

BC-17/15: Amendment to Annex IV to the Basel Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the revised amendment proposals for Annex IV to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal developed by the expert working group on the review of annexes,¹

1. *Decides* to amend Annex IV to the Basel Convention in its entirety, as follows:

“ANNEX IV

DISPOSAL OPERATIONS

This Annex encompasses all such operations with respect to substances or objects legally defined as or considered to be wastes.

This Annex also covers, in both sections A and B, disposal operations that occur prior to submission to any of the operations in the respective section.

This Annex covers all disposal operations, regardless of their legal status and regardless of whether they are environmentally sound.

The use of “e.g.” in Annex IV indicates that any list of examples is non-exhaustive.

A. Operations which do not lead to the possibility of resource recovery, recycling or reclamation

Operations in Section A are not a recovery, recycling or reclamation operation even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the reclamation of substances or energy.

D1	Deposit into or onto land (e.g. landfill, non-engineered landfill, dumpsites) other than by any operations D2 to D5, or D12
D2	Treatment through interaction with land other than covered by R10 in Section B (e.g. biodegradation of liquids or sludges in soil)
D3	Deep injection (e.g. injection into wells, salt domes of naturally occurring repositories)
D4	Surface impoundment (e.g. placement of liquids or sludge into pits, basins, ponds, tailings dams, lagoons)
D5	Deposit in an engineered landfill isolated from the environment (e.g. placement into lined discrete cells which are capped and isolated from one another)
D6	Release into a water body except seas/oceans
D7	Release into seas/oceans including sea-bed insertion
D8	Biological treatment not specified elsewhere in Section A, prior to submission to any of the operations in Section A (e.g. aerobic or anaerobic processes such as activated sludge treatment, aerated lagoons and stabilization ponds)
D9	Manual treatment, physical/mechanical treatment (e.g. separation, dismantling, size reduction, evaporation, drying, autoclaving, irradiation), physical/chemical treatment (e.g. solvent extraction), chemical treatment (e.g. neutralization, chemical precipitation, oxidation, reduction) or immobilization (e.g. stabilization, solidification, encapsulation) not specified elsewhere in Section A prior to submission to any of the operations in Section A
D10	Thermal treatment on land not covered by an operation in Section B
D11	Thermal treatment at sea not covered by an operation in Section B
D12	Permanent storage (e.g. emplacement of containers in a mine)
D13	Blending or mixing prior to submission to any of the operations in Section A

¹ UNEP/CHW.17/13/Add.1.

D14	Repackaging prior to submission to any of the operations in Section A
D15	Temporary storage prior to submission to any of the operations in Section A

B. Recovery, recycling or reclamation operations

Section B encompasses all such operations with respect to materials legally defined as or considered to be hazardous wastes and other wastes under this Convention and which otherwise would have been destined for operations included in Section A.

R1	Use as a fuel (other than in direct incineration) or other means to generate energy
R2	Solvent reclamation/regeneration
R3	Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents
R4	Recycling or reclamation of metals and metal compounds (e.g. pyrometallurgy, smelting, hydrometallurgy, physical/mechanical treatment)
R5	Recycling or reclamation of inorganic materials other than covered by R4
R6	Regeneration of acids or bases
R7	Recovery of components used for pollution abatement
R8	Recovery of components from catalysts
R9	Recycling or re-refining of used oil (e.g. mineral oil, hydrocarbons-based oils)
R10	Treatment through interaction with land other than in D2 in Section A resulting in benefit to agriculture or ecological improvement
R11	Uses of residual materials obtained from any of the operations numbered R1–R10
R12	Treatment prior to submission to any of the operations numbered R1–R11 (e.g. biological treatment, chemical treatment, physical/chemical treatment, physical/mechanical treatment, blending, mixing)
R13	Temporary storage prior to submission to any of the operations in Section B
R14	Repackaging prior to submission to any of the operations in Section B”

2. *Requests* the Depositary to communicate the adoption of the amendment set out in paragraph 1 of the present decision to all Parties on 1 July 2029 so that the amendment will become effective on 1 January 2030, pursuant to subparagraphs (b) and (c) of paragraph 2 of Article 18 of the Convention.