

BAN Intervention on the Entry into Force of the Ban Amendment

Thank you chair. It has been 22 years since the Ban Amendment was adopted. There are very few of us still following this work here today that remember the celebration of its adoption here in this very building in 1995. Since that time many efforts have been made to derail it, weaken it or prevent its entry into force. But thanks to the CLI it is now firmly on track for entry into force. It is important however to remain vigilant against those efforts to diminish the agreement by de-listing wastes most subject to global dumping, even before its entry into force. And I refer directly here to the electronics' industry push to de-list repairable electronics from the scope of the Convention via a Technical Guideline.

On BAN's table outside, you can find several briefing papers regarding the Ban Amendment. The reasons it is needed today now more than ever and the listing of the Parties still needing to ratify.

Today, BAN wishes to congratulate the newest Parties that have ratified since COP12 in May of 2015. In that period, we congratulate the ratifications of Antigua and Barbuda, El Salvador, Guinea, Iran, Jamaica, Niger, Seychelles, and South Africa.

With these latest additions, we are but 6 Parties away from entry into force, with the understanding that those 6 must be drawn from the Parties present at COP3 in 1995. It gives me great pleasure to realize that we are now so close. We urge each nation present today as a Party or as an observer, who has not already done so, to ratify the landmark Ban Amendment at the earliest opportunity and especially if you can be one of the 6 to bring this historic moment closer to us.

In this way the next COP, COP14 will become a celebration of historical significance in the movement for environmental justice. It will be a meeting and moment in time, none will want to miss.

Thank you.