



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

helpline@defra.gov.uk  
[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

Costa Rica

Your ref:  
Our ref:  
Date: 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021

Dear

## Exports of New Basel Convention Code B3011 plastic wastes from Great Britain

A new code for non-hazardous plastic waste exports, B3011, was introduced through an amendment to Annex IX of the Basel Convention in May 2019 and came into force globally on 1 January 2021<sup>1</sup>.

The controls for exporting B3011 waste to countries that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have not been included in our legislation. We are therefore writing to you to understand **what controls should be applied when moving B3011 plastic wastes from Great Britain to your country**. Your response will allow British companies exporting waste to comply with the import control procedures in your country.

To assist us in the above assessment, we would be grateful if you could answer the short questionnaire included in Appendix B.

We would be grateful for a response by the 29th January 2021.

If you are unable to complete the form digitally, please print out the form, tick the appropriate boxes, sign the form, scan the form and email the completed form to this address:

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Or alternatively, please post the form to this address:

<sup>1</sup> [Questions and answers related to the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments](#)

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[Redacted]

Thank you very much for your assistance

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs | 2 Marsham Street | London SW1P  
4DF

[Redacted]

## Appendix A: Table to show B3011 plastic waste in more detail

**Note:** B3011 is a subset of the former code B3010 and the parameters of B3011 are set out in Appendix A below.

Waste description	Code
Non-hazardous single polymer waste plastic that is destined for R3 recycling in an environmentally sound manner and is almost free from contamination and other types of waste. The categories are:	B3011
<p>1. Non-halogenated polymers, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Polyethylene (PE)</li><li>• Polypropylene (PP)</li><li>• Polystyrene (PS)</li><li>• Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS)</li><li>• Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)</li><li>• Polycarbonates (PC)</li><li>• Polyethers</li></ul>	
<p>2. Cured resins/Condensation products, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Urea formaldehyde resins</li><li>• Phenol formaldehyde resins</li><li>• Melamine formaldehyde resins</li><li>• Epoxy resins</li><li>• Alkyd resins</li></ul>	
<p>3. Fluorinated polymers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perfluoroethylene/propylene (FEP)</li><li>• Perfluoroalkoxy alkanes<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Tetrafluoroethylene/perfluoroalkyl vinyl ether (PFA)</li><li>○ Tetrafluoroethylene/perfluoromethyl vinyl ether (MFA)</li></ul></li><li>• Polyvinylfluoride (PVF)</li><li>• Polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF)</li></ul>	
<p>4. Non-hazardous mixture of waste plastic, consisting of polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP) and/or polyethylene terephthalate (PET) provided they will be separately recycled and are almost free from contamination and other wastes</p>	

Appendix B: Questionnaire to be completed

Country: COSTA RICA .....

Date: January 27, 2021 .....

Contact details of the respondent: [REDACTED] .....

Signature of the respondent: [REDACTED] .....

Questions:

1) Which of the following controls apply to the import of 1) non-halogenated polymers (under B3011<sup>2</sup> plastic waste) in your country?

- a) Prohibition
- b) Prior written notification and consent;
- c) No Control
- d) Other control procedures under national law.

2) For imports that are subject to "other control procedures" (i.e. d) above), please summarise what these control procedures are and where further information can be found:

For the wastes listed in entry B3011, Costa Rica will not implement the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for both the Parties to the Basel Convention and the OECD countries list.

3) Please use the box below to provide any comments or clarifications regarding your reply to this questionnaire (optional):

For the OECD countries list, Costa Rica will implement the Green Control procedure, according to articles 43 and 44 of the Executive Decree 41525-S for import of these wastes to Costa Rica, and according to articles 45 and 46 of said Decree for the export of these wastes from Costa Rica.

4) Please note that the response to these questions will be considered as an official reply and will be shared with relevant UK regulators and stakeholders. The contact details of the respondent will not be shared outside of the UK government.

<sup>2</sup> The Basel Convention lists 4 types of waste plastics that can be classified as B3011. 1) Non-halogenated polymers, 2) Cured resins/Condensation products, 3) Fluorinated polymers, 4) Mixtures of separated polyethylene, polypropylene and polyethylene terephthalate that will be separately recycled and are almost free of contamination and other wastes. These are described in more detail in Appendix A

5) Which of the following controls apply to the import of 2) Cured resins/Condensation product (under B3011<sup>3</sup> plastic waste) in your country?

a) Prohibition

b) Prior written notification and consent;

c) No Control

d) Other control procedures under national law.

6) For imports that are subject to "other control procedures" (i.e. d) above), please summarise what these control procedures are and where further information can be found:

For the wastes listed in entry B3011, Costa Rica will not implement the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for both the Parties to the Basel Convention and the OECD countries list.

7) Please use the box below to provide any comments or clarifications regarding your reply to this questionnaire (optional):

For the OECD countries list, Costa Rica will implement the Green Control procedure, according to articles 43 and 44 of the Executive Decree 41525-S for import of these wastes to Costa Rica, and according to articles 45 and 46 of said Decree for the export of these wastes from Costa Rica.

8) Please note that the response to these questions will be considered as an official reply and will be shared with relevant UK regulators and stakeholders. The contact details of the respondent will not be shared outside of the UK government.

<sup>3</sup> The Basel Convention lists 4 types of waste plastics that can be classified as B3011. 1) Non-halogenated polymers, 2) Cured resins/Condensation products, 3) Fluorinated polymers, 4) Mixtures of separated polyethylene, polypropylene and polyethylene terephthalate that will be separately recycled and are almost free of contamination and other wastes. These are described in more detail in Appendix A

9) Which of the following controls apply to the import of 3) Fluorinated polymers (under B3011<sup>4</sup> plastic waste) in your country?

a) Prohibition

b) Prior written notification and consent;

c) No Control

d) Other control procedures under national law.

10) For imports that are subject to "other control procedures" (i.e. d) above), please summarise what these control procedures are and where further information can be found:

For the wastes listed in entry B3011, Costa Rica will not implement the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for both the Parties to the Basel Convention and the OECD countries list.

11) Please use the box below to provide any comments or clarifications regarding your reply to this questionnaire (*optional*):

For the OECD countries list, Costa Rica will implement the Green Control procedure, according to articles 43 and 44 of the Executive Decree 41525-S for import of these wastes to Costa Rica, and according to articles 45 and 46 of said Decree for the export of these wastes from Costa Rica.

12) Please note that the response to these questions will be considered as an official reply and will be shared with relevant UK regulators and stakeholders. The contact details of the respondent will not be shared outside of the UK government.

<sup>4</sup> The Basel Convention lists 4 types of waste plastics that can be classified as B3011. 1) Non-halogenated polymers, 2) Cured resins/Condensation products, 3) Fluorinated polymers, 4) Mixtures of separated polyethylene, polypropylene and polyethylene terephthalate that will be separately recycled and are almost free of contamination and other wastes. These are described in more detail in Appendix A

13) Which of the following controls apply to the import of 4) Mixtures of separated polyethylene, polypropylene and polyethylene terephthalate that will be separately recycled and are almost free of contamination and other wastes (B3011<sup>5</sup> plastic waste) in your country?

a) Prohibition

b) Prior written notification and consent;

c) No Control

d) Other control procedures under national law.

14) For imports that are subject to "other control procedures" (i.e. d) above), please summarise what these control procedures are and where further information can be found:

For the wastes listed in entry B3011, Costa Rica will not implement the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for both the Parties to the Basel Convention and the OECD countries list.

15) Please use the box below to provide any comments or clarifications regarding your reply to this questionnaire (optional):

For the OECD countries list, Costa Rica will implement the Green Control procedure, according to articles 43 and 44 of the Executive Decree 41525-S for import of these wastes to Costa Rica, and according to articles 45 and 46 of said Decree for the export of these wastes from Costa Rica.

16) Please note that the response to these questions will be considered as an official reply and will be shared with relevant UK regulators and stakeholders. The contact details of the respondent will not be shared outside of the UK government.

Executive Decree No 41525-S and additional information can be accessed at the following addresses:

[http://www.pgrweb.go.cr/dj/BusquedaNormativa/Normas/nrm\\_texto\\_completo.aspx?param1=NRTC&nValor1=1&nValor2=86075&nValor3=1149308&tTipM=TC](http://www.pgrweb.go.cr/dj/BusquedaNormativa/Normas/nrm_texto_completo.aspx?param1=NRTC&nValor1=1&nValor2=86075&nValor3=1149308&tTipM=TC)  
<http://www.ministeriodesalud.go.cr/index.php/tramites-ma/autorizaciones-y-certificados?id=867>

Said import and export operations are only allowed to authorized waste handlers previously registered with the Ministry of Health, or by natural (individuals) or legal persons previously authorized by the Ministry of Health, that generate the waste to be exported as part of their own activities or that require the import of such waste as inputs for their normal operations, and which have demonstrated capacity for the handling of the specific wastes to be transferred.

<sup>5</sup> The Basel Convention lists 4 types of waste plastics that can be classified as B3011. 1) Non-halogenated polymers, 2) Cured resins/Condensation products, 3) Fluorinated polymers, 4) Mixtures of separated polyethylene, polypropylene and polyethylene terephthalate that will be separately recycled and are almost free of contamination and other wastes. These are described in more detail in Appendix A