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| **ADM NO.** | **NAME** |
| **INF/002/2022** | **KENNEDY NDUNG’U MBUGUA** |
| **INF/003/2022** | **CLIFFORD ONCHOMBA** |
| **INF/011/2021** | **MOSES WEKESA** |
| **INF/6001/2022** | **MARTIN ANYOUR** |



**COURSE TITLE: GREEN COMPUTING**

**COURSE CODE: INF 311**

**BASEL CONVENTION AND TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENT**

The Basel Convention is an international treaty designed to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations, especially from developed to less developed countries.  It was adopted in 1989 and came into force in 1992.

Transboundary movement refers to the transportation of hazardous wastes or other types of waste across the borders of different countries. The movement can be from one country to another for purposes like recycling, treatment, or disposal. In the context of the Basel Convention, transboundary movement is heavily regulated to prevent illegal or unsafe dumping of hazardous wastes in countries with weaker environmental regulations

The Convention aims to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects of hazardous wastes.

The Basel Convention is also intended to minimize the rate and toxicity of wastes generated, to ensure their environmentally sound management as closely as possible to the source of generation, and to assist developing countries in environmentally sound management of the hazardous and other wastes they generate.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE BASEL CONVENTION**

seeks to protect human health and the environment from the negative effects of improper hazardous waste management and transport

 Reduce the generation of hazardous waste.

Promote the environmentally sound management of hazardous waste, focusing on safe disposal methods.

 Control and reducing transboundary movements of hazardous waste, particularly from developed to developing countries, to prevent environmental and health risks.

 Ensure prior informed consent (PIC) from receiving countries before waste is exported.

Minimize illegal trafficking of hazardous waste by strengthening regulations and monitoring systems.

**COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN BASEL CONVENTION**

The Basel Convention was adopted in 1989 and came into force in 1992 and 187 countries are parties to the convention except Haiti and USA which has signed but not ratified the convention, making it one of the most widely ratified environmental treaties in the world

**Examples**

European Union and its member states.

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Canada, Australia, and many African and Latin American countries.

**AIMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE BASEL CONVENTION AND TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENT**

 **AIMS**

1. **Minimizing hazardous waste generation**

The convention encourages waste minimization at the source, prioritizing recycling, reuse, and safe disposal.

1. **Ensuring environmentally sound management**

 The convention promotes the development of regulations for waste treatment and disposal that prevent harm to human health and the environment.

1. **Regulating transboundary movements**

The convention provides a legal framework to regulate international trade in hazardous waste, especially from wealthier nations to developing countries.

1. **Preventing illegal trafficking**

It aims to prevent the illegal movement of hazardous waste, which can have severe consequences on ecosystems and human populations.

 **KEY PROVISIONS**

1. **Transboundary Movement Regulations**:

Transboundary movement of hazardous wastes is only allowed when the receiving country provides prior informed consent (PIC).

The country of export must notify the country of import and transit, providing detailed information on the waste's nature, origin, and disposal method.

1. **Environmentally Sound Disposal**:

The convention requires that hazardous waste, once transported, be handled in an environmentally sound manner, meaning its disposal should not harm the environment or human health.

1. **Minimization of Waste Generation**:

Countries are encouraged to adopt production methods that reduce the generation of hazardous wastes and move towards sustainable development practices.

1. **Ban Amendment** (1995):

The Basel Ban Amendment prohibits the export of hazardous waste from OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) countries to non-OECD countries for disposal or recovery. This amendment came into force in **2019**.

1. **Technical Assistance and Cooperation**:

The convention facilitates the transfer of technologies and knowledge between countries to improve hazardous waste management capabilities, especially for developing nations