

MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

1. International transit of toxic waste, especially from industrialized to developing countries, is not only a danger to the receiving countries, but also constitutes a threat to both the health of the world population for the oceans.
2. These dangers are compounded by producers of toxic waste that consider more profitable and easier to export than to comply with the regulations relating to the management, treatment and disposal of these wastes in force in their country. Apart from the risk of accidents incurred in the transportation of waste, increased risk to the export of toxic waste from industrialized countries lies in the very real financial difficulties receiving countries which generally have not the ability to manage safe waste they produce themselves and accumulate within their own borders.
3. Build a plant that will generate toxic waste in a place where there is no effective means to treat or eliminate falls from the point of view of environmental irresponsibility. Ultimately, this means that a number of sub-industries may not be suitable for entire regions. This problem is generally institutional; it is possible that the location of a plant is acceptable, under certain conditions, if the proposed development is accompanied by a commitment from the government to put in place a plan for transportation, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste.
4. One of the strategic objectives of the BOAD is to promote sustainable development, that is to say, a development that is based on the rational management of human and natural resources to benefit the present and

future generations. Given the growing danger of international and unregulated shipments of toxic waste pose to the environment, and given the fundamental importance it attaches to the protection of the environment of its member states, the following guidelines framed operations of the Bank in the field of hazardous materials management:

- (a) In terms of treatment and disposal of hazardous waste, the Bank requires that producers of hazardous waste to comply with the laws in force in their country's toxic waste. Concern BOAD is to give the people of these members better living conditions qi does not threaten their health states;
- (b) Whether its member states or oceans , neither one nor the other should not be threatened by the spill, transfer or accumulation of toxic or hazardous waste generated in one country and transported in a other ;
- (c) The discharge into the sea is prohibited. International transport of toxic waste, whether to use them , should be undertaken only under certain conditions, namely the prior consent in full knowledge of the national authorities competent central and authorizations required under the domestic laws of national authorities at the central level ;
- (d) If the permits will be issued , both parties must ensure and certify that : the mode of transport is consistent with international conventions and standards; cargo is transported in storage areas and disposal without risk run by responsible operators , experienced and certified ensuring monitoring of safety rules;

- (e) Management issues hazardous materials are of international importance and require a strong collaboration. The Bank, as institutions such as the African Union (AU) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is concerned these issues and recognizes international efforts by the United Nations environment Programme (UNEP) to establish bilateral arrangements essential to the establishment of rules prohibiting or controlling the treatment and disposal of toxic or hazardous waste. The Bank will work with the international community and the governments of the Member States and any State may have cooperation with them in the development of standards and codes of good practice for the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes.
- (f) As part of its policy and its lending operations, BOAD not finance any project, regardless of the borrowing country, involving the elimination of hazardous or toxic waste from another country, and sponsor not the transport and disposal of hazardous or toxic waste to developing countries. While agreeing with efforts at national and international level to improve environmental standards and codes of practice to ensure safe transport, transshipment, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste or dangerous, the Bank will continue to encourage the efforts of borrowing countries to build or enhance their own facilities in order to manage waste through recycling, recovery , reprocessing and safe disposal .

Asbestos in the projects financed by the West African Development Bank

5. The Bank considers asbestos as a hazardous material and prefers more to avoid fund use, but will reconsider its position as and when advances in science. Operational and organizational units responsible for Environmental Management and Sustainable Development Unit should therefore pay particular attention whenever mention is made of asbestos in a project.
6. Citations are widely reported major risks posed by asbestos on public health and safety. The scientific evidence is mounting on the highly carcinogenic prolonged exposure and the fact that the outlook for some workers improves when exposure is subsequently reduced. The threshold below which exposure poses no risk is low, but is not known accurately.
7. The Bank has not financed directly operating asbestos mines in the past and prefer, given the weight of current scientific opinion, not to fund either the manufacture or use of products containing asbestos. This position is related to risk. The Bank will most likely not reach financially support the asbestos dry and exposed to air in risk situations for people, such as roofs of schools and social housing use, but will be less categorical when the product is wet, stable and used underground, underground sewers, for example.
8. Since the position adopted by the Bank has no exception, it is:
 - (i) to project promoters to inform the Bank on the fact that the materials used does not contain asbestos are responsible developers to demonstrate the absence of alternatives, in part

because accepting, for example, the use of asbestos cement sewer low risk encourages mining and manufacturing of asbestos, which involve risks and higher are more out of the reach control means project.

- (ii) operational organizational units early reassure the Bank in the area before the entry of the project portfolio. Factors to consider before granting a waiver include the financial impact of alternatives, and the importance of risk.
9. A risk assessment of best estimates of the toxicity of different products and different programs may become available and allow to develop a policy that can be applied to the differential opportunity costs in different places. Incentives could take precedence over quantity controls in the case of intermediate risk. Project managers should investigate the situation of such policies when applying for exemptions. The advisers of ministries responsible for the environment and industry, science and technology and health should be consulted when applying for exemptions or when there is need for additional arguments.
10. The Bank does not encourage premature structures containing asbestos demolition, especially if it is dry asbestos and non-agglomerated. His concerns were not only related to amphibole asbestos, but asbestos and serpentine asbestos chrysotile. It has recently been found (Anderson, 1991) that the white (or chrysotile) asbestos caused an incurable cancer (mesothelioma) appears only after 30 or 40 years of exposure. The Bank is concerned in particular to avoid human exposure to asbestos of the amphibole variety called crocidolite , or blue asbestos , which has scientific evidence that it increases the risk to the health of demolition and the public. If it is possible to demolish such structures under conditions acceptable risk, it is unlikely that this is the case in the Member States of

the Bank. BOAD does not encourage the other hand , premature replacement of water mains asbestos cement , because the risks associated with the consumption of water supplied by such behavior is low compared to risks inhalation of asbestos particles .

11.The Bank is open to the idea of financing:

- (a) replacement products asbestos
- (b) monitoring and evaluation of risks posed by the presence of asbestos
- (c) mitigation risks in structures containing asbestos, including risks related to their maintenance,
- (d) the safe disposal of materials containing asbestos, and
- (e) education, training and measures safety against asbestos.