

Report on Asbestos Campaign for ANROEV 2013

May 8, 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

Sugio FURUYA

Coordinator, Asian Ban asbestos Network (A-BAN)
Ban Asbestos Network Japan (BANJAN)
Japan Occupational Safety and Health Resource Center (JOSHRC)

Asian Regional Efforts -> A-BAN

- ANROA(E)V 2002-
- BWI / Trade Union Ban Asbestos Campaign
- AAI (2002) 2008-
Researchers initiatives
- GAC2000, Osasco, Brazil
from Japan, Korea, India, Malaysia, Hong Kong ...
- GAC2004, Tokyo, Japan
42 delegates from 13 Asian countries/regions
- AAC2006, Bangkok, Thailand
from more than 10 Asian countries/regions
- 2006 South Asia Asbestos Workshop, Chittagong, Bangladesh
from Bangladesh, India, Hong Kong, Japan
- 2007 Yokohama International Conference, Japan
from Korea, Hong Kong, Thailand
- 2008 Seoul/Busan International Conference, Korea
from more than 10 Asian countries/regions
- AAC2009, Hong Kong -> A-BAN
from more than 10 Asian countries/regions

Global Union Federations are calling for a ban on asbestos



GAC2004
TOKYO

A-BAN: Asian Ban Asbestos Network

- **Co-chairs**
Prof. Domyung Paek, Seoul National University, Korea
Prof. Takehiko Muramaya, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan
Mr. Apo Leong, Asia Monitor Resource Centre (AMRC), Hong Kong
Mr. Jagdish Patel, Peoples Training and Research Centre (PTRC), India
Mr. Apolinar Tolentino, Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI) Asia Pacific Office
- **Coordinator**
Mr. Sugio Furuya, Ban Asbestos Network Japan (BANJAN), Japan
- **Vice Coordinators**
Mr. Yeyong Choi, Ban Asbestos Network Korea (BANKO), Korea
Mr. Sanjiv Pandita, Asia Monitor Resource Centre (AMRC), Hong Kong
Ms. Madhumitta Dutta, Corporate Accountability Desk - The Other Media, India
Mr. Anup Srivastava, BWI South Asia Office
- **Advisors**
Mrs. Laurie Kazan-Allen, International Ban Asbestos Secretariat (IBAS), UK
Dr. Barry Castleman, Environmental Consultant, USA
Ms. Fiona Murie, BWI, Switzerland
Mr. Pat Preston, UITBB (Trades Union International in the Building, Wood, Building Materials and Allied Industries), Australia

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.

A-BAN/ANROEV Meetings

- 2009 A-BAN Establishment
April 26-28, Hong Kong
- A-BAN/ANROAV 2009
September 21/22-24, Phnum Penh, Cambodia
- A-BAN/ANROAV 2010 -> Ina-BAN Establishment
October 17/18-20, Bandung, Indonesia
- 2010 A-BAN Solidarity Delegation to Quebec
December 7-10, Quebec, Canada
- A-BAN/ANROEV 2011
November 14-15/16-18, Jaipur, India
- 2012 T-BAN Establishment
February 17, Bangkok, Thailand
- A-BAN 2012
November 19-20, Bangkok, Thailand
- ANROEV 2013
May 8-10, Bangkok, Thailand
- A-BAN 2013 (planning)
November 22-23, Dhaka, Bangladesh

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)
- 2008 Ban Asbestos Network Korea (BANKO)
- (2009) No More Asbestos in Hong Kong Alliance
- 2009 Asian Ban Asbestos Network (A-BAN)
- 2010 Indonesia Ban Asbestos Network (Ina-BAN)
- 2011 Malaysia Ban Asbestos Network (M-BAN) - agreement
- 2012 Thailand Ban Asbestos Network (T-BAN)
- Groups of asbestos victims exist in Japan, Korea and India. Occupational victims groups in Hong Kong and Taiwan are supporting asbestos victims.

Events after A-BAN/ANROEV 2011

- 2011 Malaysia NPEAD Conference (MTUC/BWI)
December 13-14, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Sugio and Vithaya attended.
- 2012 Thailand NPEAD Conference -> T-BAN
February 17, Bangkok, Thailand Sugio attended.
- 2012 1st Japan-Korea Joint Meeting of Asbestos Victims
March 21-22, Seoul, Korea
- 2012 World Cancer Congress, Asbestos Session
August 27-30, Montreal, Canada Yeyong attended.
- 2012 Volgograd Asbestos Workshop
August 27-29, Volgograd, Russia Sugio attended.
- 2012 International Day of Asbestos Victims
October 12-13, Paris, France Sugio, Yeyong and Mohit attended.
- 2012 A-BAN/T-BAN Meetings
November 19-20, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2012 AAI-5 International Seminar
November 6-8, Busan, Korea
- 2012 PTRC 25th Anniversary Meeting
Visiting asbestos victims in Ahmadabad on December 1, 2-3, Vadodara, India

Coming Events

- ANROEV 2013
May 8-10, Bangkok, Thailand
- Rotterdam Convention COP6
May 6-10, Geneva, Switzerland <http://www.pic.int>
Sugio is attending as an observer with colleagues of the Rotterdam Convention Alliance
ROCA Position Paper:
<http://www.bwint.org/pdfs/ROCA,%20COP6%20Position%20Paper,Mar,%202024,%202013.pdf>
May 7, Demonstration organized by asbestos victims groups from Italy and France
May 8, Side Event: Great asbestos Trial – an example for other countries
- Hong Kong will introduce a Ban on Asbestos in July ?
- Thai Minister of Industry may announce its 5 years phase-out plan ?
- Malaysia DOSH may introduce its 3 years phase-out plan ?
- Pakistan – National Assembly's Committee recommended Ban ?
- If you have more information and/or action plan please let us know
- AAI-6 International seminar/WHO-CC Meeting
November 11-15, Manila, Philippines
- A-BAN 2013 (planning)
November 22-23, Dhaka, Bangladesh

ROCA Position Paper -1

<http://www.bwint.org/pdfs/ROCA,%20COP6%20Position%20Paper,March,%2024,%202013.pdf>

1. The purpose of the Rotterdam Convention is to advance environmental justice by providing a critical right - the Right to Prior Informed Consent – particularly to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to whom hazardous chemicals and pesticides are increasingly being exported and where resources to safely monitor and manage these dangerous substances are often lacking or nonexistent.
2. The Convention provides rights and imposes obligations in order to Achieve Responsible Trade in Hazardous Substances.
3. The Convention provides a specific science-based process for determining which substances should be listed in Annex III of the Convention.
4. The Convention should not be held hostage by a handful of countries acting in bad faith.
5. The actions of a handful of countries, allied to the asbestos industry, are endangering the integrity and effectiveness of the Convention.

ROCA Position Paper -2

<http://www.bwint.org/pdfs/ROCA,%20COP6%20Position%20Paper,March,%2024,%202013.pdf>

6. ROCA is gravely disturbed that a sham conference (“International scientific conference: Chrysotile Asbestos: Risk Assessment and Management”, Kiev, Nov. 21-22, 2012), aimed at defeating the recommendation of the CRC to list chrysotile asbestos was falsely represented as a recommendation made by COP5, and that the conference was promoted on the PIC website and was attended by the Secretariat.
7. ROCA encourages the Secretariat to continue its efforts to increase notifications in order to render the Convention more effective.
8. ROCA urges the parties to COP6 to urgently move forward to implement a compliance mechanism.
9. ROCA urges parties to COP6 to approve concrete and effective measures to provide needed financial and technical assistance for developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
10. ROCA urges parties to COP6 to exercise careful oversight of the synergy process and to ensure effective involvement of civil society.

International Instruments as Leading Winds -1

- **2006 ILO “The Resolution Concerning Asbestos”**
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/ilc95/pdf/pr-20.pdf>
- **2006 WHO Policy Paper on “Elimination of Asbestos-Related Disease”**
http://www.who.int/occupational_health/publications/asbestosrelateddisease/en/index.html
- **2007 ILO/WHO “Outline for the Development of National Programmes for the Elimination of Asbestos-Related Diseases”**
http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/publications/WCMS_108555/lang--en/index.htm
- **2006 ISSA “Asbestos: Towards a Worldwide Ban”**
[http://www.issa.int/Resources/ISSA-Publications/Asbestos-Towards-a-worldwide-ban/\(language\)/eng-GB](http://www.issa.int/Resources/ISSA-Publications/Asbestos-Towards-a-worldwide-ban/(language)/eng-GB)
- **2009 World Bank Group “Good Practice Note: Asbestos: Occupational and Community Health Issues”**
<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTPOPS/Resources/AsbestosGuidanceNoteFinal.pdf>
good introduction when you think how to safely deal with existing asbestos.

International Instruments as Leading Winds -2

- **2010 Parma Declaration on Environment and Health**
<http://www.euro.who.int/en/who-we-are/policy-documents/parma-declaration-on-environment-and-health>
- **2010 MERCOSUR Declaration on Asbestos**
http://www.ibasecretariat.org/mercosur_dec_jun9_2010_eng.pdf
- **2011 WHO-WPRO, Regional Framework for OH 2011-2015**
http://www.wpro.who.int/environmental_health/documents/For_Web_Upload_Regional_Framework_for_Action_for_Occupational/en/index.html
- **2012 JPC-SE Position Statement on Asbestos**
http://www.jpc-se.org/documents/03.JPC-SE-Position_Statement_on_Asbestos-June_4_2012-Full_Statement_and_Appendix_A.pdf
- **2012 ICOH Statement: Global Asbestos Ban and the Elimination of Asbestos-Related Diseases**
http://www.icohweb.org/site_new/multimedia/news/pdf/ICOH%20Statement%20on%20global%20asbestos%20ban.pdf

Very Recent Developments

- **2013 European Parliament resolution of 14 March 2013 on asbestos related occupational health threats and prospects for abolishing all existing asbestos**

4. Urges the EU to conduct an impact assessment and cost benefit analysis of the possibility of establishing action plans for the safe removal of asbestos from public buildings and buildings providing services which require regular public access by 2028

56. Calls on the EU to make the listing of chrysotile in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention a top priority

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2013-0093+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

- **2013 Australia government will launch its National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management and the Asbestos safety and Eradication Agency on July 1**

All asbestos safely removed from all Government and commercial buildings by 2030

Australia continuing to play a leadership role in a global campaign for a worldwide asbestos ban

<http://deewr.gov.au/national-strategic-plan>

A-BAN Strategy Meeting 2012

- **Country Campaign update**
 - Thailand: Dr Adul Bandnukul (T-BAN)
 - Mekong countries: Mr Phillip Hazelton (APHEDA)
 - Hong Kong: Mr CHAN Kam Hong and Ms Siu Sin Man (ARIAV)
 - India: Mohit, Ragnath and Anup
 - Iran: Dr Ramin Mehrdad (Tehran University of Medical Sciences)
 - Indonesia: Darisman (Ina-BAN)
 - Indonesia: Ms Rasmina Pakpahan (FKUI)
 - Malaysia: Mr Mohammad Hamdan Bin H Dorhallim (MTUC)
 - Malaysia: Dr Jayabalan (CAP)
 - Philippines: Mr Alan Tanjusay (ALU)
 - Philippines: Ms Nadia Santy De Leon (IOHSAD)
 - China: Ms CHUNG Ming Lai, Suki (LAC (Labour Action China))
 - China: Ms XIN Ting Ting (ANROEV China Network)
 - Korea: Mr Heungkyu LIM (BANKO)
 - Japan: Sawady (BANJAN)
- **Exporting countries issues** (Kathleen, Laurie, Sugio and Yeyong)
- **Asbestos Substitute** Geoffrey Wheeler (Center for Vocational Building Technology)
- **Asbestos litigation** Laurie and Ms Suk-kyun LEE (BANKO, Busan Committee)
- **A-BAN strategy discussion and making action plans**

T-BAN Public Conference 2012

- **Opening remarks**
 - Deputy Secretary-General to the Prime Minister, Committee from National Health Commission, T-BAN, A-BAN, IBAS
- **Asia moving towards a ban**
 - WHO representative, BWI, IBAS
- **Panel discussion on ban asbestos campaigns and movements in Asia**
 - A-BAN, Hong Kong, Malaysia, T-BAN, RightOnCanada
- **Update on official ministry and department position on an asbestos ban**
- Asbestos case report in Thailand
- Consumer protection process in ASEAN region and Asbestos Ban "One Ban All Ban Policy"
- **Small Group discussions of T-BAN campaign and Presentation of different ideas for action plan and harmonization**
 - Consumers/Lavour/Victims/Academia groups
- **Ban Asbestos Campaign at the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok**

Discussion for A-BAN 2013 by Sugio

- Local Organizer: BOSHEF
- Date and Place: November 22-23, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Similar approach to 2012:
 - 1 day A-BAN Strategy Meeting
 - 1 day public meeting mainly for local people (and launching Bangladesh Ban Asbestos Network ?)
 - plus outdoor action ?
- Decision will be made following discussions in ANROEV 2013 and colleagues in Bangladesh.
- Regardless of the Rotterdam Convention COP6 national and regional efforts in Asia will be increasingly important. Some more national bans as soon as possible are desired.
- Although A-BAN budget is very limited I would like to have A-BAN meetings and other initiatives at least in this and next years.