

Basel Convention

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was adopted on 22 March 1989 in Basel, Switzerland, and entered into force on 5 May 1992.

Its main objective is to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from the generation and management of hazardous wastes and other wastes. Among other issues, the Convention regulates the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes.

Its specific objectives are:

- To reduce to a minimum the generation of wastes, both in terms of quantity and hazard potential, taking into account social, technical and economic aspects.
- To treat and dispose of hazardous wastes and other wastes as close as possible to their place of generation.
- To ensure the availability of adequate disposal facilities, whatever the place of disposal, that shall be located, to the extent possible, within the same territory.
- To ensure that persons involved in the management of wastes take such steps as are necessary to prevent pollution arising from such management.
- To reduce the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and other wastes to a minimum consistent with their environmentally sound and efficient management.
- To control the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, monitor and prevent illegal traffic.

In order to achieve this, the staff of the organizations involved in the life cycle of waste (e.g., customs, port authorities, coast guards, environmental organizations, police force, municipalities, etc.) should receive training.

The Convention contains a series of lists allowing countries to classify wastes based on their hazardous characteristics, also including specific lists of wastes that fall within their scope of application.

Countries that are Parties to the Convention to date (January 2015): 183.

Text of the Convention: <http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Overview/TextoftheConvention/tabid/1275/Default.aspx>



Basel Convention Coordinating Centre
Stockholm Convention Regional Centre

URUGUAY

LATU (Module 14, 1st floor) Av. Italia 6201.
Montevideo, Uruguay. CP 11500
Tel: (+598) 2601 3724 ext: 1158
Email: info@ccbasiilea-crestocolmo.org.uy
<http://www.ccbasiilea-crestocolmo.org.uy/>



BASEL CONVENTION

Basel Convention website:
www.basel.int



MVOTMA
Ministerio de Vivienda
Ordenamiento Territorial
y Medio Ambiente



DINAMA
Dirección Nacional
de Medio Ambiente



Basel Convention

The Basel Convention is the most comprehensive international environmental agreement on hazardous wastes and other wastes.

Text of the Convention: <http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Overview/TextoftheConvention/tabid/1275/Default.aspx>



Where does our hazardous waste go?

We are on the way to ratifying an amendment that will allow us to prevent any transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, intended for final disposal: the Ban Amendment.

This amendment is particularly important for countries without adequate technologies for hazardous waste treatment, as it is the case in most Latin American and Caribbean countries.



Basel Convention Coordinating Centre
Stockholm Convention Regional Centre

URUGUAY