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**Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
Tenth meeting**

Cartagena, Colombia, 17–21 October 2011

Item 7 of the provisional agenda**

Other matters

Basel Waste Solutions Circle: draft outline concept

Note by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. Following adoption of the Bali Declaration on Waste Management for Human Health and Livelihood by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the Basel Waste Solutions Circle was launched on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, celebrated in Basel on 17 November 2009. The Circle was launched by the past, current and future Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties and the Host Country of the Diplomatic Conference that adopted the Basel Convention in 1989, namely the Governments of Kenya, Indonesia, Colombia, and Switzerland. Each founding member presented a high-visibility project implemented by the relevant country to promote the objectives of the Bali Declaration.
2. The Open-ended Working Group at its seventh session in May 2010, by decision OEWG-VII/19, requested the Secretariat to develop further the concept of the Circle and to elaborate, for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting, processes and criteria for the selection of awardees.
3. In accordance with that decision, the Secretariat prepared document UNEP/CHW.10/2 outlining the background and objectives of the Basel Waste Solutions Circle; proposing that the Bureau and one representative each of the business and industry and civil society sectors serve as the admissions and awards committee; and proposing that the committee, based on a draft outline concept, could determine the modalities of admission to the Circle, and the awards. The present note contains the draft outline concept for the Basel Waste Solutions Circle.

I. Nature and Purpose

4. The Basel Waste Solutions Circle will be composed of members who demonstrably contribute in a concrete manner to the implementation of the Basel Convention, including the thematic declarations adopted by the Conference of the Parties. The Circle will provide a platform for showcasing successful activities, and thereby gaining recognition or support for these, which could in

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** UNEP/CHW.10/1.

turn lead to replication in other parts of the world, the provision of financial support, or the establishment of partnerships with other members. Membership is open to actors who implement an activity recognized under the Circle. The eligible actors and the categories of activities are shown below. At each Conference of the Parties, those admitted to the Circle will be recognized and awards will be presented for the best activity or activities in each category. An admissions and awards committee will determine membership and awards. Possible criteria for the selection of activities to be awarded are also shown below. The committee may wish to further elaborate these.

II. Membership of the Circle

5. Any actor implementing an activity in accordance with Section III is eligible for membership of the Circle, including governments, intergovernmental organizations, public interest and civil society groups at all levels, professional organizations, industrial organizations, academic institutions, private enterprises, communities, and individuals.

III. Admissions and awards committee

6. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties and one representative each of the business and industry and civil society sectors will serve as the admissions and awards committee of the Circle. The Secretariat will perform all secretariat functions for the committee.

IV. Admission to the Circle: categories of efforts

7. The following categories of concrete efforts will be recognized in considering membership of the Circle:

- (a) Successful projects and initiatives that demonstrate a direct impact on human health and/or the environment on the ground through the environmentally sound management of wastes;
- (b) Successful projects and initiatives that demonstrate a concrete change of behaviour of target groups in relation to the environmentally sound management of wastes;
- (c) Financial support or successful mobilization of resources for activities that achieve the environmentally sound management of wastes.

8. The term “environmentally sound management” is understood as defined in the Basel Convention and its associated technical guidelines.

9. Any actors that demonstrate to the admissions and awards committee that their activities are within one of the above categories will be admitted as members of the Circle. The procedure for application will be determined by the admissions and awards committee.

V. Awards and selection criteria

10. Awards will be presented for the best efforts by members in each of the categories of activities. Awardees will be selected by the committee every two years, and a short award ceremony will be held at every Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, beginning with the eleventh Conference in 2013. The committee will determine the number of awards and the procedure for submission of nominations.

11. In determining the awardee(s) in each category listed in Section IV, the committee will be invited to consider the following selection criteria:

- (a) Projects and initiatives that promote COP themes¹, and/or those which are undertaken in relation to a priority waste stream²;
- (b) Those which are inclusive of and demonstrate engagement with all relevant stakeholders; and,

¹ Including past COP themes (Environmentally Sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste – COP 8; Waste Management for Human Health and Livelihood – COP 9; Prevention, Minimization and Recovery of Wastes – COP 10) as well as prospective future themes.

² Priority waste streams as listed in the Strategic Plan contained in document UNEP/CHW.6/3. By decision VI/1, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention agreed that the strategic text and action table contained in the document constitutes the strategic plan for the implementation of the Basel Convention to 2010.

(c) Those which demonstrate significant measurable impacts contributing to the environment and human health and livelihood for present and future generations.

12. The committee may wish to consider further developing the selection criteria.

VI. Public awareness, outreach and recognition

13. A web-based showcase database will be established, using existing information technology platforms and linked to the Basel Convention website, in which all members and their activities will be showcased, summarizing project concepts, implementation information, and contacts in a user-friendly way (e.g. keyword, region/country search). The database can be used as an information exchange tool for good practices, successful projects and lessons learned.

14. Admission to the Circle will be publicized in a press release prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the admissions and awards committee.

15. Members of the Basel Waste Solutions Circle would receive a certificate, pin or other suitable recognition. Awardees would receive a trophy or other suitable symbolic recognition.

16. The Basel Convention Regional Centres will promote the Basel Waste Solutions Circle in their respective regions and assist regional actors in submitting requests for membership and/or nomination for the awards. They may also organize award recognition ceremonies and invite media to highlight the winners at the regional, national and local level.

17. The admissions and awards committee may nominate a public figure to serve as a goodwill ambassador for the Circle. Designation of the goodwill ambassador would be made by the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. The ambassador would present information about the Circle at major fora and to the media, as appropriate.

18. The Secretariat will develop a sponsorship strategy and promote the Circle's objectives. Public awareness and outreach activities in support of the Circle would be subject to the availability of resources.