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**Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

Tenth meeting

Nairobi, 30 May–2 June 2016

Item 3 (b) (ii) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters related to the work programme of the
Open-ended Working Group for 2016–2017:
scientific and technical matters: national reporting**

**Report including a proposal for a list of hazardous waste
streams for which practical guidance on inventory could be
developed**

Note by the Secretariat

As referred to in the note by the Secretariat on national reporting (UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/6), the annex to the present note contains a report including a proposal for a list of hazardous waste streams for which more detailed practical guidance on developing inventories could be developed. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

* UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/1.

Annex

Report including a proposal for a list of hazardous waste streams for which practical guidance on inventory could be developed

1. Following the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties the Secretariat revisited multiple sources of information related to the development of inventories of hazardous wastes, including current guidance and guidelines on the development of inventories developed under the Convention. The Secretariat also revisited materials developed under the Convention of relevance to this matter, including the inventory and categorization of existing Basel Convention documents related to environmentally sound management prepared by the expert working group on environmentally sound management which is set out in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.10/INF/6. In addition, the Secretariat undertook a preliminary assessment of publicly available relevant materials developed by other entities: Basel Convention Regional Centres, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Chemicals and Waste Branch, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations University (UNU), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), European Commission, European Environment Agency (EEA), and International Solid Waste Association (ISWA).
2. Regarding the documents developed under the Convention, the “Methodological Guide for the Development of Inventories of Hazardous Wastes and other Wastes under the Basel Convention” is focused specifically on the area of inventories of hazardous wastes and other wastes. The guide provides comprehensive overall guidance on the matter as well as with respect to a selection of waste streams, namely, waste electrical and electronic equipment, waste mineral oil and oily wastes, household waste and residues from their incineration, and health care waste. The information on the specific waste streams would however benefit from being complemented by more detailed guidance. Additionally, the various technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of different waste streams adopted by the Conference of the Parties each contain a small section on inventories of those specific waste streams. Here again the guidance available in the technical guidelines may not be considered as providing the level of detailed and practical information necessary for parties to develop an inventory.
3. Regarding the documents developed by other entities, and currently available to the general public, some provide information on how a country should carry out inventories of some hazardous waste streams (e.g. pesticides¹, e-waste^{2,3,4}, mercury waste⁵). However, the great majority of documents available contain only limited practical guidance focused on inventories in a format that is easy to understand and use. It may be worthwhile to assess whether the guidance is in line with the Basel Convention and guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
4. The conclusion of this exercise is that there would be value for the parties to the Convention to develop practical and simplified guidance, based on the available guidelines and guidance documents developed under the Convention and taking into account, as appropriate, materials developed by different entities.
5. The new practical and simplified guidance on the development of inventories of specific hazardous waste streams would be expected in particular to contribute positively to the submission by parties of more complete national reports due under Article 13.3 of the Convention.

¹ The Preparation of Inventories of Pesticides and Contaminated Materials. FAO Pesticide Disposal Series, volume 1, planning. Food and Agricultural Organization. Rome, 2010.

² E-waste. Volume 1 – Inventory assessment manual. Compiled by UNEP – International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC), 2007.

³ C.P. Balde, R. Kuehr, K. Blumenthal, S. Fondeur Gill, M. Kern, P. Micheli, E. Magpantay, J. Huisman (2015), “E-waste statistics: Guidelines on classifications, reporting and indicators”. United Nations University, IAS - SCYCLE, Bonn, Germany. 2015.

⁴ Step e-waste world map. Step Initiative, United Nations University. Available from: <http://www.step-initiative.org/step-e-waste-world-map.html>

⁵ Practical sourcebook on mercury waste storage and disposal. UNEP Chemicals and Waste Branch and the International Solid Waste Association, 2015.

6. The following waste streams and wastes having specific constituents are proposed for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its tenth meeting:

- (a) Asbestos-containing wastes;
 - (b) Waste end-of-life vehicles;
 - (i) Waste used lead-acid batteries (ULAB);
 - (ii) Waste lubricant oils;
 - (iii) Spent fuels;
 - (iv) Waste tyres;
 - (c) Electrical and electronic waste;
 - (d) Medical or healthcare waste;
 - (e) Household waste and residues of incineration of household waste;
 - (f) Waste paints, inks, dyes;
 - (g) POPs waste;
 - (h) Waste oils;
 - (i) Mercury waste.
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