

16 Sep 2025

Ref: PCD1/BASEL/25-09
WRD/BASEL/25-09

To: All General Waste Disposal Facilities,
General Waste Collectors, Plastic Waste Recyclers,
Traders and Declaring Agents,
Members of WMRAS and SCIC

Dear Sir/Madam

MALAYSIA'S REVISED GUIDELINES FOR IMPORTATION AND INSPECTION OF PLASTIC WASTES

The Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI), Malaysia, has revised their requirement for the importation of plastic waste/recyclables, effective on 1 Jul 2025 with an interim period from 1 Jul 2025 to 30 Sep 2025.

2 Under the revised requirement, Malaysian importers are required to obtain a Certificate of Approval (COA) from the Standard and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (SIRIM) for each shipment of plastic waste under **tariff code 3915** to be imported into Malaysia. To apply for the COA, Malaysian importers must submit relevant supporting documents such as a valid Manufacturing License (ML) from MITI or Confirmation Letter for Company Exempted (ICA 10) from Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), pre-shipment inspection reports, Bank Guarantee, Management of Imported Scrap and Waste (MISW) licence, and Tariff Code Classification Letter from Royal Malaysian Customs Department. Each COA is valid for 60 days and can only be applied for after the shipment leaves the country of export. For detailed requirements, please refer to this link: https://www.sirim-qas.com.my/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/guidelines-for-importation-and-inspection-of-plastic-waste_edition-1-rev-1.pdf.

3 Additionally, the plastic waste to be imported must adhere to the acceptance criteria such as **99.5% minimum purity (for target material)** for homogeneous single polymer types, free from prohibited contaminants such as oil, hazardous waste, and e-waste, with maximum 2% allowable contaminants such as stone, dirt, paper, glass, wood, or metal. The plastic waste must be recyclable, not obtained from landfill, and properly packed in recyclable containers or baled with recyclable wrapper. Pre-shipment inspection of the plastic waste is mandatory through either Type 1 (by SIRIM or SIRIM-approved Foreign Inspection Body) requiring 5 working days advance notice, or Type 2 (by SIRIM-approved Materials Recovery Facility) requiring 3 days advance notice. For more information on the revised plastic waste import requirements from MITI, please refer to the media statement at [https://www.miti.gov.my/miti/resources/Media%20Release/\[FINAL\] MITI Press Release SIRIM as Issuer of Import Licence for Plastic Waste Effective 1 July 2025 2025-07-02.pdf](https://www.miti.gov.my/miti/resources/Media%20Release/[FINAL] MITI Press Release SIRIM as Issuer of Import Licence for Plastic Waste Effective 1 July 2025 2025-07-02.pdf).

4 Local exporters should work with their Malaysian importers to ensure compliance with the revised requirements.

5 Notwithstanding the above, please note that **plastic waste classified under Y46 or Y48 of the Basel Convention is still subject to transboundary movement control (i.e. required to adhere to the Prior Informed Consent procedure) and a Basel Permit must be obtained from NEA before export to Malaysia. In addition, there shall be no export of hazardous plastic waste to Malaysia.**

6 We seek your cooperation in ensuring compliance with these new requirements to facilitate the continued transboundary movement of plastic waste/recyclables to Malaysia. If you have any further queries, please contact the following NEA officers:

(a) Foo Kai Lin (FOO_Kai_Lin@nea.gov.sg) and Nicholas Tan (Nicholas_TAN@nea.gov.sg) for matters relating to GWDF licences; and

(b) nea_basel@nea.gov.sg for matters relating to Basel Permits.

Yours faithfully



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