



The Second Regional Workshop on National Reporting of Basel Convention for Arab States

The Final Report

24-26th March 2014, Alexandria - Egypt



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- *The Government of Finland*, for their persistent incorporeal and financial support for BCRC-Egypt and its activities through the project the Finnish Government funds, under which this workshop was organized, as the first official regional activity.
- *Cairo University*, for its continuous support for BCRC-Egypt through hosting its headquarters.
- *United Nations Development Program*, for its fruitful collaboration with BCRC-Egypt in running the project funded by the Government of Finland.
- *The Arab League*, for its permanent coordination with BCRC-Egypt in fulfilling the Arab Countries candidates' logistic and administrative requirements.
- *BCRC-Egypt Staff*, for their professional and efficient efforts in organizing and running all BCRC-Egypt local and regional activities, especially this workshop.

PREFACE

*One of the recommendations of the first Regional Workshop on National Reporting of Basel Convention for Arab States was a follow up to the first workshop with a second workshop in which there will be more focus on the *electronic submitting system (ESM)*. This recommendation was second by a request from the CSC in its second meeting to hold this workshop, due to the strategic and political dimension of this specific topic.*

BCRC-Egypt with the assistance of SBC organised a two (2) days Regional workshop for the Arab states focal points of Basel Convention, who are in charge of filling and submitting the national report on behalf of their countries. The main target of the workshop was to shed more light on the national reporting and its electronic submission system (*See Appendix 1 for the Agenda*).

The workshop took place in Alexandria, Egypt, March, 2014. The workshop targeted the official National Focal points assigned by the Parties under article (5) of the Convention; or those, responsible for collection of data and information required for the national report. The workshop was attended by 16 participants from 15 Arab countries namely; Algeria, Kingdom of Bahrain, Republic of Djibouti, Arab Republic of Egypt, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanese Republic, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Kingdom of Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Authority, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of the Sudan, Tunisian Republic, and Yemeni Republic. The 16 participants included 3 female participants in the workshop (*Appendix 5*).

The workshop objectives were to raise the efficiency of focal points and homelands rationing officials for information gathering and preparation of national reports submitted electronically annually to the General Secretariat of Basel Convention, to identify of difficulties faced by a number of countries to provide information on the management of hazardous waste to public aspirations and in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 3, of the Convention, and to assist the participating countries in meeting their reporting obligations under Basel Convention.

The workshop successfully managed to define of difficulties faced by the Arab States to provide information on the overall management of hazardous waste and other waste, to assist the participating countries in meeting their reporting obligations under Basel Convention, to elaborate more details about the new electronic reporting system and to practice live trial for the electronic reporting system using several experiences of the Arab States.

The Secretariat of Basel Convention (SBC) has presented the required technical support through presenting some presentations (through video conference facility) about the final updates of the state of the Arab states national reporting.

A novel trend that BCRC-Egypt initiated in that workshop was to invite a world renowned expert in the field of HW management to be *a guest of honor and keynote speaker* through its events, to enhance the benefit trainees may gain from interacting with these experts. In this workshop, the invited guest of honor was *Mrs. Katharina Kumar, the ex-Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention Secretariat*.

A main direct result of the two workshops BCRC-Egypt conducted about National Reporting was that 4 Arab countries submitted their national report to BS.

Back to back with that workshop, members of the CSC met (with the rest of Arab countries delegates as observers) in the presence of Mr. Ramses Malaty, representing the Finnish Embassy for The Third Steering Committee Meeting. The outcomes of the meeting were as follow:

- The committee was informed about the past workshops outcomes.
- The committee was informed about the latest developments concerning establishing BCRC-Egypt new headquarters.
- The BCRC presented to the members of the committee the pilot launching of the new website of the center. The members were demanded to submit any feedback or comments on the website by mid-April.
- The committee acknowledged BCRC-Egypt efforts in moving ahead with the implementing the center work plan.
- The committee approved the draft internal Rules and regulations for the Center.
- The committee thanked BCRC Egypt for preparing a draft proposal for the sustainability of financial resources of the center and requested the Director of BCRC to propose mechanism(s) to put the proposal into action.
- Repeated request from the members to provide the center with the latest updates on the national focal points contact details.
- Repeated requests from the members to inform BCRC Egypt Director of any activities the respective countries would like to host.

THE WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Daily Reporting

The First Day 24th of March, 2014

Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony commenced at 10:00 am. Prof. Mostafa Kamel, BCRC-Egypt Director, in his opening statement, welcomed all participants and emphasized the importance of this workshop for many reasons:

- This workshop came as a follow up to the first regional workshop for national reporting, according to the recommendation that was stated by the participants by the end of the first workshop. This in turn emphasize the concern of BCRC-Egypt about national reporting of its members countries due its importance for the efficiency of the project implementation by the Arab states and the urgent need of these states to follow Basel Convention regulations related to updating their fact sheets.
- BCRC-Egypt steering committee meeting that was proposed to take place on the sidelines of the workshop, to follow up with the project working plan of 2013-2014.
- This workshop witnessed the technical support from the BS through the video tele-conference facility which, in turn, maximizes the benefit that participants could gain through the workshop.

Prof. Gamal Abd Elnasser, the Vice President of Cairo university also welcomed the participants and expressed his happiness that Cairo university as the hosting institute for BCRC-Egypt could take part in that important workshop.

Mrs. Katharina Kumar, the ex-Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention Secretariat and the guest of honor of BCRC-Egypt expressed, in her brief speech, her deep happiness to take part in the workshop for many reasons:

- Being the first guest of honor of BCRC-Egypt in one of its activities, gave her a great honor.
- Being in Egypt generally and in Alexandria specifically pleased her for the beauty of Alexandria.
- The importance of the topic covered through the workshop which is the national reporting.

Mr. Mohamed Kona, the Arab League Representative delivered a brief speech on behalf of HE Dr. Nabil Elarbi, the General Secretary of the Arab League, expressing the Arab League continuous support for BCRC-Egypt as the regional center that serves the Arab states in implementing Basel Convention.

Alexandria Governorate Representative delivered a welcoming word was delivered, on behalf of H.E. Colonel/ Tarek Mahdy, Alexandria Governor, in which he welcomed the Arab states delegates and expressed his happiness to host this important workshop in Alexandria and hoped all participants enjoy their stay and experience in Alexandria.

The First Session

-Prof Moustafa Hussien Kamel, the Director of BCRC-Egypt, delivered a presentation in which he presented an introduction to the objectives and methodology of the workshop and an overview on National reporting under Basel Convention. Prof. Kamel, also, overviewed the outcomes of the 1st national reporting workshop (16- 17 Dec. 2013-Hurghada)

- A Rapporteur was selected among the participants to be Mrs. Reema Hendy, the representative of Jordan.

-Then, Open Discussions by Arab Countries Delegates about the troubles and challenges they face during their National Reporting, and the summary of this discussions were stated by the Rapporteur.

-This was followed by a presentation delivered by Ms. Carla Valle-Klann, Programme Officer, Scientific Support Branch, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, through the Video Tele-Conference facility, who gave an overview for a Guidance document on improving national reporting by Parties to the Basel Convention. Then that was followed with discussions among the workshop participants concerning the Basel Conventions obligations and the feasible trend to follow them.

The Second Session

This session started with a presentation delivered by Ms. Carla Valle-Klann, Programme Officer, Scientific Support Branch, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, through the Video Tele-Conference facility, about Requirements for National Reporting under the Basel Convention, then a Case Study from Egypt was presented by Eng. Adel El-Shafie, General Director of Wastes and Hazardous chemicals EEAA, National Focal Point of Basel Convention-Egypt.

-This was followed with Discussions among All participants concerning the national reporting requirements. Finally the Summary of the 1st day was presented by the Rapporteur

Second Day, 25th of March 2014

The First Session

-This session started with a presentation that was delivered by Mrs. Katharina Kumar, the ex-Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention Secretariat and the guest of honor of BCRC-Egypt about the General Guidance of National reporting.

- Then Ms. Carla Valle-Klann, Programme Officer, Scientific Support Branch, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, through the Video Tele-Conference facility, presented a talk about the Electronic Reporting System, in which she explained in details the process of the national reports submission through this new system. This was followed by general discussions between all participants.

The Second Session

This session started with a presentation delivered by Mr. Abdul Mohsen Mahmoud Youssef, Head of waste management section, the supreme Council for Environment and the Bahraini national focal point for the Basel Convention about the Bahraini experience in submitting its national report through the new electronic system. This was followed by an exercise for discussing issues related to national reporting by all participants.

Evaluation sheets for the workshop were distributed among the participants and the completed sheets were collected either by hand or by e-mail (*Appendix 3*)

The Closing Session

This session started with a brief speech that was delivered by Mrs. Katharina Kumar, the ex-Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention Secretariat and the guest of honor of BCRC-Egypt, in which she stated her remarks on the workshop. Then the workshop Rapporteur summarized its Conclusive remarks and recommendations. Finally Prof Moustafa kamel, BCRC-Director, gave a closing speech in which he expressed his happiness for the success of the workshop and thanked the participants for their effective participation and fruitful discussions. Then, he thanked BCRC-Staff for their great efforts in organizing the workshop.

Finally Prof. Kamel distributed the workshop participation certificates on the Arab states delegates with taking a memorial photo with each delegate and a final collective memorial photo for the workshop participants and organizers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. BCRC-Egypt should keep following up with the member countries about their national reporting status
2. BCRC-Egypt should ask Basel Convention Secretariat to provide the Arab countries with the necessary technical support to assist them in their national reporting.
3. BCRC-Egypt should continue offering the Arab countries with technical support through conducting more workshops on national reporting, especially the new electronic system, on a periodic basis.
4. National focal points should pay more commitments towards collecting data and submitting their national report on time.
5. Arab Countries which didn't attend this workshop are strongly encouraged to approach BCRC-Egypt for technical support.

WORKSHOP MULTIMEDIA



All Arab Countries focal points and officials are strongly encouraged to visit BCRC-Egypt official website (www.bcrc-egypt.com) and **BCRCEgypt** Facebook official webpage, to see all BCRC-Egypt activities multimedia.

APPENDIX

1. Agenda



The Second Regional Workshop on National Reporting of Basel Convention for Arab States and the Third Steering Committee Meeting

24-26th March 2014, Alexandria - Egypt

Agenda

First Day, 24 th of March 2014		
08:30 - 09:30	Registration of participants	BCRC-Egypt
09:30 - 10:30	Opening remarks and Group Photo	Prof. Mostafa Kamel, Director , BCRC-Egypt Vice President, Cairo University (Host) Arab League Representative Guest of Honour Representative of the Alexandria Governor
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
Session One		
11:30 - 11:45	Introduction of the participants and warm-up session	All participants
11:45 - 12:15	Objectives of the workshop Work organization Outcomes of the 1 st workshop (16-17 Dec. 2013-Hurghada)	Prof. Mostafa Kamel, Director , BCRC-Egypt
12:15 - 13:00	Open Discussions by Arab Countries Delegates about their troubles and challenging facing National Reporting	All participants
13:00 – 13:15	Summary of the Open Discussions	Rapporteur
13:15 – 14:00	Guidance document on improving national reporting by Parties to the Basel Convention	Eng. Adel Shafei, EEAA
14:00 – 14:30	Discussions	All participants
14:30 – 15:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
Session Two		
15:30 – 16:15	Requirements for National Reporting under the Basel Convention	Eng. Adel Shafei, EEAA
16:15 – 17:15	Case Study	Eng. Adel Shafei, EEAA
17:15 – 17:45	Discussions	All participants
17:45 – 18:00	Summary of the 1 st day	Rapporteur

The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States in Egypt

Second Day, 25th of March 2014

Session One		
09:00 – 09:30	General Guidance of National reporting	Guest of Honour
09:30 – 10:30	Electronic Reporting System	Dr. Abdel Moheesen, Bahrain
10:30 – 11:00	Discussions	All participants
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
Session Two		
11:30 – 12:30	Case Study (Bahrain)	Dr. Abdel Moheesen, Bahrain
12:30-13:30	An Exercise for discussing things related to national reporting	All participants
13:30 – 14:00	Discussions	
14:00 – 15:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
Last Session		
15:00-15:30	Guest of Honour workshop remarks	All participants
15:30-16:00	Conclusive remarks and recommendations	Rapporteur
16:00-17:00	Delivery of Certificates Workshop closure and memorial group photo	

Third Day, 26th of March 2014

10:00-12:00	The third Steering Committee meetings	All Countries
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
12:30 – 14:00	The third Steering Committee meetings (Continue)	All Countries
14:00 – 15:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
15:00 – 16:00	Decisions and reporting	All Countries
Closing Session		

2. Budget Summary

The whole workshops operation expenses, including covering participants' travelling, accommodation and DSA will always be a challenge for BCRC-Egypt, in order to be capable to run the required activities with the required quality that can fulfill the Arab countries needs for proper implementation of Basel Convention regulations.

- **Estimated Budget: \$ 30,000**
- **Actual Budget: \$ 30,000**

3. Evaluation Sheet and Its Results Analysis



The Second Regional Workshop on National Reporting of Basel Convention for Arab States and the Third Steering Committee Meeting

24-26th March 2014, Alexandria - Egypt

Evaluation Form

Participant name (optional): _____

Country name (optional): _____

Please rate the following items. This will help us improve for future events and assess the value of the current event.

Content and presentations related

1. The workshop reached most of your expectations.

() totally agree () partially agree () disagree

Please explain: _____

2. The workshop was an opportunity to exchange information and experiences with other Parties.

() totally agree () partially agree () disagree

Please explain: _____

3. The workshop was an opportunity to learn about national definition and classification of HW.

() totally agree () partially agree () disagree

Please explain: _____

4. The workshop was an opportunity to learn about methods to develop national inventories.

() totally agree () partially agree () disagree

Please explain: _____

5. The workshop was an opportunity to learn about national reporting and the required content.

() totally agree () partially agree () disagree

Please explain: _____

6. The workshop will help the participating Parties in meeting their reporting obligations under the BC.

() totally agree () partially agree () disagree

Please explain: _____

The Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for Arab States in Egypt

7. The quality of the country presentations was:

very good good bad

Please explain: _____

8. The quality of the technical presentations was:

very good good bad

Please explain: _____

Organization and infrastructure related

9. The workshop was well organized.

totally agree partially agree disagree

Please explain: _____

10. The workshop travel arrangements were well organized.

totally agree partially agree disagree

Please explain: _____

11. The workshop infrastructure was adequate.

totally agree partially agree disagree

Please explain: _____

12. The room where the workshop took place was adequate.

totally agree partially agree disagree

Please explain: _____

13. Your level of satisfaction regarding the coffee breaks is:

totally satisfied partially satisfied not satisfied

Please explain: _____

14. Your level of satisfaction regarding the meals provided in the venue is:

totally satisfied partially satisfied not satisfied

Please explain: _____

Other issues

15. If you have any suggestion, comments or critique to do, please use the space below for that. Your opinion is very important to us.

Total Number of Completed Evaluation Sheets = 16















<i>Question No.</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Answers</i>		
		<i>Totally Agree</i>	<i>Partially Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>
1	The workshop reached most of your expectations	15	1	0
2	The workshop was an opportunity to exchange information and experiences with other Parties.	13	3	0
3	The workshop was an opportunity to learn about national definition and classification of HW.	9	6	1
4	The workshop was an opportunity to learn about methods to develop national inventories.	14	2	0
5	The workshop was an opportunity to learn about national reporting and the required content.	15	1	0
6	The workshop will help the participating Parties in meeting their reporting obligations under the BC.	14	2	0
9	The workshop was well organized.	12	4	0
10	The workshop travel arrangements were well organized.	11	5	0
11	The workshop infrastructure was adequate.	12	4	0
12	The room where the workshop took place was adequate.	14	2	0
<i>Question No.</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Answers</i>		
		<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Bad</i>
7	The quality of the country presentations was:	8	6	2
8	The quality of the technical presentations was:	10	5	1
<i>Question No.</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Answers</i>		
		<i>Totally Satisfied</i>	<i>Partially Satisfied</i>	<i>Not Satisfied</i>
13	Your level of satisfaction regarding the coffee breaks is	13	3	0
14	Your level of satisfaction regarding the meals provided In the venue Is:	12	4	0

The analysis

The results, in general, showed that the workshop has fulfilled its main objectives in helping the national focal points to understand more about their commitments concerning national reporting and especially with the new electronic system that has been applied by the BS. Also the workshop re-highlighted the obstacles and challenges that may face the national focal points while data collecting, filling in and submission of the national report especially with the new system. Furthermore, the workshop gave a great chance to the candidates to have a lot of discussions and debates with the BS representative about the best ways to facilitate the whole national reporting process.

Also, one of the fruits of this workshop was to have a full technical support from the BS through the facility of Video Tele-conference and as a result Basel secretariat representative managed to explain the new electronic reporting system in an simple way..

4. Participants List

 <p>Abdul Mohsen Al Mahmoud Bahrain</p>	 <p>Saleh Said Mohamed Oman</p>	 <p>Abderrazak Marzuki Tunisia</p>	 <p>Ali Eldobhani Yemen</p>	 <p>Abdo Mohamed Abdallah Djibouti</p>
 <p>Abd Allah Ahmed Bejily Saudi Arabia</p>	 <p>Abdelbaki Djemaat Algeria</p>	 <p>Molay Abd Elmoamen Mauritania</p>	 <p>Ali Mohamed Ali Sudan</p>	 <p>Rima Elhendy Jordan</p>
 <p>Adel Shafie Egypt</p>	 <p>Hanna Bou Habib Lebanon</p>	 <p>Yasser Khalil Egypt</p>	 <p>Mohamed Taher Djibouti</p>	 <p>Mahmoud Abo Shanab Palestinian Authority</p>
 <p>Katharina Kummer Perry Ex-Executive Secretary of Basel Convention Secretariat</p>	 <p>Suad Taqi Kuwait</p>	 <p>Yasser Badr R\Egypt</p>	 <p>Amal Lemisioui Morocco</p>	 <p>Carla Valle-Klann Basel Convention Secretariat</p>

