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**Ninth Teleconference of the Bureau of the
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Revised draft Programme of Work and Budget 2021-2023 for the Secretariat of the Strategic Approach

I. Introduction

1. On 3 April 2020, the German Government in consultation with the ICCM5 President and the co-chairs of the intersessional process, announced the necessity to postpone the Fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) from October 2020 to July 2021. The decision followed the postponement of the preparatory fourth meeting of the Intersessional Process (IP4) on the Strategic Approach (SAICM) and the sound management on chemicals and waste beyond 2020 from March 2020 to March 2021.
2. With restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the postponement of IP4 and ICCM5, the ICCM5 Bureau and the co-chairs of the intersessional process proposed to establish a number of Virtual Working Groups (VWGs) to keep the momentum, engage stakeholders and to develop recommendations for consideration by IP4 and ICCM5 (outlined in the [Co-chairs' scenario note](#)).
3. At its fourteenth meeting held on 27 January 2021, the ICCM5 Bureau agreed that considering the ongoing COVID-19 situation and the vaccination rollout plans worldwide, it would not be possible to convene neither a face-to-face IP4 in March 2021 nor an ICCM5 in July 2021. The Bureau therefore decided to postpone both meetings indefinitely and the timings will be decided taking into account the evolving COVID-19 situation.
4. The four VWGs convened between October 2020 and February 2021. The final reports of the VWGs can be found on the [website](#) of the Strategic Approach.
5. The ICCM5 Bureau, at its last meeting on 24 March 2021, considered next steps proposed in the recommendations paper ([SAICM/ICCM.5/Bureau/TC.7/2](#)) and possible elements of a survey on experiences with the VWG process to be sent to all SAICM stakeholders ([SAICM/ICCM.5/Bureau/TC.7/3](#)) to develop a revised and pragmatic plan to continue making progress through virtual working arrangements until face-to-face meetings are feasible. During this meeting, the Bureau discussed the continuation of work on (i) the intersessional process and preparing recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 for consideration when ICCM5 can formally convene; and (ii) the implementation of the current SAICM instrument.
6. In November 2020, ICCM adopted the decision on adoption of procedural decisions on organizational, administrative and budgetary matters during the COVID-19 pandemic via a silent procedure when the ICCM is not in session.

7. In this decision, it was decided that ICCM may take a limited number of procedural decisions on organizational, administrative and budgetary matters via a silent procedure in order to ensure the continuation of the mandated activities of ICCM and its Secretariat until ICCM convenes again.
8. The decision also stated that the President of ICCM5 may circulate, after consultation with the Bureau, draft decisions of the ICCM to all SAICM focal points under a silent procedure and allow at least 20 working days for response.
9. At its Fifteenth meeting on 24 March 2021, the Bureau agreed that the draft Programme of Work (POW) and Budget for the period 2021-2023 be developed and accompanied by an administrative procedural and budgetary decision ([SAICM/ICCM.5/Bureau.TC.7/Report](#)).
10. At the Sixteenth Bureau meeting held on 19 May 2021, the Secretariat presented the first draft of the POW and Budget for the period 2021 – 2023 and the document as presented in SAICM/ICCM.5/Bureau.TC.8/6 was subsequently circulated for review. By the deadline of 18 June 2021, written submissions were received from the following stakeholders: GRULAC (Argentina, Dominican Republic, Mexico), WEOG (United States) and IPEN.
11. The Annex to this current document presents the revised version of draft POW and Budget for the period 2021 - 2023 taking into account the inputs and comments received.

Annex

I. Proposed activities and financing of the Secretariat for the period 2021 - 2023

A. Activities to implement the current SAICM and advance the intersessional work

1. The present report provides information on the proposed activities and budget for the period 2021 - 2023 according to the functions set out in paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy.
2. Table 1 highlights the proposed activities for the period 2021 - 2023, based on the activities contained in the Overarching Policy Strategy. It includes a separate section on capacity building.
3. Table 2 outlines the proposed activities as identified by SAICM stakeholders during the Virtual Working Group process held between October 2020 and February 2021. The co-facilitator's reports on the outcomes of the Virtual Working Groups are available [here](#).
4. Table 3 contains the proposed budget for the period 2021 to 2023.
5. Table 4 lays out the pledges and contributions to the Strategic Approach Secretariat for the period 2019 to 2021.
6. The SAICM Secretariat will also revise and implement the communications and outreach strategy developed in 2020 ([SAICM/ICCM.5/Bureau.TC.4/3](#)) to maintain the visibility of the SAICM Secretariat and its activities related to the global chemicals and waste agenda.
7. Finally, Appendix 1 presents a report on the activities undertaken by the Secretariat from July 2015 to December 2020, as well as activities undertaken against the functions set out in resolutions of the Conference on the Quick Start Programme and emerging policy issues. Appendix 2 presents the expenditure report against the approved 2021 budget that was approved by the silent procedure and reflects expenditures from the period 2020 to April 2021.

Table 1
Proposed activities for the period 2021 to 2023

<i>Function of the Strategic Approach Secretariat</i>	<i>Proposed activities 2021 to 2023</i>
Core mandate (paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy)	
(a) Facilitate meetings and intersessional work of the Conference, as well as regional meetings	<p>Plan and draft documents for the fifth session of the Conference, depending on when the face-to-face meetings are feasible.</p> <p>A second round of the Virtual Working Group process or set of more focused regional meetings, based on the results of the survey.</p> <p>The fourth meeting of the Intersessional Process (IP4) on the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.¹</p> <p>A fourth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG4) in advance of the fifth session of the Conference (<i>ibc</i>).¹</p>

¹ To be decided upon discussion and agreement on the considerations for IP4 and OEWG4 as presented in document SAICM/ICCM.5/Bureau.T.C.9/2.

Function of the Strategic Approach Secretariat	Proposed activities 2021 to 2023
(b) Report to the Conference on implementation of the Strategic Approach by stakeholders	<p>Virtual or face to face regional meetings in advance of the fourth meeting of the Open-ended Working group and fifth session of the Conference, in order to prepare for that meeting and that session and to facilitate input into Strategic Approach activities, receive updates from regions against priority actions agreed upon by the Conference at its fourth session and promote the exchange of expertise and information.</p> <p>Teleconferences of the Bureau of the Conference in the intersessional period to guide Strategic Approach activities and preparations for IP4, OEWG4 and ICCM5. The approximate number of meetings would be 6 virtual meetings in 2022, 3 virtual meetings in 2023 and 2 face-to-face meetings in 2023.</p> <p>Resource mobilization efforts undertaken for the above-mentioned meetings.</p> <p>Prepare the report on progress for the period 2020-2022, providing an overview of Strategic Approach activities, accomplishments and challenges, based on stakeholder inputs for consideration by the Conference at its fifth session.</p> <p>Coordinate the development of a report on emerging policy issues and other issues of concern, inviting the lead agencies of the IOMC, Governments and other relevant stakeholders to report on progress in the implementation of Conference resolutions on emerging policy issues and other issues of concern (as set out in ICCM resolution IV/ 2 paragraph 5), based on the latest relevant reports available, yet, in particular the <i>Assessment Report on Issues of Concern</i> provided by UNEP in September 2020, all in order to avoid duplicating efforts.</p> <p>Report to the Conference on Secretariat activities, staffing and budget at its fifth session and provide interim information to IP4 or OEWG4 as appropriate.</p> <p>Provide additional information to facilitate further consideration of future progress reporting for the new instrument, by reviewing and analysing other relevant/similar processes, including structure, platforms, and resource requirements.</p>
(c) Promote the establishment and maintenance of a network of Strategic Approach stakeholders	<p>Continue to engage with and serve as a platform for the Strategic Approach stakeholders and sectors, proactively encouraging the nomination of focal points for all stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Strengthen and promote regional and sectoral engagement for the sound management of chemicals and waste, through targeted communications and outreach activities.</p> <p>Continue to support and promote the youth platform on chemicals and waste and increase the level of youth engagement in SAICM processes.</p> <p>Promote the establishment of new networks, including scientific networks and downstream sectors and chemical intensive value chains to support the work on sound management of chemicals and waste.</p>
(d) Facilitate the development and dissemination of guidance materials	<p>Implement the requests to the Secretariat as contained in the resolutions of the fourth session of the Conference related to guidance materials for emerging policy issues.</p> <p>Collaborate with the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) participating organizations and other stakeholders dealing with emerging policy issues to promote and disseminate guidance materials, where relevant, and facilitate appropriate updates. The Knowledge Management platform will serve to disseminate the relevant guidance documents.</p> <p>Development of a study on the industry component of the integrated approach to financing for chemicals and waste, in response to the independent evaluation of implementation of the integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and waste (UNEP/EA.4/INF.16, 2019) that identified gaps in the component concerning industry involvement.</p>
(e) Provide guidance to stakeholders in the initiation of project proposals	<p>Within the context of the integrated approach to financing of chemicals and waste, and in particular the third component on dedicated external financing, the SAICM Secretariat will maintain strong working relationships and facilitate information sharing with the secretariats of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Special Programme on Institutional Strengthening.</p>

Function of the Strategic Approach Secretariat	Proposed activities 2021 to 2023
	<p>Work with the GEF and relevant stakeholders on the upcoming GEF-8 Replenishment.</p> <p>Work with the Special Programme to provide support to the guidance workshops being organized for the Special Programme's fifth and subsequent rounds of applications. Guidance workshops with an aim to present the types of interventions and activities that would help to facilitate the implementation of the SAICM objectives. Technical guidance will be provided to stakeholders seeking assistance in developing project proposals to facilitate the SAICM objectives and implementation of the Overall Orientation and Guidance.</p> <p>Continue to showcase QSP results, lessons learned and identified best practices.</p>
(f) Provide information clearing-house services	<p>Implementation of the new SAICM Knowledge platform with enhanced scope and information on all SAICM Emerging Policy Issues to strengthen knowledge and information sharing on chemicals management and best practices with a wider range of stakeholders, including Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.</p> <p>Promote the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information by strengthening relationships with stakeholders through the newly established SAICM Communities of Practice for online discussions and exchanges on the sound management of chemicals and waste.</p> <p>Cooperate with IOMC participating organizations and multilateral environmental agreement secretariats, including the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to facilitate information and knowledge sharing, including but not limited, through the SAICM Knowledge Platform and the SAICM Communities of Practice.</p>
(g) Ensure that recommendations from the Conference are conveyed to relevant global and regional organizations and institutions	<p>Continue to submit relevant outcomes of ICCM4 and updates on the intersessional process on the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 to different forums, such as the United Nations Environment Assembly, World Health Assembly, Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, Conferences of the Parties to the Minamata Convention, and others, as appropriate.</p>
(h) Promote the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information	<p>Promote the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information on the sound management of chemicals and waste.</p> <p>Support the discussions on the science-policy interface towards developing a better shared understanding on the proposed options.</p>
(i) Establish and maintain a working relationship with participating organizations of the IOMC	<p>Continue to participate in biennial meetings of the IOMC and arrange for the participating organizations of the IOMC to take part in relevant meetings of the Strategic Approach.</p> <p>IOMC partners will be engaged in submitting material for the regular Strategic Approach broadcasts of news and updates.</p> <p>Perform a coordination function with the lead organizations of the emerging policy issues to advance efforts on the current emerging policy issues and issues of concern.</p>
Capacity building	<p>Support national level projects to implement the Overall Orientation and Guidance, upon request and subject to availability of resources.</p> <p>Develop a draft capacity building strategy, including elaboration of the capacity building activities discussed under the VWG on Financial Considerations.</p> <p>Contribute to the development of a draft strategy for implementation of the GHS worldwide in collaboration with relevant IOMC organizations and stakeholders, building on existing approaches and lessons learned from ongoing and planned activities, in particular those by the <i>GHS Global Partnership</i>.</p> <p>Promote the development of legislation for sound management of chemicals and waste, including the dissemination of the IOMC toolbox.</p>

8. With restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the postponement of IP4 and ICCM5, the ICCM5 Bureau and the co-chairs of the intersessional process proposed to establish a number of Virtual Working Groups (VWGs) to support the work of the intersessional process to advance deliberations on the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

9. The purpose of the proposed VWGs was to develop proposals for tangible outcomes including identifying gaps, compromise text proposals, and new or alternate text, as appropriate. The VWGs were not intended to replace formal face-to-face discussions at IP4 and/or negotiations that will take place at ICCM5, but rather are intended to further build understanding and prepare delegates for these important negotiations.

10. The VWGs were established to work on (i) Targets, indicators and milestones; (ii) Governance and mechanisms to support implementation; (iii) Issues of concern; and (iv) Financial considerations. The co-facilitators reports on the outcomes of the VWGs held between October 2020 to February 2021 are available [here](#).

11. The online survey was launched in June 2021 to gather information on stakeholders' experiences and views to inform the design of future work in the intersessional process until the time when face-to-face meetings are feasible. The survey will be circulated to all SAICM stakeholders for completion and the data gathered from the survey will be used to develop an assessment of the experiences with the virtual work undertaken between October 2020 to February 2021.

12. Going forward, the role of the Secretariat will be to facilitate the work of the intersessional process as the future virtual work is designed. The table below presents the key recommendations from the VWGs for further deliberation by stakeholders. The proposed activities will be further considered by the Bureau once the results and findings of the survey are available, to determine the activities to be continued through the virtual work and activities that will be further considered once the new instrument is adopted at ICCM5.

Table 2
Recommendations from the Virtual Working Groups

<i>VWG 1-4</i>	<i>Proposed activities 2021–2023</i>
1. Targets, indicators, milestones	Regarding the future process for targets, indicators and milestones, facilitate further dialogue on the text set out in Part i possible formulation of targets based on points of convergence of views among stakeholders and Part ii set of recommendations for a process to establish indicators and milestones for finalized targets of VWG outcome document.
2. Means of implementation	Facilitate further dialogue on the functions and characteristics of a possible science-policy interface for the chemicals and waste cluster as well as the development of possible options for its scope and placement. Provide additional information and facilitate further consideration to develop an alternative mechanism for taking stock of progress and reporting under the new instrument. Facilitate further dialogue on a potential process to conduct voluntary peer reviews of national reports under the new instrument in the VWG process.
3. Issues of Concern	Regarding the future process for identifying issues of concern, facilitate further dialogue on the text set out in section 5 of VWG outcome document. For the future of the existing emerging policy issues and other issues of concern: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the SAICM Secretariat will support stakeholders to pave the way for an omnibus decision on the path forward for the existing SAICM emerging policy issues and other issues of concern at the postponed ICCM5, including coordination with the lead agencies of the IOMC. 2. The Secretariat will invite, through the ICCM5 Bureau:

(i) the lead agencies of the IOMC, Governments and other relevant stakeholders to report through the Secretariat 5 months prior to ICCM5 on progress in the implementation of Conference resolutions on emerging policy issues and other issues of concern (as set out in ICCM resolution IV/ 2 paragraph 5).

(ii) if the intersessional process at its fourth meeting (IP4) agree/support it, the responsible IOMC organizations, in consultation with stakeholders, to propose a draft work plan [or a road map] that outlines the immediate priorities and the rationale to continue to address the issue under the beyond 2020 instrument 5 months prior to ICCM5, including: (a) an assessment on how they contribute to achieving the Strategic Objective(s) and Targets of the new instrument; and (b) proposing additional indicators as needed for relevant targets.

4. Financial considerations

Facilitate further deliberations on the proposals presented by stakeholders on:

- a) Capacity building (including developing a capacity building clearing house mechanism); and
- b) Private sector contributions through a global coordinated tax or annual contribution based on revenue (African group and CIEL/IPEN proposals)

Continue the discussions and advance text proposals on the dedicated external financing for the implementation of the beyond 2020 instrument and modalities / arrangements for financing the Secretariat.

B. Communications and outreach

13. In addition to the table above, the Secretariat will revise and implement the communications and outreach strategy to support the outputs of SAICM thereby maintaining the visibility of the Secretariat and its activities related to the global chemicals and waste agenda. The overarching aim of the SAICM communications and outreach strategy will aim to:

- a) Ensure that the objectives and activities of SAICM remain top of mind among key internal and external audiences.
- b) Identify timely and strategic outreach opportunities, such as internationally recognized global and regional events to enhance understanding of SAICM among stakeholder groups, including Member States, private sector, civil society and the general public. This can also include outreach on information such as SAICM impact over the period 2006-2020 and the Report on the Progress of Emerging Policy Issues as well as events related to Emerging Policy Issues and remaining implementation gaps.
- c) To improve regional and national awareness of SAICM and its work through targeted outreach. Targeted regional and national outreach could include webinars, roundtables, regional and national media outreach, social media outreach focusing on pertinent and timely issues relevant to regions and particular Member States.
- d) To support information and knowledge sharing in order to scale-up partnerships among stakeholders towards the implementation of SAICM objectives. Communications products will be developed with greater emphasis on targeted messaging geared towards encouraging stakeholder action around SAICM targets. To ensure wider dissemination of knowledge products, an omnichannel approach will be undertaken using traditional media as well as online media, including the SAICM website. Exchange of relevant scientific and technical information will be broadened by consolidating relationships with existing stakeholders and broadening SAICM scientific, technical and academic networks.
- e) To use effective, results-driven communications to leverage funds to support SAICM's programme of work. Communications outreach and associated products will emphasize and prioritize communicating the impact of SAICM's work.

C. Budget and expenditures

14. In December 2020, the 2021 budget was adopted by silent procedure. Appendix 2 of this present document presents the expenditures incurred in 2020 and up to March 2021.

15. Table 3 below presents the proposed 2021 to 2023 budget.

16. The budget includes provision of a fourth Open-Ended Working Group meeting in advance of ICCM5. The purpose of the OEWG4 would be to ensure the participation and ownership of all countries and stakeholders resulting in the adoption of an ambitious framework for the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. The OEWG4 would also provide an opportunity for regional, stakeholder and sectoral coordination to reach consensus and allow for delegations to be better prepared in advance of ICCM5. Regional meetings have also been costed in advance of ICCM5 in 2023, if needed. In addition, provision is made for possible requests for specific projects on emerging policy issues or issues of concern, or capacity building projects, subject to the availability of resources (under the heading “transfers to implementing partners”).

Table 3
2021-2023 Proposed Budget

Budget item	Breakdown	Amount (in USD)		
		Revised 2021 budget	Proposed 2022 budget	Proposed 2023 budget
Meetings of the Conference bodies				
Fifth meeting of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) ²	(Meeting costs: 848 483, travel costs: 1 294 601)	0	0	2 362 750
OEWG4 meeting	(Meeting costs: 500 000, travel costs: 1 000 000)	0	1 500 000	0
Fourth session of the intersessional process (IP4) (6 days)	(Meeting costs: 110 500, travel costs: 149 607)	0	273 112	0
Regional meetings (2 – 3 days)	(Meeting costs: 231 800, travel costs: 398 200)	0	630 000	694 575
Bureau meeting (3 days)	(Meeting costs: 3 000, travel costs: 27 500)	0	30 500	33 626
Bureau meeting (3 days)	(Meeting costs: 3 000, travel costs: 27 500)	0	30 500	33 626
Virtual meetings to advance on the intersessional process	(max. 200 USD for 35 participants for 10 meetings)	35 000	70 000	0
Subtotal		35 000	2 534 112	3 124 578
Secretariat	P5 – SAICM Coordinator ³	0	0	0
	P4 – Programme management officer	206 838	217 180	228 039
	P3 – Programme management officer	327 558	343 936	361 133
	P3 – Programme management officer	199 505	209 480	219 954
	P3 – Programme management officer ⁴	57 881	57 881	231 525
	P2 – Associate programme officer	198 000	217 800	239 580

² Meeting venue costs to be provided by the Government of Germany.

³ Position funded by UNEP.

⁴ Position partly funded under the SAICM GEF 9771 project up to 2022.

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>Breakdown</i>	<i>Amount (in USD)</i>		
		<i>Revised 2021 budget</i>	<i>Proposed 2022 budget</i>	<i>Proposed 2023 budget</i>
	P2 – Junior professional officer ⁵	0	15 500	77 500
	G4 – Administrative support staff	157 484	165 358	173 626
	G4 – Administrative support staff ⁶	39 371	165 358	173 626
Subtotal		1 186 637	1 392 494	1 704 983
Additional support to the Secretariat	Personnel costs to support the work of the Secretariat in the lead up to and beyond ICCM5.	240 000	252 000	312 600
Subtotal		240 000	252 000	312 600
Transfers to implementing partners	UNEP Legal instruments	250 000	500 000	600 000
Subtotal		250 000	500 000	600 000
Publications, outreach, and communications	Website, corporate materials, outreach events, outreach, and communications materials	60 000	75 000	105 000
Subtotal		60 000	75 000	105 000
Operating costs	Office rental and premises and equipment	80 000	100 000	120 000
Subtotal		80 000	100 000	120 000
Secretariat staff travel cost	IP4	0	27 352	0
	OEWG4	0	50 000	0
	ICCM5 ⁷	0	0	0
	Travel of Secretariat staff on official business	0	60 000	90 000
Subtotal		0	137 352	90 000
Subtotal		1 851 637	4 990 958	6 057 161
Contingency	(5 per cent of total budget)	92 582	249 548	302 858
Evaluation		50 000	0	60 500
Programme Support Costs (13%)		259 248	681 266	834 667
Grand total		2 253 468	5 921 772	7 255 186

Table 4
Pledges and contributions to the Strategic Approach secretariat 2019 - 2021 (as of 30 June 2021) in USD

Countries/stakeholders	2019	2020	2021
Argentina	5,000		
Austria	22,222		
Belgium	22,727	23,894	
Denmark	81,007 ⁸	161,535	
Finland	22,727	22,396	24,213
France	227,260	235,154	
Germany	332,963	162,814	180,550

⁵ Position fully funded until October 2021 and partly funding until October 2023 by the Government of Germany under the JPO Program.

⁶ Position partly funded under the SAICM GEF 9771 project up to 2022.

⁷ To be confirmed and to be provided by the Government of Germany.

⁸ This amount reflects the Danish 2018 contribution received in January 2019.

Countries/stakeholders	2019	2020	2021
ICCA ⁹	332,463	165,562	
Norway	33,767	169,121	
Pakistan	1,992	1,994	
Slovenia	3,283	3,508	
Sweden	259,790	334,489	361,489 ¹⁰
Switzerland	15,933	18,333	
The Netherlands	43,763		
United Kingdom	164,684		
United States		472,500	525,000 ¹¹
Total	1,569,581	1,771,300	1,091,252

17. In addition to the above financial contributions, the following Governments and organizations provided valuable in-kind contributions, typically in the form of meeting facilities and support for meeting activities: Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Germany, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay.

⁹ ICCA contributions are allocated for joint UNEP-ICCA activities on industry engagement.

¹⁰ Pledge of SEK 3,000,000. Pledge amount will be adjusted with the exchange rate on the day of receipt.

¹¹ Pledge of USD 525,000.

Appendix 1

Activities undertaken by the Secretariat from July 2015 to December 2020

<i>Function of the Strategic Approach Secretariat</i>	<i>Activities July 2015–December 2020</i>
Core mandate (paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy)	
(a) Facilitate meetings and intersessional work of the Conference, as well as regional meetings	<p>Finalized arrangements for the fourth session of the Conference. The Conference provided stakeholders with the opportunity to review progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach, adopted the Overall Orientation and Guidance (OOG) and established the intersessional process for consideration of beyond 2020.</p> <p>Organized five regional meetings to facilitate input into Strategic Approach activities, the overall orientation and guidance and activity priority-setting, and facilitated the exchange of expertise and information as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Latin America and the Caribbean: 29-31 January 2018, Panama City, Panama - Central and Eastern Europe: 19-21 February 2018, Lodz, Poland - Africa: 6-8 February 2018, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire - EU-JUSSCANNZ¹²: 9 February 2018, Paris, France - Asia-Pacific: 23-25 January 2018, Bangkok, Thailand <p>Since ICCM4, facilitated 8 face-to-face meetings and 7 teleconferences of the Bureau of the Conference</p> <p>Convened the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group. It provided a forum for stakeholders to discuss the overall orientation and guidance document, possible further work under the emerging policy issues and other issues of concern, and the links between the sustainable development goals and the sound management of chemicals.</p> <p>Convened the third meeting of the intersessional process (IP3) in Bangkok, Thailand, from 1-4 October 2019, to support stakeholders in their efforts to elaborate the future arrangements of the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 for consideration at ICCM5.</p> <p>Conceptualized, established and facilitated a virtual working group process to continue work of the intersessional process online while face-to-face meetings were not possible because of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Planned, drafted documents, raised funds for and organized the fifth session of the Conference.</p>
(b) Report to the Conference on implementation of the Strategic Approach by stakeholders	<p>Preparation of two reporting exercises during the period 2014–2020, including an analysis of the 20 indicators of progress in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, based on consultations with stakeholders and focal points and analysis of data collected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report for 2014-2016 presented at OEWG3 • Report for 2017-2019 developed but not released. <p>SAICM Independent Evaluation was developed for 2006-2015 in response to ICCM resolution IV/4 and presented to OEWG3 and IP3.</p> <p>Monitored the secretariat budget and donor contributions and coordinate the preparation of reports to donors.</p>
(c) Promote the establishment and maintenance of a network of Strategic Approach stakeholders	<p>Proactively encouraged the nomination of focal points by Strategic Approach stakeholders, generating a steady rise in the number of focal points for non-governmental stakeholders and having an updated list of governmental stakeholders. As of May 2021, 181 national focal points (an increase of 2 since ICCM4), 5 regional focal points (no increase since ICCM4), 124 non-governmental organization focal points (an increase of 29 since ICCM4) and 17 intergovernmental organization focal points (an increase of 2 since ICCM4) were part of the Strategic Approach network. The Secretariat also conducted outreach to encourage the diversity of Strategic Approach contacts.</p>

¹² Australia, Canada, European Union, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United States of America

- Undertook outreach activities through broadcasts, contributions to newsletters and exhibition spaces, side events and presentations at relevant forums, including during the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm convention.
- Communities of Practice established in 2020 to support implementation of SAICM.
- Supported the establishment and promotion of a youth platform on chemicals and waste under the UN Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY).
- (d) Facilitate the development and dissemination of guidance materials
- Continued to disseminate information and guidance materials electronically via the network of stakeholders as appropriate and as requested by stakeholders.
- Developed and published policy briefs on chemicals and waste management and cross-cutting topics such as gender, sustainable development goals and circularity.
- Developed and published a series of QSP success stories on the SAICM website.
- (e) Provide guidance to stakeholders in the initiation of project proposals
- Developed and started implementation of the Global Environment Facility project 9771. Approved in 2018, it is a complex 9 million USD global project working with over 20 partners and 40 countries. The project has mobilized an additional 21 million USD in resources from multiple donors.
- Provided support to applicants and guidance materials for the development of project proposals under the fourth round of applications for the Special Programme.
- (f) Provide information clearing-house services
- Launched the SAICM knowledge management platform.
- (g) Ensure that recommendations from the Conference are conveyed to relevant global and regional organizations and institutions
- Conveyed all recommendations, resolutions and outcomes of the fourth session of the Conference, including through stakeholder and sector consultations, to Strategic Approach stakeholders to ensure maximum distribution.
- Submitted relevant outcomes of the Conference to different forums, such as the United Nations Environment Assembly, World Health Assembly, Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, and others, as appropriate.
- Ensured that relevant information was passed on to the appropriate Strategic Approach stakeholders in follow-up to meetings of the regions and the Bureau.
- Ensured appropriate messages were communicated to stakeholders in follow-up to the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group through Strategic Approach broadcasts and stakeholder and sector consultations.
- (h) Promote the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information
- Supported the exchange of information through the SAICM Knowledge Management platform, facilitation of technical briefings and engagement in related processes.
- (i) Establish and maintain a working relationship with participating organizations of the IOMC
- Participated in biannual meetings of the IOMC and arranged for the participating organizations of the IOMC to take part in Strategic Approach regional meetings
- IOMC partners were regularly engaged in submitting material for the regular Strategic Approach broadcasts of news and updates (approximately every three months)
- Coordinated with emerging policy issue leads to support delivery of activities requested by the Conference at its third session and supported the nomination process for new emerging policy issues and other issues of concern.

Resolution I/4: Quick Start Programme

- (a) Facilitate meetings of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board and the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund Implementation Committee
- Since 2015 three teleconferences of the Executive Board have taken place: the 10th meeting of the Board held virtually on 20 August 2015, the 11th meeting on 17 December 2017, and the 10th and last meeting of the Executive Board on 19 December 2019.
- The last Meeting of the QSP Trust Fund Implementation Committee was held in Paris on 5 November 2015.

Function of the Strategic Approach Secretariat *Activities July 2015–December 2020*

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| (b) | Provide administrative support to the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund | <p>Finalized all agreements with Governments and executing agencies for approved projects funded by the QSP Trust Fund and facilitated other arrangements to enable the implementation of projects, including the transfer of funds to project implementers, budget revisions and agreements for extensions.</p> <p>Continued to offer support and guidance to over 100 ongoing projects of a total of 184 projects that had been approved for funding under the QSP Trust Fund, totalling more than US\$36.8 million.</p> <p>Provided administrative support to the QSP projects until the final closure of the QSP Trust Fund. Final narrative and financial report for the European Union Delegation Agreement DCI-ENV/2015/366-122 to the QSP Trust Fund Phase III was provided and closed in February 2020. Final closure of completed projects will continue until the closure of the Trust Fund can be finalised.</p> |
| (c) | Screen Trust Fund project proposals for completeness and eligibility | <p>Since its establishment, there have been 14 rounds of applications to the trust fund. The Secretariat has screened project proposals for completeness and eligibility and submitted 341 applications for the appraisal of the trust fund Implementation Committee. Over the course of the 14 rounds, the Committee has approved 184 projects for funding, valued at approximately \$37.8 million and covering 108 countries, including 54 least developed countries and/or small island developing States. Of the 184 approved projects, 163 are led by Governments and 21 by civil society organizations.</p> <p>All the projects approved from all applications rounds had been funded and the Secretariat had processed all project funding agreements.</p> |
| (d) | Other activities | <p>Developed the QSP brochure highlighting benefits seen from projects and contributed to the setup of booths at international conferences and other events. A set of QSP Success Stories, factsheets, interactive visualisations tools and infographics have also been uploaded in the web.</p> <p>Continue to coordinate the development and dissemination of communication materials of projects and of the Programme to showcase the success of the QSP using appropriate resources, including the Strategic Approach information clearing house, if available, and the Strategic Approach website.</p> <p>Support to the final evaluation by the United Nations Environment Programme of the QSP upon its closure.</p> |

Resolution II/4: emerging policy issues

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| (a) | Implement procedures for receiving and screening nominations of emerging policy issues | <p>Nominations for new emerging policy issues will not be opened following the process set out in Resolution II/4.</p> <p>Regarding the future process for future issues of concern, the Secretariat will facilitate further dialogue on the text set out in section 5 of VWG 3 outcome document and support stakeholders to pave the way for an omnibus decision on the path forward for the existing SAICM emerging policy issues and other issues of concern at the postponed ICCM5, including coordination with the lead agencies of the IOMC.</p> |
| (b) | Report on progress on emerging policy issues | <p>In its resolutions IV/2 and IV/3, the Conference called for specific actions to be implemented under each of the emerging policy issues identified in the resolutions. Progress in relation to the emerging policy issues and to highly hazardous pesticides, as called for in resolution IV/3, and the management of perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives, as called for in resolution III/3, are also summarized in SAICM/OEWG.3/6. In addition, four information documents on, respectively, emerging policy issues and other issues of concern, presented by IOMC (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/9); United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions on marine plastic litter and microplastics and their relevance to the Strategic Approach, submitted by UNEP (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/16); the promotion of lead paint laws and enhanced actions towards 2020, submitted by UNEP and WHO (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/20); and modalities for considering emerging policy issues (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/24).</p> |
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Function of the Strategic Approach Secretariat *Activities July 2015–December 2020*

An *Independent Evaluation Report*¹³ was presented at IP3 as per request to the Secretariat as ICCM4 resolution IV/4¹⁴, covering activities from 2006-2015 and onward as well as identifying activities on EPIs beyond 2020.

UNEP prepared an Assessment Report on Issues of Concern and presented it to the fourth meeting of the intersessional process on the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste, which was subsequently postponed.

¹³ SAICM/IP.3/INF/3, Development of recommendations for consideration by the fifth session of the Conference regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

¹⁴ SAICM/ICCM.4/15, Report of the International Conference on Chemicals Management on the work of its fourth session.

Appendix 2

2020 – June 2021 Expenditures

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>Breakdown</i>	<i>2020 budget</i>	<i>2020 Expenditure</i>	<i>2021 budget</i>	<i>2021 Expenditure</i>
Meetings of the Conferences bodies					
Fifth meeting of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5)	(Meeting costs: 848 483, travel costs: 1 294 601)	0	0	2 143 084	0
Fourth session of the intersessional process (IP4) (6 days)	(Meeting costs: 110 500, travel costs: 149 607)	0	0	260 107	0
Regional meetings (2 – 3 days)	(Meeting costs: 231,800, travel costs: 398 200)	0	0	630 000	0
Bureau meeting [1] (3 days)	(Meeting costs: 3 000, travel costs: 27 500)	0	0	30 500	0
Bureau meeting [2] (3 days)	(Meeting costs: 3 000, travel costs: 27 500)	0	0	30 500	0
Expert meetings to implement the intersessional process	Virtual [3]	0	0	0	0
Subtotal		0	0	3 094 191	0
Secretariat					
	P5 – SAICM Coordinator	0	0	0	0
	P4 – Programme management officer	196 988	199 171	206 838	103 388
	P3 – Programme management officer	311 960	287 190	327 558	109 128
	P3 – Programme management officer	190 005	190 529	199 505	97 814
	P3 – Programme management officer	0	0	0	0
	P2 – Associate programme officer	0	0	198 000	64 856
	P2 – Junior professional officer	0	0	0	0
	G4 – Administrative support staff	149 985	175 773	157 484	78 797
	G4 – Administrative support staff	0	0	0	0
Subtotal		848 938	852 663	1 089 385	453 983

Additional support to the Secretariat					
Secretariat support	Personnel costs to support the work of the Secretariat in the lead up to ICCM5	240 000	148 455	240 000	96 000
Subtotal		240 000	148 455	240 000	96 000
Publications, outreach and communications					
Outreach and communications	Website, corporate materials, outreach events, outreach and communications strategy	19 200	0	60 000	0
Subtotal		19 200	0	60 000	0
Operating costs					
Operating costs	Office rental and premises and equipment	61 000	61 366	72 050	54 241
Subtotal		61 000	61 366	72 050	54 241
Transfers to Implementing Partners					
Transfers to Implementing Partners		0	129 970	0	0
Subtotal		0	129 970	0	0
Publications, outreach and communications					
Secretariat staff travel cost	IP4	0	0	27 352	0
	ICCM5	0	0	0	0
	Travel of Secretariat staff on official business	0	48 439	60 000	-70
Subtotal		0	48 439	87 352	-70
Subtotal		1 169 138	1 240 893	4 642 978	604 154
Contingency	(5 per cent of total budget)	58 457	0	232 149	0
Evaluation		0	0	50 000	0
Programme Support Costs (13%)		159 588	161 316	162 588	78 540
Grand total		1 387 183	1 402 209	4 387 183	682 694