



PERMANENT TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE
- HYBRID MEETING -
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Brussels, 03 March 2022

COORDINATED BORDER MANAGEMENT

The Asia Pacific Plastic Waste Project: Implementation of the Basel Convention and update of the CBM Compendium

(Item XI on the Agenda)

("C" Item on the Agenda)

SUMMARY

Purpose of document

The aim this document is to present the updated Coordinated Border Management (CBM) Compendium that contains a new Section in Chapter 6 and an annex introducing the Basel Convention standards that highlight Customs' role in managing waste trade. The additions promote the principles of a collaborative mechanism between Customs and other Cross-border Regulatory Agencies to facilitate legal waste trade, such as plastic recyclables, and recommends various CBM models in controlling and tackling illegal plastic waste shipments.

Actions required of the Permanent Technical Committee:

The PTC is invited to:

- review and endorse, if appropriate, the updated CBM Compendium with the new section relating to Basel Convention implementation in the Customs context.

I. Background

1. In recognition of the urgent need for action to prevent and reduce the illegal shipping of plastic waste, [the Asia Pacific Plastic Waste \(APPW\) Project](#) was launched by the WCO on 1 April 2020, with the generous funding from the Government of Japan. Four Asia Pacific Members have been involved in the project activities: Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.
2. The key aim of the Project is to strengthen the response of Customs to effectively deal with the legal trade of plastic waste, to mitigate the threat of illegal plastic waste shipments, and to sensitize administrations on the [Basel Convention's plastic waste amendments](#) that came into effect on 1 January 2021.
3. The Project, in addition to the tools and instruments developed by the Basel Convention Secretariat available on the Basel Convention's website, also developed specific tools including the Training Framework for Customs Administrations on plastic waste, the updated CBM Compendium, a Self-Assessment Tool for plastic waste, and a Frontline Customs Guide on the Basel Convention. The latter is only available at the WCO Member's website as it contains restricted enforcement information.

II. Basel Convention updates to the CBM Compendium

4. CBM refers to a coordinated approach by border control agencies, both domestic and international, in the context of seeking greater efficiencies over managing trade and travel flows, while maintaining a balance with compliance requirements.
5. The CBM Compendium recommends the relevant instruments and tools of the WCO and other International Organizations that Customs administrations and Other Cross-Border Regulatory Agencies (CBRA) can utilise when coordinating with each other to control and facilitate trade at borders.
6. In the context of waste in general and plastic waste in particular, the competent Environmental Authorities play a key role in the regulatory process, as they are responsible for the notification, consent, conditions for import and/or export, and in case of illegal trafficking, the take back of waste. However, coordination between Customs and other CBRAs, especially the Environmental Authorities, is important to ensure effective trade facilitation for legal waste trade, as well as the control of illegal waste flows crossing borders.
7. Customs' role in controlling the legal waste trade covered by the Basel Convention is to verify if consent has been given by all involved Parties and if the shipment meets the requirements. Therefore, Customs needs to have knowledge of and access to the consent issued for waste imports or exports by the Environmental Authorities and the necessary documents that should accompany the shipment.
8. Chapter 6 of the WCO's CBM Compendium is dedicated to introducing the other organisations' instruments and tools. As a deliverable of the APPW Project, this

Chapter has been updated with the Basel Convention standards, especially the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedures, the recommended collaborative mechanism for the facilitation of legal waste trade including plastic recycle materials, as well as the CBM approach for controlling and tackling illegal waste shipments.

9. In addition, a new annex titled “**CBM in the context of plastic waste: experiences of the Asia Pacific Plastic Waste (APPW) Project**” has been added to the Compendium with various examples from the Project to illustrate how the CBM approach has been put into practice for the effective control and facilitation of plastic waste trade.

III. The PTC is invited to:

- review and endorse, if appropriate, the updated CBM Compendium with the new section relating to Basel Convention implementation in the Customs context.

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