



## **Eleventh Meeting of the Waigani Convention**

### **Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)**

Virtual – Apia, Samoa  
03 September 2021

#### **Agenda item 6.2: Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments**

##### **Purpose of paper**

1. To inform the Parties of the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments of 2019.
2. To present to the Parties recommendations of the STAC-8 on the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments.

##### **Background**

3. At COP 14 in 2019 the Basel Convention adopted amendments to Annexes II, VIII and IX with the objectives of enhancing the control of the transboundary movements of plastic waste and clarifying the scope of the Convention as it applies to such waste. The new entries became effective on 1 January 2021 for all Parties that did not object to them. They are as follows:
  - a. The amendment to Annex VIII inserts a new entry A3210 that clarifies the scope of plastic wastes presumed to be hazardous and therefore subject to the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure.
  - b. The amendment to Annex IX adds the new entry B3011 replacing previous entry B3010. This clarifies the types of plastic wastes that are presumed to not be hazardous and, as such, not subject to the PIC procedure.
  - c. The third amendment is the insertion of a new entry Y48 in Annex II which covers plastic waste, including mixtures of such wastes unless these are hazardous (as they would fall under A3210) or presumed to not be hazardous (as they would fall under B3011).
4. The above amendments have an impact on the Waigani Convention. The Waigani Convention is an agreement compliant with Article 11 of the Basel Convention. Article 11 of the Basel Convention provides that “such agreements or arrangements do not derogate from the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes as required by this Convention.”

5. In order to continue to comply with the principle of non-derogation, the scope of materials covered by the Waigani Convention should match that of the Basel Convention.
6. There is no automatic mechanism by which amendments to Basel Convention annexes are transferred to those of the Waigani Convention. As of 1 January 2021, there is disjuncture between the materials covered by the two Conventions.
7. The Eighth Meeting of the STAC deliberated on the matter and proposed measures that must be taken to adapt the plastic waste amendments to the Waigani Convention. The recommendations of the STAC on this matter are presented in its meeting report (Agenda 4.1).

### **Recommendation**

8. The Parties are invited to:
  - 1) **note** the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments of 2019 (refer WP 6.2/Att.1);  
and
  - 2) **discuss** the recommendation of the Eighth Meeting of the STAC concerning the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendment.

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10 June 2021