



6 May, 2015

Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED) and IPEN Intervention on PCBs

Given by Ram Charitra Sah, CEPHED, Nepal

Thank you Madam President,

Looking at the trend of what we have accomplished since 2004 and need to be accomplished in another 13 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, would like to draw the attention of this imminent gathering and COP on followings:

- Standardized inventories, banning of sale, distribution, burning and even traditional uses (headache, joint pains, clogging blood from wound etc.) of PCBs.
- Elimination of PCBs needs to be aggressively expedited since about 80% of the identified PCBs (oil, waste, etc.) still have to be eliminated by the 2028 deadline set in the Convention.
- Non-legacy sources (e.g. 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 discouragement of incineration or co-incineration of PCBs in cement kilns as they are a source category of POPs in Annex C.
- The Secretariat, PEN, and regional centers should work with public interest NGOs to increase information and awareness-raising campaigns on PCBs inventory and elimination.
- The PCB Guideline should include Dry Welding Machines over Wet Welding Machines for metal fabrication employing PCBs-contaminated oil and Parties need to promote the Dry Welding Machine with required financial incentives such as tax exemption and subsidies to protect the end user of PCBs-contaminated oil, etc.

Thank you for considering our views.

Finally, I want to thank all individual and country delegations who have shown solidarity to Nepal's recent earthquake situation and victims.