

turning back the toxic tide



MISSION

PREVENTING:

toxic trade

PROMOTING:

toxics-free future

PROMOTING:

global environmental
justice



Hazardous waste on the beach... asbestos pours out of ship hull in Alang, India



“The Basel Action Network’s research and advocacy on the international trade in hazardous waste is the perfect example of the vital role that can be played by civil society today if we are to survive. BAN’s advocacy has been a beacon for global environmental justice that is very much welcomed by the United Nations.”

—DR. ACHIM STEINER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

overview:

BAN is the world’s only organization dedicated to halting toxic trade. Currently we are the home for three international campaign efforts that employ market or legislative forces to stop the unjust dumping of toxic waste on the world’s most vulnerable communities.

Our **e-Stewardship Campaign** seeks to reform the production, use, and disposal of electronic equipment to ensure full life-cycle responsibility and full cost internalization.

Our **Green Ship Recycling Campaign** works both with our US partners and the global NGO Shipbreaking Platform coalition to ensure that the same type of stewardship takes place for obsolete ships in the massive global shipping industry.

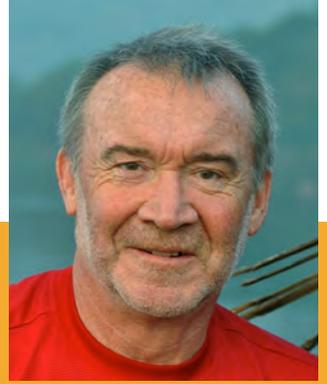
Third, our **advocacy work** with the United Nations’ Basel Convention and its Ban Amendment seeks to defend the world’s only treaty prohibiting toxic trade and promote its full implementation as international law.

Together, all of our efforts serve systemic, lasting reform by exposing the false economic paradigm of institutionalized externalities and the pollution and human exploitation resulting from it.

We seek a future where, by design, consumption is minimized, products are free of toxic inputs and processes, and materials flow efficiently and safely from cradle to cradle.

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Letter from the President of the Board



The Basel Action Network achieved significant growth milestones in 2011.

We celebrated a landmark breakthrough at the 10th Basel Convention meeting in October, where the Basel Ban Amendment that BAN has long championed was released from a bureaucratic logjam. We grew as an organization in adding to our capacity and to the depth of experience of our Board of Directors. In 2011, we welcomed Ms. Wendy Neu to the Board. Wendy is Vice President of the Hugo Neu Corporation in New York and a current Board Member of the National Resources Defense Council. As a passionate environmental leader with a lengthy business and non-profit leadership record, Wendy brings perspective, savvy, and national stature to our organization.

We also welcomed Mr. Patrick Duff, a Certified Management Accountant with 25 years of experience as an accountant, chief financial officer, and business executive with a variety of for-profit and 501(c)3 corporations. Recently the CFO of Goodwill Industries in Boston, MA, Patrick's

LLC, a technology startup, Matthew provides a deep understanding of the needs of growing organizations and the challenges of managing rapid organizational growth and complexity.

In the past year, while BAN continued to be recognized as a global leader for environmental health and justice, the organization also demonstrated an ability to master its financial resources during a year of economic uncertainties. Because of BAN's high media profile, global collaborations, and the substantial growth of our programs, we felt it prudent to assure our partners and investors of BAN's financial stability, maturity, and transparency. We are proud to report the very successful completion of a financial audit by Clark Nuber, PS. The financial statements and management letter from this audit appear in this report.

With a board of directors providing a wealth of experience and leadership capabilities, a



on behalf of the rest of the BAN Board of Directors:

Steven Gilbert, Board Vice President; Wendy Neu, Board Secretary; Patrick Duff, Treasurer; Matthew Sutton, Director; Jim Puckett

leadership experience in manufacturing, technology, and other industries brings a valuable perspective on best financial practices in the for-profit and non-profit sectors.

We're also proud to announce that Mr. Matthew Sutton recently joined our board. Matthew brings substantial entrepreneurial experience including three decades in technology and business leadership. Currently CEO of HyBlue, Inc., a data security firm, and iSheet Music,

highly committed staff, and an independent confirmation of BAN's financial health and sound management, we look forward to continuing progress as we expand our programs farther into the national and international arena.

Best Regards,

Board President

We celebrated a landmark breakthrough decision at the 10th Basel Convention meeting in October, in Cartagena, Colombia: The Basel Ban Amendment that BAN has long championed was released from a diplomatic logjam.



Breakthrough in Colombia

“Distinguished Delegates... we are not here to fill the seats of a large room as part of a bureaucratic exercise. We are here only because we have been entrusted by the world’s citizens to do something very significant for the world—for its inhabitants, for its children—our children. We are here to make a difference. And in particular at this meeting we are here to fulfill a long-standing promise not only to this distinguished body—but to all future generations.”

—From Opening Speech, Basel Convention COP10
Jim Puckett October 17, 2011



(above) BAN's Jim Puckett delivered the opening and closing speeches.
(left) BAN team looks out over the proceedings

“... an effort that stems from a belief that all people, no matter how poor, have a right to live unburdened by pollution, poisons, and toxic wastes.”



2011, 10th Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in Cartagena, Colombia, breaks through bureaucratic logjam.

Letter from the Executive Director

It is with deep satisfaction and renewed hope that I sit down to type this letter. Since 1989, more than 20 years ago, I've been working to fulfill a big dream based on a little idea. The idea is to first create and implement a new international law that will prohibit the export and dumping of hazardous wastes of all kinds and for any reason, from rich industrialized nations to developing ones. Very simply, it's an effort to enforce the golden rule as it relates to international trade and waste management. It is an effort that stems from a belief that all people, no matter how poor, have a right to live unburdened by pollution, poisons, and toxic wastes. But this simple notion, this “no brainer,” remarkably bucks up against traditional economics and traditional waste “management.”

Since the dawn of industry, waste management has too often not been an effort to prevent waste or make it less harmful. Rather, it has been a perpetual hunt to find a hidey-hole in which to “throw” it. Traditionally it has been all too easy for polluters to rely on the notion that there is always an “away” out there where we can throw waste, and if its far enough “away” then nobody that lives there is going to present you with the bill for the harm done to them. For far too long, polluters are actually financially rewarded for externalizing the real harm, risk, and associated costs to others, or to nature herself, rather than pay for preventing, remediating or safely managing such risk themselves. In this way, we have created false economies where the true costs of producing products and profits are left off of the balance sheet and are pushed

downstream for others to pay for—often with their health.

Today, in this age of globalization, with trade barriers lifted and global wealth increasingly disparate, this externalization becomes an international game of chutes and ladders, and the downstream direction of our toxic trash increasingly points toward the poorest communities in the poorest corners of the world. We have unfairly asked the least affluent to bear the burden of the world's effluent—chemical exposure and toxic waste. This happens today with old toxic ships sent to the beaches of Bangladesh, Pakistan and India as well as with our old computers, phones and TVs, sent by the container load to Nigeria or China for “recycling” where they cause untold pollution and harm.

In 1989, in concert with progressive European and developing countries, I worked with Greenpeace to create a new United Nations treaty known as the Basel Convention on the Control of the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal. In the next years, I helped lead that same team and coalition of nations to finally achieve, in 1995, an amendment to the Basel Convention to prohibit all exports of hazardous wastes from rich to poorer countries. We had planted the seed of this little idea. We put the idea in writing, but as we have learned, it was a long way from being implemented and put into force.

One wishes we lived in a world where progress to protect the most vulnerable was not so difficult. But the effort to realize this dream has been long and

1995, an amendment to the Basel Convention to prohibit all exports of hazardous wastes from rich to poorer countries.

1989, United Nations treaty known as the Basel Convention on the Control of the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal.



We are reassured and reminded that the better part of our human nature ultimately prevails because in the end, being principled is our most practical survival strategy.

the opposition formidable. Since its adoption in 1995 the Basel Ban has been undermined and attacked at every turn by some of the world's most powerful governments and industries. The global effort I embarked upon many years ago has truly been a protracted David and Goliath story with the final entry into force of the Ban Amendment forestalled numerous times and, ultimately, in the last years held hostage by a small handful of rich industrialized powers—including my own beloved country. And, despite the doggedness of BAN, European and developing countries around the world it began to appear as if the little idea would forever be a dream deferred.

But that sad fate was not to be. In October of 2011 at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in Cartagena, Colombia, relentless cumulative pressure and diplomatic heroism led to a breaking of the siege. While we cannot yet state that victory for the Ban Amendment is in hand—as of last October's landmark meeting, I can safely say that the known obstacles that were thrown up to prevent this achievement are

now dismantled and lie strewn as historic artifacts. Barring unforeseen new attacks it is expected that the Ban will need but 17 more ratifications and that accomplishment is likely to be achieved in two to three years.

The dream based on the little idea pursued for over two decades has now gained a critical mass. We are reassured and reminded that if one can possibly endure, enduring change is possible. We are reassured and reminded that the better part of our human nature ultimately prevails because in the end, being principled is our most practical survival strategy. It is, what works.

In closing I wish to send all of my activist, academic, industry, government, and other supporters, volunteers, allies, and friends, my deepest gratitude for your belief in the little idea. The final victory that is surely coming will be our collective gift to the future.

Yours,

Jim Puckett

(top) The green team in Cartagena, (below left) BAN's Sarah Westervelt and Mr. Oladele Osibanjo, (center) BAN's Richard Guitterez follows the proceedings, (below right) Remembering an historic occasion





The e-Stewardship Campaign and e-Stewards® Initiative

Today, over 100 individual facilities operated by over 50 electronic recycling companies in North America and Europe are either e-Stewards® Certified or are contracted to be certified. These numbers include the recent addition of SIMS Recycling Solutions, the largest electronics recycler in the world.

We began the effort to certify truly responsible recyclers in 2003 with an unaudited program, where companies pledged in writing to a series of commitments such as refusing to dump in landfills and incinerators, export to developing countries, or use prison labor to process hazardous electronic waste.

By 2010, the program had matured into a globally accredited, ISO-based, third-party audited certification system widely recognized as the gold standard and the moral rudder in the multi-billion dollar electronics recycling industry.

Along with the growth of the e-Stewards certified electronics recyclers, the number of e-Stewards Enterprises has grown as well. This designation is given to companies, municipalities, and organizations of all types who agree to send their e-waste to e-Stewards Recyclers. Some of the most recent e-Stewards Enterprises include Bloomberg, Nestle, and major cities such as San Francisco and San Jose.

We have just completed a yearlong process of re-writing the e-Stewards

Standard. The revision process harnessed the expertise of all of our e-Stewards recyclers along with other experts. It incorporates new decisions from international guidelines and the latest technological developments into a new format. We believe this Version 2.0 of the e-Stewards Standard will be the gold standard for globally responsible recycling for at least the next five years before needing revision.

By the end of 2012, it is also BAN's goal to place the administration of the e-Stewards program in the hands of an independent organization. This new partner will handle the daily operations of the e-Stewards Certification program including working with our certifying bodies (CBs) and individual e-Stewards® Recyclers as well as maintaining and improving the Standard. We are working with our Leadership Council and a special expert task force to ensure that the new governance model allows for independence while also ensuring that e-Stewards Certification always remains the gold standard of environmental and social responsibility.

Additionally we will continue to work within our coalition, the Electronics TakeBack Coalition, to promote US legislation to bar the export of hazardous electronic waste to developing countries and to continue to expose unsustainable dumping practices.



“By promoting responsible e-waste recycling, e-Stewards are a valued partner to the City of San Francisco as we strive toward our goal of zero waste.”

–Melanie Nutter,
Dir, San Francisco
Dept. of the
Environment

E-STEWARDS BY THE NUMBERS	April 2010	April 2011	April 2012
Companies Contracted to be certified (number of sites)	12 (30)	23 (57)	16 (22)
Certified Companies (number of sites)	3 (6)	6 (15)	36 (81)
Total e-Stewards Recyclers (number of sites)	15 (36)	29 (72)	52 (103)
e-Stewards Enterprises	13	23	47



Green Ship Recycling Campaign

Recently, in partnership with the Sierra Club, Earth Justice, and the Center for Biological Diversity, BAN sued the United States Environmental Protection Agency for failing to prevent the US Navy from dumping toxics-laden obsolete naval vessels as part of a target practice program. Earlier in 2011, we released a comprehensive report entitled “Dishonorable Disposal” that details the irresponsible naval practice of open-water dumping of ships loaded with toxics instead of having them responsibly recycled by US recycling companies. Not only is this practice unnecessary and tremendously polluting, it costs the United States hundreds of “green jobs” as well as vital metal resources. So far the EPA has tried and failed to get the suit dismissed and we will continue to pursue this suit with our usual tenacity.

At the 10th meeting of the Basel Parties in October 2011, BAN worked closely with our partners in the NGO Shipbreaking Platform and

our allies in developing countries to make sure that big shipping companies did not succeed in removing ships from the scope of the Basel Convention. We were successful in defeating the efforts of the US, Japan, and the European Union to remove ships from Basel and instead deal with them solely in a far weaker International Maritime Organization shipping industry regime which would continue to allow the horrific practice of running old ships laden with asbestos, residual fuels, and toxic substances up on South Asian beaches to be broken down by the backs and hands of some of the worlds most impoverished workers.

Looking forward we aim to implement the Basel Ban for ships and to direct those ships now sailing towards the beaches to more sustainable ship recycling operations around the world. We seek to bar the US government from disposing of its own and flagged toxic ships, from being disposed of on the beaches as well as by the excuse of target practice or artificial reefs.



“We have heard the knock, we have opened the door, we have looked into the faces and eyes of our future progeny and we have answered their plea. And for this we all must be proud.”

—From Closing Speech, Basel Convention COP10, Jim Puckett, October 21, 2011

Basel Ban Implementation Campaign

After many long years that BAN has worked to bring an international law banning the export of toxic wastes of all kinds from rich to poorer countries, we are now seeing an end to that journey. In October of 2011, supporters of the Basel Ban Amendment achieved a decisive victory: a diplomatic agreement among all of the 178 Basel member countries to interpret the text of the Convention to allow the Amendment to enter into force with but 13 more ratifications.

The Amendment for the past decade had been blocked by a handful of powerful countries including India, Japan, Canada, Australia, and the US. But at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention in Cartagena, Columbia, BAN worked with allies to break the logjam with a new decision. The blocking countries were persuaded to stand aside

and allow the vast majority of countries to enjoy the protections of the ban. BAN’s Executive Director, Jim Puckett, in recognition of his longstanding effort on behalf of the Ban Amendment, was asked to give the conference’s closing speech and received a standing ovation. As a result of the meeting, it is now expected that the Basel Ban Amendment will become full international law in two to three years.

BAN remains an active and leading participant in numerous Basel Convention initiatives including the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment and the Technical Expert Group to Develop a Framework for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes. BAN will continue to press for rapid entry into force of the Ban Amendment and proper implementation and enforcement of the Convention and Ban worldwide.

BAN receiving a standing ovation.





Financial Report

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Total (For the Year Ended December 31, 2011)

Support and Revenue:	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Contributions	\$ 288,691	\$ —	-\$ 288,691
In-kind donations	7,000		7,000
Licensing fee revenue	75,197		375,197
Other revenue	38,474		38,474
Net assets released from restriction	245,109	(245,109)	
Total Support and Revenue	954,471	(245,109)	709,362
Expenses:			
Program	771,080		771,079
General and administrative	140,903		140,904
Fundraising	52,141		52,141
Total Expenses	964,124		964,124
Change in Net Assets	(9,653)	(245,109)	(254,762)
Net assets, beginning of year	26,909	376,884	403,793
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 17,256	\$ 131,775	\$ 149,031
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:			
Change in net assets			\$ (254,762)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities-			
Depreciation			3,061
Change in operating assets:			
Pledges receivable			245,109
Accounts receivable			977
Prepaid expenses			(5,298)
Other current assets			1,927
Change in operating liabilities:			
Accounts payable			28,138
Accrued liabilities			(11)
Deferred revenue			(20,722)
Other current liabilities			5,368
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities			3,787
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:			
Purchases of property and equipment			(4,785)
Net Cash Used by Investing Activities			(4,785)
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents			(998)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year			70,348
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year			\$ 69,350



“LG Electronics USA collected 10 million+ pounds of electronics for responsible recycling in 2011. We ensure best practices by using e-Stewards® Certified recyclers.”

–John Taylor, VP,
LG Electronics USA,
e-Stewards® Enterprise



A gathering of e-Stewards Recyclers at the most recent face-to-face meeting in St. Louis (2012)

Schedule of Functional Expenses (For the Year Ended December 31, 2011)

	<u>Program</u>	<u>Administration</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>2011 Total</u>
Salaries	\$ 325,636	\$ 54,472	\$ 4,833	\$ 384,941
Payroll taxes and benefits	94,438	16,531	1,200	112,169
Total Salaries and Related Expenses	420,074	71,003	6,033	497,110
Professional fees	198,472	41,530	46,108	286,110
Travel, conferences, and meals	70,046	714		70,760
Occupancy	23,695	8,428		32,123
Other	17,666	3,331		20,997
Insurance, licenses, royalties, dues, and taxes	11,171	8,631		19,802
Office expense	13,459	4,205		17,664
Interest	10,239			10,239
Marketing	6,258			6,258
Total Expenses before Depreciation	771,080	137,842	52,141	961,063
Depreciation	—	3,061	—	3,061
Total Expenses	\$ 771,080	\$ 140,903	\$ 52,141	\$ 964,124

These figures come from an independent Auditor's Report conducted in May, 2012 by Clark Nuber P.S.

Charitable Gifts to BAN in 2010

BAN extends its most sincere thanks to the individuals, organizations, agencies, and companies below that have so generously supported BAN's work by making a charitable contribution. We apologize for any errors or omissions: please contact inform@ban.org with any corrections.

Alf Brandt	Henry Phillip Kraft Family Memorial Fund	Plumas Charter School
Andrew Manning	Jonathan Beeton	Renie Duvall
Bad Dog Investments, LLC	Julie Sahlein	Richard Klingele
Becky Matter	Karen Doyle	Sebastian Jekutsch
Bill Zimmerman	Kathy Finn	Sego Jackson
Bloomberg LP	Kathy Kelly	Sigrid Rausing Trust
Booms Research and Consulting	Kenneth Wiltshire	Soren Kaspersen
Canyonlands Community Recycling	Kim Buford	Steven Schruder
Carolyn Foundation	Kim Couey	The John & Wendy Neu Family Foundation, Inc.
Carolyn Hathaway	L Dang-Kotenko	The Overbrook Foundation
Ching Hua Liu	Leaves of Grass Fund	Tyler Gress
Christine Coflan	Lilac Ministries	University of Kansas
Cindy Isenhour	Lisa and Douglas Goldman Foundation	Vicenza Middle School
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Esco Marine, Inc.	Maurice Alford	
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Guenther Media		
Heike Weber		

The Basel Action Network (BAN) is an Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) 3 charitable organization registered in the United States with offices in Seattle, Washington.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT,
now and in the important days to come.



The BAN staff

basel
action
network

BAN chooses battles that spotlight the challenges of our time—design, consumption, fair trade, globalization, equity, materials use, green chemistry and more.



delivering systemic change

