

ANNEX

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS AND STATION ACTIVITIES

1. *Waste disposal*

The following are recommended procedures:

- (a) *Solid Waste*
 - (i) *Non-combustible, including chemicals (except batteries)*

These materials may be disposed of at sea either in deep water or, if this is not possible, at specified sites in shallow water.
 - (ii) *Batteries* should be removed from the Antarctic Treaty Area.
 - (iii) *Combustibles*
 - Wood, wood products and paper should be incinerated, the ash being disposed of at sea.
 - Lubricating oils may be burnt except those containing harmful additives which should be removed from the Antarctic Treaty Area.
 - Carcasses and materials associated with imported experimental animals should be incinerated.
 - All plastics and rubber products should be removed from the Antarctic Treaty Area.
- (b) *Liquid Waste*
 - (i) Human waste, garbage and laundry effluents should, where possible, be macerated and be flushed into the sea.
 - (ii) Large quantities of photographic liquids should be treated for the recovery of silver and the residue should be flushed into the sea.
- (c) The above procedures are recommended for coastal stations. Field sites supported from coastal stations should, where feasible, use the facilities of their supporting station. Inland stations should concentrate all waste in deep pits. Except as stated for inland stations, waste should not be buried.
- (d) Waste containing radio-isotopes should be removed from the Antarctic Treaty Area.
- (e) Every effort should be made to reduce the plastic packaging of products imported into the Antarctic Treaty Area.
- (f) If possible the use of leaded fuels or fuels containing ethylene bromide and ethylene chloride should be avoided.
- (g) When incinerators are used it is desirable to monitor the effluents.

2. *Introduction of alien species*

Procedures to safeguard against the introduction of alien species are covered by Article IX of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora.

3. *Disturbance of breeding colonies and concentration of birds and mammals*

Procedures to minimise such disturbances are covered by Article VII of the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora.

4. *Guidelines for Antarctic operating organizations planning major Antarctic Projects*

- (a) In the planning of major operations in the Antarctic Treaty Area an evaluation of the environmental impact of the proposed activity should be carried out by the Antarctic operating organizations concerned. Such an evaluation should include:
 - (i) A description of the proposed action and an assessment of its potential benefits and its possible impact on the relevant ecosystems.
 - (ii) A consideration of alternative actions which might alter the pattern of benefits versus adverse environmental effects expected to result from the action.
- (b) These evaluations may be circulated for information through SCAR channels to all the states engaged in Antarctic activities.