



Pahang Customs director Mohd Asri Seman showing smuggled e-waste the department seized on Feb 3. BERNAMA PIC

TRACING FLOW OF ILLEGAL SHIPMENTS

TASK FORCE MEETS TO COORDINATE E-WASTE FIGHT

Officials to consolidate lists of seized containers and looking into sending them back

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THE Port Klang e-waste task force held its first meeting yesterday, as Malaysia steps up efforts to intercept illegal electronic waste shipments entering the country's maritime gateways.

Sources said the task force is formulating strategies to be implemented nationwide, with a focus on standardising inspections, and intelligence and interdiction approaches at ports.

The task force comprises officials from the Malaysian Border Control and Protection Agency (MCBA), Customs Department, Strim, Department of Environment and port authorities.

It is chaired by Port Klang MCBA commander Datuk Nik Ezanee Mohd Faisal, who highlighted efforts to consolidate the lists of containers detained by multiple enforcement bodies, including the DOE, Customs and MCBA.

Officials said this was critical to build a comprehensive picture of suspect consignments nationwide, with authorities examining arrangements to repatriate more than 300 containers of e-waste.

Yesterday's meeting centred on a presentation under the Special E-Waste Committee framework, which focused on intelligence gathered from recent inspections and enforcement actions at the country's busiest maritime gateway.

The presentation mapped the cross-border supply chain of e-waste, from exporting countries through multiple intermediaries before reaching local processing points.

Among the key nodes identified were container owners, shipping companies, forwarding agents and Malaysian ports.

The presentation also provided details on distribution channels,

including transportation networks moving materials from ports to local destinations, both licensed and illicit.

Authorities were also briefed on the roles of local authorities and land administration bodies in monitoring premises linked to e-waste activities, as well as the risks posed by illegal recycling facilities operating without oversight.

Officials were also briefed on end-stage handling of e-waste, covering processing at registered plants and disposal at sanitary landfills, alongside potential leakage into unlawful dumping sites.

Sources said the mapping was intended to strengthen inter-agency targeting by providing a unified picture of how shipments transit across jurisdictions and enforcement domains.

The session also highlighted the legal underpinnings of MCBA's role, with the Malaysian Border Control and Protection Agency Act 2024 as a cornerstone

statute supporting coordinated border interventions against environmental crimes.

Officials attending the meeting were understood to include representatives from enforcement, regulatory and local governance entities involved in monitoring import controls, transport movements and waste-processing compliance.

Nik Ezanee, who chairs the Special Committee on E-Waste Coordination, stressed the importance of intelligence integration and collective action in disrupting organised waste trafficking networks, particularly those exploiting fragmented oversight across supply chains.

The Port Klang task force meeting is part of federal efforts to tighten surveillance of plastic and e-waste imports, amid heightened scrutiny over Malaysia's exposure to illicit global waste flows and the emergence of illegal recycling clusters nationwide.



Datuk Nik Ezanee Mohd Faisal