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Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
Sixth session
Geneva, 3–7 September 2007
Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Technical matters: review of the guidance document on environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones

Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. By decision VIII/6, adopted at its eighth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention welcomed the work of the Mobile Phone Working Group and its project groups and provisionally adopted, without prejudice to national legislation, the guidance document on environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones (UNEP/CHW.8/2/Add.3, annex) as a voluntary document, taking note of the recommendations contained therein.

2. The Conference of the Parties invited Parties and Signatories to use and test the guidance document and the five guidelines produced under the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative. The Conference requested the Open-ended Working Group, at its next session, to review the guidance document further, based on Parties' experience and needs and to present it to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting for consideration and final adoption.

II. Implementation

3. At the first meeting of the Expanded Bureau of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, Mr. Bulleti, chair of the Mobile Phone Working Group, reported on the work of the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative, in particular with respect to transboundary movements of used mobile phones. The meeting had before it a document entitled "Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative Project 2.1: Chairman's paper on issues raised during the discussion of the guideline on

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transboundary movement of used and end-of-life mobile phones" (UNEP/CHW.8/INF/6, annex, appendix I).

4. The Expanded Bureau requested the Secretariat to assist in transmitting the Chairman's paper on transboundary movements of used mobile phones to Parties and to place it on the Basel Convention website. The Expanded Bureau further requested the Secretariat to renew the invitation to Parties and relevant stakeholders, particularly from developing countries, to participate in the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative and, in so doing, to transmit document UNEP/CHW.8/INF/6, annex, appendix I for their consideration. That document and the renewed offer for participation by Parties in the partnership were sent to focal points 26 April 2007, along with the guidance document on environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones (UNEP/CHW.8/2/Add.3). No comments were received on the guidance document.

III. Proposed action

5. The Open-ended Working Group may wish to consider a decision along the following lines:

The Open-ended Working Group,

1. *Takes note* of the guidance document on the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life mobile phones developed under the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative,

2. *Requests* the Secretariat to transmit the guidance document to Parties and Signatories in order for them to provide comments based on their experiences and needs, in particular on chapter 4, which concerns transboundary movement of used and end-of-life mobile phones;

3. *Requests* the Secretariat to incorporate comments received from Parties and Signatories into the guidance document and submit it to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting for consideration and possible final adoption;

4. *Further requests* the Secretariat to prepare a draft decision on the adoption of the guidance document for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting.