

**REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING
THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF BASEL CONVENTION REGIONAL CENTRE
FOR TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

27 February 2006, Jakarta, Indonesia

Introduction

1. The First Meeting of the Steering Committee of Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer of Southeast Asia was held on 27 February 2006 in Jakarta, Indonesia.
2. The Meeting was attended by delegates from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand and a representative from Secretariat of Basel Convention. Representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat and related institutions in Indonesia attended the meeting as observers. The list of participants presented as **ANNEX 1**.

Agenda Item 1: Opening Remarks

3. Mr. Aboejoewono Aboeprajitno, Director of Basel Convention Regional Centre Southeast Asia, as facilitator of the Meeting, welcomed the delegates to the Meeting and reported the preparation for the Meeting.
4. Mr. Ibrahim Shafii, Coordinator of Basel Convention Regional Centres for Asia Pacific at the Secretariat of Basel Convention expressed his gratitude to the Ministry of Environment Indonesia for hosting the meeting and BCRC SEA as the organizer, and thanked all delegates for participating in the meeting. The issue of synergies in the chemicals and waste domains has become prominent recently among governments, UNEP and other intergovernmental organizations, for example in the Intergovernmental Environmental Governance (IEG) and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM). In this connection, Basel Convention Regional Centres need to assess how they can contribute to synergies by identifying areas where similar goals are shared between the waste and chemicals conventions. He said that some of the ways include developing tools and supporting materials for the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes, and capacity building programmes towards the detection and prevention of illegal traffic. Basel Convention Regional Centres can conduct joint training of focal points and competent authorities for Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions, as well as on issues related to the work of the FAO, IMO, ILO,WHO and related MEAs such as the Waigani Convention. He highlighted that in order to assist Parties, the SEA Basel Convention Regional Centres may study the possibility of establishing regional certification schemes for waste streams of recent concern, such as on e-waste, which has been identified as one of the priorities for the Asia Pacific region. Through public-private partnerships and becoming centres of excellence for specific waste streams, the Centre would complement Governments' efforts in life-cycle approach to

chemicals and products. Finally, he hoped that the Steering Committee would provide valuable guidance to the sustainable and effective operation of the SEA Regional Centre.

5. Mr. Yanuardi Rasudin, the Deputy Minister for Toxic and Hazardous Substances and Waste Management, Ministry of Environment, Republic of Indonesia, as the National Focal Point, welcomed the delegates to Indonesia. He hoped that the meeting would give appropriate direction to the activities of Basel Convention Regional Centre Southeast Asia in achieving the need of the parties in the region in building capacity of Basel Convention implementation. His Opening remarks appear as **ANNEX 2**.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

6. The Meeting adopted the Agenda as presented in **ANNEX 3**.

Agenda Item 3: Presentation by SBC of the Basel Convention Empowering the Regional Network

7. Mr. Ibrahim Shafii, as representative of SBC and as a participant of the Meeting *ex officio* presented a paper of the Basel Convention Empowering the Regional Network. His presentation appears as **ANNEX 4**.

8. Delegates from Singapore raised the question of the relevance of BCRC with two other Conventions i.e. Stockholm Convention and Rotterdam Convention. It is proposed that the BCRC programme could be also effective for other two conventions and ASEAN region.

9. SBC is suggesting that the host country to the Regional Centres should emphasize the need to minimize duplications of efforts in particular in chemical and waste areas.

10. Delegates from Indonesia raised question of a country's eligibility to be a member of the Steering Committee, especially countries which are not ASEAN member either signed or ratify the Basel Convention.

11. SBC also mentioned other countries which are not served under the ASEAN region either they have not signed or ratified yet the Basel Convention is possible to be served by BCRC SEA.

Agenda Item 4: Selection of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Member of the Steering Committee of the Basel Convention Regional Centre Southeast Asia.

12. The Meeting by consensus elected the Indonesia – represented by Mr. Tjandra Setiadi as Chairperson, and, Singapore – represented by Mr. Joseph Hui - as Vice Chairperson. Cambodia - represented by Mr. Ken Choviran, Malaysia –

represented by Tengku Bakry Shah bin Tengku Johan, and Thailand – represented by Mrs. Sunee Piyapanpong are members of the Steering Committee. The delegation of Singapore would confirm in writing to the Director of the Regional centre regarding their election as the chairperson of the Committee.

Agenda Item 5: Coordination Mechanism, Article VII of the Framework Agreement of BCRC-SEA

13. Chairperson of the Steering Committee chaired the meeting.
14. The meeting noted that the Steering Committee should be convened once every two years, at the minimum. However, since the SC has just been constituted, the meeting decided that it should hold its next meeting a year from now (the time of the first meeting).
15. SBC proposed that the next meeting could be convened back to back with other activities of the Regional Centre.
16. Mr. Shafii clarified that based on the Framework Agreement all of the Members have to bear their own expenses to attend Steering Committee Meeting. Alternatively, BCRC-SEA may find donor countries/agencies in order to enable Members to attend the Meetings.
17. Thailand proposed that a quorum for the Steering Committee be established and in this regard the Meeting agreed that the Director draft a proposal for consideration by the next meeting of the Steering Committee.
18. Coordination Mechanism of the Steering Committee appears at **ANNEX 5 (Article 7 of FA on BCRC-SEA)**.

Agenda Item 6: Presentation of Business Plan of Basel Convention Regional Centre Southeast Asia

19. The Director of the Centre presented the Draft Business Plan for 2006-2010. A copy of the presentation file is presented in **ANNEX 6**.

Agenda Item 7: Discussion on the Draft Business Plan of Basel Convention Regional Centre

20. The Meeting noted that the BCRC-SEA's Draft Business Plan was an excellent document and congratulated the Director and his team for the good work.
21. Malaysia made two suggestions: Firstly, whether waste auditing can be included in any of the training programs as suggested in the Business Plan. Secondly, whether guidelines for harmonized classification of e-waste for the

region could be developed.

22. Cambodia, requested for clarification for the timing of the activities and budget.

23. The ASEAN Secretariat requested that the reference to the ASEAN Environmental Fund be deleted from the Business Plan. It also indicated that the budget should be clear for each activity and that national and regional activities be clarified.

24. Regarding the budget, the SBC explained that it has now identified and obtained financial support for some of the activities of BCRC-SEA. He also proposed that the BCRC should contact other institutions, such as UNIDO and other donor countries for some of the projects such as for medical waste, POPs, etc.

25. Singapore congratulated BCRC-SEA for the comprehensive business plan and may look into the possibility of supporting implementation of the Plan.

26. Thailand supported the business plan and requested for the clarification of the next process.

27. Indonesian delegate suggested the BCRC-SEA's activities should be regionally based rather than with national emphasis. He also suggested that the ADB could be included as a source of funding for these activities

28. Malaysia agreed fully with the proposed training programmes in the Plan, but it has to be designed in such a way that it is specialized or hands-on training program, not purely academic in nature.

29. An observer delegate suggested that the training be given not only to the custom officers but other relevant parties as well.

30. The Meeting agreed that since training of the custom is one of the important issues, especially for Indonesia, the schedule is suggested to be brought forward to early 2007.

31. The Meeting agreed that industries are included in the training programme, e.g. on the export-import of HW.

32. The Meeting endorsed the Business Plan with the understanding that the Plan is a living document that could be amended in the future with the endorsement of the Steering Committee.

Agenda Item 8: Other Matters

33. The Meeting decided that the Second Meeting of Steering Committee of BCRC SEA will be held in Jakarta early 2007

Agenda Item 9: Adoption of Meeting Report

34. The Meeting adopted the Report of the First Meeting of the Steering Committee of Basel Convention Regional Centre Southeast Asia.

35. The Meeting was officially closed by the Deputy Minister of MoE of Indonesia at 17.30 pm.