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Environmental Law
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GREENPEACE

Citizens' Network on
Waste Management



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block Ottawa
Ontario K1A 0A2

February 11, 2019

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

The [EcoWaste Coalition of the Philippines](#), a non-profit environmental network of over 140 public interest groups, has appealed to you in a [letter](#) sent on January 30, 2019 to take action to resolve a dumping scandal involving the illegal export of wastes from Canada to the Philippines.

As the Coalition state in their letter to you, "The dumping of Canadian wastes in the Philippines is immoral and illegal." It is a violation of Canada's obligations under the [UN Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal](#). Yet, despite making promises, Canada has failed to take action.

We are writing to express our support of the appeal made to you by the EcoWaste Coalition of the Philippines. We call on you to take the following actions they have requested:

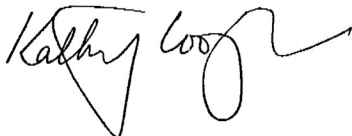
- Ensure the expeditious return to Canada of the wastes illegally exported from Canada and dumped in the Philippines, as is required by the Basel Convention.
- Ratify the Basel Ban amendment, which would prohibit the export of hazardous waste for any reason from more developed countries to less developed countries. The amendment was put in place by an initiative of the developing and European countries and **needs the support of [only two more countries](#) to come into effect. Canada is one of only 24 eligible countries that have not supported the amendment.**

We applauded your earlier statements that Canada is back as a responsible global citizen and intends to provide strong, positive leadership at the United Nations, particularly on environmental issues.

The Basel Convention is an important UN Convention to uphold environmental responsibility and environmental justice. We call on you to demonstrate commitment to the Convention and fulfill the actions requested by the EcoWaste Coalition of the Philippines.

We await your response with hope.

Sincerely,



Canadian Environmental Law Association
Kathleen Cooper, Senior Researcher and Paralegal



RightOnCanada.ca
Kathleen Ruff, Director

On behalf of:

ORGANISATIONS

[IPEN](#)

Pamela Miller, Co-Chair

[Basel Action Network](#)

Jim Puckett, Executive Director

[OK International](#)

Perry Gottesfeld, President

[Health and Environmental Justice Support International](#)

Dr. Olga Speranskaya, Co-Director

[European Society for Environmental and Occupational Medicine](#) (EOM Society)

Prof. Dr. med. Xaver Baur, President

[Greenpeace Canada](#)

Sarah King, Head of Oceans & Plastics campaign

[ToxicsWatch Alliance of India](#)

Dr Gopal Krishna

[Toronto Environment Alliance](#)

Heather Marshall, Campaigns Director

Citizens' Network on Waste Management

John Jackson

INDIVIDUAL SIGNERS

Note: Institutions are named for identification purposes only

Dr. Colin L. Soskolne, Ph.D., Professor emeritus, University of Alberta, Canada; Adjunct Professor, Health Research Institute, University of Canberra, Australia; Fellow, American College of Epidemiology; Fellow, Collegium Ramazzini

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Dr. Josette Wier, MD (retired), Hazelton, BC

Dr. Evelyn Glensk, Former executive member, Federation of asbestos self-help groups, Germany

Dr. David Bowering, MD, MHSc. Retired Medical Health Officer, BC

Dr. Robin Roth, Associate Professor of Geography, Environment and Geomatics, University of Guelph, Ontario

Copy to:

Hon. Catherine McKenna, Minister, Environment and Climate Change Canada

Andrew Scheer, Leader, Conservative Party of Canada

Jagmeet Singh, Leader, New Democratic Party of Canada

Rhéal Fortin, Leader, Bloc Québécois

Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada

