

STRATEGY FOR THE DISPOSAL OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCBs)

STRATEGY

To engage and assist countries in taking action on PCBs as requested in UNEP Governing Council Decision 19/13C (February 1997), by involving IFCS stakeholders at the global, regional, sub-regional and national level in the development and implementation of action plans.

ACTIVITIES

The range of activities that could be considered in action plans include:

1. Inventory Development:
 - identification of PCBs and PCB-containing equipment;
 - management of in-use PCBs;
 - identification of PCB-contaminated sites.
2. Collection and Storage of Materials for Destruction:
 - management measures for storage and transportation;
 - national implications and policies;
 - international implications (Basel).
3. Alternatives to PCBs.
4. Economic Aspects and Funding:
 - costs of measures;
 - sources of funds;
 - responsibility for actions/clean-up, etc.
5. Destruction:
 - renovation of contaminated oils and equipment;
 - cleanup of contaminated sites;
 - incineration and other methods of destruction;
 - factors to be considered in the above.

APPROACH TO BE TAKEN

The IFCS Forum Standing Committee will establish mechanisms to facilitate the involvement of IFCS participants at all levels in activities organized by UNEP to assist in the development and implementation of PCB action plans. These might include:

- follow-up UNEP POPs technical workshops (e.g. Singapore, March 1999);
- regional UNEP/Basel training workshops in PCB identification, management and destruction (e.g. Abijan, October 1999); and
- other activities for gathering and disseminating useful information.