

THE PROBO KOALA PROGRAMME

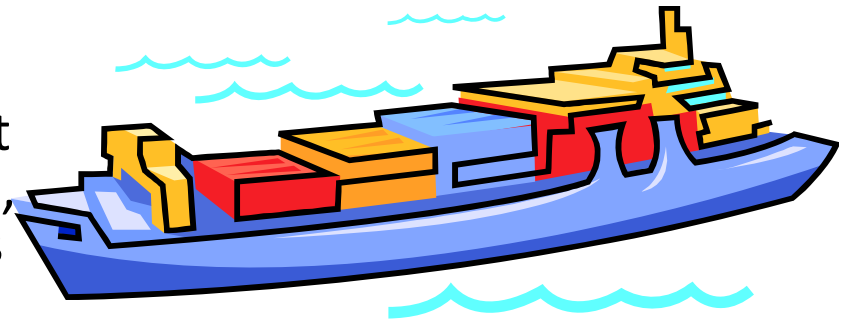
Enhancing Implementation and Enforcement of the
Chemicals and Waste Conventions in Africa to Safeguard
Human Health and the Environment

The Secretariat of the Basel Convention
United Nations Environment Programme



Background

- ❖ In August 2006, toxic waste from the Probo Koala, a vessel chartered by the trading company, was dumped at several sites in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, reportedly causing at least 10 deaths and prompting tens of thousands of residents to seek medical attention.
- ❖ The BC COP-8 strongly condemned the dumping of wastes in Abidjan and called upon Parties to provide technical and financial assistance to support the implementation of the emergency plan developed by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire (Decision VIII/1).



Response Action

- ❖ Côte d'Ivoire was granted **funding** (BC Decision VIII/1)
 - UNEP Special Trust Fund for Côte d'Ivoire
 - Tech. Coop. Trust Fund of the Basel Convention
- ❖ **Collaboration** to develop a **programme of action** to implement the main recommendations of the Government's emergency plan
 - The Secretariat of the Basel Convention (SBC)
 - UNEP Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch
 - The Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention (SRC)
 - The Secretariat of the Stockholm Conventions (SSC)
 - Basel Convention Regional Centres in Africa (BCRCs)

Objectives

- ❖ To strengthen the capacity in **ESM of HW**
 - District of Abidjan
 - Port of Abidjan
- ❖ To strengthen the capacity in **monitoring and control of TBM** of chemicals and HW and ensure ESM of them
 - Côte d'Ivoire, and
 - other countries in the region



Programme Components

- ❖ **Component A** - Hazardous waste management plan for the District of Abidjan
- ❖ **Component B** - Infrastructure capacity building in the Port of Abidjan
- ❖ **Component C** - Enforcement of the Basel Convention and other MEAs
- ❖ **Component D** - Assessment in preparation for development of a regional early warning system in West Africa

Implementation

- ❖ To date, a variety of activities have been undertaken to fulfil the objectives
 - **Inventory of HW** in District of Abidjan
 - **HWM Plan**, involving multistakeholders consultations, finalized and adopted by Gov. of Côte d'Ivoire in October 2009
 - analyse existing legislation;
 - identify gaps; and
 - assess the training needs of various entities in Abidjan.



Implementation (2)

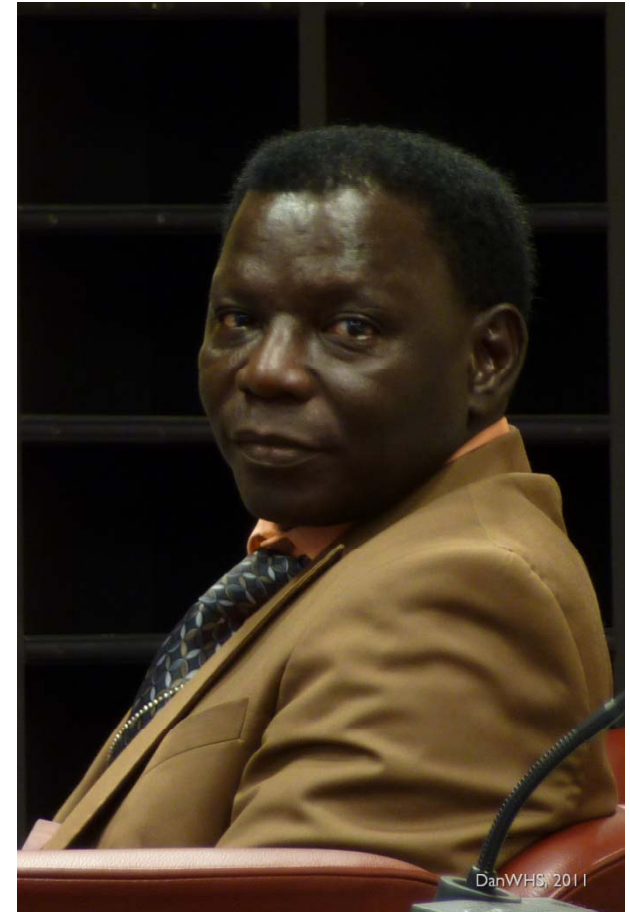
- ❖ Activities to strengthen the capacity of the Port of Abidjan incl. a **port assessment** to evaluate the capacity of national stakeholders to manage the movement of HW.
 - Conducted by UNEP, in close collaboration w/ IMO and SBC
 - Focused on **application** of BC and MARPOL at Port of Abidjan
 - Highlighted the **need for institutional capacity building** ~ id & handling HW and dangerous goods, incl. response to accidents
 - UNEP developed an **in-situ lab** for sampling & analysis of HW entering the Port of Abidjan.
 - Intensive **training programme** for selected lab staff.

Implementation (3)

- ❖ During the implementation, it was apparent that **effective implementation and enforcement** of the Basel and MARPOL conventions and other related instruments a **key factor** ensuring no reoccurrence of the Probo Koala incident.
- ❖ Through the 2nd objective, activities were developed to strengthen the capacity of
 - Côte d'Ivoire, and
 - other countries with **port facilities** in the region, to **implement** and **enforce** the Basel Convention, in **synergy** with other related international instruments.

Implementation (4)

- ❖ Project activities implemented by **BCRC Dakar** w/ support from SBC, commenced in Côte d'Ivoire in November 2009
 - A “**gaps and needs**” analysis to assess the implementation and enforcement of the 3 conventions, the International Health Regulations of WHO and MARPOL
 - **Norms and regulations** for the coordinated implementation of the 3 conventions currently being developed
 - Training **seminars for enforcement agencies** are scheduled
- ❖ SBC's training programme **partners**:
 - SRC
 - SSC
 - IMO
 - WHO



Replication of pilot project

(Over next 2 years)

❖ Funded by SAICM

- **Djibouti**
- **Mozambique**
- **Ethiopia**



❖ Funded by other donors, including Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Germany

- **Kenya**
- **Tanzania**
- **Madagascar**
- **Morocco**
- **Gabon**



Remarks

The implementation of the programme to date has demonstrated the value of coordinated action both at the international and national levels, through the involvement of multiple stakeholders and projects partners, towards the enhancement of capacities for the environmentally sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes

THANK YOU

For Further Information

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