

4 May 2017

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

I am making this intervention on behalf of CEPHED, a Partner Organization of IPEN.

Nepal is the first country in South Asia that banned the Import, Sale, Distribution and Uses of all forms of Asbestos in 2014 except lining of brake shoe and clutch plates. As a Sovereign and Independent Country Nepal took a very progressive decision to protect public health and environment from this serious carcinogenic substance to ensure its public's fundamental right to live in a healthy environment enshrined by the Constitution of Nepal 2015.

However, despite the ban, we found Asbestos and Asbestos containing products still being exported to Nepal because we are not able to fully regulate the import due to lack of adequate testing infrastructures, hence it is important that the ban decision of Nepal as a Sovereign country should be respected by all other Sovereign country and they should stop sending Asbestos and Asbestos containing products to Nepal.

It is also important that Chrysotile Asbestos should be listed in Annex III of the Convention to enhance PIC process.

Finally, technical assistance is required to regulate the import, prevention of exposure from existing uses and ensure the sound management of asbestos containing waste. This will be highly appreciated.

Thank you for considering our views.