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**Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
Tenth meeting**

Cartagena, Colombia, 17–21 October 2011

Item 3 (d) of the provisional agenda*

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention:
Basel Convention Partnership Programme**

Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative

Note by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. By its decision VI/31, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal established what has come to be known as the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative.
2. The Mobile Phone Working Group established by the same decision successfully completed its mandate and was disbanded by the Conference of Parties by its decision IX/8. Any follow-up tasks were assigned to an ad hoc follow-up group, with the participation of interested parties, signatories, industry, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.
3. By its decision OEWG-VII/11, the Open-ended Working Group invited parties, signatories and stakeholders to provide to the Secretariat any comments on the revised guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones prepared by the Working Group.

I. Implementation

4. Following the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the ad hoc follow-up group revised the five technical guidelines and the overall guidance document prepared by the Working Group. As requested in decision OEWG-VII/11, the Secretariat published the revised guidance document on its website for additional comments, and is submitting to the Conference of the Parties in the annex to the present note the proposed changes to the document for its consideration and possible adoption. For ease of reference, a version of the guidance document including the proposed changes is provided in document UNEP/CHW.10/INF/27.

* UNEP/CHW.10/1.

II. Proposed action

5. The Conference of the Parties may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions VI/31, VII/4, VIII/6 and IX/8,

Taking note of the compilation of changes reflecting comments received from parties, signatories and other stakeholders as called for in decision OEWG-VII/11,¹

1. *Adopts*, without prejudice to national legislation, the revised guidance document on environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones;²
2. *Requests* the Secretariat to publish on the website of the Basel Convention the final version of the guidance document;
3. *Decides* that any follow-up tasks required will be carried out by the Secretariat, with the participation of interested parties, signatories, industry, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders;
4. *Requests* the Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres to disseminate the guidance document and guidelines approved by the Mobile Phone Working Group and adopted by the Conference of the Parties, and to initiate training and outreach workshops, subject to availability of funding;
5. *Invites* parties and signatories to use the guidance document and the five guidelines produced by the project groups under the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative.

1 UNEP/CHW.10/21.

2 UNEP/CHW.10/INF/27.

Annex

Proposed changes to the revised guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones

1. **Page 16, section 2.2.1, para. No. 3: add at the end of the paragraph a sentence reading:**
One example of a voluntary commitment by European manufacturers is the “memorandum of understanding regarding harmonization of a Charging Capability for Mobile Phones” of 2009.
2. **Page 16, section 2.2.1, para. No. 4, line 5: add “in order to utilize universal battery chargers,” so that the sentence reads:**
It is recognized that charging a battery, particularly a lithium-ion battery, requires care and special electronic circuitry to avoid damage, and that each manufacturer’s concerns about brand quality and warranties are involved in possible cross-brand utilization of battery chargers and peripherals. It is nevertheless recommended that this area of potentially beneficial compatibility be investigated both within brands and between brands in order to utilize universal battery chargers, while careful consideration is given to avoid standardization stifling innovation or compromising product safety.
3. **Page 17, section 2.2.2, para. No. 6: insert between the first and second sentences:**
European Commission’s regulation No. 278/2009 also covers battery charges, among other things.
4. **Page 17, section 2.2.3: add new para. No. 13 reading:**
Consideration should be given to applying existing voluntary consumer labels for environmentally sound mobile phones, such as the German label “Der Blaue Engel”.
5. **Page 24, section 5.2.1: add new para. No. 2 reading:**
Refurbishment facilities should take care not to release data stored on the used mobile phones that they receive, and should seek to remove and destroy such data.
6. **Page 29, section 6.1, para. No. 84: revise the fourth sentence to read:**
The design of the facility should be subject to health and environmental impact assessments, must comply with all applicable health and environmental regulations and be properly licensed by all appropriate governmental authorities.
7. **Page 49, add three additional references:**
xxv http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/rtte/files/chargers/chargers_mou_en.pdf
xxvi <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:093:0003:0010:en:PDF>
xxviii http://www.blauer-engel.de/de/produkte_marken/produktsuche/produkttyp.php?id=166