

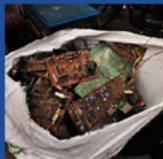


Enforcement Handbook on Controlling Illegal Shipments of Chemicals and Waste

– *For Asia Enforcement Officers*



Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste



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Due to the limit of relevant data and national regulations, information provided in this Handbook may not necessarily reflect the most up-to-date developments. We would appreciate any input from the readers, so that we can update the Handbook electronically or in near future.

Enforcement Handbook on Controlling Illegal Shipments of Chemicals and Waste

-For Asia Enforcement Officers

Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste - operated by a project of United Nations Environment Programme

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The Enforcement Handbook on Controlling the Illegal Shipments of Chemicals and Wastes – For Asia Enforcement Officers is a pocket enforcement tool designed for enforcement officers of the participating countries of the Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste (REN). It provides general information on the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and their trade provisions, selected national regulations on waste import and export in Asian countries, the identification and classification of wastes and chemicals and related Harmonized System codes. It aims at providing easy reference and practical guidance for enforcement officers during their daily inspection and operation related to chemicals and waste.*

** The Handbook does not include information on the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. For ODS trade related information, please refer to UNEP OzonAction website at: <http://www.unep.org/ozonaction/Topics/Customs/tabid/6402/Default.aspx>*

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Foreword

Illegal transboundary movements of chemicals and wastes are an increasing environmental concern globally. Nearly 180 million tonnes of hazardous and household wastes are generated worldwide annually, of which at least 9.3 million tonnes move across national borders each year.

The high costs of treating and disposing hazardous and other wastes, together with slack environmental regulations, weak enforcement and low environmental awareness, have resulted in many developing countries becoming destination of illegal shipments of hazardous wastes and harmful chemicals with serious health and environmental consequences. A global operation to monitor and control illegal transboundary movements of wastes, initiated by China Customs and organized by the World Customs Organization in 2013, resulted in the seizure of more than 7 000 tonnes of illegal wastes, including hazardous wastes, used vehicle parts and tyres, textiles and e-waste. In addition, China Customs seized almost one million tonnes of hazardous wastes during its Green Fence Operation in 2013. These figures are a small indicator of the scale of current illegal transboundary movements of chemicals and waste.

Enforcement officers including customs, police, environmental inspectors and prosecutors play a key role in preventing and controlling illegal trade in chemicals and waste, by ensuring effective enforcement of national environmental laws and compliance with national commitments to multilateral environmental agreements.

In response to a request from countries participating in the "Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste (REN)" project that it is implementing in 25 North, Southeast and South Asian nations with financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, UNEP has developed a handbook to help enforcement officers detect, inspect and identify chemicals and waste regulated by multilateral environmental agreements and national laws.

The Enforcement Handbook on Controlling Illegal Shipments of Chemicals and Wastes is a toolkit designed to assist enforcement officers in REN member countries as an easy-to-consult source of information on trade-control provisions in the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, , waste trade regulations in selected Asian countries and the identification and classification of wastes and chemicals and related Harmonized System codes.

We hope this handbook will provide easy reference and practical guidance to frontline enforcement officers in their daily inspection and operations, helping them fight environmental crime more effectively.



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Preface

Protecting human health and the environment from the dangers of hazardous chemicals and wastes is a growing area of responsibility for enforcement officers and Customs in particular. The Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions encourages REN's efforts towards supporting Customs to fully embrace this responsibility. This booklet, with its focus on information specific to the region, is a welcome initiative to raise awareness at the regional level on key information for effectively preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes.



Rolph Payet
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List of Abbreviations

BCRC	Basel Convention Regional Centre
COP	Conference of the Parties
EEE	Electrical and Electronic Equipment
IMPEL	European Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Laws
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PBBs	Polybrominated biphenyls
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls
PCTs	Polychlorinated terphenyls
REN	Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste
PIC	Prior Informed Consent
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

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