

27 April 2017

Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED)
Intervention on PCB
Given by Ram Charitra Sah

Thank you Mr. President,

Looking at the trend of what we have accomplished in PCB destruction since 2004 and what needs to be accomplished in another 11 years, there is an urgent need to take a greater leap.

In this context, CEPHED, a participating organization of IPEN from Nepal, based on our ground level experience working on PCB POPs issues which led to receiving the PEN (PCB Elimination Network) Award in 2011 from POPs Convention Secretariat would like to draw the attention of the COP on the following issues:

The need for standardized PCB inventories, banning of sale, distribution, burning and even traditional uses of PCB. Elimination of PCBs needs to be aggressively expedited since about 80% of the identified PCB (oil, waste, etc.) still have to be eliminated by the 2028 deadline set in the Convention, so far. In the case of Nepal further support is needed to complete its partially managed and de-chlorination of identified PCB contaminated oil and waste.

Non-legacy sources such as pigments and paints also need to be addressed.

Development of a standardized methodology for the inventory and future assessment of PCBs in closed and open applications including uses other than electrical equipment.

Development of guidance on non-combustion methods for PCBs destruction and discourage incineration or co-incineration of PCBs in cement kilns as they are a source category of POPs in Annex C. The PCB Guideline should include DRY WELDING MACHINE over WET WELDING Machine for metal fabrication employing PCB contaminated oil in many developing countries and hence parties need to promote the DRY WELDING machine with required financial incentives such as tax exemption and subsidies to protect the Metal Fabricators, end user of PCB contaminated oil in many developing countries like Nepal etc.

Thank you for considering our views.