face meeting may be

Activity	Deadline	Responsible person/organization	Status/Note
			organized by the Secretariat in preparation of COP17 (Geneva, Switzerland)
SIWG to provide additional information as mentioned during the face-to-face meeting WLAB TGs (only)	Before 29 November	SIWG	This step is to be confirmed at the face-to-face meeting
Secretariat in consultation with the co-chairs to prepare the draft WLAB TGs to be submitted to COP17 for translation in UN languages	29 November	Secretariat/co-chairs	
SIWG to provide comments or additional information on the draft version the other waste batteries TGs	15 December 2024	SIWG	
Secretariat to circulate a new version of TGs OWB	15 January 2025	Secretariat/co-chairs	
SIWG to provide comments or additional information on the draft version the other waste batteries TGs	30 January 2025	SIWG	
Secretariat to prepare the draft TGs on other waste batteries in consultation with co-lead countries, for submission to COP17 in English only	23 February 2025	Secretariat	
Public consultation (All Parties and observers) to receive comments on the documents (two documents WLAB and OWB TGs)	30 March 2025	Parties/others	To be confirmed depending on publication dates of the two TGs on the COP17 web page
<b>BC COP-17</b>	<b>28 April 9 May 2025 (in Geneva)</b>	Secretariat/others	