

Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA)

The Regulatory body committed to improving the Environment

LAGOS COMMENCES EVACUATION OF ELECTRICAL/ELECTRONIC WASTES (E-WASTE)



Following an attempt to mop up all obsolete and faulty electronic equipment that litter dumpsites within the Lagos metropolis, the Lagos Government through its environment police, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday, 21st January, 2010 commissioned Messrs. Maintenance System Consultant to start the evacuation of Electrical/Electronic Waste from industries, organization, manufacturers and other stakeholders to its new site covering a total of two and half acres of land situated at Tamalo Village, along Ogijo Shagamu Road.

While commissioning the Consultant during a stakeholders' meeting held at the Agency's Conference room, Alausa Secretariat, the General Manager of Lasepa, Engr. Adebola Rasheed Shabi expressed shock that the environment has been degraded through the proliferation of illegally dumped gadgets otherwise referred to as e-waste into the nooks and crannies of the society.

He further noted that many of electronic users do not understand the hazards associated with the use of faulty electrical/electronic equipment which are being dumped at electronic markets, dumpsites and the environment in particular. He said

- Once the deposits from the dumping of the electronic equipment infiltrate into the soil, the poisoning is unimaginable and could be horrifying.
- Heavy metals such as silicon, lead, mercury etc have been found in rivers, lakes and other fish water with adverse effects on the mutating prone cells in human beings which have been traced to illegal and indiscriminate dumping of e-waste into water bodies thereby percolating into soil strata.
- It is noteworthy to mention the parts of the electronic equipment that are hazard prone when indiscriminately dumped or burnt. These are the integrated circuit (IC), transformers, capacitors, tubes and resistors among others.

Shabi also disclosed that the Agency will embark on a massive public enlightenment and awareness campaign in schools, markets and other end users of obsolete electronic products in order to promote a sustainable environment.

He however said that urgent action required to mop up the impending hazard while urging all stakeholders to partner with the Agency at making concerted efforts in order to make Lagos State more habitable in consonance with the new mega city status within the shortest possible time, hence the inauguration of a 7-man Steering Committee to monitor and enforce the management of electronic equipment being imported and distributed with the state.

