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**DIALOGUE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY
SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS TRADE (DPP)**

SECRETARIAT OF THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS (BRS)
PRESENTATION ON THE BASEL CONVENTION TECHNICAL GUIDELINES ON ENVIRONMENTALLY
SOUND MANAGEMENT OF PLASTIC WASTES AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES

Pre-Plenary Meeting – 12 April 2024

DOCUMENT DE SÉANCE NON OFFICIEL¹

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* In Original language only/En langue originale seulement/En el idioma original solamente.

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Briefing on the Basel Convention Technical Guidelines on Environmentally Sound Management of Plastic Wastes and related technologies

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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

www.brsmeas.org

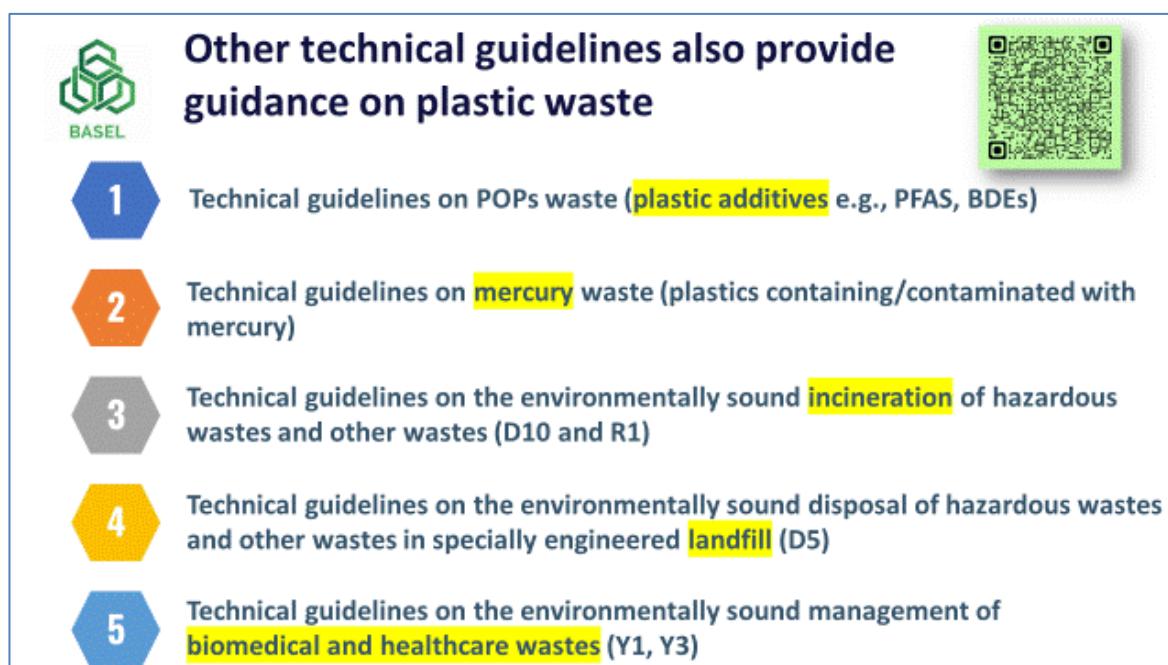
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Technical guidelines on environmentally sound management (ESM) of plastic waste (2023)

- Abbreviations, Units of measurement
- I. Introduction
 - A. Scope
 - B. About plastics and plastics wastes
 - C. Types of plastics
- II. Relevant Provisions of the Basel Convention and International Linkages
 - A. Basel Convention
 - B. International Linkages
- III. Guidance on environmentally sound management (ESM) of plastic wastes
 - A. General considerations
 - B. Legislative and regulatory framework
 - C. Waste prevention and minimization
 - D. Identification and inventories
 - E. Sampling, analysis and monitoring
 - F. Handling, separation, collection, packaging, compaction, transportation and storage
 - G. Environmentally sound disposal
 - H. Health and safety
 - I. Emergency response
 - J. Awareness and participation
- Bibliography





TG on ESM of plastic waste – Chapter III. Guidance on ESM

BASEL

A. General considerations

- 2013 ESM Framework (decision BC-11/1)
- Practical manuals for the promotion of the ESM of wastes (2019)
- Guidance on how to address the ESM of wastes in the informal sector (2019)
- Practical manual for stakeholders to ensure that notifications of transboundary movements meet ESM requirements (2022)

"Waste management hierarchy"

(Global Waste Management Outlook, UNEP 2015)

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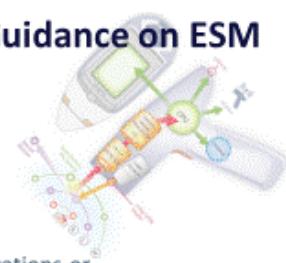
D. Identification and inventories

- Pre-consumer plastic waste
 - Polymer production/compounding, plastic conversion, plastic assembly/installation
- Post-consumer plastic waste
 - Municipal solid waste, industrial, agricultural, medical, WEEE, vehicles, fishing/aquaculture, construction and demolition, textiles, cables
- Identification of hazardous and non-hazardous plastic wastes
- Identification of non-hazardous contaminants
- Developing inventories

Approach - Material Flow Analysis



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E. Sampling, analysis and monitoring

- **Sampling**
 - Waste characterization, compliance with regulatory standards or specifications or suitability of proposed treatment or disposal methods, and environmental monitoring
- **Analysis**
 - Screening: X-ray fluorescence (XRF)
 - Laboratory analysis: Pollutants such as bisphenols, phthalates, SCCPs, MCPPs, PFAS, BDEs, UV stabilizers, formaldehyde, heavy metals, PCDD/PCDF, PBDD/PBDF
 - Microplastics
- **Monitoring**
 - Monitoring programmes



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F. Handling, separation, collection, packaging, compaction, transportation and storage

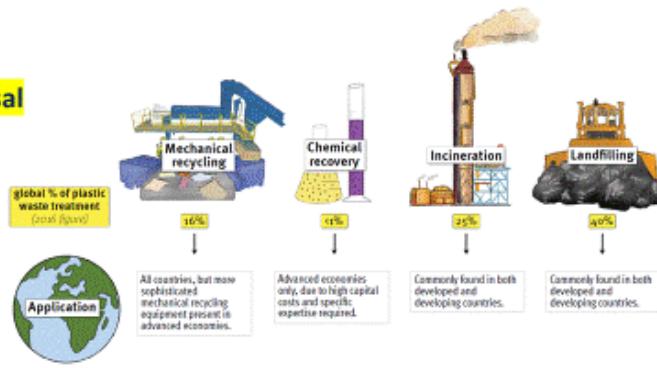
- **Handling:** Need protective clothing, training, appropriate equipment for employees
- **Separation:** Source separation (before collection)
- **Collection:** Household waste vs. Industrial/commercial/institutional/agricultural waste
- **Separating and extracting plastic wastes from other waste streams** (e.g., WEEE, vehicles, construction and demolition waste, cables, textiles): depend on availability of sorting technology, automation, cost
- **Packaging:** Plastic wastes, whether hazardous or not, should be properly packed for both ease of transportation and as a safety measure to reduce the risk of leaks and spills.
- **Compaction, shredding, compressing and baling:** For economical transportation and storage, some compaction of plastic waste may be necessary.
- **Transportation:** Need to ensure safety of workers, protection from leakage, weather damage, vandalism.
- **Storage (D15 or R13):** Need protection from fire, contamination, weather damage, UV.



TG on ESM of plastic waste – Chapter III. Guidance on ESM

G. Environmentally sound disposal

- Mechanical recycling:
- Solvent-based recycling:
- [Chemical recycling]:
- Energy recovery:
- Final disposal operations:
- Specific aspects related to recycling:
 - Common types of plastic wastes: PE, PP, PS, ABS, PET, PC, PVC
 - Waste cured resins
 - Fluorinated polymers
 - Textile plastic wastes
 - Biodegradable plastic wastes
 - Compostable plastic wastes



Thank you!



**Food and Agriculture
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