Environmentally Harmful Dumping of Inefficient Appliances

Montreal Protocol Side Event
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14 July 2020
What is Environmental Dumping?

- IGSD defined environmental dumping as “the practice of exporting products to another country or territory that:
  - 1) Contain hazardous substances;
  - 2) Have environmental performance lower than is in the interest of consumers or that is contrary to the interests of the local and global commons, or;
  - 3) Can undermine the ability of the importing country to fulfill international environmental treaty commitments”

- Second hand products fraudulently described as “reusable”

- Brand new products that do not meet environmental standards
Why does dumping happen

- To evade EU stringent waste management regulations and make further profit from resale

  - Countries without robust standards
  - Countries with weak standards
  - Countries with weak institutions to enforce standards
New but inefficient products

- Fewer and identified importers
- Market compliance
- Verification tests
- Product recall & reshipment
- Product rejection and reshipment
Second hand products

- Numerous and fragmented importers
- Very recalcitrant and crafty
- Use very complex means of outwitting enforcement officers
Effects of dumping - Environment & health

- Reputational damage - Agbogbloshie in Ghana is adjudged one of the dirtiest spots on earth.
- People living in and around Agbogbloshie are said to be prone to upper respiratory diseases because of the crude way of salvaging metals.
- The entire city of Accra is exposed to the toxic that emanates from this spot.
Effects of dumping - triggers the poverty spiral

- Consumers wastes money on appliances that have short remaining useful life couple with high running cost because of frequent repairs and high energy cost

- Increases the future demand for obsolete refrigerants for service that will become increasingly expensive and unavailable as the HCFC phase out and HFC phasedown proceeds.
Dumping is anti development

- Dumping scares away investors

- Dumping introduces “lemons” into the market that chases away the good products. Condemn consumers to inefficient and obsolete technologies.

- Increases demand for electricity generation capacity expansion to the detriment of the needed resources to tackle health, education, nutrition and infrastructure.

- Slows down electricity access expansion.
Interventions to stop the menace

- Collaborative effort with CSO, NGOs, Media and other organizations to create awareness of the menace

- Demand enforcement by countries that export to stop it from their end. It is more effective to stop dumping at the point(s) of origin than at points of import

- Punitive fines against shipping lines that bring prohibited products and also taking responsibility of shipping them back to their ports of origin
Thank you