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**Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

Eleventh meeting

Geneva, 28 April–10 May 2013

Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

Other matters

Further development of the Basel Waste Solutions Circle

Note by the Secretariat

1. In its decision BC-10/26 on further development of the Basel Waste Solutions Circle, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal took note of the draft outline of the Basel Waste Solutions Circle concept, including the process and criteria for admissions and awards in relation to the Circle (see UNEP/CHW.10/INF/49). In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Bureau, together with one representative of the business and industry sector and one representative of the civil society sector, to serve as the Circle's admissions and awards committee, and invited the business and industry sector and the civil society sector to nominate one representative each to serve on the committee. Finally, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to report on the implementation of the aforementioned decision to the Open-ended Working Group at its eighth meeting.
2. The Basel Waste Solutions Circle is a global initiative to promote the protection of human health and livelihood through the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes worldwide, as called for in the Bali Declaration on Waste Management for Human Health and Livelihood adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention at its ninth meeting, held in Bali, Indonesia, in 2008.
3. The Basel Waste Solutions Circle is composed of members who demonstrably contribute in a concrete manner to the implementation of the Basel Convention, including the thematic declarations adopted by the Conference of the Parties. The Circle provides a platform for showcasing successful activities and thereby gaining recognition or support for these, which could in turn lead to replication in other parts of the world or to the establishment of partnerships with other members.
4. Membership to the Circle is open to various actors, including Governments, intergovernmental organizations, public interest and civil society groups at all levels, professional organizations, industrial organizations, academic institutions, private enterprises, communities and individuals that implement an activity recognized under the Circle. At each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, those admitted to the Circle are recognized and awards are presented for the best activity or activities in each award category.

* UNEP/CHW.11/1.

5. The following categories of concrete efforts will be recognized when considering membership to the Circle:

- (a) Successful projects and initiatives that demonstrate a direct impact on human health and/or the environment on the ground, through the environmentally sound management of wastes;
- (b) Successful projects and initiatives that demonstrate a concrete change of behaviour of target groups in relation to the environmentally sound management of wastes;
- (c) Financial support or successful mobilization of resources for activities that achieve the environmentally sound management of wastes.

Actors that demonstrate to the committee that their activity is within one of the above-mentioned categories will be admitted as members of the Circle. The procedure for application will be determined by the admissions and awards committee.

6. Actors may apply directly for admission to the Circle or be nominated for admission by one or more parties to the Basel Convention by completing the Nomination to the Basel Waste Solutions Circle form, a draft of which was developed by the Secretariat and is set out in the annex to the present note.

7. In paragraph 3 of decision BC-10/26, the Conference of the Parties invited the business and industry sector and the civil society sector to nominate one representative each to serve on the Circle's admissions and awards committee. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention was to select one nominated representative from each sector to serve on the committee, along with the members of the Bureau.

8. On 28 June 2012, the Secretariat sent a letter to the business and industry sector and to organizations of the civil society sector that have international or regional scope, selected from among associations that had participated in either the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the Pan-African Forum on electrical and electronic waste (Nairobi, March 2012) or the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment, inviting nominations to serve on the Basel Waste Solutions Circle admissions and awards committee. By 31 October 2012, four nominations were received, three from the civil society sector and one from the business and industry sector. From the nominations received, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, at its meeting in November 2012, selected Mr. Frédéric Scanvic (nominated by the Sustainable Landfill Foundation) to serve as the representative from the business and industry sector and Mr. Hemsing Hurrinag (International Persistent Organic Pollutants Elimination Network/Pesticide Action Network) to serve as the representative from the civil society sector.

9. It is envisaged that the admissions and awards committee will meet electronically during the first part of 2013 to adopt its terms of reference and a modality for soliciting applications for membership in the Circle. It is anticipated that the nomination period for new members to the Circle will commence after the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. At the conclusion of the nomination period (the duration of which is to be determined by the committee), the committee shall once again meet electronically to induct new members into the Circle and to select the awardees in each award category. It is anticipated that the first awards under the Circle will be presented at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

10. Finally, the Secretariat is developing a web-based showcase database, using existing information technology platforms, to be linked to the Basel Convention website, in which all members and their activities will be showcased, summarizing project concepts, implementation information and contacts in a user-friendly way.

Annex

Draft nomination form for admission to the Basel Waste Solutions Circle

I. Nomination to the Basel Waste Solutions Circle

1. Name of organization or individual

2. Contact details (address/telephone number/e-mail address)

3. Title of activity

4. Category of activity (please indicate one of the following categories):

- Successful projects and initiatives that demonstrate a direct impact on human health and/or the environment on the ground, through the environmentally sound management of wastes;
- Successful projects and initiatives that demonstrate a concrete change of behaviour of target groups in relation to the environmentally sound management of wastes;
- Financial support or successful mobilization of resources for activities that achieve environmentally sound management of wastes.

5. **Please provide a short description** (maximum 1200 words) of the activity, in one of the official languages of the Basel Convention (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish), indicating how your project or initiative:

- (i) promotes themes of the Conference of the Parties,¹ and/or those that are undertaken in relation to a priority waste stream²;
- (ii) is inclusive of and demonstrates engagement with all relevant stakeholders;
- (iii) demonstrates significant measurable impacts contributing to the environment and the human health and livelihoods of present and future generations.

II. Submission of applications

Applications for admission to the Basel Waste Solutions Circle should be addressed to:

Michael S. Jones
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Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
United Nations Environment Programme

¹ Including the themes of the eighth (creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the environmentally sound management of electrical and electronic wastes), ninth (waste management for human health and livelihood) and tenth (prevention, minimization and recovery of wastes) meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

² Priority waste streams as listed in the Strategic Plan contained in document UNEP/CHW.6/3.

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