



The International Symposium on Sustainable Waste Management

Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 21st-24th of June, 2014

The Final Report



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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 Symposium 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 Symposium.

PREFACE

BCRC-Egypt with the assistance of SBC organised a three (3) days Regional symposium for the Arab states national technical officials, who are involved in Waste Management in their countries. The main target of the workshop was to address the defects in regional measures followed for waste management and introduce more effective measures to the participants. The workshop took place in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 21st-24th of June, 2014. (*see Appendix 1 for the Agenda*).

The workshop targeted the official National Focal points assigned by the Parties under article (5) of the Convention; or those, responsible for management of waste in their countries. 16 participants from 14 Arab countries attended this workshop; Algeria, Comoro, Republic of Djibouti, Arab Republic of Egypt, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanese Republic, Kingdom of Morocco, Oman, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of the Sudan, Tunisian Republic, and Yemeni Republic. Among 20 participants, 6 females participated in the workshop (*Appendix 5*).

The workshop objectives were to define of difficulties and defects faced by a number of countries to apply the most effective measures for management of hazardous waste, discuss the feasible ways to overcome those difficulties and the most applicable alternatives that could raise the efficiency of waste management in the Arab countries. Also The Director of Basel Convention Regional Centre (BCRC) and a Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for English speaking African Countries attended the symposium as a guest of honor of the symposium.

The workshop successfully managed to define of difficulties faced by the Arab States in management of hazardous waste and other waste, to assist the participating countries in defining the defects in the measures they follow national on waste management, and to introduce them to new international successful measures that they can follow in their countries.

On the sideline of the workshop, three side sessions took place with the help of BRS Secretariat (through video conference facility). The first session targeted Introducing the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment Initiative (PACE) to the participants, to encourage the Arab countries to join that initiative.

The second session addressed Facilitation of the entry into force of the Ban Amendment, in which the Arab participants were introduced to that issue to encourage the Arab countries entry into force of the Ban amendment. Finally, a third session took place as a follow up for the two previous workshops that addressed the national reporting.

The Secretariat of Basel Convention (SBC), has presented the required technical support through presenting three presentations (through video conference facility) about the final updates of the state of the Arab states national reporting (as a follow up for the last two workshops that were organized by BCRC-Egypt), the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment Initiative (PACE) and Ban amendment.

Also in the framework of BCRC-Egypt policy of holding synergies between BCRC-Egypt and other Basel Convention regional centers, Mr. Taelo Letesla, the Director of Basel Convention Regional Center for the English speaking African countries (South Africa) was invited as a keynote speaker in the symposium.

Finally, the symposium witnessed participation form different sectors of the society, whom are concerned with the ESM of waste, such as the private sector (Environics), Industry (Mobinil) and NGOs (HEPCA).

THE SYMPOSIUM SUMMARY

Daily Reporting

The First Day Saturday, 21st of June, 2014

Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony commenced at 10:00. Prof. Mostafa Kamel, BCRC-Egypt Director, in his opening statement, welcomed all participants and attendees, especially Major General / Mahmoud Ibrahim, the Head of Sharm ElSheikh City, on behalf of H.E. Major General / Khaled Foda, the Governor of the South of Sinai Governorate and Dr. Taelo Lastela, the Director of BCRC for English speaking African countries. Prof Kamel emphasized the importance of this Symposium for the following reasons:

- The importance of the topic the Symposium is discussing, which is the sustainable waste management, because of the impact of implementing the ESM of wastes on the impelmenatio0n of BC.
- This symposium created the first opportunity of synergy between BCRC-Egypt and another BC regional center (BCRC for the English speaking African countries) through the participation of its director in the symposium
- The bridging that will be created though this symposium, between BCRC-Egypt and the stakeholders such as the private sector, the industry and the NGOs, through their active participation the symposium.
- Finally, the experience the participants should gain through the technical support provided by BS, that will expose the participants to strategic topics such as PACE and the Ban Amendment.

The South of Sinai Governorate Welcoming word was delivered by Major General / Mahmoud Ibrahim, the Head of Sharm ElSheikh City, on behalf of H.E. Major General / Khaled Foda, the Governor of the South of Sinai Governorate. Major General/ Ibrahim welcomed the Arab states delegates and expressed his happiness that the city of Sharm ElSheikh hosted this regional symposium especially with its great importance to the ESM of waste. He added that Sharm ElSheikh is one of the pioneer cities in Egypt that trying to follow such standards.

Dr. Taelo Lastela, the Director of BCRC for English speaking African countries, had a brief ward in which he thank BCRC-Egypt and its director for the invitation to attend the symposium and he emphasized on the importance o synergy between the BC regional centers all over the world, especially the ones in Africa.

Finally, Mr. Mohamed Kona, the Arab League Representative delivered a short word on behalf of HE Dr. Nabil Elarbi, the General Secretary of the Arab League, expressing the Arab League support for the project and for BCRC-Egypt as a regional center that aids the Arab states in implementing Basel Convention.

The Presentations

(Chaired by Ali Mohamed Ali and Abd Allah Bejily)

-Dr. Lastela delivered his first talk in the symposium about Potential opportunities in e-waste recycling in Africa. At the beginning of his talk, he gave an overview about his center, its member states and its activity. Then he briefed the audience about the impact if e-waste on environment and health and explained the reasons his centers is focusing on that topic, especially with poor management of e-waste in the African counties. Then he emphasized that all key players should play their roles to achieve the required standard of ESM of e-waste. Finally he exchanged Q&A with the participants.

- Major General /Hossam Khodeir, the chief advisor of Mobinil (An Egyptian telecommunication company, representing the industry), presented a case study of telecom waste management of his company.

First he gave an overview about the telecommunications in Egypt and how the company is seeking to conduct ESM of e-waste that they conducted a pilot project in which they used to replace the consumed batteries and handsets for simple incentives under the supervision of EEAA. Also they conducted a public awareness campaign through visiting schools and producing publications.

-Mr. Tawfik Elzaitony, the representative of Tunisia, briefed the audience about the waste management in his country. He explained all regulations and measures that the national competent authorities are taking to promote the ESM of waste.

- Major General/Hossam Khodeir, the chief advisor of Mobinil (An Egyptian telecommunication company, representing the industry), presented a talk about the impact of network station on the health and environment. In his talk, he explained in details the whole networking process and the measures taken to decrease its hazards. Finally, he explained all health and environmental impacts that may occur due to the misuse of the telecommunications and explained how to decrease it.

- Mrs. Amani Nadim, a representative of Environics (an environmental consultancy company, representing the private sector), gave a talk about the ESM of hazardous waste. First she gave a brief introduction about the HW and its sources, and then she shed the light on the legislations that regulate that process. Finally, Then she explained integrated system for the management of hazardous waste, the required tools to activate that system and the constraints that may face its application.

- Dr. Ali Mohamed Ali, the representative of Sudan, introduced his country vision for the management of the waste and the standards they take to achieve the required levels of wastes management. Also he explained the obstacles they may face while taking those standards.

The Second Day Sunday, 22nd of June, 2014

(Chaired by Karim Baba and Vivian Sassine)

- This session started by a talk by Dr. Lastela who talked about the EPR (Extended producer responsibility) in e-wastes management in Africa, in which he addressed the Key Producer Responsibility Principles. Also he discussed the principles for E-waste regulation and

management and how all stakeholders have their own role to play in that issue. Then he discussed how to make EPR work.

-Mrs. Amani Nadim, a representative of Environics (an environmental consultancy company, representing the private sector), gave a talk about the standards of ESM of HW. She started with introducing the international standards of HW classification (EU & American). Then she discussed the classification of HW according to Basel Convention. Finally she presented the constrains that may face the integrated management of HW.

-Mrs Farah Bouqartacha, the representative of Morocco, presented a case study about her country management for waste. She presented the strategic vision of her country towards that issue and the legislation adopted to enforce application of this strategy. Finally she presented some national programs for management of different types of wastes.

-Colonel Yasser Khlalil, the Egyptian Minster of Environmental affairs advisor, presented a talk about the role of the environmental inspection in the sustainable waste management. First he started with briefing the audience about environmental inspection definition, types, goals and target sectors. Also he presented the measures and phases taken for that purpose.

-Mr. Adel Shafei, the representative of Egypt, presented the vision of the Egyptian authorities concerning the measures conducted for the ESM of HW in general and the e-wastes in particular.

-Mrs. Reema Elhendy, the representative of Jordan, presented a brief talk about the management of HW in Jordan. First she presented the vision of the Jordanian competent authorities, then she presented the different sectors of HW management in Jordan including the Legislative, the institutional and the executive.

-Mr. Ahmed Eldorey, the representative of HEPCA (NGO), gave a presentation about solid wastes management. He first introduced his NGO and its activities to the audience. Then he explained the efforts and projects HEPCA is conducting to assist the local authorities in management the solid wastes.

The Third Day Monday, 23rd of June, 2014

(Chaired by Prof. Moustafa Kamel and Dr. Sherif Elnagdy)

- This day started with a half day sightseeing trip for the participants in Sharm ElSheikh

- Ms. Carla Valle-Klann (BS) (through the video conference facility) presented the first talks for that day, entitled “Requirements for National Reporting under the Basel Convention” and “Electronic Reporting System (ERS) of the Basel Convention”, which were a follow up for the two past workshops that were organized by BCRC-Egypt about the national reporting.
- Mr. Matthias Kern (BS) (through the video conference facility) presented a talk about Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE) under the Basel Convention. First he started with presenting PACE background, mission statement, scope and activities. Then he briefed the audience about its membership, current status and future plans.

The Fourth Day Tuesday, 24th of June, 2014

(Chaired by Prof. Moustafa Kamel and Dr. Sherif Elnagdy)

-Mr. Adel Shafei, the representative of Egypt, gave a detailed presentation about the Indonesian Swiss country-led initiative (CLI). First he started by briefing the audience about the CLI, its objectives, scope of work, process and its final outcome. Concerning the ban amendment, he clarified that although some Arab countries already applied the ban locally in their legal framework, still signature of the ban will not decrease the transboundary movement (TBM) of HW. Then he discussed the BS proposal that includes practical assistance for countries that wish to implement the ban amendment and interpretation of article 17 paragraph 5 of the convention to secure the earliest possible enforcement of it.

- Afterwards, a discussion took place between the participants concerning the sustainability of BCRC-Egypt funding. Prof. Kamel requested solutions for the finance issue in general and in particular to finance an information network between Arab countries especially Egypt, Yemen, Oman and Morocco, since they are concerned with the transboundary movement of HW due to their geographical nature. He emphasized that the center may not be capable of proceeding with its activities without the contribution of the Arab countries. Mohamed Konnah, the representative of the Arab league, proposed to hold an Arab ministerial forum to discuss the center activities and service, then sustainable funding of the center should be brought to the table. Dr. Taelo, explained that for his center, all countries are committed to annually support the center in the agreement of the establishments of the center, according to the country economical level. Mr. Shafie proposed that the Arab countries pay membership fees to the center as they do with other

regional and international organization. Also, BS should help and support to keep the center, not through direct financing, but through technical assistance that can be interpreted later into fund. The situation in the center establishment agreement doesn't have a clear mention for the Arab contribution as obligatory, but it is only voluntarily. Accordingly, the previous proposal should be presented to the Arab league that can take it to the Arab ministers. Mr. Shafie will be happy to put down a proposal and take it to the AMSEL, which is so likely to give a donation or a grant to cover the activities proposed. Also he proposed to modify the framework agreement to make the contribution obligatory, but this needs the center to prepare a proposal to cover that. Prof Kamel, commented that all the proposed ideas are long term solutions, but he needs short term solutions. Dr. Sherif Elnagdy, the Technical officer of the Finnish [project proposed that each **Arab country contact companies who can sponsor the center activities, especially if any of those activities took place in that Arab country**, so that these companies will be in the trustees council of the center. This proposal was approved by all participants.

- Dr. Mohamed Baiomy (the representative of the UNDP), briefed the participants about the UNDP role in conducting projects in general and in the Finnish project in particular. Also he explained that there is an arrangement with BCRC-Egypt for a regional GEF project. This project will be for capacity building not only in the government but also in other sectors, plus binding the national projects that take place in all the Arab countries, beside, the exchange of knowledge between the Arab countries. He emphasized that the Finnish project is not a permanent one and the center should discuss with the members a plan to secure sustainable fund for the center that can cover all sort of activities that can fulfill the center mandate, beside holding workshops. Finally, He expressed his gratitude towards the Arab league and the center for the efforts they exert in all the activities and the workshop, especially the logistics that the center staff does on their own and hopefully there could be workshops outside Egypt, pending on the existence of strong help and support from the Arab countries.

-Mr. Shafie then gave a brief presentation about the required legal clarification of the Convention and how to deal with the confusion that may results from defining some expressions. He explained that there are documents on the convention website under legal clarity.

-Ms. Yvonne Ewang-Sanvincenti (BS) (through the video conference facility) presented a detailed talk about Facilitation of entry into force of the Ban Amendment, where she aimed to provide information about decisions on the Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative (CLI) to

improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention and follow up (decisions BC-11/1 and BC-10/3) including the Ban Amendment in order to provide brief participants on how to become a Party to a multilateral environmental agreement in a practical guide step-by-step and to encourage participants to exchange information and experiences on the effects of the entry into force of the Ban Amendment, through presenting Case studies on ratification of the Ban Amendment and Challenges and barriers linked to ratification and possible solutions.

-Evaluation sheets for the workshop were distributed among the participants and the completed sheets were collected either by hand by the end of the session (Appendix 3)

The Closing Session

This session started with a brief speech delivered by Prof. Kamel, in which he expressed his happiness for the clear success of the symposium 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 importing international experts and consultants to the workshops and trainings.
2. The center should play more role in the national legislations
3. There should be more focus on environmental awareness in the workshops
4. More focus is needed on regulations and the guidelines in the Arab countries, especially for the e-wastes and PACE...etc
5. More focus is needed on the air and liquid wastes rather than the solid waste
6. Networking between national focal points to communicate about wastes movement under the supervision of the center. A full proposal should be prepared by Mr. Shafei.
7. The financial sustainability of the center should be considered, through addressing the political forums such as the Arab league.
8. The Arab countries should seek for sponsors to sponsor the Center activities that may take place in their own countries.
9. The Arab delegates should study all the CLI items, deadline is the 30th of June to unify the Arab situation through the center and the Arab league
10. Work on pushing the Arab countries to ratify the ban amendment

CONCLUSIVE REMARKS

- The proposed network between the national focal points shall be set up under the supervision of the Center to facilitate communication between the Arab countries.
- The Arab states should have more solid contribution in the Center financial sustainability so that the center can proceed with its proposed activities.
- Arab Countries are encouraged to host any of the Center activities, after arrangement with the Center.
- The center agreement should be changed to make the financial contribution of the members obligatory and not voluntarily as it is now.

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

Time	Topic
<i>Saturday, 21st of June, 2014</i>	
9:00-10:00	Registration
10:00-11:00	Opening ceremony, remarks and Group Photo
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-12:15	Potential Opportunities in E Waste Recycling in Africa (BCRC for English-speaking African countries)
12:15-1:00	Wastes management in telecom (Mobinil)
1:00-1:30	Case study in an Arab State (Tunisia)
1:30-2:30	Lunch Break
2:30-3:15	Mobiles networks and its impact on health and environment (Mobinil)
3:15-4:00	Hazardous waste management-Different Perspective (<i>Environics</i>)
4:00-4:30	Case study in an Arab State (Sudan)
<i>Sunday, 22nd of June 2014</i>	
10:00-10:45	EPR in E Waste Management in Africa (BCRC for English-speaking African countries)
10:45-11:30	Inventories of Hazardous wastes (<i>Environics</i>)
11:30-12:00	<i>Discussions</i>
12:00-12:30	Coffee break
12:30-1:15	Case study in an Arab State (Morocco)
1:15-2:00	The role of the environmental inspection in the sustainable waste management (EEAA)
2:00-2:30	<i>Discussions</i>
2:30-3:30	Lunch break
3:30-4:15	E-wastes in Egypt (EEAA)
4:15-5:00	Case study in an Arab State (<i>Jordan</i>)
4:00-4:30	Solid Wastes Management (<i>NGO</i>)
<i>Monday, 23rd of June 2014 (PACE)</i>	
10:00-1:00	<i>Sharm El Sheikh Sightseeing Tour</i>
1:00-2:00	Brief presentation on the national reporting (<i>BRS Secretariat</i>)
2:00-3:00	Lunch break
3:00-4:00	Introduction to the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment Initiative (<i>BRS Secretariat</i>)
4:00-4:30	<i>Discussions</i>
<i>Tuesday, 24th of June, 2014 (Ban Amendment)</i>	
9:30-10:30	The Indonesian Swiss Country-led initiative (EEAA)
10:30-11:00	<i>Discussions</i>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:30	Strategic framework for the sound management of hazardous wastes (EEAA)
12:30:1:00	<i>Discussion about BCRC-Egypt Funding Sustainability</i>
1:00-2:00	Lunch break
2:00-2:15	UNDP speech
2:15-3:00	Required legal clarification of the Convention (EEAA)
3:00-4:00	Facilitation of the entry into force of the Ban Amendment (<i>BRS Secretariat</i>)
4:00-4:30	Recommendations & Delivery of Certificates and 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: \$ 29,763.51**

3. Evaluation Sheet and Its Results Analysis



The Regional Symposium on Sustainable Waste Management

Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 21st-24th of June, 2014

الندوة الإقليمية حول إدارة النفايات المستدامة

شرم الشيخ، مصر 21-24 يونيو، 2014

استمارة تقييم

(رجاء ملئ الاستمارة التالية لتوقف على مدى الاستفادة من الندوة وسبل تطويرها المستقبلي)

الاسم رباعي:	الموقع الوظيفي:
قطاع / قسم / إدارة:	هيئة / وزارة / أخرى:
رقم الهاتف الشخصي:	البريد الإلكتروني:
الدولة:	
عنوان المراسلات (تفصيلياً):	

- 1- هل أضافت الندوة مفاهيم جديدة إلى خبراتكم في مجال إدارة النفايات ؟
نعم () لا ()
- 2- هل أضافت الندوة معلومات بشأن تعامل الدول العربية الأخرى مع إدارة النفايات ؟
نعم () لا ()
- 3- هل ترى أن هذه الندوة تعكس خبرات دولية مختلفة في مجال إدارة النفايات ؟
نعم () لا ()
- 4- ما مدى الاستفادة من التفاعل مع المشاركين من الدول العربية الأخرى ؟
ممتاز () جيد جداً () جيد () لم تحقق استفادة ()
- 5- هل لك مقترحاتك لتطوير الندوة في المرات القادمة ؟
نعم () لا ()
- 6- هل يوجد ما كنت تتطلع إليه في الندوة ولم يتحقق أمك فيه ؟
نعم () لا ()
- 7- هل ترغب في الاتصال بكم ودعوتكم في حالة وجود ندوة مقبله تتناول نفس الموضوع ؟
نعم () لا ()
- 8- ما هو تقييمك الكمي للندوة ؟
ممتاز () جيد جداً () جيد () لم تحقق استفادة ()

Total Number of Completed Evaluation Sheets = 14

<i>Question No.</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Answers</i>	
		<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
1	Did the symposium add new concepts to your experiences in the field of dealing with hazardous waste?	13	1
2	Did the symposium add information on how Arab states deal with hazardous waste?	14	0
3	Do you believe that this symposium reflect the different international experiences in the field of waste management	9	5
5	Do you have suggestions for the development of the symposium in the coming times?	4	10
6	Is there anything you were looking forward to in the symposium and did not happen?	7	7
7	Do you want to be contacted and/or invited in case of a future symposium dealing with the same subject?	14	0

<i>Question No.</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Answers</i>			
		<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Did not achieve benefit</i>
4	How to evaluate the interaction with participants from other Arab countries?	2	10	2	0
8	What is your whole assessment of symposium?	4	8	2	0




The analysis

The results, in general, showed that the symposium has fulfilled its main objectives in adding new concepts concerning the required standards of the ESM of wastes. Also the symposium highlighted the obstacles and challenges that may face the national officials while implementing these standards. Furthermore, the symposium candidates managed to have a lot of discussions and debates about their won national experience and the best ways to get over those obstacles and facilitate the whole waste management process.

Also, one of the fruits of this symposium was creating the first opportunity of synergy between BCRC-Egypt and another BC regional center (BCRC for the English speaking African countries) through the participation of its director in the symposium presentation and discussions. Another important outcome was the bridging that occurred between BCRC-Egypt and the stakeholders such as the private sector, the industry and the NGOs, through their active participation the symposium.

Finally, the experience the participants gained through the technical support provided by BS, that exposed the participants to strategic topics such as PACE and the Ban Amendment, was an important outcome that brought an important international experience and aspects to the table.

5. Participants List

					
Baba Karim Algeria	Abd Allah Ahmed Bejily Saudi Arabia	Ibrahim Moumini Comoros	Omar Saif Yemen	Tawfik Zaitony Tunis	Yasser Khalil Yemen
					
Rima Elhendy Jordan	Farah Bouqartacha Morocco	Adel Shafie Egypt	Ali Mohamed Ali Sudan	Hassan Hachin Djibouti	Yasser Khalil Egypt
					
Ahmed Juma Oman	Viviane Sassine Lebanon	Souad Taqi Kuwait	Mohamed Konnah Arab league	Taelo Letsela South Africa	Amr Ezzat Egypt

