



Zero Waste Live!

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Going beyond Basel:
How waste-exporting nations must tackle
the plastic crisis at root



Contents

- **Basel Convention** – what it is, and what recent amendments mean for waste trade
- **Further actions needed from waste exporting nations** – phasing out exports, reducing plastic consumption, investing in domestic recycling
- **Avoiding false solutions** – incineration bans and landfill taxes

Photos credited to Greenpeace





Basel Convention

- The Basel Convention seeks to protect human health and the environment from hazardous waste
- New amendments agreed last year subject mixed plastic waste to “prior informed consent”
- Only plastic which has been pre-sorted and destined for recycling is exempt from notification

The need to go further

Waste exports are the symptom of unsustainable consumption of single-use materials. A holistic and ambitious suite of measures are required to address the problem at root.

- **Phasing out exports** – Promises from the EU and UK
- **Reducing consumption** – Reduction and reuse measures
- **Investing in domestic reuse and recycling facilities**
- **A global treaty** to regulate and restrict production of plastic



Avoiding false solutions

To avoid unintended consequences, waste-exporting nations must take steps to avoid false solutions.

- Incineration ban
- Landfill tax



An underwater photograph of several whales swimming in deep blue water. The water is clear, and the whales' dark, textured skin is visible. The word "Questions" is overlaid in white text, with a vertical white line to its left.

Questions