

COMMUNICATION

COUNTERING WEEE ILLEGAL TRADE (CWIT) PROJECT

The Secretariat draws the attention of relevant Parties and Signatories to the Countering WEEE Illegal Trade (CWIT) project, a two year project funded under the European Commission's Seventh Framework Program (FP7/2007-2013).

The CWIT Project brings together an expert team with extensive knowledge and technical capabilities in the fields of WEEE, crime analysis and the management of databases of regulatory information, namely: Compliance & Risks, Cross-Border Research Association, INTERPOL, UNICRI, UNU, Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment Forum AISBL and Zanasi & Partners. The Secretariat of the Basel Convention is represented on the High-Level Advisory Board of the CWIT project.

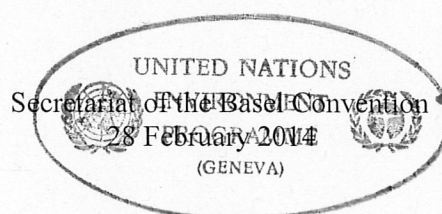
The CWIT project will:

- Identify existing policy, regulatory, procedural, enforcement and technical gaps that are exploited in order to illegally transport and dispose of e-waste.
- Analyse the size and nature of e-waste shipments together with government and policy actors, law enforcement agencies, and the electronics and e-waste industries.
- Create a set of recommendations for the European Commission and law enforcement agencies to assist them in countering the illegal trade of e-waste.

The CWIT Project has established a platform for information exchange among the various actors involved in countering illegal trade of e-waste. You can register as a stakeholder by clicking on <http://www.cwitproject.eu/participate/stakeholders/>). The CWIT team has also developed a legal and policy questionnaire to be completed by international e-Waste stakeholders and experts. Its purpose is to collect information on the legal framework that affects e-Waste. The questionnaire can be filled out online at <http://www.cwitproject.eu/participate/legal-policy-questionnaire/>. An EU specific questionnaire will be prepared and circulated in the coming weeks.

The following Parties and Signatories to the Basel Convention are encouraged to consider participating in the CWIT project: the 27 Members of the European Union, Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ghana, India, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, and the United States of America.

The CWIT team would be grateful for your assistance in disseminating as appropriate and completing the above mentioned legal and policy questionnaire. The CWIT team has informed the Secretariat that information provided will not be shared, and will be aggregated and anonymous. If you would like to follow up this questionnaire with an interview in confidence (please email info@cwitproject.eu).



To: Focal Points and Competent Authorities of Parties and Signatories to the Basel Convention invited to participate in the CWIT project
Cc: Permanent Missions to the United Nations, Geneva

SECRETARIAT OF THE BASEL CONVENTION
ON THE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND THEIR DISPOSAL
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