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**Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**

Fifth session
Geneva, 3–7 April 2006

Item 4 (a) (i) of the provisional agenda*
**Implementation of the decisions adopted by the
Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting:
Report to the Open-ended Working Group on:
Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel
Convention: role and activities of the Basel
Convention regional and coordinating centres**

**Report on the Strategic Plan for the implementation of the Basel
Convention: role and activities of the Basel Convention regional
and coordinating centres**

* UNEP/CHW/OEWG/5/1*.

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I. Background

1. The Strategic Plan is the blueprint adopted by Parties in 2002 to give effect to the 1999 Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management. The Strategic Plan is constituted of two parts:

- (a) Strategic text;
- (b) An action table under the fields of the Basel Declaration containing activities for 2003-2004 and 2005-2010.

2. The action table of the Strategic Plan has been adopted by COP6, subject to revision or amendments to be done by COP7. However, COP7 did not undertake a revision of the action table. In order to respect the spirit and intent of the Parties when adopting the text of the Strategic Plan to concentrate efforts and resources and to take into account regional specificities and the importance of BCRCs, the Secretariat undertook to:

- (a) Operationalize the concept of Strategic Plan focus areas;
- (b) Improve the operational effectiveness of the BCRCs.

II. Strategic Plan focus areas

3. The action table of the Strategic Plan contains a large number of short- to medium-time activities organized within the fields of the Basel Declaration on ESM. The budget considered by Parties for 2007-2008 as well as the prospect of raising new and additional funding will not be commensurate to the financial requirements for implementing the activities listed in the action table. Also, staff resources at SBC and the BCRC are limited. Consequently, the Secretariat has undertaken an analysis of the priorities identified by Parties in their 2005-2006 programme as described in the COP7 and OEWG-IV decisions. In particular, attention was given to:

- Decision VII/7 on the Strategic Plan
- Decision VII/2 on Hazardous waste minimization
- Decision VII/3 on Partnership Programme
- Decision VII/8 on Capacity-building
- Decision VII/9 on BCRCs
- Decision VII/40 on Sustainable financing
- Decision IV/3 on Work Programme of the OEWG
- Decision IV/10 on Financial matters
- Decision IV/15 on Resource mobilization

4. The priorities commonly identified by Parties in their decisions referred to the above concerns the following priority areas:

- Electronic wastes, used lead-acid batteries, used oils, obsolete stocks of pesticides, PCBs, dioxins and furans, by-products from the dismantling of ships, biomedical and healthcare wastes, asbestos and partnership with municipalities. For the time being, no programme on the environmentally sound management of asbestos wastes exists.

5. The above priority areas, apart from asbestos, represent the 2005-2006 Strategic Plan focus areas. The 2007-2008 programme to implement the Strategic Plan as reflected in the 2007-2008 budget builds upon the work done during 2005-2006 to concentrate efforts and resources on the identified Strategic Plan focus areas.

III. The role and activities of the BCRCs

6. The 14 regional and coordinating centres constitute a unique operational network to assist Parties to implement the Basel Convention and to facilitate access to environmentally sound management capacity for hazardous and other wastes. In particular the centres are becoming hubs for information collection and dissemination in areas recognized of importance for the effective implementation of the Basel Convention. They have the potential through training and other means to promote innovative tools for technology diffusion and intra-regional cooperation. Of particular relevance to ongoing discussions among Governments, the centres offer opportunities for realizing synergies at the regional level and for building public-private partnerships. Annex I to the present report contains progress reports submitted by the centres.

7. Since 2003, the centres have carried out several projects as part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan. 15 of these projects were completed by March 2006. Annex II to the present report provides a summary of the projects carried out by the centres under the Strategic Plan and Annex III contains a summary of the projects and activities undertaken by the centres under the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund.

IV. Contribution of the partnership programme

8. The key activities of the 2005-2006 work plan of the Partnership Programme derive from the Strategic Plan priority activities. Stakeholders' consultations initiated by the Secretariat in consultation with the relevant Basel Convention Regional Centres result in bringing the needed partners to support the environmentally sound management of priority waste streams identified in the Strategic Plan. In 2005-2006, efforts have concentrated on:

- A global public-private MPPI
- Used-lead acid batteries in the Caribbean, Central America, Colombia and Venezuela
- Used oils in the Caribbean
- Partnership with municipalities in Ecuador for the sound management of oily wastes in cooperation with the private sector.

9. The activities undertaken as part of the work plan of the Partnership Programme provide an efficient and effective mechanism to enlist all stakeholders (public and private) in improving understanding of complex issues, to build a better capacity for analysis and a foundation for increased visibility and political support. It also provides mechanisms to benefit from private sector expertise as shown in the successful MPPI.

10. The next step is to build on these first achievements to reach a critical level of operation at the global, regional and national level. In that context, the Partnership Programme has proven to be an attractive mechanism to donors to support BCRCs' activities to assist in or facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

V. Lessons learned

11. While carrying out activities to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan, the following points have been identified:

- (a) The BCRCs are uniquely positioned to steer regional efforts by contributing to:
 - (i) The promotion of the understanding of the linkages between hazardous wastes management and development objectives;
 - (ii) Working towards the integration of the objectives of environmentally sound management and minimization of hazardous and other wastes in regional cooperation strategies aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

- (iii) Taking an active role in the development of programmes to promote awareness and policy dialogue to facilitate exchange of know-how, best practices and sound technologies on a regional basis to assist countries in their development priorities;
 - (iv) The initiation of public-private partnerships to support and complement Governments' efforts;
- (b) The regional network is handicapped in its role to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Basel Convention because:
- (i) Centres are not at the same level of development and legal autonomy;
 - (ii) They have different scales of operations;
 - (iii) Funding of individual centres varies greatly and the ability for fund-raising differs among centres;
 - (iv) No predictable and sustainable funding exists to support the centres' programmes;
 - (v) The host countries are those supporting most of the financial burden;
- (c) Only a few centres are able to capitalize on current opportunities whether programmatic or financial and experience difficulties in contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan;
- (d) Because of the preparatory work required to mobilize resources, develop and monitor projects, small-scale funding of projects are less cost-effective than projects with large-scale budgets;
- (e) Replicability of projects results in improved efficiency and use of money. Both the Secretariat and the BCRCs need to be paid for project development, management and monitoring to reflect the real costs such services require.

VI. Prospective until 2010

12. The Secretariat has initiated a dialogue with the BCRCs with a view to finding ways to improve their operational effectiveness to enable the centres to play their role as assigned. Annex III to the present report contains the Executive Summary of the work in progress in this domain.

13. There is a need to launch a process to raise both the political and technical relevance of the BCRCs as a unique regional network. This is timely in regard to the ongoing discussions among Governments on cooperation and synergies among the chemicals and waste conventions.

14. The increased effectiveness and programme delivery at the regional level will further reinforce the implementation of the Basel Convention. The experience, know-how and infrastructure built in the context of the Basel Convention in the last 15 years would benefit the other relevant chemicals and other conventions and protocols.

15. A major asset of the BCRCs would be their ability to deliver regional certification schemes for the environmentally sound management of recyclables to improve environmental performance of recycling facilities.

16. The centres are gradually building their expertise to provide services as centres of excellence for information on sound technologies and best practices, for enabling sharing of information on know-how and for building the information base on the environmentally sound disposal and recycling of hazardous and other wastes.

Annex I

Reports on the activities of the BCRCs received by the Secretariat

Basel Convention Regional Centre Cairo, Egypt

Projects:

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
Preparation of a set of tools for the selection, design and operation of hazardous waste landfills in hyper-dry areas	Provide technical assistance for the legal implementation of the Basel Convention The Specific objectives of the project were as follows: a. To prepare a set of tools for the selection, design and operation of hazardous waste landfills in hyper-dry areas; b. To assist, through the undertaking of case study(ies) with replicate effects, in the development of hazardous waste	BCRC-Egypt Committee on Chemicals and Waste of the League of Arab States, Focal Points to the Basel Convention in countries in the sub-region, National Organization for Remote Sensing and Space Science (Cairo), Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), the Egyptian Geological Survey (EGSMA).	Arabic speaking countries in Northern Africa and Western Asia	1. Three guidelines entitled: a. 'Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site selection and EIA in hyper-dry areas'; b. 'Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site design in hyper-dry areas'; c. 'Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site operation, monitoring and aftercare in hyper-dry areas'; 2. Training manual for hazardous waste	US\$ 135,791	1 st March 2004	Initial: 18 months, commencing 1 st January 2004 Actual: 21 months commencing, 1 st March 2004	Concluded in November, 2005

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
	<p>environmentally sound infrastructure in the region;</p> <p>c. To help establish a sub-regional institutional and expert network for Arabic speaking countries for resource mobilization and transfer of know how on hazardous waste landfill.</p> <p>d. To transfer skills and knowledge to the project participants</p>			<p>hazardous waste landfill entitled 'Hazardous Waste Management, the landfill option'.</p> <p>3. Glossary for Landfill technical terms have been developed in both Arabic and English Language</p> <p>4. Training program on Landfilling Hazardous Wastes completed in Bahrain.</p>				
<p>The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States in Cairo - Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Basel Convention</p> <p>Work plan, activities (2006)</p> <p>Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compilation of existing inventories - Inventories of e-waste and assessment of recycling facilities - Review of national legislation - Review of technical guidelines on used oil 	<p>The project document identified as common needs for the countries in the region the following issues:</p> <p>1. Joint assessment by the countries of the region of how the Centre could be best organised to meet regional and sub-regional needs;</p> <p>2. Guidance in setting up hazardous waste</p>	<p>The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States, Egypt (BCRC- Egypt) in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention (UNEP, SBC) and with support from the Government of Finland.</p> <p>Contribution from the Government of</p>	<p>Arab States and territories in Africa and West Asia (Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi</p>	<p>A. Training workshops and courses</p> <p>B. Special projects and studies to complement the workshops and courses</p> <p>C. Assistance and advisory services for the countries of the region</p> <p>D. Promotion and public awareness about the Basel Convention and</p>	<p>US\$ 1,255,000</p>	<p>February 2006</p>	<p>36 months Commencing January 2006 Completion December 2008</p>	<p>Starting, February 2006 1st meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC), 15 March 2006</p>

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
<p>Workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop on the protocol of liability - Workshop on the recycling of used oils <p>Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting of the Project Steering Committee, 15/3/2006 <p>Public Awareness</p>	<p>criteria;</p> <p>3. Pointers on efficient means for drawing up hazardous waste generation inventories and inventories of existing hazardous wastes disposal options and entering these into database systems;</p> <p>4. Guidance in drafting legislation that transposes Basel Convention provisions into national law, in terms of both waste management and shipment requirements;</p> <p>5. Assistance in developing documentation systems for hazardous wastes generation, transport and disposal;</p> <p>6. Information exchange concerning best practice in managing various types of hazardous</p>	<p>the Government of Finland</p>	<p>Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen</p>	<p>the work of the Centre</p>				

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
	wastes; 7. Information exchange regarding waste minimization and cleaner production techniques.							

Workshops, seminars and meetings:

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
-The Second Expert Group Meeting (2 nd EGM) of the project "Preparation of a set of Tools for the Selection, Design and Operation of Hazardous Waste Landfills in Hyper-Dry Areas".	Cairo, Egypt	22-25 November 2004	Secretariat of the Basel Convention (SBC). Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA). Cairo Basel Convention Regional Centre for Arab States (Cairo-BCRC).	The objective of the meeting was: To review the Cairo-BCRC prepared Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site selection and EIA in hyper-dry areas' and the outlines of the guidelines for hazardous waste landfill design, operation and monitoring in hyper-dry areas'	US\$ 13,543 Financed by SBC
-Sub-regional workshop for Arab countries on the implementation of Stockholm Convention and synergies with other chemicals related conventions	Cairo, Egypt	21-24 February 2005	UNEP Chemicals SC Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) BCRC-Egypt	The workshop provided training to delegates from eighteen Arab countries and Iran: 1. To gain a better understanding of the requirements and obligations under the Stockholm Convention. 2. To exchange experience between countries on planning and implementing activities in response to the identifies obligations 3. To discuss the existing framework for chemical management and the implementation of other	US\$ (31,527.00) Financed by the Government of Switzerland

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
				<p>chemical conventions</p> <p>4. To discuss the needs and possible ways of promoting coordination and synergies between chemical management activities</p> <p>5. To discuss approaches for reinforcing country capacity in terms of chemical management and Convention implementation.</p>	
<p>-The Third Expert Group Meeting of the Project (3rd EGM) "Preparation of a set of Tools for the Selection, Design and Operation of hazardous Waste Landfills in Hyper-dry Areas</p>	Cairo, Egypt	23-26 May 2005	SBC BCRC-Cairo	<p>The Third Expert Group Meeting was held with the participation of 16 Arab experts in addition to participants from the regional centre for training and technology transfer as well as prominent invitees from the Arab republic of Egypt (ARE.):</p> <p>To review and approve the document of guidelines for the design and operation of hazardous waste landfills in hyper-arid areas within the framework of a UNEP-SBC funded project for drawing up a set of tools for the selection, design and operation of HWLF in hyper arid areas</p>	<p>US\$ 17,063</p> <p>Financed by SBC</p>
<p>- Regional Workshop for Arab States on the environmentally sound destruction of POPs and decontamination of POPs containing waste in the context of the Basel Convention and Stockholm Convention</p>	Jordan, Amman	28- 31 August 2005	MOPIC Jordan, BCRC-Egypt, SBC	<p>The workshop provided training to 34 Government delegates from Ministries of Environment and Health of 19 countries in the region on the main aspects of the preparation and implementation of POPs waste disposal operations as developed in the Basel Convention General Technical Guidelines for the ESM of POPs Containing Waste (2004):</p> <p>Training was also delivered on the Stockholm Convention Draft Guidelines on Best Available Techniques and Provisional Guidance on Best Environmental Practices Relevant to Article 5 and Annex C as well as the FAO Guidelines on Pesticides Management and Their Safe Disposal</p>	<p>US\$ (7,500.00)</p> <p>Financed by Government of Switzerland. UNEP, WHO, FAO, SBC</p>
<p>- Adequacy of Arab Legislations Concerning Wastes & Chemicals Management</p>	Cairo-Egypt	10-12 September 2005	League of the Arab States	<p>Emphasis on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International conventions related to hazardous materials and waste. 2. National experience and legislations in handling 	

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
				hazardous wastes. 3. Compliance of national legislations in achieving objectives and requirements of international conventions. 4. Guidelines for the completion and modification of national legislations to reflect the implementation of the international Conventions	
- Training Workshop on Waste Disposal by Landfilling	Manama, Bahrain	26-28 Nov. 2005	Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Arab States- Cairo BCRC Bahrain Environmental Protection Agency	Training of participants from the Arab Countries on Waste Disposal by Landfilling using the Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site selection , EIA, hazardous waste landfill design, operation and monitoring in hyper-dry areas' within the framework of a UNEP-SBC funded project for drawing up a set of tools for the selection, design	US\$ 21,830 Financed by SBC

Publications:

	Date of	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
Report of the Regional Workshop for Arab States on the environmentally sound destruction of POPs and decontamination of POPs containing waste in the context of the Basel Convention and Stockholm Convention, Jordan, Amman, 28- 31 August 2005.	December 2005	Report of the workshop	Hard copy and CDROM	English and Arabic	-----

	Date of	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
<p>(in press)</p> <p>1. Three guidelines entitled:</p> <p>a. 'Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site selection and EIA in hyper-dry areas';</p> <p>b. 'Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site design in hyper-dry areas';</p> <p>c. 'Guidelines for hazardous waste landfill site operation, monitoring and aftercare in hyper-dry areas';</p> <p>2. Glossary for Landfill technical terms have been developed in both Arabic and English Language</p> <p>3. Training program on Waste Disposal by Landfilling.</p>	2006	Output of the project "Preparation of a set of tools for the selection, design and operation of hazardous waste landfills in hyper-dry areas"	Hard copy and CDROM	English and Arabic	-----

Framework Agreement: signed in 29/10/2004
Entered into force: 22/6/2005
Business Plan: 2005-2007
Adopted by the Steering Committee of the BCRC in

Basel Convention Regional Centre Ibadan, Nigeria

Projects

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
Assessment and recycling of used oil in Africa	To define a strategy for the management used oil in Africa	Cooperation with the BCRCs from South Africa, Senegal, Egypt & UNIDO Contribution from UNEP/SBC	Senegal, South Africa, Nigeria	Reports containing assessment of used oil in Nigeria, feasibility studies for the environmentally sound management of used oil in Nigeria and recommendation for the development of a used oil partnership initiative for Africa.	US\$32,088	September 2004	3months	Concluded in September 2005
Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of Classification & Labelling of chemicals Comprehensibility Testing	To assess the levels of comprehension of chemical hazard communication pictograms, labels, symbols and MSDS; Provide important feedback for developing a chemical hazard communication system and targeted training.	Cooperation with UNITAR, Federal Ministry of Environment, Nigeria Contribution from UNITAR, Switzerland Government	Nigeria	Report containing the comprehensibility results on chemical hazard communication elements. Customized Training modules to improve understanding of chemical hazard communication elements	US\$7000	July 2005	3 months	Concluded in October 2005

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
<p>Environmentally Sound Disposal of Diazinon Cattle Dip Solution Post Cattle Death On ILRI Farm, IITA, Ibadan, Nigeria</p>	<p>To establish the Environmental persistence of Diazinon and its metabolite sulfotepp in IITA/ILRI because 96 cows died within 30mins of wading through cattle dip solution containing Diazinon;</p> <p>Propose and implement environmentally sound disposal method for Diazinon and its metabolite sulfotepp.</p>	<p>Cooperation with International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), IITA Ibadan, Nigeria</p>	<p>Nigeria</p>	<p>Report on the Environmentally Sound disposal of the Diazinon Cattle Dip solution.</p> <p>Development of Guidelines for the safe use of chemicals in cattle dips.</p>	<p>US\$2,050.00</p>	<p>June 2003 – June 2004</p>	<p>12 months</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Waste to Wealth Projects: Recycled Building Bricks and Ceramic Tiles From Slag Produced By Autobattery Manufacturing Industry</p>	<p>To investigate the recycling potentials of slag from automotive battery manufacture into the manufacture of bricks and ceramic tiles for house building purposes.</p> <p>To ascertain the class and grade of construction/building products the slag can make.</p> <p>To carry out leaching tests on the bricks and tiles</p> <p>To design and fabricate slag-recycling plant for low cost, brick and ceramic tile making at small enterprise</p>	<p>Cooperation and Contribution from the University of Ibadan Mission Research, Nigeria</p>	<p>Nigeria</p>	<p>Different formulations of clay, slag and other inputs have been used to produce building bricks and ceramic tiles.</p> <p>Physical testing of products carried out and compared with commercial products.</p>	<p>US\$14,615.4</p>	<p>June 2005</p>	<p>2years</p>	<p>Ongoing: Development of low cost prototype machine and process for mass production of bricks and tiles.</p> <p>Leachability studies on the bricks and tiles.</p>

	level. To develop techno-economic feasibility study for the process and plant.							
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Workshops, seminars and meetings:

Title	Venue	Date	Organizers	Purpose	Cost
Regional Workshop on Successful Case Studies of Recycling, Reuse and Resource Recovery Methods towards the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes and Implementation of Basel Convention	Conference Centre University of Ibadan, Nigeria	9 -12 August 2004	BCCC, UNEP/SBC	Provide information to parties on Environmentally Sound management option in Hazardous waste management	US\$80,222
Technical Workshop on the Assessment and Recycling of Used Oil in Nigeria and Africa	Federal Ministry of Environment, Lagos, Nigeria	23rd September 2004	BCCC, UNEP/SBC	To introduce the project to stakeholders and kick –start the project	US\$1000
Regional Workshop for the Development of a Regional Action Plan on Environmentally Sound Management of Used Oils in Africa	Federal Ministry of Environment, Lagos, Nigeria	6-7 December 2004	BCCC, UNEP/SBC	To present recommendations for the development of a used oils partnership in the African region and decide on follow up action for the development of the partnership initiative in the African region	US\$10,133
Water Quality Analysis Monitoring and Assessment	Conference centre University of Ibadan, Nigeria	12-14 April 2005	BCCC-University of Ibadan	Provide methodologies for conducting quality assessments for all types of water resources	US\$1000

Publications:

Name	Date of Publication	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
Proceedings on the Regional Workshop on Successful Case Studies of Recycling, Reuse and Resource Recovery Methods towards the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes and Implementation of Basel Convention	9 -12 August 2004	Output of a project	Book and CD	English	US\$2800
Report of First Workshop on Environmentally Sound Management of used oil In Nigeria	23rd September 2004	Output of a project	Book and CD	English	US\$500
Proceedings on the final Regional Workshop for the Development of a Regional Action Plan on Environmentally Sound Management of Used Oils in Africa	6-7 December 2004	Output of a project	Book and CD	English	US\$500
Feasibility study for the environmentally sound management of used oil in Nigeria	December 2004	Output of a project	Book and CD	English	US\$500
Pilot study for the environmentally sound management of used oil in Nigeria	December 2004	Output of a project	Book and CD	English	US\$500
Recommendation for the Development of a Used Oil Partnership Initiative for Africa	December 2004	Output of a project	Book and CD	English	US\$500
Newsletter from the BCCC-Nigeria	February 2006	Information about the Centre and project execution	Leaflet and website	English	US\$600

Framework Agreement:

It is currently being considered by the Federal Ministry of justice of Nigeria

Business Plan:

Awaiting funding for planned activities in 2006

Prof Oladele Osibanjo

Director

Centre Régional de la Convention de Bâle Dakar, Sénégal

Projets:

Titre du Projet	Objectif	Agence de coopération	Couverture géographique	Produits	Coût	Date début	Durée	Statut
Inventaire National des flux de déchets dangereux	Connaître les quantités ainsi que les types de déchets produits, identifier les sources de production.	PNUE Contribution pays	Comores, Guinée, Niger.	Rapport de formation sur les techniques d'inventaire et la mise en place d'une base de données disponible. Rapport des inventaires réalisés aux Comores et Niger.	US\$ 100,000	Mars 2004	18 mois	En cours (reste les ateliers nationaux de restitution pour les Comores et le Niger et la validation de l'inventaire de la Guinée).
Problématique de l'amiante dans les véhicules de seconde main importés en Afrique de l'Ouest	Analyse réglementaire, technique, économique et de santé publique concernant la question de l'importation des véhicules de seconde main pouvant contenir des éléments amiantés en Afrique	PNUE	Bénin, Sénégal	Rapport de synthèse des conditions réglementaires, économiques, techniques et de santé publique concernant les importations en Afrique de véhicules seconde main pouvant contenir des équipements amiantés. Rapport disponible.	US\$ 10,000	Janvier 2004	3 mois	Clôturé en avril 2004

Titre du projet	Objectif	Agence de coopération	Couverture géographique	Produits	Coût	Date début	Durée	Statut
Identification des déchets de Bâle précurseurs de dioxines en fonction des pratiques de gestion endogènes	Renforcer la capacité de l' « outil spécialisé pour l'identification et la quantification de rejets de dioxines et furannes » du PNUE à identifier et mesurer le potentiel de rejets de dioxines et furannes par la convention de Bâle	SBC PNUE/SC	Sénégal	Rapport sur l'identification des déchets de Bâle précurseurs de dioxines en fonction des pratiques de gestion endogènes, Proposition d'un programme d'échantillonnage.	US\$ 20,000	Mars 2005	3 mois	Clôturé en septembre 2005
Gestion des huiles usées en Afrique sub saharienne	Créer les conditions et les outils nécessaires pour assister au développement d'une politique de gestion écologiquement rationnelle des huiles usées dans les pays francophones d'Afrique	PNUE	Burkina Faso, République Démocratique du Congo, Sénégal.	Manuel de gestion des huiles usées en Afrique sub saharienne Diagnostic de la gestion des huiles usées dans deux pays et étude de faisabilité pour l'élimination de ces huiles. Rapport du diagnostic de la gestion des huiles usées par le secteur informel dans un pays.	US\$ 100,000	Mars 2005	3 mois	En cours

Ateliers, Séminaires:

Titre	Lieu	Date	Co-organizers	Objectif	Coût
Atelier régional de sensibilisation sur la pollution au mercure : "la pollution au mercure : u problème mondial à résoudre"	Dakar, Sénégal	21-24 Novembre 2004	PNUE/SC	Aider les pays à sérier par priorité les problèmes posés par le mercure et promouvoir les actions pour la protection de la santé humaine et de l'environnement.	US\$ 149,000

Information et Publications:

Nom	Date de publication	Objectif	Format	Langues	Coût
Création du site web du centre	Janvier 2004	Information sur le centre, la mise en œuvre de la Convention de Bâle et sur es activités menées au niveau régional	www.centredakar.org	Français	US\$ 1,500
Création d'une base de données environnementales et sur les technologies environnementales pertinentes	Mars 2005		Base de données Access	Français	US \$ 3,000
Newsletter du CRCB "La lettre du Centre"	Janvier 2004 Juillet 2004	Information générale sur le Centre et les activités		Français et Anglais	US\$ 6,250

Traductions :

Traduction en français du manuel de l'OMS et de la Convention de Bâle « Preparation of National Health-Care Waste Management Plans in Sub-Saharan Countries. Guidance Manual" en septembre 2004.

Traduction en français du document « Financial Resource Mobilisation for Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Basel Convention" de l'Agence Danoise de Protection de l'Environnement.

Autres:

Le Centre est membre du Steering Committee du projet FEM/PNUD « Demonstrating and Promoting Best Practices in Reducing Medical Waste to avoid Environmental Releases of Dioxin and Mercury from Health Care Practices »

Business Plan 2005-2006 du Centre approuvé en Octobre 2004.

Signature du protocole d'accord entre le Gouvernement du Sénégal et le Secrétariat de la Convention de Bâle en mars 2005.

Basel Convention Regional Centre Pretoria, South Africa

Workshops, seminars and meetings:

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
PCB Sub-Regional workshop	Maputo, Mozambique	8-12 Nov 2004,	The Ministry of Environment and UNEP	To conclude the Regional PCB SADC project with country reports and way forward	USD 1000
Workshop on Asbestos management for Industry	Johannesburg, South Africa	14 November 2004	BCRC-Pretoria and the ESKOM company	Provide the necessary status of Asbestos management, its maintenance and disposal in South Africa and measures in place	USD 12,000 (Provided by Industry)
Plastics International Conference	Kampala Uganda	25-27 Nov 2004	The Cleaner Production Centre I Uganda and the Italian Govt	To develop strategies for the development of biodegradable plastics	USD 1200 (Provided by the Cleaner Production Centre)
Meeting on Globally harmonised System for Chemicals	Geneva, Switzerland	4-7 December 2004	UNITAR	To get an update on the GHS and develop future roles of the BCRC in its implementation	USD 2000 (Paid by UNITAR)
Used Oil workshop	Lagos, Nigeria	6-7 December 2004	The Basel Coordinating Centre-Nigeria	To discuss experiences and development of a framework for Africa's used oil management	USD 1800 (Provided by the SBC)

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
Workshop on safe injection and waste management	Pretoria	15-18 th March 2005	BCRC and John Snow Inc	The workshop aims at building the initial steps towards ownership of the safety and waste management processes envisaged under the JSI project.	USD 35,000 (provided by JSI)
Meeting of the 6 th Task Force	Pretoria South Africa	13 th and 14 th April 2005	BCRC	To discuss progress and budget for the 2005/06 year	USD 3500
1 st COP of the Stockholm Convention	Punta del Este Uruguay	2-6 May 2005	UNEP	1 st COP	USD 2100
Seminar on Hazardous waste substances management	Johannesburg, South Africa	21-22 July 2005	BCRC and the Gauteng Province Health Department	Provide necessary background to sound management of hazardous management to health officials	USD 6,000 (Funded by the Gauteng Province)
Regional Stockholm Convention workshop on POPs laboratory analysis	Pretoria, South Africa	4-7 October 2005	UNEP and BCRC	To provide the necessary skills to officials from countries with labs which can analyse POPs	USD 59,000 (UNEP)
Sharps management meeting	Addis Ababa	24-26 October 2005	JSI Inc and the Ethiopian Ministry of Health	To discuss and exchange experiences on best practices as far as sharps management is concerned in Africa so as to minimize AIDs	Paid by JSI USD 750
Healthcare waste management	Pretoria	25-27 November 2005	BCRC, UNIDO and John Snow Inc	To impart the necessary knowledge on healthcare waste to healthcare waste practitioners	USD 23,000 (Provided by UNIDO (USD 19,000) and JSI (USD 4,000))
PCB management	Pretoria South Africa	25-27 January 2006	BCRC and the Dept of Environmental affairs and Tourism	To create awareness and forum for National plan of implementation to phase out PCBs	Provided by UNEP USD 7,000

Workshops where centre staff have been invited as resource persons

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
Environmental Governance, responsible management- Perspectives of the Basel Convention	Midrand, South Africa	26 th May 2005	Responsible Container Management Association of South Africa	This is an Industry initiative to create awareness on responsible container management with knowledge on the role of the Basel Convention in esm	USD 100
Regional workshop on compliance with enforcement of Multilateral Environmental Agreements for East Africa- The Basel Convention Perspective	Arusha, Tanzania	14-18 November 2005	UNEP	To present and discuss the draft Green Customs Guide developed by UNEP, CITES, The Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Montreal Protocol and Stockholm Convention	USD 1000 (covered by UNEP)
Hazardous materials workshop -The Basel Convention perspective	Johannesburg South Africa	28-30 Nov 2005	AMC International South Africa	This was an Industry initiative to create awareness ad forum for Hazardous waste management and information on the Basel Convention	USD 340 Covered by the organizers (local travel)-

Internships at the Centre

Period	Number of trainees
April-May 2005	1
May -June 2005	1
June to December 2005	3

Publications:

Name	Date of Publication	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
New website launched	10 Feb 2005	To provide a more comprehensive information to countries	website	English	USD 1500
Newsletter from the BCRC-South Africa	12 March 2005	Information about the Centre's and regional activities	Leaflet and website	English	US\$ 1,000
Newsletter from the BCRC-South Africa	1 July 2005	Information about the Centre's and regional activities	Leaflet and website	English	US\$ 1,000

Agreement to establish the Africa Institute for Environmentally Sound Management Hazardous waste management and other wastes

Signed on 31st Marc 2004 by 10 countries in Jeju Republic of Korea
 By December 2005, 13 countries had signed
 By March 2006, three countries are in advanced stages of ratification of the Agreement

Basel Convention Regional Centre Beijing, China

Projects:

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
New partnership with local authorities for the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes in the Asia-Pacific region	Provide demonstration project on environmentally sound management of hazardous and electronic wastes to other cities in Asia - Pacific region and enhance collaboration development in cities in the region.	SBC, UNITAR, SEPA, local environmental authorities	Asia-Pacific region	Report containing three decision supportive tools in urban areas, two initiatives on the environmental sound management of hazardous waste and e-wastes, national forum on new partnership for environmentally sound management of urban hazardous wastes, regional forum on new partnership for environmentally sound management of urban hazardous wastes in Malaysia	US\$ 108'781	December 2003	15 months	Concluded in March 2006
Survey of the import and the environmentally sound management of electronic wastes in Asia-Pacific Region	Provide basic information to manage waste computers and TV sets in an environmentally sound manner and to suggest how the valuable materials contained in these wastes can be recycled through a testified system.	The focal points and competent authorities of China and other five countries that are served by BCRC China; the Secretariat of Basel Convention	Asia-Pacific region	Report containing assessment of waste computers and TV sets Field survey of waste computers and TV sets in selected countries National workshops in China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand	US\$ 87,302	November 2003	14 months	Concluded in March 2006

Workshops, seminars and meetings:

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
Regional Workshop on Capacity and Capacity Building Needs to Analyse POPs in Developing Countries	Beijing, China	13-16 December 2005	BCRC China, UNEP Chemicals	Information communication and assessment of existing capacity and capacity building needs to analyse POPs in developing countries	US\$ 74,470
International Conference on Management, Policy, Treatment and Disposal Technology of Hazardous Waste	Beijing, China	31 May- 1 June 2005	BCRC China, Institute of Environmental Science & Engineering Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences Sino-Japan Friendship Centre for Environmental Protection Cleanaway Group	Enhance the capacity of management and disposal for hazardous wastes and promote the implementation of Basel Convention	US\$ 36,000
China-Netherlands Seminar on Recycling of Electronics	Beijing, China	16-17 November 2004	BCRC China Tsinghua University Delft University of Technology	Information communication of recycling electronic wastes and promote the environmental management and recycling of electronic wastes	U 12,000
Training Workshop on Environmental Management of Solid Wastes in China	Beijing, China	24-26 June 2005	BCRC China, Registration Center of Wastes Import Management of SEPA	Strengthen the environmental management of solid wastes and enhance the capacity building of management	RMB 18,500

Publications:

Name	Date of Publication	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
Proceedings of Regional Forum on New Partnership for the Environmentally Sound Management of Urban Hazardous Wastes	December, 2004	For information deliver	Hardcopy and Electronic version	English	In the project of "New partnership"

Basel Convention Regional Centre Jakarta, Indonesia

Projects:

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
Pilot Project on Inventory of Hazardous Waste Generation in Selected Member Countries	Demonstrate an inventory on hazardous waste generation and disseminate the knowledge and skills through out the region	ASEAN Countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam), The Ministry of Environment of Indonesia	Asia Pacific Region	Report on National Inventories of Hazardous Waste	US\$ 44,036	January 2004	1.5 years	Concluded in June 2005

Workshops, seminars and meetings:

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
Regional Training Workshop on National Inventories of Hazardous Waste Generation	Jakarta, Indonesia	21-23 June 2005	The Ministry of Environment of Indonesia and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention	Provide training Workshop on National Inventories of Hazardous Waste Generation to the Parties in the region	US\$ 30,500
The 1 st Steering Committee Meeting	Jakarta, Indonesia	27 February 2006	The Ministry of Environment of Indonesia and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate chairman and members of the Steering Committee • Endorse the BCRC-SEA's Business Plan • Enhance support from Parties in the region 	US\$ 35,000

Publications:

Name	Date of Publication	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
Reports and Proceedings of National Inventories of Hazardous Waste Demonstration Project and Regional Training Workshop on National Inventories of Hazardous Waste Generation	June 2005	Output of a project	Book and CD Rom	English	US\$ 5,575
Establishment of BCRC-SEA's website	5 October 2005	Provision of information by internet	Website	English	US\$ 1200

Framework Agreement:

Signed in October 2004

Business Plan:

Adopted by the Steering Committee of the BCRC-SEA in February 2006

Basel Convention Regional Centre Moscow, Russian Federation

Projects:

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
Preparation of the Review of Existing National and International Legislation in the Field of Monitoring and Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Environmentally Sound Management	Provide technical assistance for the legal implementation of the Basel Convention	Cooperation with the National Focal Points from CIS countries Contribution from SBC; from Russia and Belarus -in kind	Azerbaijan Republic, the Republic of Armenia Republic of Belarus, Georgia Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the Republic of Uzbekistan, Russian Federation	Review of Existing National and International Legislation in the Field of Monitoring and Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Environmentally Sound Management (in Russian and English)	US\$43 059 (US\$ 32 619 - UNEP/SBC US\$ 11 340 - BCRC-RF in kind)	January 2004	2 years	Concluded in December 2005
Preparation "Russian Federation National annual report 2003 about Transit and Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes"	Implementation of the nation obligations of the Russian Federation according with Basel convention (chapter 13)	Contribution from the Ministry of the Natural Recourses of the Russian Federation		"Russian Federation National annual report 2003 about Transit and Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes", includes information about export/import volumes of hazardous wastes, places of disposal	US\$ 10 600	September 2005	4 months	Concluded in December 2005

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
Activities connected with concordance of the text of the "Framework Agreement between Russian Federation and SBC" among Russian main stakeholders	Decisions of COP 6 (p.17, V/6) and COP7	The Ministry of the Natural Recourses of the Russian Federation	CIS countries	Draft "Framework Agreement between RF and SBC for The Basel Convention Regional Centre for the Eastern Europe Region (Including CIS Countries)"		January 2004	2 years	Concluded in November 2005

Workshops, seminars and meetings:

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
First meeting on preparation of the « Review of Existing National and International Legislation in the Field of Monitoring and Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Environmentally Sound Management»	Moscow, Russian Federation	28 April 2004	BCRC-RF UNEP/SBC	Order to establish clear criteria for the collection and analysis of national legislations and regulations and international legislation	US\$ 1 119 (from US\$43 059)
Second meeting on preparation of the « Review of Existing National and International Legislation in the Field of Monitoring and Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Environmentally Sound Management»	Minsk, Republic of Belarus	7-8 September 2004	BCRC-RF and Republic of Belarus	The Meeting will be devoted to discussion of the draft Review prepared by BCRC-RF on the basis of the information and materials provided and analyzed by the nominated national experts as well as to consideration of the general situation in the field of legal regulation of transboundary movement and environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes existing in CIS countries.	US\$ 7 740 (from US\$43 059)

Publications:

Name	Date of Publication	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
“Review of Existing National and International Legislation in the Field of Monitoring and Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Environmentally Sound Management”	November 20045	Output of a project	Book and CDROM	English and Russian	US\$ 6 200 (from US\$43 059)

Head of BCRC RF
10.03.2006

S. Tikhonov

Basel Convention Regional Centre Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Projects:

Title of the Project	Purpose	Cooperation agencies or Contributors	Geographical Scope	Outputs	Cost	Starting date	Duration	Status
Legal Assistance for the Elaboration and Adaptation of the National Legislation for the Effective Implementation of the Basel Convention	Provide technical assistance for the legal implementation of the Basel Convention	Cooperation with the OEA Contribution from Austria and Belgium	Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro and FYR Macedonia	Final Publication	US\$ 26,471	January 2004	1 year	Finalised September 2005
Strategy on the Mangement of the Health Care Waste	To develop a strategy for the ESM of biomedical and healthcare wastes taking into account the social, economic and technological development of the CEE countries	Ministries of Environment and Ministries of Health	Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, FYR Macedonia, Poland, Slovak Republic		EUR 30,000	2006	1 year	Project proposal Questionnaire
Development and Establishment of a Lubricating Oil Management System	The first phase to the ESM of lubricating oils in B&H	Cooperation with UNEP/MAP and the Ministry of Physical Planning and Environment of Federation Bosnia and Herzegovina Contribution from UNEP/MAP	Bosnia and Herzegovina	First Progress Report	EUR 20,000	September 2005	10 months	Project in Progress. The Final Report is expected June/July 2006

Workshops, seminars and meetings:

Title	Venue	Date	Co-organizers	Purpose	Cost
Workshop on Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation	Warsaw, Poland	18-20 January 2006	BCRC-Slovakia and Poland	Provide information to the Parties and support the ratification of the Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation	US\$ 35,000
Workshop on ESM on Used Oils	Bratislava, Slovak Republic	24-26 April 2006	TAIEX	ESM of used oils in accordance with EU directives and Basel Convention Technical Guidelines	TAIEX
Workshop on Safe and Effective Detection, Investigation, Prosecution of Illegal Traffic of Hazardous and Other Wastes	Bratislava, Slovak Republic	21-23 June 2006	TAIEX	To strengthen the supervision and control over the transboundary movement of waste and increase the effectiveness of inspection and custom services, border guards and the police.	TAIEX

Publications:

Name	Date of Publication	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
Final Publication Legal Assistance for the Elaboration and Adaptation of the National Legislation for the Effective Implementation of the Basel Convention	July 2005	Output of a project	Publication	English	US\$ 4,104
Development, Maintenance and Operation of BCRC Bratislava Web Site	September 2005	The aim is to speed up and facilitate access to information for all the served National Focal Points and other Centre's stakeholders.	www.sazp.sk/bcrc	English	

Name	Date of Publication	Purpose	Format	Languages	Cost
CD about BCRC Bratislava activities prepared to the COP7	October 2004	Information about the Centre's and regional activities	CD	English	US\$ 1,000

Framework Agreement: The FA is in progress.

Business Plan: Endorsed by CEE countries served by the BCRC Bratislava in July 2004.

Other activities: participation at

November 2004 – Roundtable on International Chemicals Management, 16th COP to the Montreal Protocol, Prague, Czech Republic

May 2005 – SAICM CEE Regional Consultations, Ljubljana, Slovenia

July 2005 – OEWG 4, Geneva

November 2005 – Workshop on the Implementation of MEAs, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Dana Lapešová,
BCRC Bratislava

Basel Convention Regional Centre Trinidad and Tobago

In 2004, leading up to the Conference of Parties (COP) 7 of the Basel Convention, the focus at the center was towards finalization of the draft framework agreement for signing at the COP 7. This signing of the agreement was completed on 29th October, 2004 at Geneva.

In addition to the other activities carried out by the Center (to be described subsequently) the center continued informal liaison between the parties of the framework agreement to promote and expedite the necessary legislation for the implementation of critical aspects of the framework agreement. This legislation has not yet been passed and adopted and presents constraints in some quarters.

Notwithstanding these constrains, the Center participated at the national level in several activities. Among these were, a workshop on drafting a strategic plan for the Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment of Trinidad and Tobago (MPUETT) and an exhibition of the Water and Sewage Authority at the Trincity Mall, Trinidad, to create awareness of the Basel Convention. Participation in monthly meetings with the Ministry (MPUETT) has been a useful opportunity for the Centre to get information on the status of environmental issues at the national level and to communicate and report to the Government on the situation at the Basel Centre.

The Centre has inherited projects in the transition process from the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI).

A project entitled “The Assessment of the Environmentally Sound Management of Used Oil in the Caribbean” with the geographic scope involving all the Party States identified in the Framework Agreement and with cooperating agencies, OECS, CEHI, UNEP-RCU and the IMO is now reassigned from CARIRI directly to the Centre. The cost of the Project was budgeted at US\$126,521.

The ESM of Used Oil in the Caribbean is an issue identified as a priority for the region, included under the 1996 Programme of Action for the Caribbean, adopted at the Regional Seminar on the ESM of Hazardous Wastes in the Caribbean, October 1-4, 1996 in Castries, St. Lucia. However the Project Document had identified the duration of the project to be for 13 months, from June 2003 to July 2004.

In June 2004, a workshop was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad, then under the management of CARIRI. The report of the workshop comprised the results of the OEC’s study, strategies for management of Used Oil and national presentations of ESM of Used Oil by the country representatives. Implementation plans and commitments were suggested and proposed activities were identified to be undertaken.

Because of the passage of time during the transition from CARIRI a supplemental workshop to reassess these implementation plans and commitments agreed to in June 2004 together with updating national reports, is planned for March 21-22, 2006 in Trinidad with full management of the Workshop by the Centre itself.

In similar manner to the Used Oil Project formerly held by CARIRI, the Centre now has full responsibility for the management of the Project entitled, “Used Lead Acid Battery (ULAB) and for the preparation of regional states for the ESM of ULAB.

At a meeting of the Steering Committee in El Salvador in January 2006 a Revised Action Work Plan was devised and accepted. This plan includes a meeting of the Caribbean Party States in April 2006 in Trinidad to bring the draft Regional Strategy up to date and with inclusion of the Caribbean National Reports.

CARIRI was also engaged in a project on obsolete pesticides with the SBC. Again in similar manner to the ULAB and UOIL project the Centre has now undertaken to carry the project forward and hence a workshop with participants from all the Caribbean Party States is to be held in March 23-24, 2006 in Trinidad. The workshop is to consider and finalize a project entitled: The Regional Strategy for the final disposal of existing waste pesticides and selected POPs in the Caribbean and the prevention of future accumulation.

At the Caribbean Water and Waste Water Conference and Exhibition held in Martinique in October 4-8, 2004 the Centre introduced the Basel Convention and the proposed BCRC for the Caribbean. The Centre had the opportunity to interact with Environment West Indies (EWI) who are engaged in the Euro Columbus Project. This has led to further interaction and participation by EWI in the Centre's projects.

At this meeting in Martinique, shortly after a hurricane had devastated Grenada, the concept in integrated data bases at a regional level which would be helpful environmentally sound management (ESM) of waste, especially hazardous waste, was conceived.

The Centre produced a brochure introducing the concept as a proposal for a project entitled, "A Sustainable Pro Active Caribbean Wide Environment Strategy Utilizing Information Technology" (A SPACE SUIT) – "Acronym and Analogy". The brochure also included information on the Regional Centre and its activities.

In conjunction with UNEP chemicals, the Centre successfully managed and coordinated a workshop entitled "Regional Awareness Raising on Mercury Pollution – a global problem that needs to be addressed".

The Centre also participated in workshops sponsored by the Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention both in Rome and Jamaica in 2005. In Rome the workshop explored the synergies between them. The workshop in Jamaica was on the implementation of chemical conventions for English Speaking Caribbean Countries.

Dr. Ronnie Sookhoo
Director
March 09, 2006

Annex II

Projects undertaken by the BCRCs under the Strategic Plan for the implementation of the Basel Convention

Main field	Other Field	Title of project	BCRC or Party	BC Funds	BD Funds	Comments
Africa and West Asia						
e	a, f, h	Hazardous Wastes Landfill (Site Selection, Design and Preparation of Operating Plans) in Arab Region	BCRC Egypt	\$135,541.00		
e	a, g	Hazardous Waste Management in Small Medium Enterprise (SME) in the context of Integrated Life Cycle Management of Materials	Jordan	\$43,513.00		Additional funding provided by Switzerland
e	h	Assessment and recycling of used oils in Africa	BCRC Nigeria	\$36,260.00		
e	a, g, f	Regional Workshop on Successful Case Studies of Recycling, Reuse and Resource Recovery Methods Towards The Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes and Implementation of the Basel Convention in Africa.	BCRC Nigeria	\$80,222.00		
e	a	Inventory of Hazardous Wastes in French speaking countries covered by BCRC-Dakar	BCRC Senegal	\$97,903.00		
f	g, e, h	Development of a database for use by the countries in the region	BCRC South Africa	\$17,128.56		
Asia and Pacific						
a	e, h, f	A New Partnership with Local Authorities for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous and Other Wastes in Urban Areas	BCRC China	\$196,084.00		
e	d, I, f	Survey of the import and the Environmentally Sound Management of electronic wastes in the Asia-Pacific region	BCRC China	\$87,302		

Main field	Other Field	Title of project	BCRC or Party	BC Funds	BD Funds	Comments
e	a	Pilot project on inventory of hazardous waste generation in selected member countries	BCRC Indonesia	\$57,988.00		
e	a, h	Inventory of waste lead-acid batteries	Cambodia	\$40,432.00		
Central and Eastern Europe						
e	i, f	Preparation of a review on the existing national and international legislation on monitoring and control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their environmentally sound management for CIS countries	BCRC Russia	\$36,860.00		
b	g, h, f	International training on implementation of waste minimization- cleaner production	BCRC Slovakia	\$26,953.00		Additional funding from Austria
h	e, f	Regional Workshop for the preparation of a Regional Approach for the Environmentally Sound Management of POPs as wastes in selected Central and Eastern European Countries	BCRC Slovakia	\$38,883.00		
h	e	Workshop on Strengthening of Cooperation between the Chemicals and Hazardous Wastes Conventions	BCRC Slovakia	\$19,932.00		Additional funding from Czech Republic
b	a, g	Scoping Paper on transfer of national experiences with waste prevention and minimization to a trans-regional or an international level	Germany	\$13,402		Additional funding from Germany
Latin America and the Caribbean						
d	i, c	Implementation of the control detection and prevention of illegal traffic of hazardous wastes	BCRC Argentina	\$19,423.00		
e	e f	Preparation of a Regional Strategy for the Environmentally Sound Management of the Used Lead Acid Batteries in Central America and the Caribbean	BCRC El Salvador		\$25,583.00	

Main field	Other Field	Title of project	BCRC or Party	BC Funds	BD Funds	Comments
e	h, f	Preparation of a Regional Strategy for the Environmentally Sound Management of Used Lead Acid Batteries in Central America, Colombia, Venezuela and the Caribbean Island States (phase II)	BCRC Trinidad and Tobago	\$61,462.00	\$18,538 \$20,000.00	Funded under the Strategic Plan and Bilateral Donors \$20,000.00 from the UNEP Regional Seas Programme
e	f	Assessment of the environmentally sound management of used oil in the Caribbean	BCRC Trinidad and Tobago	\$72,521.00		
b	a, h, f	Pilot Program for the Minimization of Impacts Generated by Hazardous Wastes	BCRC Uruguay	\$32,091.00		
e	g, f	Training Program for Municipal Officers in Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes	BCRC Uruguay	\$44,600.00		

Annex III

Projects and activities undertaken by the BCRCs and Parties under the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund

Title of project	Date	BCRC or Party	BC Funds	BD Funds	Comments
Africa and West Asia					
Regional Workshop for Arab States on the Environmentally Sound Destruction of POPs and decontamination of POP containing Waste in the Context of the Basel Convention and the Stockholm Convention	28/8/2005-31/8 2005	BCRC Egypt and Jordan		\$64,563.00	<u>Partners:</u> Switzerland, MOPIC Jordan, UNEP, WHO and FAO- <u>Countries:</u> Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Basel Convention	1/2/2006-31/12/2008	BCRC Egypt		\$1,255,000.00	Funded by Finland <u>Countries:</u> Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
Identification des déchets de Bale précurseurs de dioxines en fonction des pratiques endogènes	1/3/2005-1/9/2005	BCRC Senegal		\$20,000.00	
Management of used oils in sub-Saharan Africa	1/3/2005-20/3/2006	BCRC Senegal		\$100,000.00	
Development of a proposal for a Sustainable Regional Capacity Building Programme to promote the sound Management of Chemicals and Hazardous Wastes within the context of the Strategic Approach to international chemicals Management process and the objective	1/1/2006-1/3/2006	BCRC South Africa		\$20,000.00	Funded by SBC

Title of project	Date	BCRC or Party	BC Funds	BD Funds	Comments
Asia and Pacific					
National Workshop on the Pilot Project for the Monitoring and Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes in Asian Region	1/1/2004-30/4/2004	BCRC Indonesia		\$23,000.00	
Promoting the ratification of the Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for ASEAN Countries	16/5/2006-18/5/2006	BCRC Indonesia		\$75,554.00	Funded by Switzerland
Training workshop on reporting and inventories of hazardous wastes	1/1/2006-31/12/2006	BCRC South Pacific			Fund from the European Commission; DG Environment 24,956 Euro
Central and Eastern Europe					
Legal Assistance for the Elaboration and Adaptation of National Legislation for the Effective Implementation of the Basel Convention in Bulgaria, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Serbia and Montenegro	1/1/2004-1/9/2006	BCRC Slovakia		\$26,471.00	Bilateral Donors (Austria and Belgium)
Strategy on the Management of the Healthcare Waste	1/1/2006-1/1/2007	BCRC Slovakia		\$36,003.00	Bilateral Donor; Euro 30,000.00 from Italy
Development and Establishment of a Lubricating Oil Management System	1/9/2005-1/7/2006	BCRC Slovakia			Bilateral Donors MAP, \$20,000.00 directly to the Centre
Workshop on the Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation	18/1/2006-20/1/2006	BCRC Slovakia			Bilateral Donors (TAIEX), \$35,000.00 directly to the Centre
Workshop on the Environmentally Sound Management of Used Oils	24/4/2006-26/6/2006	BCRC Slovakia			Bilateral Donors \$40,000
Workshop on the Safe and Effective Detection, Investigation, Prosecution of Illegal Traffic of Hazardous and Other Wastes	21/6/2006-23/6/2006	BCRC Slovakia			Bilateral Donors (TAIEX) \$100,000

Latin America and the Caribbean					
Regional Workshop Aimed at Promoting Ratification of the Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage resulting from Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal	22/6/2004-25/6/2004	BCRC Argentina		\$86,790.00	Bilateral Donor, Switzerland
Inventory of e-waste in South America	1/1/2006-31/12/2006	BCRC Argentina		\$70,000.00	Bilateral Donor, United Kingdom
Obsolete Pesticides Management in the Caribbean	23/3/2006-24/3/2006	BCRC Trinidad and Tobago		\$44,000.00	Funded by the Canadian POP Fund
New partnership with local authorities for the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes in the context of the Basel Convention in South America	1/1/2005-17/3/2006	Ecuador, BCRC Uruguay		\$574,136.00	Not Implemented through BCRCs

Annex IV

Basel Convention

Improving the Effectiveness of Regional Operations

Report to the Executive Secretary

FINAL DRAFT

Mike Cockerell

February 26th 2006

Improving the Effectiveness of Basel Convention Regional Operations

Report to the Executive Secretary

*This report has been prepared between November 2005 and February 2006. **The Basel Convention Secretariat is not an implementing agency in itself but the Executive Secretary is responsible for overseeing and supporting the 14 regional and co-ordination centres established under the COP for the design and implementation of projects.** Centres of this Basel Convention Operational Network (BCON) are independent non-for-profit institutions, each with their own rules, systems and procedures. Whilst this has so far been sufficient for the Centres themselves, there has been an increasing need for guidelines, policies and procedures for operation of the network as a whole. In addition, as Centres move to greater independence from their host organisations, there will be an increasing need for support and guidance in the building of management systems and procedures more appropriate for non-for-profit institutions. Whilst it is the Executive Secretary that has taken the initiative to address this need, the result can only be achieved through a collaborative process involving the Secretariat and all Centres.*

*Policy questions on structures, procedures, responsibilities and authorities are raised throughout this report and recommendations made, particularly in the three main sections on the **strategic view**, on **improving effectiveness of the BCON** and on **improving effectiveness of individual Centres**. Ten annexes are included on more detailed treatment of issues raised in the main body of the report. Many of the issues addressed do not have one single correct solution and individual staff members and Centres will have their own views and preferences. When the components of this report have been discussed and further work undertaken, it should be suitably modified and structured in such a way as to constitute the main components of **BCON Operational Guidelines, Rules and Procedures**, which should be made available (through the Basel intranet)† to all staff of all Centres and the Secretariat.*

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Acronyms used in this report

BCRC	Basel Convention Regional Centre (In this report, BCRC is taken to include both the BCRC and the BCCC)
BCCC	Basel Convention Co-ordination Centre
BCON	Basel Convention Operational Network
GEF	Global Environment Fund
INGO	International NGO
IT	Information Technology
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SBC	Secretariat to the Basel Convention
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Basel Convention Regional and Co-ordination Centres (abbreviated in this report as BCRCs) were established under the COP to assist Parties in less developed countries and countries in transition. The focus of the assistance was addressing regional and national weaknesses in implementing the Convention, through designing, marketing and undertaking projects. To date, building that project base has generally been slow.

This report provides recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the Basel Convention Operational Network (BCON) and of individual BCRCs which constitute the network. Improvements in BCON operation is a shared responsibility of all offices but individual BCRCs are independent legal entities and management of their internal affairs is their own individual responsibility. However, the Executive Secretary has a responsibility to oversee the activities of BCON and a duty to provide guidance and support to those Centres that need and want it and this report responds directly to this. The report is complemented by ten annexes which address key issues.

Strategic considerations: A prerequisite for improving the effectiveness and resultant impact of the BCON is that an irresistible case for its work is made and carefully presented to agencies that are capable of financing it. This involves **detailed attention to the crafting of promotional materials and to the structure and presentation of the programme/budget** of the BCON. It also involves the recognition by governments that managing hazardous waste is a high priority in their development programmes, so that in turn, **Centres can demonstrate in project proposals that the minimisation and management of hazardous waste is central to poverty reduction, health, clean water and the other main priority themes of developing countries and countries in transition.** Once this is achieved, introducing the more systematic improvements to the operation of the BCON will be even more important, for ensuring that the increasing workload can be effectively managed. Throughout the report, the fundamental **difference between an institution financed through assessed contributions and one financed largely through project funding** is stressed in terms of increased complexity and risk in governance, financial performance, budget preparation, approval and tracking etc.

Improving BCON effectiveness: The Executive Secretary is responsible to the COP for implementing the agreed Programme within the approved budget. Thus, **the Executive Secretary is obliged to establish and maintain systems and procedures for ensuring satisfactory oversight of the ways in which Centres of the BCON are performing.**

Recommendations are made for changes to the way in which the Programme is assembled and presented, in particular with an improved consolidation of the activities of the BCRCs, and with a matrix structure in which the main substantive themes are presented for execution by the 15 offices of the Convention. Recommendations are also made **for providing more information on the budget** presented to the COP, particularly to better illustrate the participation of the BCRCs.

It was always intended that BCRCs be largely project based and the project process is therefore discussed in detail, with recommendations made for improvements. **It is important that project formulation and approval, marketing, management and reporting by different Centres be co-ordinated, in the interests of efficiency and quality control.** This is particularly important for maintaining the image and reputation of the Convention and for gaining and ensuring the continued support of financing agencies.

Maintaining an overview of the BCON's current and projected financial situation, in such a way that the Executive Secretary can require corrective action in the case of financial difficulties in a particular Centre, demands **carefully designed systems for regular financial reporting, and for income and expenditure projection**. These systems are described and recommendations made for their final design and introduction. It is also recommended that the **SBC should issue quarterly management reports to all Centres**, providing essential news on progress and on the current and projected financial situation of the BCON and its constituent parts.

There is intense competition for financing regional and national projects, poverty reduction, clean water, health, education and humanitarian relief being considerably more appealing at present than environmental issues. Raising additional funds for project operations, whether for implementation by the Secretariat or Centres, demands a highly professional and carefully co-ordinated approach. **Recommendations are made for the establishment of a Resource Mobilisation Plan and systems for approving new projects, marketing new projects, tracking progress on donor negotiations and projecting income**. A new **Resource Mobilisation Committee** is also recommended for overseeing plan implementation. An Annex on resource mobilisation principles is included.

Providing support and guidance to individual Centres: Independent governance of non-for-profit organisations is of critical importance, and as BCRCs move further towards becoming autonomous institutions with their own legal personalities, there will be an increasing need for independent governance. Different Centres see the importance of governance in different ways and have approached it in different ways. The issue of **governance is discussed in some detail and recommendations made for ensuring independent fiduciary responsibility**.

Sound management of finance and administration is very often an afterthought in the establishment of non-for-profit organisations, simply because the emphasis of the staff is initially on substantive outputs. Most Centres have been established under the wing of other organisations, such as universities, research institutes or even departments of government. **With the gradual move to becoming independent, it is essential that the appropriate management, administrative and entrepreneurial skills be developed** and in this, SBC must play an important role.

Generic Staff Rules and Conditions of Service are presented in draft form in Annexes, for consideration by Centres. It is expected that most Centres will prefer to continue using the rules of their hosting institution, particularly if that hosting institution is continuing to provide financial and administrative services to the Centre. However, where the Centre breaks away from this host institution and really exercises its status as autonomous independent legal entities under the Convention, the generic rules provided by SBC should normally be adopted after suitable adaptation to the local situation. Annexes are also included to provide draft standard contracts for consultants and consultant firms.

BCRCs all manage their finances in different ways, although those that have benefited from significant support from the BD trust Fund have of necessity adopted **the UNEP chart of account and reporting systems and procedures**. It is recommended that these be adopted by all Centres as they are good tried and tested systems. **Draft Financial Rules and Procedures are presented** in the Annex. They are not comprehensive but present what is considered to be the main elements that will be required by the new NGO.

Recommendations are made for how indirect costs should be calculated, reduced, accounted and passed on to agencies financing projects. If the competence of BCRCs to manage their finances is built up, donors may be persuaded to contract directly with

BCRCs, so reducing these indirect costs by 13%, which is currently retained by the UN for management of the Technical Co-operation Trust Fund. The critical and difficult issue of **building reserves** is also addressed, in that it is almost impossible to operate an NGO without reserves and yet, few agencies will approve the taxing of activities that they finance, to build them. Time management is also briefly discussed. Time is the most expensive commodity of service organisations such as BCRCs, and must be accounted for. Whilst this concept is difficult for many organisations to understand, it is all too well understood in the world of auditing, law, accountancy and consulting and it is strongly recommended that BCRCs ensure that staff time is accurately costed in project proposals and that it is suitably billed to the projects as they are implemented.

This Executive Summary will be read more widely than the full report. The final section of the report is brief and important and is therefore reproduced in its entirety as follows:

Recognising that the Secretariat was not an implementing agency, the COP decided that a network of Basel regional centres was needed to help parties and other institutions in the less developed world and countries in transition, to address hazardous waste management challenges, through designing implementing projects. It was assumed that these operations would be financed by a variety of sources, including development assistance agencies. That network of independent Centres now has considerable potential for achieving its mandate but it also constitutes a considerable risk. Most Centres are or will soon be independent non-for-profit institutions, with no financial reserves and limited institutional experience in designing and managing regional projects. In addition, critical issues such as fiduciary responsibility and independent oversight have not been accorded due attention. This latter is in large part due to the costs of bringing regional governing bodies together once or preferably twice per year.

It is recommended that:

All Centres review their governance structures with a view to enduring the necessary independent programme and fiduciary oversight;

Centres seek to ensure that financial provisions are made in their budgets to allow for annual and if possible biannual meetings of their governing bodies. In addition, they should seek funds to enable the director to visit the Secretariat for annual meetings of the BCON once per year. It is possible that the Secretariat may have to assist Centres in obtaining these funds if they cannot be allocated from the respective regions;

Budget provision be made for the Executive Secretary to attend the governing body or steering committee meetings of individual Centres;

Bureau be required to ensure annual oversight of the Centres' programmes and budgets, based on reports prepared by the Executive Secretary. Two meetings will be required per year, in November/December for the approval of the BCRC budgets and programmes and in April/May to review programme implementation for the previous year, to receive the auditors reports and decide on any necessary actions. In addition, the Bureau would be required to review the approve policies and procedures for the BCON as a whole;

The Executive Secretary be required to ensure that appropriate overview of the programme and finances of the Centres is maintained, as discussed in the text of this report, and to ensure suitable capacity building support is made available to Centres for the application of necessary systems, procedures and rules relevant to the operation of the BCON and to the management and administration of individual Centres. These two requirements should be carefully budgeted and the necessary finances approved.

Annex V

General information on BCRCs

The Regional and Coordinating Centres of the Basel Convention

Conscious of the need to address regional specificities and the need to facilitate the implementation of global issues at the regional level, countries foresaw the establishment of Basel Convention Regional and Coordinating Centres (BCRCs) at the time of the adoption of the Convention. In 1994, the Parties initiated the selection of the BCRCs. The first few years were dedicated to the institutional establishment of a growing number of Centres. Article 14 of the Convention addresses the issue of the establishment of the Centres to respond to the specific needs of the different regions in the world in terms of training and technology transfer for the minimization and environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes.

On several occasions, Parties reiterated the importance of the Centres in their assistance to implement the Basel Convention. In particular, reference is made to the 1999 “**Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management**”. The Declaration recognized the need to further develop the BCRCs as an efficient means to achieve the goals of environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes enshrined in the Basel Convention.

At its sixth meeting in 2002, the Conference of the Parties agreed that the “**Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention**” would constitute the major instrument to give effect to the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes until 2010. The Strategic Plan calls for the BCRCs to be a major regional delivery mechanism to implement the policy priorities of the Basel Declaration.

At the seventh meeting of the Parties to the Basel Convention in 2004, a “**Ministerial Statement on Partnerships for Meeting the Global Waste Challenge**” was adopted in which the continuous strengthening of the BCRCs was emphasised.

Basel Declaration on Environmentally Sound Management

The following fields were recognized as the focus for the decade (2000-2010):

- Prevention, minimization, recycling, recovery and disposal of hazardous and other wastes, taking into account social, technological and economic concerns;
- active promotion and use of cleaner technologies and production methods;
- further reduction of movement of hazardous and other wastes;
- the prevention and monitoring of illegal traffic;
- improvement of institutional and technical capabilities -through technology when appropriate - especially for developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- further development of regional centres for training and technology transfer;
- enhancement of information exchange, education and awareness-raising in all sectors of society;
- cooperation and partnership with the public authorities, international organizations, the industry sector, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions;
- development of mechanisms for compliance with and for the monitoring and effective implementation of the Convention and its amendments.

Core Functions of the Basel Convention Regional Centres

1. Training
2. Technology Transfer
3. Information
4. Consulting
5. Awareness-raising

In particular:

- (a) Developing and conducting training programmes, workshops, seminars and associated projects in the field of the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, transfer of environmentally sound technology and minimization of the generation of hazardous wastes, with specific emphasis on training of trainers and the promotion of ratification and implementation of the Convention and its instruments;
- (b) Identifying, developing and strengthening mechanisms for the transfer of technology in the field of environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes or their minimization in the region;
- (c) Gathering, assessing and disseminating information in the field of hazardous wastes and other wastes to Parties of the region and to the secretariat;
- (d) Collecting information on new or proven environmentally sound technologies and know-how relating to environmentally sound management and minimization of the generation of hazardous wastes and other wastes and disseminating these to Parties of the region at their request;
- (e) Establishing and maintaining regular exchange of information relevant to the provisions of the Basel Convention, and networking at the national and regional levels;
- (f) Organizing meetings, symposiums and missions in the field, useful for carrying out these objectives in the region;
- (g) Providing assistance and advice to the Parties and non-parties of the region at their request, on matters relevant to the environmentally sound management or minimization of hazardous wastes, the implementation of the provisions of the Basel Convention and other related matters;
- (h) Promoting public awareness;
- (i) Encouraging the best approaches, practices and methodologies for environmentally sound management and minimization of the generation of hazardous wastes and other wastes, for example, through case studies and pilot projects;
- (j) Cooperating with the United Nations and its bodies, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme and the specialized agencies, and with other relevant intergovernmental organizations, industry and non-governmental organizations, and, where appropriate, with any other institution, in order to coordinate activities and develop and implement joint projects related to the provisions of the Basel Convention and develop synergies where appropriate with other multilateral environmental agreements;
- (k) Developing, within the general financial strategy approved by the Parties, the Centres' own strategy for financial sustainability;
- (l) Cooperating in mobilization of human, financial and material means in order to meet the urgent needs at the request of the Party(ies) of the region faced with incidents or accidents which cannot be solved with the means of the individual Party(ies) concerned;
- (m) Performing any other functions assigned to it by the decisions of the Conference of the Parties of the Basel Convention or by Parties of the region consistent with such decisions.

Core Functions of the Coordinating Centres of the Basel Convention¹

1. Ensuring interaction, including exchange of information, between the secretariat of the Basel Convention and the Regional Centres, among the subregional centres, Parties and other related institutions;
2. Conveying regional consultation to identify priorities and formulate strategies;

¹ In addition to the core functions of the Basel Convention Regional Centres

3. Supporting and coordinating common tasks of the subregional centres in the field of policies, information, communication, technical and financial assessment;
4. Defining and executing programmes of regional scope in coordination with the subregional centres;
5. Identifying, promoting and strengthening the synergies and mechanisms of cooperation among the subregional centres and other stakeholders in environmentally sound management and the minimization of generation of hazardous waste and technology transfer in and outside the region;
6. Keeping a compilation system for information and making such information accessible to stakeholders.

Legal Establishment of the Basel Convention Regional and Coordinating Centres

The Basel Convention Regional and Coordinating Centres have been operational for a number of years. However, it has been recognised by the Parties to the Basel Convention that their legal establishment is an essential step towards creating stable institutions with the capacity to assist in the implementation of the Basel Convention at the regional level.

The Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, at its sixth meeting, held in December 2002, adopted Decision VI/3 that outlines the core elements that all the Framework Agreements should include. The decision also describes the functions of the Basel Convention Regional Centres and Coordinating Centres. In addition, it provides that signature of the Framework Agreements will establish the Centres as legally independent entities.

There are two model agreements establishing two different types of institutions:

- an inter-governmental institution (i.e. an inter-governmental institution concludes an agreement with the Secretariat to undertake the functions of the Centre), and
- a national institution with regional role (i.e. an institution established under the national law of the host Government concludes an agreement with the Secretariat to exercise the regional functions of the Centre).

To date, eight Framework Agreements have been signed.

Pacific Regional Centre for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the South Pacific Region	<i>18 December 2003</i>
BCRC for Latin America and Caribbean Region	<i>30 January 2004</i>
BCRC for the Arab States	<i>29 October 2004</i>
BCRC for Southeast Asia	<i>29 October 2004</i>
BCRC for the Caribbean Region	<i>29 October 2004</i>
BCRC for French-speaking Countries in Africa	<i>1 March 2005</i>
BCRC in Argentina	<i>8 July 2005</i>
BCRC in Tehran	<i>27 July 2005</i>

The BCRC for English-speaking Africa adopted the inter-governmental model which was signed in 2004