



a toxics-free future

IPEN / SRADeV Intervention on Illegal Traffic

Given by Leslie Adogame

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Synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes

Thank you, Mr. President,

My name is Leslie Adogame, I represent SRADeV Nigeria, a Participating Organization of IPEN network, and making this statement on behalf of IPEN.

We are gathered here to discuss how best to implement three conventions, to learn from each other and to build on the existing synergies over the years. In 2017, more than 1.5 million tonnes of illegal waste were discovered worldwide during a global operation coordinated by INTERPOL targeting the illegal shipment and disposal of waste. The EU market loses about €1.3 billion of revenue annually, or 13.8% of the sector sales, due to counterfeit pesticides. Chemicals and recycled wastes in consumer products and children's toys also enter countries illegally. These counterfeit and illegal trade practices affect our efforts to achieve targets in Sustainable Development Goals 12 on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

There is a need for sustainable synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes, which remains a major challenge. The synergy of the three conventions has been in effect for over a decade now, and despite all efforts, illegal traffic of hazardous chemicals and wastes remain a major obstacle to complying with all their provisions, particularly in developing countries.

The role of Convention Secretariat is to support and strengthen the implementation of the Convention and facilitate compliance of the Parties. IPEN supports the implementation and proposed plan of action on synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes including its legal actions; however, on information on cases of illegal trade, we additionally call on this COP to request the Secretariat to develop a form to enable reporting of illegal trade in chemicals and wastes. A mechanism for stakeholder input reports of illegal trade and its follow up should be included. We also request that a glossary of terms should be developed to strengthen capacity to prevent and combat illegal traffic.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.