



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATEMENT
**E-Waste Recycling Leaders Call on Biden Administration
to Ratify Basel Convention**

Treaty ratification key to comprehensive strategy for circular economy, responsible recycling

The [Coalition for American Electronics Recycling \(CAER\)](#), the voice of the emerging e-waste recycling industry, today called on the Biden Administration to ratify the Basel Convention to ensure electronic scrap and other wastes are responsibly reused or recycled.

CAER members are committed to processing e-waste to high standards for protecting the environment and workers. Yet despite our efforts, e-waste exports from American homes and businesses continue to be exported to developing countries where these toxic materials are processed in primitive conditions that lack safeguards to support sustainability and safety. Because the U.S. has not ratified, exports of hazardous e-waste, plastics and other waste become criminal trafficking once they are on their way to developing countries that have signed onto the Convention.

The U.S. is the only developed nation that has not ratified the Convention. Only eight United Nations countries have not ratified: East Timor, Granada, Haiti, San Marino, South Sudan, Fiji, Solomon Islands and the U.S.

By ratifying the Basel Convention, the U.S. will:

- Enact a key part of a comprehensive set of policies needed to drive the circular economy to achieve net-zero emissions, a key goal for the Biden Administration. By supporting responsible domestic reuse and recycling, the Basel Convention will reduce the need for resource-intensive virgin materials and thus reduce emissions.
- Promote environmental justice in developing countries.
- Ensure U.S. e-waste is responsibly recycled in the U.S. with safeguards for the environment and workers while creating up to 42,000 jobs.
- Have a seat at the table where the global movement of post-consumer resources are discussed and governing regulations and standards are agreed upon
- Promote growth of U.S. recycling operations because it will allow the import of e-waste into the U.S. for responsible recycling, which will also ensure the scrap materials are processed at higher environmental and worker safety standards than are used in developing countries.

Together with passage of the [Secure E-waste Export and Recycling Act \(SEERA\)](#), ratification of the Basel Convention will ensure the U.S. has the policy foundation needed to ensure we join with other developed countries to ensure hazardous wastes are responsibly managed. SEERA and Basel ratification will also increase the amount of domestically produced waste that will be responsibly recycled in the U.S., promoting economic growth and job creation.

About CAER

CAER members believe electronics recycling should be performed securely and sustainably to protect the environment and national security while strengthening the American economy. CAER includes more than 130

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companies and supporting members operating more than 300 facilities in 37 states as well as Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.