

ANNEX II

EXAMPLES OF PRESS RELEASES ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS PROJECT

--- Press release ---

17 November 2006

European countries join to step up enforcement of waste shipment rules

Recent IMPEL TFS projects Seaport and Verification have shown many illegal waste shipments and the need for increased cooperation between the member states. Therefore the EC has decided to support joint enforcement projects both politically and financially. One of these projects is the IMPEL TFS Enforcement Actions project. During the start conference in The Hague (The Netherlands) representatives of enforcement authorities of 18 European countries reached agreements on joint and coordinated enforcement actions on WSR. Participating countries will intensify their joint inspections and exchange information in order to align enforcement activities to protect the environment. Six other countries have expressed their intention to participate in the project.

Transfrontier shipments of waste are regulated by a number of international agreements, like the Basel Convention and EU Regulation 259/93. One of the main aims of these regulations is to prevent illegal shipments of harmful waste to countries that do not have the technology to cope with these wastes. For example illegal export of toxic wastes.

Representatives of enforcement authorities from the 18 countries agreed to intensify joint inspections, exchange inspectors and information during the period 2006 – 2008. The first results will be presented in spring 2007. Inspection activities will be focussing on transport inspections, company inspections and inspection of (custom) documents. Special attention will be paid to undeclared waste shipments, waste electronic equipment, end of life vehicles, green listed waste, batteries, household waste, waste disguised as second hand goods. Also the project will focus on export of waste to non-OECD countries and imports of waste into new Member States. Within the participating countries cooperation will include authorities like Environmental Inspectorates, custom services, police and port authorities.

This project, known as the 'IMPEL-TFS Enforcement actions project', was initiated by The Netherlands in 2006. The project is being carried out under the umbrella of the IMPEL Network (European Union Network for the implementation and enforcement of Environmental Law), an informal network of enforcement authorities of EU and Accessing Member States. More information about IMPEL - TFS can be found at http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/impel/impel_tfs.htm. More information on waste shipment regulations can also be found via this link.

--- Press release ---

20 March 2007

Enforcement of waste shipments makes sense.

31 inspections were held last February on several locations in Europe. The inspections were carried out in harbours, borders, railways and companies. These inspections are part of the IMPEL/TFS project Enforcement Actions. The results of the first inspection month were evaluated during this Interim meeting in Paris and showed that 27 percent of the waste shipments turn out to be in violation. The results of the project show many illegal waste shipments and the need for increased cooperation between the member states.

During the Interim meeting on 20 March 2007 representatives of enforcement authorities from 18 countries agreed to extend and intensify joint inspections, exchange of inspectors and information, especially since revised EU Regulation will come into force on the 12th of July, 2007. A program for further joint inspections and exchange of inspectors in 2007 was agreed on. Another 8 European countries have expressed their interest in joining this project and joint inspections in the near future.

During the Start conference in November 2006 is decided that inspection activities will be focussing on transport inspections, company inspections and inspection of (custom) documents. Special attention will be paid to shipments of certain waste types, export of waste to non-OECD countries and imports of waste into new Member States. Within the participating countries cooperation will include authorities like Environmental Inspectorates, custom services, police and port authorities.

Background

Transfrontier shipments of waste are regulated by a number of international agreements, like the Basel Convention and EU Regulation 259/93. The revised EU Regulation 1013/2006 will come into force on the 12th of July, 2007. One of the main aims of these regulations is to prevent illegal shipments of harmful waste to countries that do not have the technology to cope with these wastes. For example illegal export of toxic wastes.

The IMPEL TFS Seaport and Verification projects have shown many illegal waste shipments and the need for increased cooperation between the member states. Therefore the EC has decided to support joint enforcement projects both politically and financially. One of these (follow-up) projects is the IMPEL TFS Enforcement Actions project, initiated by The Netherlands in 2006.

During the start conference last November in The Hague (The Netherlands) representatives of enforcement authorities of 18 European countries reached agreements on joint and coordinated enforcement actions on WSR. Participating countries will intensify their joint inspections and exchange information in order to align enforcement activities to protect the environment.

This project, known as the 'IMPEL-TFS Enforcement actions project', is being carried out under the umbrella of the IMPEL Network (European Union Network for the implementation and enforcement of Environmental Law), an informal network of enforcement authorities of EU and Accessing Member States. More information about IMPEL - TFS can be found at [Environment - Implementation - IMPEL-TFS](#). More information on waste shipment regulations can also be found via this link.