



Basel Convention Coordinating Centre  
Stockholm Convention Regional Centre  
URUGUAY



Ministerio de Vivienda  
Ordenamiento Territorial  
y Medio Ambiente  
**MVOTMA**

# Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

Regional Training in Hazardous Waste  
September 30 – October 2, 2014  
San José, Costa Rica



**RED de CENTROS**

Convenio de Basilea  
Latinoamérica & Caribe

Convenio de Estocolmo

**NETWORK of CENTRES**

Basel Convention  
Latin America & the Caribbean

Stockholm Convention

# Definition of waste

- ¿What is waste?

Any substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard. (EC)

# Classification

- Classification of Waste:

- By state:

- Physical state in which waste is found (solid, semi-solid, liquid and gaseous).

- By origin: Unlimited categories, e.g.:

- \* Urban
    - \* Industrial
    - \* Agricultural
    - \* Mining
    - \* Hospital

- By type of treatment:

- \* Similar to urban waste
    - \* Incineration
    - \* Secure landfill
    - \* Recovery

- Potential effects on health and the environment:

- \* Hazardous: due to its nature, it may have adverse effects.
    - \* Non-reactive hazardous: following some kind of transformation, it has lost its hazardous nature.
    - \* Inert: it does not undergo any physical, chemical or biological transformations.
    - \* Non-hazardous: it does not belong to any of the above categories, e.g. sweeping and pruning.

# Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment – WEEE

- Waste of any equipment which is dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields in order to work properly and equipment for the generation, transfer and measurement of such currents and fields. This term includes all components, subassemblies and consumables which are part of the product at the time of discarding (Directive 2002/96/EC).

# WEEE Classification

They can be classified as follows:

- Directive 2002/96/EC
  - Large household appliances: refrigerators, washing machines, stoves, etc.
  - Small household appliances: vacuum cleaners, irons, fryers, etc.
  - IT and telecommunications equipment: PCs, notebooks, netbooks, printers, telephones, etc.
  - Consumer equipment: radios, TVs, video recorders, etc.
  - Lighting equipment: fluorescent lamps, sodium lamps, etc.
  - Electrical and electronic tools: drills, saws, tools for welding, etc.
  - Toys, leisure and sport equipment.
  - Medical devices: radiotherapy equipment, dialysis, etc.
  - Monitoring and control instruments: smoke detectors, scales, thermostats, etc.
  - Automatic dispensers: for drinks, money, etc.

# WEEE Classification

They are also classified in different types of goods: white goods, brown goods and grey goods.

- White goods refer to household appliances associated with cooling, washing, cooking and comfort.
- Brown goods include consumer equipment such as televisions, radios, video recorders, etc.
- Grey goods cover IT and communications equipments such as computers, telephones, cellular phones, monitors, etc.

## Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

- The average generation of WEEE varies from one country to another, depending on the socioeconomic and cultural characteristics.
- The following table shows the quantification of PCs in use in LAC (Source: RELAC).

Country	% in use in LAC	PC/100 inhabitants
Argentina	8.5	20.7
Brazil	40.4	19.9
Chile	5.5	31.4
Colombia	3.8	8.3
Mexico	21.4	19.3
Venezuela	3.7	13.8

## Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

- A worldwide problem.
  - WEEE is the fastest growing waste stream, exponential growth (massive proliferation vs. treatment techniques and/or final disposal).



## WEEE worldwide

- The “polluter pays” principle is applied.
- Directives:
  - RoHS (2002/95/EC). Restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in the manufacture of EEE (lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium, PBB, PBDE).
  - WEEE (2002/96/EC). It intends to limit the rapid growth of WEEE, its disposal in landfills, its incineration. It promotes recycling. It is based on the concept of Extended Responsibility.

## WEEE worldwide

- Applying the **Principle of Extended Responsibility** means holding **consumer goods producers** and **importers** responsible for costs associated with the prevention and minimization, recovery, treatment and final disposal of waste (responsibility at the end of life of the product).

# WEEE in GRULAC

RELAC/SUR/IDRC Platform

<http://www.residuoselectronicos.net/>

Non-profit Regional Association, aimed at developing initiatives to promote solutions for the prevention, sound management and effective final treatment of PC electronic waste.

Within the framework of this platform, the following document has been developed:

***“Lineamientos para la Gestión de los aparatos Eléctricos y Electrónicos (RAEE) en Latinoamérica, resultado de una mesa Regional de Trabajo Público – Privado” (Guidelines for the Management of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) in Latin America, resulting from a Regional Public-Private Working Table).***

This document includes harmonized definitions, funding mechanisms, organization of producers (individual and collective systems), transboundary movements, etc.

# WEEE and the Basel Convention

- The Secretariat of the Basel Convention and the Conference of the Parties are studying a Technical Guidance on WEEE, that has not been approved yet.
- Guidance on the Management of Cell Phones.
- PACE Initiative.

# Pictures of the current situation



# Pictures of the current situation



# Pictures of the current situation



# Pictures of the current situation





# Pictures of the current situation



OS

NTRES

Latin America & the Caribbean  
Stockholm Convention

# Experience in Switzerland – IMMARK

- <http://www.immark.ch>



# Experience in Switzerland – IMMARK



# Experience in Switzerland – IMMARK



# Experience in Switzerland – IMMARK



# Experience in Switzerland – IMMARK



# Experience in Switzerland – IMMARK





Basel Convention Coordinating Centre  
Stockholm Convention Regional Centre  
URUGUAY



**MVOTMA**

# Thank you!

Gabriela Medina

<http://www.ccbasilea-crestocolmo.org.uy/es>



**RED de CENTROS**

Convenio de Basilea  
Latinoamérica & Caribe

Convenio de Estocolmo

**NETWORK of CENTRES**

Basel Convention  
Latin America & the Caribbean

Stockholm Convention