

**VI/31. Sustainable partnership for the environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile telephone**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision V/13 on cooperation with environmental non-governmental organizations and with the industry and business sectors and its decision V/33 on environmentally sound management,

Having regard to the Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management,

Having considered decision its VI/32 on partnership with environmental non-governmental organizations and with the industry and business sectors

Taking note with appreciation of the initiative taken by the Swiss presidency of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to establish a sustainable partnership on the environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile 'phones,

Taking note also of the mobile 'phones destined for disposal at the end of their life,

Welcoming the announcement by manufacturers of mobile 'phones contained in the appendix to the present decision, expressing their wish and willingness to enter into a partnership with the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal for the environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile 'phones,

Acknowledging that such a partnership will require the necessary support, expertise and, where appropriate, leadership of other stakeholders (such as network providers),

1. Requests the Parties to consider the environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile 'phones as a very important activity;

2. Decides to establish a small group of experts from Parties and/or Signatories interested in the initiative on a sustainable partnership on the environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile 'phones together with representatives of the mobile 'phone manufacturers and a representative of the secretariat. As appropriate, other stakeholders<sup>1</sup> will be invited by the group to participate actively in its work;

3. Further decides that the group will work under the guidance of the Open-Ended Working Group;

4. Requests the Parties to nominate candidates for the group no later than 31 January 2003 and announce these to the secretariat;

5. Mandates the group to:

(a) Elaborate draft terms of reference for the group, including its working structure (such as for subgroups);

(b) Develop, in cooperation with the secretariat, a draft concrete work programme setting priorities and identifying specific programmes for the environmentally

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<sup>1</sup> Such as other United Nations bodies and agencies, network providers, operators and recyclers.

sound management of end-of-life mobile 'phones, taking into account the fields of common interest for cooperative work identified in the announcement by the mobile 'phone manufacturers;

- (c) Work intersessionally;
- (d) Set priorities based on the work programme;
- (e) Work in a transparent way by making information or reports of meetings available to Parties, Signatories, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders;
- (f) Elect a contact person for the group and ensure that intersessional input or comments from Parties, Signatories, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders will also be brought to the attention of the group;

6. Mandates the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting to:

- (a) Adopt the terms of reference of the group;
- (b) Adopt the work programme;

7. Mandates the secretariat to:

- (a) Coordinate the establishment of the group and organize a first meeting;
- (b) When the terms of reference and the work programme have been adopted in cooperation with the group, to initiate the first projects for the environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile 'phones within funds available and, where appropriate, involving the Basel Convention Regional Centres. Such a project or projects could, if so decided by the Conference, be a project/projects identified in the activities of the strategic plan;
- (c) To report regularly to the Open-ended Working Group and finally to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made.

### **Appendix**

## **SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP<sup>2</sup> ON THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF END-OF-LIFE MOBILE PHONES**

On the occasion of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention and having regard to the Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management,

We, the manufacturers of mobile phones,

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<sup>2</sup> Partnership is to be understood in the context of the Basel Declaration. It is a cooperation between different stakeholders (private and public) to work together towards a common goal; it has no legal implication.

Recognizing that we have a role to play, in partnership with the secretariat of the Basel Convention, in identifying good management practices and providing guidance related to the sound management of end-of-life mobile phones;

Subject to the necessary support, expertise and, where appropriate, leadership of other stakeholders (in particular network providers), which are critical to the success of any programme that addresses end-of-life product recovery; and

Having regard to the guidelines on cooperation between the United Nations and the business Community, which encourage business partners to advance and adhere to the principles of the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Compact;

Declare our intention to:

Contribute towards meeting the goals and objectives of the Basel Convention and the Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management;

Promote the sound management of end-of-life mobile phones with the aim of protecting human health and the environment;

Take all reasonable steps for ensuring responsible design and manufacturing and contribute towards products' stewardship;

Enter into a sustainable partnership with the Basel Convention in cooperation with other stakeholders<sup>3</sup> to develop and promote the environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile phones;

Participate in working group(s) including the aforementioned stakeholders as appropriate, whose purpose is to define responsibilities, elaborate a work programme and to consider the following:

- Initiatives (regulatory, voluntary, economic) for reused phones that re-enter the market to ensure high quality and standards that satisfy the product requirements of manufacturers, network providers and operators alike;
- Rules that govern transboundary movements of mobile phones to be reused;
- Advise on any programmes, legislation and/or regulations for an effective collection of end-of-life mobile phones;
- Rules that apply to transboundary movement of end-of-life mobile phones to be sent for refurbishing, recycling and recovery;
- Guidance on environmentally sound practices for recycling and recovery;
- Elaboration of the role of the Basel Convention Regional Centres to assist countries in developing legislation, establishing potential recycling companies, raising awareness, disseminating information and capacity-building;

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<sup>3</sup> Such as other United Nations bodies and agencies, network providers, operators and recyclers.

To this end we will play an active role in developing a work programme with other stakeholders and join in the effort to take appropriate actions to achieve environmentally sound management of end-of-life mobile phones.

Geneva, 12 December 2002  
(Signed)

**Yong-Hwa Lee**  
**for LG**

**Peter Hine**  
**for Matsushita (Panasonic)**

**Kazuyuki Katori**  
**for Mitsubishi**

**Y.C. Heng**  
**for Motorola**

**Tsuneo Idei**  
**for NEC**

**Tapio Takalo**  
**for Nokia**

**Ron Dikhoff**  
**for Philips**

**Sang-Bai Lee**  
**for Samsung**

**Hans-Peter Grässle**  
**for Siemens**

**Per Hendar**  
**for Sony Ericsson**

Witnessed by:

**Klaus Töpfer**  
**Under-Secretary-General**  
**Executive Director**  
**UNEP**

**Philippe Roch**  
**President COP-5**  
**State Secretary**  
**Switzerland**

**Sachiko Kuwabara-Yamamoto**  
**Executive Secretary**  
**Secretariat of the**  
**Basel Convention**