Subject: Invitation for financial contribution to support the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and its Secretariat

Dear Madam/Sir,

After a prolonged delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic, momentum is now well underway toward the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 at the Fifth Session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) scheduled to take place 25-29 September 2023 in Bonn, Germany.

On behalf of the Secretariat of the Strategic Approach, allow me to express my sincere appreciation for the ongoing support provided by all partners to ensure the continued substantive and technical support to stakeholders in the ongoing intersessional process.

2023 will be an exciting yet resource intensive period for the Strategic Approach and its secretariat.

Great progress was achieved during the Fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4) held in Bucharest, Romania from 29 August – 2 September 2022. Much of the progress made at this meeting was due to the successful preparation by stakeholders in Regional Meetings in the lead up to Bucharest. Due to the amount of work needed to conclude its recommendations, however, the meeting was adjourned and will be resumed in Nairobi from 27 February – 3 March 2023.

To this end, a series of regional, sectoral and technical meetings are planned to ensure that stakeholders are well-prepared. Furthermore, in Bucharest, all stakeholders agreed that the broadest possible participation from all regions, sectors and stakeholder groups will be crucial during the final steps towards ICCM5.

The attached Programme of Work and Budget for the period 2022-2023 for the Secretariat of the Strategic Approach was adopted on 30 October 2022 through the silent procedure. Below is a brief overview of upcoming events and activities that require financial support for the remaining 2023 period for your consideration:

1. Resumed Fourth meeting of the intersessional process, 27 February – 3 March 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya;
2. Regional meetings from April - June 2023;
3. Fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management; 25 – 29 September 2023 in Bonn, Germany, and;
4. SAICM Secretariat core functions and operating costs.
We remain encouraged by Resolution 5/7 adopted at UNEA5 in March 2022 on the “Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste”, which urges the continued support to SAICM in preparing for the Fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, and to provide continuity of effective secretariat services and administrative support for the implementation of any decision made by the Conference.

The costs for the implementation of the resolution are to be met exclusively by voluntary contributions. While some resources are available, there is a funding gap of USD 5 million of the total estimated costs of USD 8.3 million for the coming year for the SAICM Secretariat (activities programmed until ICCM5).

I would like to thank all donors for their contributions and pledges received to-date. However, to deliver on the mandate and to ensure the current strong and positive momentum toward a successful ICCM5, Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so are kindly invited to provide extra-budgetary resources at the earliest opportunity to support the implementation of the resolution 5/7.

To enable maximum efficiency, it is requested that resources to be provided with as much flexibility as possible. Should earmarking within the process be necessary, as much flexibility as possible is kindly requested.

My colleagues in the SAICM Secretariat stand ready to provide any additional information that you may require. The Secretariat can be reached at saicm.chemicals@un.org.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Anita Breyer
ICCM5 President

To: Focal points for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management