

Decision II/14

Transboundary movements of hazardous wastes
destined for recovery operations

The Conference,

Recalling decision I/16 of the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention requesting its Technical Working Group to review the issue and consider the views submitted by States and interested organizations and to present its recommendations to the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties,

Noting paragraph 20.33 (c) of UNCED Agenda 21, chapter 20, which calls upon countries "to promote the development of control procedures for the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes destined for recovery operations under the Basel Convention that encourage environmentally and economically sound recyclable options",

Also recalling decision I/7 of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee recommending to the Conference to extend the mandate of the Technical Working Group to further develop the draft paper on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes destined for recovery operations, and invite interested Parties and non-Parties, and as the case may be non-governmental organizations and/or the private sector, in association with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, to prepare two or three case-studies related to recovery operations involving two countries in full respect of the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes destined to such recovery operations,

Having considered the draft paper on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes destined for recovery operations annexed to the note of the Secretariat (UNEP/CHW.2/12),

1. Welcomes the draft paper on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes destined for recovery operations;

2. Decides to extend the mandate of the Technical Working Group to further develop the draft paper on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes destined for recovery operations, taking into account the comments formulated by States and interested organizations and to present a revised version of this document to the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties for adoption in consultation with the Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee;

3. Requests Parties together with non-Parties, and as the case may be non-governmental organizations, including the private sector, in association with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, to prepare two or three case-studies along the lines developed in the terms of reference annexed to the present decision, related to recovery operations involving two countries in full respect of the environmentally sound management of the hazardous wastes destined to such recovery operations;

4. Further requests the Technical Working Group to develop guidelines to assist States on the question of hazardous wastes under the Basel Convention, including hazardous wastes destined for recovery operations and in cooperation with the Open-ended Ad Hoc Committee to present such guidelines to the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties for consideration.

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Annex

Proposed terms of reference for the case-studies on the
environmentally sound management of hazardous
wastes destined for recovery operations

1. Identify the hazardous waste streams that are subject to recovery operations and the national/domestic infrastructure including legal and administrative arrangements that sustain such operations.
2. Describe the existing trade in wastes identified and the structure and characteristics of the industries involved.
3. Identify the technological options for the management of such wastes including their economic and technical aspects.
4. Carry out a practical assessment of the facilities which recover the hazardous wastes, how the residues arising from the process are being disposed of and their impact on health and the environment.
5. Compare environmental and economic aspects of the recovery of secondary raw material from hazardous wastes and their production from virgin materials taking into account the disposal of any residues generated through the process.