

## “Waste(s) Watch” cards

The “Waste(s) Watch” cards are a set of quick-reference cards with practical information on waste and its transboundary transportation. The cards are a practical tool to raise the capacity of the border management authorities to detect and prevent illegal transboundary transportation of waste.



The cards were prepared by the Dutch Ministry for Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM) in the frame of the activities of the EU Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL) in 2007. They were distributed throughout the EU border management authorities.

## ENVSEC project

In the framework of the ENVSEC project “Prevention of illegal cross-border transport of hazardous waste in Eastern Europe”, the OSCE requested permission to translate the cards from English into Russian and adapt them in accordance with the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal as well as with the legislation and procedures enforced in the Eastern European states. The project was funded by the Belgian and Canadian governments through the ENVSEC Initiative.



In 2010 representatives of the ministries of the environment, border guard and customs authorities from the Republic of Belarus, the

Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as well as of the Regional Basel Convention Centre in Moscow and the NGO Bureau of Environmental Investigations (Ukraine) adapted the cards. Later that year **2400 copies** of the “Waste(s) Watch” cards were published and distributed among relevant authorities.

## Contents

The set of cards contain information on:

- a number of waste streams (e.g. waste mineral oils, electronic waste, demolition waste, CFC-containing wastes);
- wastes (e.g. bituminous materials, scrap plastics, used pneumatic tyres);
- other useful information (e.g. typical schemes for illegal transportation, diagrams for transboundary transportation, contacts of the Basel Convention focal points).

Each card on wastes or waste streams provides its name in several European and regional languages, classification (the European Waste Catalogue, the Basel Convention, the OECD, and national codes), physical and chemical properties, general description and points of attention during documentary and visual control of the specific cargo.

## Possible follow up

Bearing in mind that the cards are translated in Russian and adopted according to the Basel Convention, they could easily be adapted to the specifics of any country in which Russian language is more widely spread than English and has the Basel Convention provisions integrated in its national legislation, i.e. they can be used in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus. Countries of the recently-established Customs Union (Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan) can use the cards without or with minor changes.

## Contact Information

For more information about the cards or the ENVSEC project “Prevention of illegal cross-border transport of hazardous waste in Eastern Europe”, please contact Ms Tamara Kutonova, National Project Officer in the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine ([tamara.kutonova@osce.org](mailto:tamara.kutonova@osce.org)).