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EXPERT GROUP ON BEST AVAILABLE
TECHNIQUES AND BEST ENVIRONMENTAL
PRACTICES

Third session

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda¹

Development of guidelines on best available techniques and provisional guidance on best environmental practices relevant to the provisions of Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

**CONSIDERATION OF COMMENTS ON SECTION V.A.1. --
GUIDANCE BY SOURCE CATEGORY,
ANNEX C, PART II SOURCE CATEGORIES,
WASTE INCINERATORS,
MUNICIPAL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE, AND SEWAGE SLUDGE --
OF THE DRAFT GUIDELINES AND GUIDANCE²**

Note by the Secretariat

The development of Section V.A.1., “Guidance by source category: Annex C, Part II Source Categories; waste incinerators: municipal and hazardous waste, and sewage sludge” of the draft guidelines on best available techniques and provisional guidance on best environmental practices relevant to the provisions of Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants was coordinated by Mr. Robert Kellam (United States of America). The text of the Section is included in the full draft text of the guidelines and guidance, document UNEP/POPS/EGB.3/2. A note from Mr. Kellam to the Expert Group on the consideration of comments received in the development of the Section is contained in the annex to the present note.

¹ UNEP/POPS/EGB.3/1.

² This document has not been formally edited.

Annex

NOTE TO THE EXPERT GROUP

15 July 2004

Note to the Expert Group:

This revision incorporates the comments received from governments, designated experts, and NGO's during the external review (April-June, 2004). Comments on the earlier draft were received from the following:

- Governments: Brazil, China, Colombia, Italy, Japan, Peru, Philippines, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States
- Members of the Expert Group: Alamir Barkahoum (Algeria), Patrick Finlay (Canada), Heidi Fiedler (UNEP)
- Observers and other IGO/NGOs: Arnika, Cancer Action NY, GAIA, Greenpeace

General comments (relevant to this and other sections of the guidance):

- Harmonize documents particularly with respect to distinction between BAT and BEP (Italy)
- Clarify measurement techniques, harmonize units, abbreviations (Japan, UNEP)
- Consolidate and shorten technical discussion (Greenpeace)

Response: We agree that such harmonization will be necessary and suggest that the expert group discuss the particulars at the third meeting and make recommendations to the Secretariat for the final drafting.

Summary of major specific comments on the incineration categories:

- Verify the relationship between adopting BAT and meeting recommended standards (China)
- Provide more detail on unintentional POPs formation (China, Greenpeace)
- Note impacts of POPs BAT on controlling other pollutants (China)
- Consider waste-to-energy facilities (Trinidad and Tobago)
- Distinguish combustion temperatures for chlorinated vs. non-chlorinated wastes (Canada)
- Provide more focus on alternatives that avoid formation (Arnika)
- Mention/advocate eliminating PVC (Arnika, Cancer Action NY)
- Provide detailed description/measurement of releases, fly ash, bottom ash (Arnika, Greenpeace)
- Guard against illegal fuel use (Cancer Action NY)
- Move consideration of alternatives up in the organization and include in purpose (Greenpeace)

- Expand waste minimization (BEP) to include other incineration categories (Greenpeace)
- Consider differences between industrialized and developing country wastes (Greenpeace)

Response: We have attempted to clarify the relationship between the nature of the guidance (for Parties' consideration) and the examples of national standards that are appended. The section on formation has been expanded per the suggestion from Greenpeace and language has been added to highlight the impact of controls on other pollutants. Canada's suggestions on chlorinated/non-chlorinated waste temperatures have been incorporated. We have added language on the importance of ash analysis to detect unpermitted waste or illegal fuels. We have also further highlighted the consideration of developing/industrialized waste differences and the residue handling needs.

The purpose section has been revised to include consideration of alternatives but the current draft has not been reorganized to re-locate the section on alternatives, pending further discussion by the expert group on overall organization of the provisional guidance. Given the current state of research, the suggestion that the guidance "advocate" the elimination of PVC as a best practice or technique has not been incorporated.

Canada, Japan, and the United States offered example summaries of their national standards for these categories which we have included as Appendix B.

Bob Kellam