

WASTES TO RESOURCES A GLOBAL CHALLENGE

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Basel Convention at a Glance

The two pillars of the Convention

Basel Convention

Regulation of TBM
of hazardous and
other wastes: “PIC
Procedure”

Environmentally
Sound Management
(ESM) of hazardous
and other wastes

AND

**Control
and
Enforcement
mechanisms
(to deliver)**



Environmentally Sound Management

- the treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes as close as possible to their **source of generation**,
- the **reduction** of transboundary **movements** of hazardous wastes and other wastes to a minimum consistent with their environmentally sound management and
- the **minimization** of the **generation** of hazardous wastes.

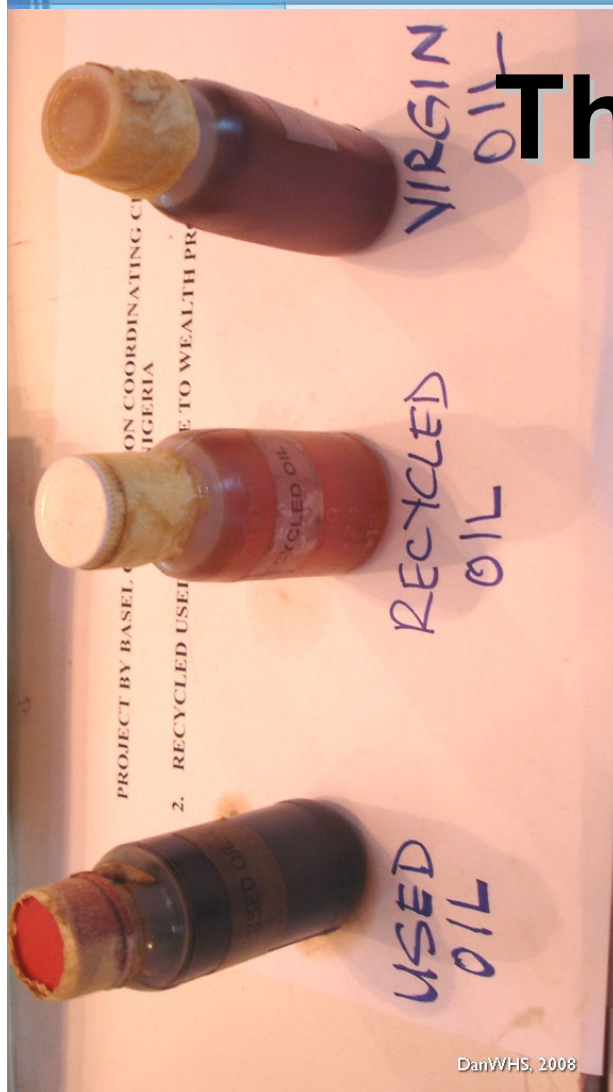
The Need for Change (1)



- Waste is not merely a local or national issue but a global issue
- To meet the short, medium and long term need for resources, new ways should be explored through innovative means
- Financing for waste management is low on the national and global agendas

The Need for Change (2)

- Need for uncoupling of waste generation and economic development
- Need to focus on resource management rather than waste management
- Need to reposition waste as economic opportunities, providing green jobs and contributing to MDG goals (waste-resource linkage)



World Conference on Waste Management
for Human Health and Livelihood

**YOUR WASTE,
OUR HEALTH!**



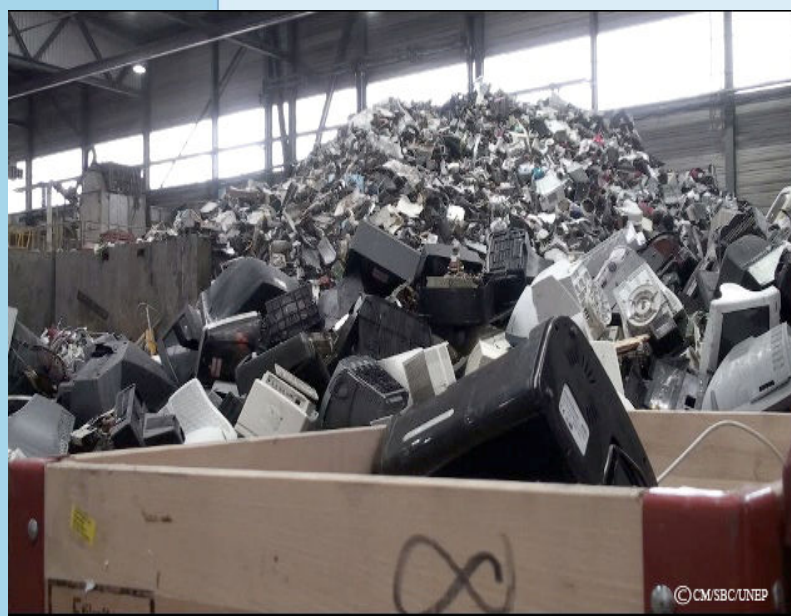
Achievements of the Basel Convention to Date (1)

- COP6: Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative
- COP7 theme: Meeting the Global Waste Challenge
- COP8: Nairobi Declaration on ESM of E-Waste
- COP9: Bali Declaration on Waste Management for Human Health and Livelihood

Achievements of the Basel Convention to Date (2)

1. Development and improvement of tools and technical guidelines; promotion of better application of existing measures and instruments within the Convention
2. Partnerships and synergies
 - Chemical & Waste MEAs
 - MPPI and PACE
3. Capacity building e.g. through BCRCs

Paradigm Shift



- Waste management to resource management
- Waste = useless and costly → Resources = value and utility
- New technologies and business opportunities which enhance resource efficiency

The Role of the Basel Convention

- Basel needs to evolve in light of this paradigm shift:
 - Address resource management
 - Promote a life-cycle approach which incorporates all aspects of sustainability
- COP 10 theme:
“Prevention and re-use of wastes”





COP10 Theme (elaboration)

- More concrete approach to securing interest and support for waste management is a fundamental change in the perception of wastes, including hazardous wastes
- Recycling or resource recovery of economically valuable resources is possible for most types of wastes, given the proper enabling environment and the existence of a market.
- If carried out with the ESM principles enshrined in the BC, this approach can create green jobs and business opportunities, protect human health and the environment, and also reduce greenhouse gas emissions in various sectors of the economy
- COP 10 should not only rise to the challenge of achieving the necessary paradigm shift, but, also kick-start a process leading to concrete measures to make the Green Economy a reality
- Fully in line with the aspirations of the New Strategic Framework 2012-2021 and the Country Led initiative (CLI)

Possible Solutions (1)

Basel Convention as an “enabler”

- Extend provisions of Convention to integrate secondary resource management
 - Differentiate end-of-life goods from secondary raw materials
- Provide Basel Convention with tools to address prevention and minimization of hazardous waste generation, the promotion of intelligent product design and a life-cycle approach to materials
- Support realization of economic benefits from valuable secondary raw materials in line with ESM (→ Green Economy)

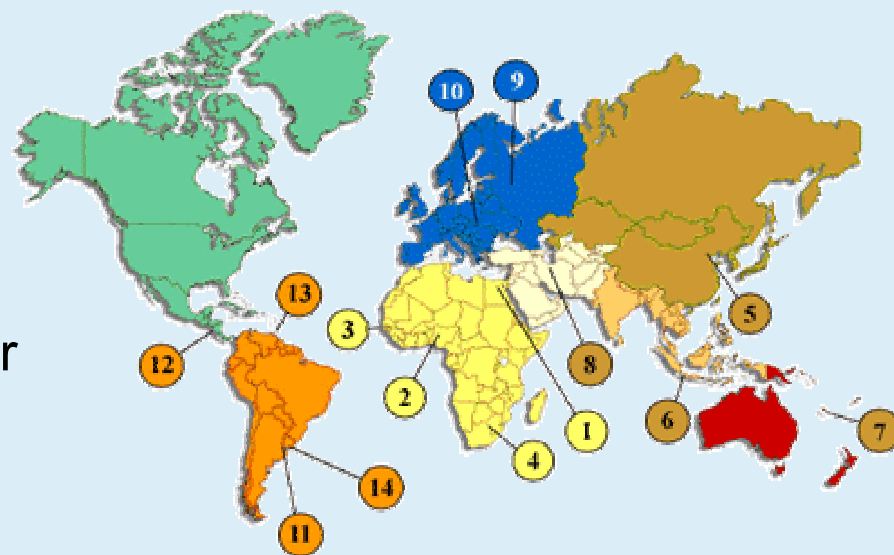
Possible solutions (2)

- **Ensure Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) in move towards zero waste: establish standards on ESM**
 - Develop certification scheme to an ESM standard
 - Relating to facilities, waste/resource streams, waste management systems, processing techniques
 - Universal application: provide a level playing field
 - Use existing Basel mechanisms for review, monitoring and evaluation



Possible solutions (3)

- **Support developing country parties through capacity building**
 - Regional Centres to assist in specifying and quantifying clearly the needs for capacity building for different Parties
 - Securing resources through political engagement with other processes
 - Securing funds e.g. through fees for certification, financial instruments
 - Technology transfer



Conclusions



- Hazardous wastes cannot be meaningfully addressed in isolation from the entire economic, social, health and other waste issues;
- Need to strengthen measures applying to the entire life cycle, moving mindset from “waste” to “resources”;
- Reposition waste as economic opportunities, provide green jobs and contribute to Green Economy and MDGs (waste-resource linkage)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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