Update of the Basel Convention Technical Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of Elemental Mercury and Wastes Containing or Contaminated with Mercury

Secretariat of the Basel Convention 10 December 2013



Outline of Presentation

- Background of development of the Technical Guidelines
- Contents of the Technical Guidelines
- Mandate and schedule for updating the Technical Guidelines
- Items to be updated after the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury





Background of the Technical Guidelines

- Goal of the Basel Convention
 - To protect human health and the environment from the adverse impacts of hazardous and other wastes from the generation, transboundary movements and management
- Start of the preparation of the Technical Guidelines
 - Decision VIII/33 of COP8 (Nov./Dec. 2006)
 - Agreed to develop guidelines on ESM of mercury waste with emphasis on sound disposal and remediation practices
 - Draft table of contents developed (Feb. 2007)
 - MOU signed with IGES, Japan to develop the Technical Guidelines (July 2007)



Background of the Technical Guidelines

- Discussions on the Technical Guidelines
 - Draft Technical Guidelines presented to the OEWG meetings (Sep. 2007 and May 2010) and COPs (Jun. 2008 and Oct. 2011)
 - Small Intersessional Working Group established
 - Comments invited by Parties and other stakeholders
- Adoption of the Technical Guidelines
 - 7th draft adopted with some changes at COP10 (Oct. 2011)



Contents of the Technical Guidelines (1/3)

Subchapter	Contents
General concept of ESM	Definitions by the Basel Convention and OECD, Life- cycle management of mercury
Legislative and regulatory framework	 Major items provided by laws and regulations 1. Registration of waste generators 2. Reduction and phase-out of mercury in products and industrial processes 3. Transboundary movement requirements 4. Authorization and inspection of disposal facilities
Identification and inventory	Identification (sources and types of mercury wastes) Necessity of preparing inventories
Sampling, analysis and monitoring	Methods of liquid, solid and gas sampling; analysis of mercury in waste, flue gas and wastewater; monitoring of effects of the management of hazardous waste

Contents of the Technical Guidelines (2/3)

Subchapter	Contents
Waste prevention and minimization	Principles of waste prevention and minimization in ASGM, VCM production, and chlor-alkali production and for mercury-added products
Handling, separation, collection, packaging, labelling, transportation and storage	Key points and technical/operational considerations by waste type (elemental mercury, mercury-added products, wastes contaminated with mercury) *Storage after collection before disposal
Environmentally sound disposal	Recovery operations, Operations not leading to recovery of elemental mercury
Reduction of mercury releases from thermal treatment and disposal of waste	Key points to reduce mercury emissions from thermal treatment facilities and mercury releases from landfills

Contents of the Technical Guidelines (3/3)

Subchapter	Contents
Remediation of contaminated sites	Methods to identify/remedy contaminated sites and emergency response
Health and safety	Employers' responsibilities to ensure health and safety of employees engaged in mercury waste management, basic knowledge required for employees
Emergency response	Items to be included in emergency response plans, special considerations for spillage of elemental mercury
Awareness and participation	Importance of awareness and participation in implementing ESM of mercury wastes, examples of programs for public awareness and participation

and schedule for updating the Guidelines

- the Technical Guidelines mandated by 3C11/5 at COP11 (May 2013) for updating
- 2013: nomination of lead country (← Ind experts to participate in the SIWG nber 2013: draft updated technical es for publication on the SBC website 1 2014: comments by Parties and relevant ders
- : discussion on revised draft updated
- l guidelines

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_14335

語ら

