
COMMUNICATION

FIRST MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP TO COMPLETE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FRAMEWORK FOR THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND OTHER WASTES

At its tenth meeting, held from 17 to 21 October 2011 in Cartagena, Colombia, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted decision BC-10/3 on the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention.

Section B of this decision notes that a more systematic and comprehensive effort is needed to improve guidance on environmentally sound management of wastes and suggests actions to complete the development of a framework for the environmentally sound management of wastes and other wastes, including consideration of ways in which the framework and its elements might be linked to the issue of transboundary movement of hazardous and other wastes.

The decision further mandates a technical expert group, consisting of members nominated by parties based on equitable geographical representation of the five regional groups of the United Nations, to undertake the work to develop the abovementioned framework. The group, which is also open to observers, may call on additional experts as needed. Accordingly, each regional group was requested to nominate through its Bureau representative six members with specific knowledge and expertise in the field.

First meeting of the technical expert group

The Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan, has kindly offered to host the first meeting of the technical expert group in Tokyo, Japan, from 17 to 19 April, 2012. The meeting will be held at the Four Seasons Hotel Tokyo at Chinzan-so (10-8, Sekiguchi 2-chome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-8680, Japan).

Attached to this communication is a provisional agenda for the meeting as prepared by the Secretariat.

The Government of Japan is also planning a field excursion for Friday following the conclusion of the meeting. Further information on this will be available shortly.

Should you wish to register for this meeting as an observer, please email the attached registration form to Ms. Bella Lawson (bella.lawson@unep.org) with a copy to Ms. Susan Wingfield (susan.wingfield@unep.org) by **16 March 2012**. Any questions and submissions to the meeting should be directed to Ms. Wingfield.

Logistics, accommodation and visas

An information note on logistics concerning visiting Tokyo, airport transfers and accommodation details will be sent to confirmed participants and placed on the Basel Convention website shortly. All meeting participants shall be responsible for their own accommodation costs and any additional expenses.

For assistance in applying for visas to enter Japan, including invitation letters from the Government of Japan, please contact:

Mr. Junya Kikuhara
Consultant for Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Email: kikuhara@exri.co.jp, envpolicygr5@exri.co.jp

Please note that all participants are responsible for arranging their own visas.

Submissions and presentations

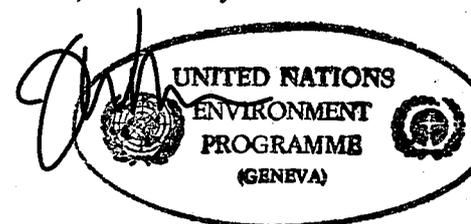
Attention is drawn to the communication issued by the Secretariat on 31 January 2012 requesting the following information from parties and other stakeholders:

- Information on existing activities undertaken by Parties and others to ensure environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes, including the development of technical guidelines, national legislation, reference documentation and other guidance;
- Views on key elements of a framework for the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes, taking into consideration the annex to decision BC-10/3;
- Aspects the technical expert group should consider in developing the framework;
- Views on how the future framework might be applied.

Once received, the Secretariat shall compile this information and submit it for consideration by the first meeting of the technical expert group.

Members and observers to the group are also invited to submit to the meeting any further information it is thought would provide useful input to the process to complete the development of an ESM framework. We ask that submissions to the meeting be sent to the Secretariat by **3 April 2012**. Such submissions will be made available on the Basel Convention website.

Secretariat of the Basel Convention
Geneva, 24 February 2012





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English only

**Technical Expert Group to develop a framework
for the environmentally sound management of wastes**

First meeting

Tokyo, Japan, 17-19 April 2012

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of officers;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Organization of work.
 3. Development of a framework for the environmental sound management of hazardous and other wastes.
 4. Venue and date of the second meeting of the Technical Expert Group.
 5. Other matters.
 6. Closure of the meeting.
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First meeting of the Technical Expert Group on ESM
17-19 April 2012
Tokyo, Japan

Please fill in and return this form to
Ms Bella Lawson
Basel Secretariat: 11-13 Chemin des
Anémones, CH-1219 Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: +41 22 797 34 54
E-mail: bella.lawson@unep.org
Please cc: nlaurijssen@pops.int

REGISTRATION FORM for OBSERVERS

Please complete in *PRINTED CAPITAL LETTERS* without abbreviations.

Please return this form by: **16 March 2012**

COUNTRY:

GOVERNMENT

IGO

NGO

OTHER (please specify)

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION: _____

Participant's data:

Mr.

Ms.

FIRST NAME:

FAMILY NAME:

FUNCTIONAL TITLE: _____

SECTION/DEPARTMENT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POST CODE:

CITY:

COUNTRY:

TELEPHONE (country and city code)

FAX (country and city code)

EMAIL

TELEPHONE 2 (country and city code)

FAX 2 (country and city code)

EMAIL 2

PASSPORT NO.

PLACE, DATE OF ISSUE

EXPIRY DATE

NATIONALITY

PLACE AND DATE OF BIRTH (dd/mm/yy)

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE _____

Important note:

It is essential that we receive your registration form by the deadline indicated.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

PLEASE FILL THE FORM IN CAPITAL LETTERS