MESSAGE TO STAKEHOLDERS

10/12/2019

Subject: Updates and request for input - SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

Dear SAICM stakeholders,

We are pleased to connect with you on a number of important areas related to SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

Please note that the final report of the third meeting of the intersessional process (IP3) considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 is now available on our web-site (document number SAICM/IP.3/12).

Request for stakeholder inputs to IP4 on stakeholder engagement and capacity building, deadline extended to 7 January 2020

Stakeholders made a number of requests at IP3 to support the intersessional process. Please note that the deadline for input to the following items, as requested by IP3, has been extended to 7 January 2020:

1. Contributions to achieve enhanced sectoral and stakeholder engagement for beyond 2020. These may include workplans, road maps, action items, milestones, pledges or other commitments that would contribute to the achievement of the objectives and targets, while providing opportunities for joint collaboration or actions.

2. Proposed ‘Capacity-building Principles’ developed at IP3 by the co-chairs of the thematic group D on financial considerations. Found in Annex IV of the IP3 meeting report (SAICM/IP.3/12), page 43.

The SAICM secretariat will compile the input and make it available to the next meeting of the Bureau and to IP4. Please direct any questions and provide your input to: saicm.chemicals@un.org

Technical working group on targets, milestones and indicators

The technical working group on targets, milestones and indicators will be actively supporting further work in this area between now and IP4. We are grateful that Silvija Kalnins (Latvia) and Wajira Palipane (Sri Lanka) have agreed to facilitate the technical working group and we will benefit from the continuity of their co-chairing of the thematic discussion group at IP3. The secretariat has received nominations for participation from the regions and the sector representatives. Further details on this are forthcoming.

SAICM Knowledge Management Platform

Within the framework of the GEF project 9771 Chemicals without concern, executed by the SAICM Secretariat, a Knowledge Management Platform is currently under development. This platform will provide a space for knowledge exchange on emerging policy issues amongst SAICM stakeholders and will also facilitate the tracking of data and progress at a national and global levels. The SAICM Secretariat would like to request the submission of any recent (last 3 years) and relevant content produced by stakeholders on emerging policy issues (e.g., technical documents, best practices documents, case studies, etc.) so these may be included in the Knowledge Management Platform which will have its initial launch in the first quarter of 2020. Please send submissions to: saicm.chemicals@un.org

Progress reporting for 2017-2019

The secretariat is preparing a progress report for SAICM implementation for 2017-2019 as requested by OEWG3 (set out in document SAICM/IP.3/11). In the past, many stakeholder groups provided progress reports on SAICM implementation to the International Conference. All stakeholder groups who are intending to prepare such progress reports in advance of the fifth session of the Conference are requested to submit these by 28 February 2020. The reason for this proposed deadline is so that information and data from the submissions may be made available on time to be used as input to the analysis of the overall secretariat report on SAICM progress in implementation for 2017-2019. Stakeholder group submissions will also be made available as information documents for the fifth
session of the Conference. Please let the secretariat know as soon as possible if you are intending to provide progress reports and send your progress reports to: saicm.chemicals@un.org

SAICM side event at the Minamata COP
Around 80 participants at the Minamata COP3 attended SAICM’s side event to learn about the intersessional process and journey towards ICCM5. Also highlighted was how the Minamata Convention and SAICM focal points collaborate on common issues and how SAICM serves as a unique platform which allows stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner.
Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/185381468@N05/sets/72157711975191221/

High Ambition Alliance on Chemicals and Waste, Madrid, Spain, 9 December 2019
The High Ambition Alliance on Chemicals and Waste, led by Sweden and Uruguay, met on the margins of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) on 9 December 2019, in Madrid, Spain.

Relevant upcoming events

Governance Workshop, Frankfurt, Germany, 14-16 January 2020
A special workshop to strengthen governance for beyond 2020 is being organized by UNITAR and scheduled for 14 to 16 January 2020 in Frankfurt. If you have any questions concerning the workshop, please contact Oliver.Wootton@unitar.org.

ICCM5 Bureau meeting, Frankfurt, Germany, 16-17 January 2020
The eighth meeting of the ICCM5 Bureau is scheduled to be held from the afternoon of the 16 to 17 January 2020, in Frankfurt, Germany, back to back with the Governance Workshop.

IP4, Bucharest, Romania, 23-27 March 2020 - Save the Date!
The fourth meeting of the intersessional process will be held in Bucharest, Romania, from 23 to 27 March 2020. On 22 March, we will have an opportunity for regional meetings and other briefings.

ICCM5, Bonn, Germany, 5-9 October 2020 - Save the Date!
The fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) will take place in one year, 5 to 9 October 2020 in Bonn, presided over by Ms. Gertrud Sahler (Germany).

Many thanks for working with us to be the change beyond 2020 for the sound management of chemicals and waste.

Best regards,

SAICM Secretariat

Follow us on Twitter! Please follow us @ChemandWaste and use the hashtag #beyond2020 for any tweets associated with the intersessional process leading up to ICCM5 next year in Bonn.