**Expert Working Group for the Update of the**

**Technical Guidelines on E-waste and used equipment**

**October 10th, 2019 Teleconference**

**14h – 15h - Geneva time**

For the list of attendees, please see Annex I of this document.

1. **Opening remarks**

* The representative of the Secretariat welcomed all members and observers to the Expert Working Group, which got a new mandate and nominations since COP-14.
* The group adopted the meeting agenda without any amendment.

1. **Recall mandate from COP-14**

* The representative of the Secretariat explained the mandate of the work, as per decision BC-14/5 on the technical guidelines on transboundary movements of electrical and electronic waste and used electrical and electronic equipment, in particular regarding the distinction between waste and non-waste under the Basel Convention.

1. **Co-chairing of the group and its meetings**

* The representative of the Secretariat explained that at this point no country has volunteered to lead the work of the EWG.
* She also informed the group that they could count on two co-chairs for the EWGs’ meetings and work (Ms. Magda Gosk from Poland, and Mr. Joost Meijer from Chile – which was confirmed after the meeting).
* The group supported and showed appreciation for the co-chairing activities with the above-mentioned representatives.

1. **Discussion on way forward until COP-15**

* The group discussed the different items/requests listed in decision BC-14/5.
* **Regarding the review of subparagraphs 32a and 32b,** the group discussed that it would be important to get results from the use and testing of the guidelines, including the involvement of inspection authorities like customs, in order to help understand which problems may exist and what works well in relation to the current version of the guidelines.
* Regarding a possible face-to-face meeting, it was discussed that this could be done in the future, if the group sees a need for it later on.
* Some Parties’ representatives explained that the technical guidelines, as they are now, are sufficient and satisfactory for them, and that it would be important to learn from those who had difficulties in adopting the document at COP-14, on their views, suggestions, and results of practical use and testing, if possible.
* The group agreed that the Secretariat would send a communication to the EWG members, asking for information on what they have problems with and any suggestions regarding the two subparagraphs 32a and 32b, with a deadline by mid December 2019. The communication should also ask for the rationale when making suggestions and, if possible, any complementary information on national legislation or guidance available and being implemented/enforced in the area of e-waste and used equipment in the countries, with examples of issues and positive outcomes.
* The group also briefly discussed the possibility of future webinars, for example, one in January 2020, to discuss the comments received with suggestions and another one before the OEWG-12 meeting.
* **Regarding pilot testing of the guidelines**, the group discussed that the Secretariat, in its communication to the EWG, could invite members to indicate their interest in working together to test the guidelines. The group also discussed that the follow-up partnership to PACE could also work on such tests, if the terms of reference of this partnership would be expanded accordingly.
* **Regarding the links with other work under the convention**, the group discussed that the follow-up partnership to PACE may have possibilities to do work related to the guidelines (e.g. on testing, see above, and on collecting information from practical use of the document), and that these could be discussed at OEWG-12 in the context of the discussion on the terms of reference of the partnership.

1. **Any other topic**

* No other topic was discussed.

1. **Closing remarks**

* It was briefly discussed that summary notes of the meeting would be developed by the Secretariat to be circulated to the EWG for comments.

**The meeting was closed at 15:30h.**

**Annex I – List of attendees**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | | **REPRESENTING** |
|  | Mr. Yang Zheng | China |
|  | Mr. Sonu Singh | India |
|  | Mr. Toru Terai | Japan |
|  | Ms. Trisha Beejai | Trinidad and Tobago |
|  | Mr. Andrea Celso | Argentina |
|  | Mr. Joost Meijer | Chile |
|  | Mr. Yorg Aerts | European Commission |
|  | Mr. Michael Ernst | Germany |
|  | Ms. Katrin Kaare | Estonia |
|  | Ms. Lia Yohannes | USA EPA |
|  | Mr. Osamu Sakamoto | Consultant to the Ministry of Environment, Japan |
|  | Ms. Susan Winter | CECA group |
|  | Mr. Riccardo Corridori | COCR and DITTA |
|  | Mr. James Vetro | DITTA ENVI WG |
|  | Ms. Monina de Vera | ICT |
|  | Ms. Carla Valle-Klann | BRS Secretariat |
|  | Ms. Juliette Voinov-Kohler | BRS Secretariat |
|  | Mr. Shunsuke Kudo | BRS Secretariat |