



UNOFFICIAL ROOM DOCUMENT¹

**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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BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS

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

Kei Ohno Woodall

Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

www.brsmeas.org

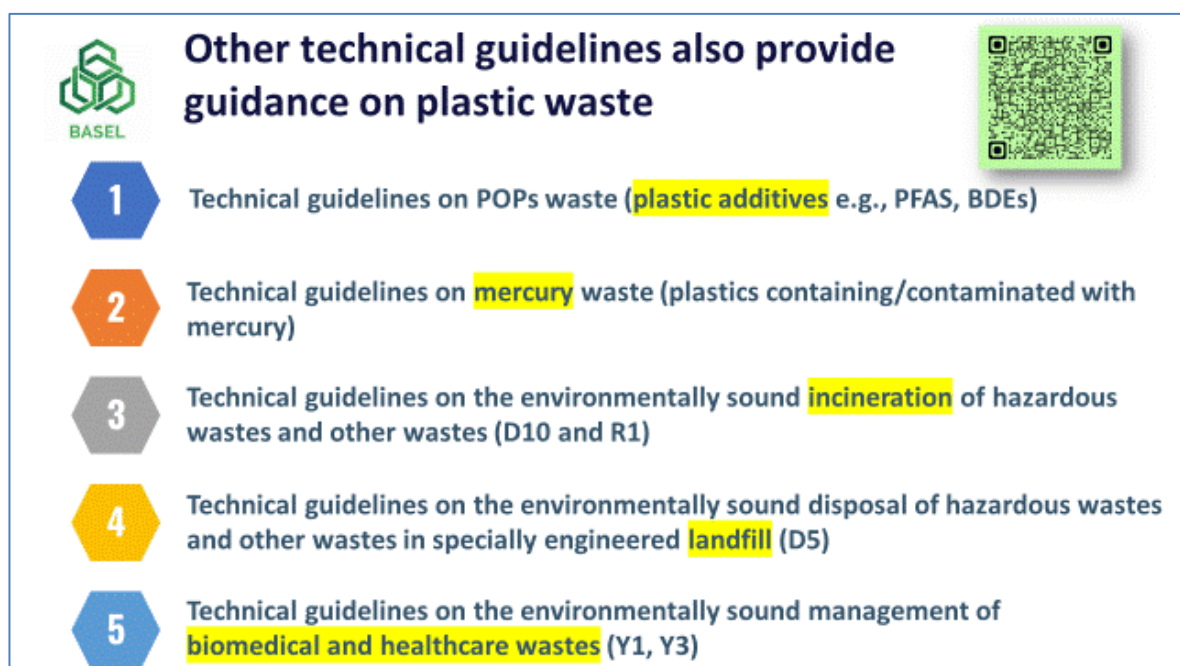
@brsmeas



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

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)



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

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





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



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, MCCPs, 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

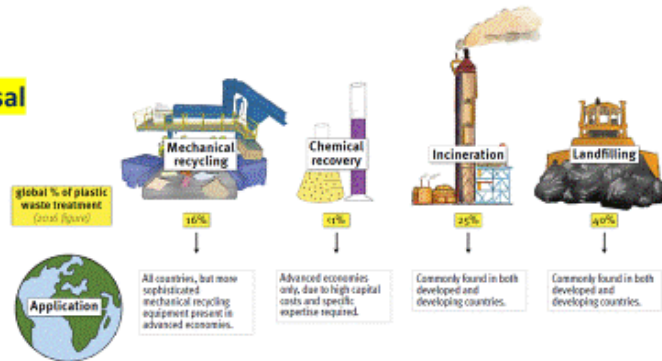
- **Handling:** Need protective clothing, training, appropriate equipment for employees
- **Separation:** Source separation (before collection)
- **Collection:** Household waste vs. Industrial/commercial/institutional/agricultural waste
- **Separating and extracting plastic wastes from other waste streams** (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
Organization of the
United Nations**



Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions
International Environment House I
11-15 Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
www.brsmeas.org

@brsmeas