

SAVE THE DATE Side-event at the 14 Conference of the Parties of the Basel Convention

6th of May 2019, 13:15–14:45 **Room 4, CICG, GENEVA**

Controlling plastic waste

Programme



COPs

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Norwegian Ministry
of Climate and
Environment



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Controlling plastic waste

Plastic waste leakage into the marine, freshwater and terrestrial environment is increasing. Millions of tonnes of scrap including low quality plastic is traded without any particular control often to destinations where regulations are less rigorous. Can new international regulations increase accountability for plastic recycling?

Within waste management hierarchies, plastic recycling is the preferred option to replace conventional linear resource management models. Yet, it also bears environmental implications if not soundly managed. The increasing awareness of the recycling industry's negative environmental impacts prompted Chinese authorities to restrict or ban imports of various scrap materials that previously been accepted for recycling. This in turn encourages trade to other countries where environment performance of low-cost recycling facilities is high.

This side event will highlight the latest trends in the global plastic trade, bring together a broad set of actors to discuss the challenges and solutions towards securing sound plastic recycling and inform the deliberations for amendment of Annexes II, VIII and IX of the Basel Convention.

The event is hosted by the Government of Japan and Norway, in partnership with GRID-Arendal

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Moderator

Jacqueline Alvarez, Head, Knowledge and Risk Unit, Chemicals and Health Branch, Economy Division, UN Environment

Key notes

Pål Spillum, Deputy Director General of the Section for Waste Management and Marine Litter, Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway

Yutaka Matsuzawa, Deputy Director General, Environmental Regeneration and Material Cycles Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan

Moderated Panel discussion

Weijian Shao, First Secretary (Customs) of the Mission of the China to the EU based in Brussels.

Thilaagem Mathew, Principal Assistant Secretary Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia

Dimitris Dermatas, Chair of European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law

Gaël de Rotalier, Directorate General for Environment, European Commission

Martin Bourque, Executive Director, Ecology Center, with experience from entrepreneurship

Yuyun Ismawati, Goldman Environmental Prize recipient and founder of BaliFokus/Nexus3 Foundation, Indonesia

David Azoulay, Senior attorney, Director of the Environmental Health programme at Center for International Environmental Law