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To: [Susan Wingfield](#)
Cc: [Croteau, Julie \(EC\)](#); [Morse, Molly \(EC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Basel. EPR manual.Comments by Canada
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Importance: High



Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Dear Mrs. Wingfield,

Canada is pleased to submit its views on the draft practical manual on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). We have extensive experience in the implementation of EPR across the country and for a wide array of product categories. We hope that our input will be valuable.

As best practice, we also suggest that any document circulated to Parties and others for their review be provided in a Word format rather than PDF to facilitate the submission of views and specific comments directly in the draft.

Canada's views are as follow:

1. We acknowledge the importance for the Basel Convention to have its own EPR guidance manual despite extensive guidance already provided by other international organizations such as Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Basel guidance on this important subject should put more emphasis on the Environmentally Sound Management and the importance of having environmental performance standards as part of any EPR framework. As it stands now, this message is lacking in the document and could be included on p. 9 under the section called "responsibilities of government/national authorities".
2. We note that many paragraphs have been directly lifted from the OECD EPR guidance document (2016) without proper reference. Appropriate credit to the original publications is a necessary professional practice in developing documents that will then be issued by the Convention.
3. On page 2 (paragraph 2) we suggest to add that producers are held "physically or financially responsible for the"
4. The section on the informal sector (p. 9-10) should be revised. It is one thing to recognize that the informal sector exists and has a role to play but the Basel Convention should advocate for better environmental and occupational health standards for informal recyclers, especially for downstream activities such as dismantling and recycling. The document mentions "sound practices of partnership" (p. 10, paragraph 3) but we consider that this does not refer to protecting human health and the environment.
5. We suggest to add information to address the issue of "leakage" such as products and materials bypassing EPR programs via illegal exports. The issue of "orphan products" should also be addressed such as products that are on the market or that used to be on the market and for which a producer no longer exists or can't be identified.
6. On page 11 (fees), we suggest the addition of information to reflect that as a best practice, costs for end-of-life management should be internalized as a factor of production i.e., treated similarly to manufacturing, distribution, marketing and sales, etc. However, as an awareness tool, a consumer may be advised at the point of sale that the price for their product includes the cost of end-of-life management.

We hope these comments will be useful.

Best regards

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