Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE) under the Basel Convention

Presentation:
PACE – DEVELOPING COUNTRY PERSPECTIVE

By
Prof. Oladele Osibanjo
Co-Chair of the PACE WG
BCCC-Nigeria
Problem of e-waste in developing countries

- Near tsunami generation of used and end of life EEE in developed countries; and export to developing and economy in transition countries (majority not useable)
- E-waste contains hazardous substances as well as precious materials
- Absence of infrastructure and facilities for ESM, hence use of crude mgmt methods
- Adverse Environmental and Health effects of unsound management
- No effective take back schemes for end of life EEE
The Basel Convention has addressed the issue of e-waste since 2002 – now a “flagship” programme under the Convention.

COP8 in Nairobi (2006) focused on the theme of “Creating innovative solutions through the Basel Convention for the ESM of electronic waste”.

The Nairobi Declaration on ESM of E-waste and Decision VIII/2 were adopted (see Annex VI of COP8 report at http://www.basel.int/meetings/cop/cop8/docs/16eRELEASED.doc).

Multistakeholder Partnership Approach has been adopted as a mechanism for developing sustainable solution to the e-waste problem.
Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE)

- **Adopted:** COP9 in Bali, Indonesia
- **Participants:** Countries, industries and NGOs,
  Basel Convention Regional Centres (China, Egypt, Nigeria, Slovakia, Tehran)
- **Scope:** PCs, displays, printers and associated peripherals
- **Agreed activities:**
  - #To develop tools (such as guidelines) and activities on ESM refurbishment and repair, including criteria for testing, certification and labelling
  - #To develop tools (such as guidelines) and activities on environmentally sound recycling and material recovery, including facility certification
  - #To develop and promote pilot schemes for ESM of used and end-of-life computing equipment towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals
  - #To develop awareness-raising and training programme activities
Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE)

- TOR requests active participation of relevant partners from developing and economy in transition countries
- The mission statement is among others to increase the ESM of used and end of life computing equipment, taking into account social responsibility, and promoting the sharing of information on life cycle thinking- (issues very important to the third world)
- Third world countries are very active in the governance structure as Co-chairs and as participants in WG and project group activities.
- 4 Pilot projects have been selected for implementation in developing countries to test the tools/guidelines already developed by PACE
- Illegal traffic and transboundary movement as well as awareness raising and training are also being addressed by PACE
- However financial constraint is a major challenge preventing many developing country partners from taking part in teleconferences