A-BAN: Objectives

The clue to A-BAN's overall purpose is in the name; specific objectives include:

- facilitate a total asbestos ban in Asia as soon as possible;
- take steps to reveal the hidden epidemic of asbestos-related diseases in Asian countries;
- reveal the widespread asbestos contamination of Asian infrastructures;
- stop the international transfer of the asbestos industry;
- obtain justice for all asbestos victims, family members and affected communities;
- achieve an asbestos-free society in Asia and globally.

Coalition Building and Empowerment of Victims and Their Families

- 1987 Ban Asbestos Network Japan (BANJAN)
- 2002 Ban Asbestos Network India (BANI)
- 2006 Occupational and Environmental Health Network India (OEHNI)
- 2005 Philippine Ban Asbestos Network (PBAN)
- 2008 Ban Asbestos Network Korea (BANKO)
- 2009 No More Asbestos in Hong Kong Alliance
- 2010 Indonesia Ban Asbestos Network (Ina-BAN)

- Groups of asbestos victims and their families exist in Japan, Korea and India.
- Occupational victims groups in Hong Kong and Taiwan are supporting asbestos victims and their families.
Jeffrey Underground Mine Project
- If this project goes ahead, it will export 200,000 tones of asbestos per year for decades (approx. 10% of the current global production).
- A consortium of Indian investors offered $15 million to buy this mine – August 2010.
- The owner of this mine has accepted the offer.
- The workers co-operative (which owns 35% of this mine) has approved sale of their shares on Oct. 31.
- Quebec government will consult with local elected politicians on Nov. 18, then decide for funding $58 million loan guarantee within this year.

2011 Asian Solidarity Delegation to Quebec
- Members – Sugio Furuya and Kazumi Yoshizaki (BANJAN), Yoyong Choi and Jong- rim Lee (BANKO), Mochamad Darisman (Ina-BAN), Anup Srivasta (BWI-India) and Omana George (AMRC)
- Dec 7 – Press conference at community center and public meeting at the University of Quebec in Montreal
- Dec 8 – Morning interview by CBC, meeting with CSD (local TU organization), meeting with Parti Quebecois (opposition party) and public meeting at the University of Laval in Quebec City
- Dec 9 – Press conference at the National Assembly in Ottawa and press conference at the National Assembly and meeting with Ministry of Economic Development in Quebec
- Dec 10 – Demonstration outside Premier Charest Office in Montreal
Summary: Banning Asbestos in Asia

Countries already introducing ban in some way
- Japan: 2004 (total ban will be in 2012; Industrial Safety and Health Act)
- Korea: 2007 (with few exceptions; Industrial Safety and Health Act)
- Mongolia: 2010 (there remain problems in its enforcement)
- Singapore: 1989 (raw asbestos; Environment Protection and Management Act)

Countries setting goals to achieve ban in some way
- Hong Kong: 2012? (in 2011 under consultation; Air Pollution Control Ordinance)
- Taiwan: 2020 (by 2010; new proposal is under consultation)
- Cambodia: From 2009

Countries starting discussion/consideration
- Korea: 2010 (there remain problems in its enforcement)
- Mongolia: 2004 (total ban will be in 2012; Industrial Safety and Health Act)
- Japan: 2007 (with few exceptions; Industrial Safety and Health Act)

Mongolia: Steps towards a Total Ban
2009 - Baseline study by MOH, MSWL, Inspection Agency and Health Science University funded by WHO (Aug-Nov)
- Assessed asbestos exposure (where, which sector, occupation, who, how much?)
- OSH checklist and observation
- Results disseminated for policy makers, OSH specialists

One day workshop for OSH specialists (Apr)
National Seminar on OSH including asbestos (Oct)
ICE materials published and disseminated for exposed employers/employees

Mongolia: Introduction of a Total Ban
2010 - Mongolian Government issued the Resolution No. 192 on July 14, 2010 to prohibit import of all forms of asbestos.
But there remains problems in its enforcement.

"Asbestos, a hidden killer in Mongolia"
Zuunii medee newspaper, September 3, 2010
Taiwan: Steps towards a Total Ban - 1
Toxic Substances Management Law administered by the Environment Protection Administration (EPA)
1989 - New use of asbestos containing drinking water pipes were banned.
1991 - New use of asbestos containing components for drinking water pipes were banned. In-service pipes and components may be used until unserviceable.
1996 - Allowed uses – other than the below were banned.
1. Research, experimentation, education
2. Manufacture of synthetic resin (thickening agent), waterproof asbestos glue, and seam filler
3. Manufacture of asbestos tiles, panels, pipes, and asbestos cement
4. Manufacture of fireproof, insulating, and heat-preserving materials
5. Manufacture of asbestos belts, fabric, cords, and washers

Taiwan: Steps towards a Total Ban - 2
1997 - Crocidolite and amosite were banned.
1998 - One more item for allowed uses was added.
1999 - Manufacture of fiber cement boards (10) were banned.
2008 - Asbestos in the manufacture of panels, pipes, asbestos cements (other than tiles of 3), and fiber cement boards (10) were banned.
2010 - Asbestos will be banned from adding to synthetic resin (thickening agent), waterproof glue, seam filler (2), fireproof, insulating, or heat-preserving materials (such as calcium silicate board) (4); belts, fabric, cords, washers (5); filters and asphalt (filler) (6) and asbestos anti-rust paint (9)

Taiwan: Steps towards a Total Ban - 3
2010 - EPA announced its phase out plan (July 26) as the below.
2015 - Asbestos will be banned from adding to seam filter belts for building materials (8).
New Proposal – under consultation
Within 2 years - Asbestos will be banned from adding to seam filter belts for building materials (8).
Within 3 years - Asbestos will be banned from adding to tiles (3) break linings (7) or extruded cement panels.

Hong Kong: Steps towards a Total Ban
1996 - Crocidolite and amosite were banned by the Environment Protection Department (EPD).
2011 - Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council Environmental Protection Department proposed to amend the APCO to introduce (a) extending the import and sale ban to all forms of asbestos and (b) ban on supply and new use of asbestos. (April 14)
While supporting the ban, some members asked the Administration to consider if the proposed controls would apply to trans-shipment of asbestos which might only involve loading and unloading, without any repackaging or tampering of contents. Some other members also pointed out the need for preventive and enforcement actions to prevent the release of asbestos fibres in the course of demolition of aged buildings and village houses for redevelopment.

Thailand: Asbestos Consumption 1960-2010

OEL - Chrysotile only – 0.5f/cc (4-hour TWA)
Other forms of asbestos – 0.2f/cc (4-hour TWA)
Compensation - Pneumoconiosis (Compensation) Ordinance was amended to cover mesothelioma cases in April 2008.
Media – TVB Pearl TV station, “Deadly Dust” (November 15, 2009)
Thailand: Steps towards a Total Ban - 1

1995 - Crocidolite was banned by Hazardous Substances Act administered by the Ministry of Industry (MOI)
2001 - Amosite was banned.
2007 - Asbestos Phase-out Voluntary Program by 2012
Following AAC 2006, Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), MOI, Ministry of Labour (MOL) and MOF called for a consultation meeting with major asbestos products manufacturers. 5 year (2007-2011) preparation plan only for major local manufacturing industry was proposed.
Ministry of Finance (MOF) was offering tax incentives for substitution materials (still under consultation?).
National Strategy for Prevention & Control of Asbestos-related Diseases (by MOPH) supported by ILO
“Mobilization Stakeholder Supports and Willingness to Response to the development of the Coalition for Prevention and Control of Asbestos-related Diseases” Project (WHO)

Thailand: Steps towards a Total Ban - 2

2009 - “Free Asbestos Enhancement” Project (by the Safety and Health at Work Association?)
- Exhibition at Safety Week, medical exam, publications, etc.
2009 - Anthophyllite, tremolite and actinolite were banned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industries</th>
<th>No. of Factories</th>
<th>Asbestos substitution planned</th>
<th>% Readiness of voluntary phase-out program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brake Lining</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>61.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asbestos lbe, compressed pipe</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adhesive</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>69.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Follow-up on Readiness of Voluntary Phase-out program, 2009

Thailand: Steps towards a Total Ban - 3

2010 - National Health Assembly (NHA) adopted Resolution 5 “Measurement to make Thai Society free from asbestos”.

2011 - National Health Commission (NHC) approved the NHA Resolution and sent it to the Cabinet.
The Prime Minister assigned the Ministry of Public Health as the focal point to coordinate the involved agencies to comply with the resolution. The involved agencies include the Ministry of Interior to control demolition, deconstruction renovation and extension of buildings, the Ministry of Commerce to control the asbestos import and the Office of the Consumer Protection Board to monitor and issue the list of asbestos containing products.

In addition, the Ministry of Finance will consider the feasibility to increase the asbestos import tax and decrease the import tax of asbestos substitutes that are not dangerous to people’s health. The Prime Minister’s Office will supplement an additional measure for the construction of government buildings that prohibits the use of asbestos containing materials.
http://en.nationalhealth.or.th/183

Thailand: Steps towards a Total Ban - 4

2011 - National Health Commission (NHC) approved the NHA Resolution and sent it to the Cabinet.
The Prime Minister assigned the Ministry of Public Health as the focal point to coordinate the involved agencies to comply with the resolution. The involved agencies include the Ministry of Interior to control demolition, deconstruction renovation and extension of buildings, the Ministry of Commerce to control the asbestos import and the Office of the Consumer Protection Board to monitor and issue the list of asbestos containing products.

In addition, the Ministry of Finance will consider the feasibility to increase the asbestos import tax and decrease the import tax of asbestos substitutes that are not dangerous to people’s health. The Prime Minister’s Office will supplement an additional measure for the construction of government buildings that prohibits the use of asbestos containing materials.

International Instruments as Leading Winds

- 2006 ILO “The Resolution Concerning Asbestos”
- 2006 WHO Policy Paper on “Elimination of Asbestos-Related Disease”
  http://www.who.int/occupational_health/publications/asbestosrelateddiseases.pdf
- 2006 ISSA “Asbestos: Towards a Worldwide Ban”
  http://www.issa.int/eng/homed.htm
- 2009 World Bank Group “Good Practice Note: Asbestos: Occupational and Community Health Issues”
  http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTPOPS/Resources/AsbestosGuidanceNoteFINAL.pdf
ILO Resolution 2006 said "the elimination of the future use of asbestos is the most effective means to prevent future asbestos-related diseases and deaths" and "the Asbestos Convention, 1986, should not be used to provide a justification for, or endorsement of, the continued use of asbestos."

WHO Policy Paper 2006 also said "the most efficient way to eliminate asbestos-related diseases is to stop the use of all types of asbestos." It also indicated the importance of "to establish registers of people with past and/or current exposures to asbestos."

ILO/WHO Outline 2007 facilitated all governments to develop National Programmes for Elimination of Asbestos-Related Diseases. This includes a model of National Asbestos Profile and you can use this as the first step for your investigation.

WHO Western Pacific Regional Office Regional Framework for Occupational Health 2011-2015 Towards the elimination of asbestos-related disease

Philippines: TUCP/ALU Ban Asbestos Campaign

Summary: Banning Asbestos in Asia

Countries already introducing ban in some way

Japan 2004 (total ban will be in 2012, Industrial Safety and Health Act)
Korea 2007 (with few exceptions, Industrial Safety and Health Act)
Mongolia 2010 (there remain problems in its enforcement)
Singapore 1989 (raw asbestos, Environment Protection and Management Act)

Countries setting goals to achieve ban in some way

Hong Kong 2012 T (in 2011 under consultation, Air Pollution Control Ordinance)
Thailand 2012 T (NHA Resolution in 2010, approved by NHC in 2011)
Malaysia By 2015 (refusal phase out plan developed in 2009)
Philippines By 2018 (draft code of practice 2008, will be front loaded by new law)
Taiwan By 2020 (in 2010, new proposal is under consultation–within 3 years)
Vietnam By 2020 (APAR developed in 2007)
Lao By 2020 (drafted regulation in 2009)

Countries starting discussion/consideration

Cambodia From 2009

Countries not yet establishing ban policy

Comparison of Asbestos Consumption and National Bans for 2000 and 2010

Ban Asbestos in Asia !