

VIA MAIL & FAX 25099055



29<sup>th</sup> October 2005

The Honourable Audrey Yuet-mee Eu, SC, JP  
Chairperson  
Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
3 Garden Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Eu,

**RE: Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005**

We are very delighted to inform you that Mr. Jim Puckett, an international expert in the field of toxic waste trade, has kindly accepted our invitation to write a submission to the Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005, and to finish it late December. He is also willing, if deemed desirable, to come to Hong Kong to present the submission in person then. We would like therefore to recommend that the Committee arrange to take into account of the submission and also to meet with him.

Mr. Puckett has been campaigning against international trades of toxic waste such as electronic waste for many years. Formerly, he served as Greenpeace International's Toxics Director and the coordinator of Greenpeace's Toxic Trade Campaign, which was instrumental to the realization of the Amendment to the Basel Convention. After leaving Greenpeace, he founded the Basel Action Network (BAN) and continues his work on confronting these trades and their adverse impacts on the environment and human rights. <sup>1</sup> In 2002, the BAN, together with another NGO, issued their first report on electronic waste, the release of which immediately led to a public outcry at the international level. <sup>2</sup> This month the BAN released another report on electronic waste which concerns Africa. <sup>3</sup> Mr. Puckett has substantial experience in the

<sup>1</sup> See the official web site of the Basel Action Network: <<http://www.ban.org/index.html>>

<sup>2</sup> See The Basel Action Network & Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition, *Exporting Harm: The High-Tech Trashing of Asia*, 2002, <<http://www.ban.org/E-waste/technotrashfinalcomp.pdf>>.

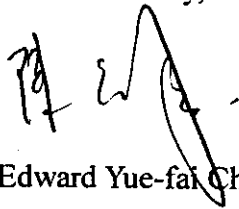
<sup>3</sup> See The Basel Action Network, *The Digital Dump: Exporting Re-Use and Abuse to Africa*, 2005,

implementation of related international treaties such as the Basel Convention. He has represented the BAN at many Conferences of the Parties to the Basel Convention.<sup>4</sup> He has also collaborated with a range of NGOs to bring the human rights issues connected with electronic waste trades to the attention of the international community. In 2002, the United States Special Rapporteur on the Adverse Effects of the Illicit Movement and Dumping of Toxic and Dangerous Products and Wastes on the Enjoyment of Human Rights started reporting in her reports the adverse impacts of electronic waste trades on human rights in developing countries like China.<sup>5</sup>

We believe that the expertise of Mr. Puckett can benefit the work of the Bills Committee to a significant extent. He has already given us very helpful assistance in preparing our submission to the Bills Committee since he is convinced that Hong Kong could play a crucial role in curbing electronic waste trade in the region.<sup>6</sup> Now he plans to conduct a more in-depth and complete analysis of the existing WDO and the WDO (Amendment) Bill 2005 in his submission in the hope to inform the Bills Committee as to how the Basel Convention and its Amendment can be best implemented in Hong Kong through domestic laws and public policies. Certainly, the Bills Committee could benefit even more if Mr. Puckett explains his views in person, and also discusses issues raised with its members and concerned government officials.

If the Bills Committee is interested to accept our recommendation, please kindly let us know at your earliest convenience so that we can help make arrangements accordingly. And also please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 2854 8??? if you have any question.

Yours sincerely,



Edward Yue-fai Chan  
Campaigner  
Greenpeace

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<<http://www.ban.org/BANreports/10-24-05/index.htm>>.

<sup>4</sup> See the BAN's submissions to the COPs: <<http://www.ban.org/main/meetings.html>>.

<sup>5</sup> See U.N. Doc. E/Cn.4/2002/61, para.16.

<sup>6</sup> See The Submission from Greenpeace, Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005: <<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr04-05/english/bc/bc63/papers/bc630726cb2-2391-4e.pdf>>