



**Strategic Approach
to International
Chemicals Management**

**Open-ended Working Group of the International Conference
on Chemicals Management**

Third meeting

Montevideo, 2–4 April 2019

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**The Strategic Approach and the sound management of
chemicals and waste beyond 2020: considerations for the
sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020**

**Paper by the Co-Chairs of the intersessional process on the
Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020**

Note by the secretariat

1. The secretariat has the honour to submit to the Open-ended Working Group a paper developed by the Co-Chairs of the intersessional process on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (see annex). The Co-Chairs were requested to develop the paper at the second meeting of the intersessional process, in consultation with the Bureau and with the support of the secretariat.
2. The document is set out in two sections. Section I provides introductory remarks from the Co-Chairs for the participants at third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group with respect to the background and context of their paper. Section II sets out a structure for a voluntary, multisectoral and multi-stakeholder instrument, the proposal for which would be forwarded for consideration at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, building on the current Strategic Approach and allowing for continuity of current relevant efforts.
3. The present document should be read in conjunction with the annotated paper of the Co-Chairs on the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, which will be available to participants as an information document (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/2).
4. The Open-ended Working Group may wish to review the paper in detail and further develop it as an outcome of its meeting. Furthermore, the Open-ended Working Group may wish to assign any related tasks to the Co-Chairs of the intersessional process in the lead-up to the fifth session of the Conference.

* SAICM/OEWG.3/1.

Annex

Paper by the Co-Chairs of the intersessional process on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

I. Introductory remarks from the Co-Chairs to the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group

A. Background

1. The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management was initiated in 2006 with the overall objective “to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle so that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.” Implementation of the Strategic Approach is overseen by the International Conference on Chemicals Management – a multisectoral, multi-stakeholder forum.

2. The Strategic Approach provides a platform for sectors and stakeholders to work together voluntarily to protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of chemicals across their life cycle. The Strategic Approach exists within and supports the broader context of the global sound management of chemicals and waste that includes legally binding approaches such as the multilateral environmental agreements, the International Health Regulations (2005), and certain conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), among others.

3. At its fourth session, in 2015, the Conference recognized the need to start considering arrangements for the period beyond 2020. Specifically, the Conference initiated an intersessional process to prepare recommendations on the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (the intersessional process) for consideration by the Conference at its fifth session, to be held from 5 to 9 October 2020, in Bonn, Germany. It was decided that the intersessional process should include two meetings prior to the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, to be held from 2 to 4 April 2019 in Montevideo, and one meeting between the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and the fifth session of the Conference. In addition, the Open-ended Working Group may consider the need to call an additional meeting of the intersessional process before the fifth session of the Conference.

4. The first meeting of the intersessional process was held from 7 to 9 February 2017 in Brasilia, and the second meeting was held from 13 to 15 March 2018 in Stockholm. Information on those meetings is available on the Strategic Approach website.¹

5. At the end of the second meeting of the intersessional process, drawing attention to the need to make further progress, all regions and sectors requested the Co-Chairs to develop a paper for submission to the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group to be used as a basis for discussions. The Co-Chairs were to develop the paper in consultation with the Bureau and with the support of the secretariat; the paper would be based on the outcomes of the first and second intersessional meetings and take into account stakeholder submissions and the outcomes of the most recent regional meetings.

6. In keeping with resolution IV/4, we have considered the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, resolution 1/5 of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the related outcome document on strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term (UNEP/EA.1/5/Add.2) in the development of the present paper.

7. In paragraph 12 of its resolution IV/4, the Conference directed the Open-ended Working Group to consider the conclusions of the independent evaluation of the Strategic Approach for the period 2006–2015 and any recommendations identified by the intersessional process for consideration by the Conference at its fifth session.

¹ www.saicm.org.

8. In keeping with resolution IV/4, we have also considered the following in the development of the paper:
- (a) The draft independent evaluation of the Strategic Approach for the period 2006–2015;
 - (b) The overall orientation and guidance for achieving the 2020 goal of sound management of chemicals;²
 - (c) The Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management (SAICM/ICCM.1/7, annex I) and the Overarching Policy Strategy (ibid., annex II);
 - (d) World Health Assembly resolution 69.4 and the ensuing road map of the World Health Organization to strengthen the engagement of the health sector in the implementation of the Strategic Approach;
 - (e) Other pertinent documents and reports of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, the Open-ended Working Group, regional meetings, relevant resolutions from other forums and other relevant documents.
9. The third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group will also be informed by the findings of the second edition of the *Global Chemicals Outlook*.

B. Context

10. We have heard diverse views on the scope of the intersessional process. Many stakeholders have indicated a desire for the Strategic Approach (or a similar voluntary instrument) to continue, though with some modifications to the model, which would include enhanced sectoral engagement and improved implementation arrangements. Others have suggested that the conversation also needs to be about a broader, global strategy or framework that encompasses both voluntary and legally binding institutional arrangements (existing and possibly new ones) relevant to chemicals and waste under one umbrella. In that regard, the Open-ended Working Group may consider that a broader initiative would require the governing bodies of all implicated organizations and instruments to signal their interest in being part of such an initiative before it could be formally adopted.

11. In paragraph 9 of the Dubai Declaration, ministers, heads of delegations and representatives of civil society and the private sector declared that they were determined to implement the applicable chemicals management agreements to which they were Party, to strengthen the coherence and synergies that existed between them and to work to address, as appropriate, existing gaps in the framework of international chemicals policy.

12. A major driving force for the establishment of the Strategic Approach, as set out in paragraph 5 of the Overarching Policy Strategy, was the recognition of the growing gaps between the capacities of different countries to manage chemicals safely, the need to improve synergies between existing instruments and processes and the growing sense of urgency regarding the need to assess and manage chemicals more effectively to achieve the 2020 goal articulated in paragraph 23 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation) (2002).

13. Since the Strategic Approach was established in 2006, much has been done to improve chemicals management. As is stated in the draft independent evaluation report, the Strategic Approach was conceived as a multisectoral and multi-stakeholder approach, and integration across sectors is a key pathway to its success. The progress made to date in support of the 2020 objective will be further enhanced with greater efforts to broaden sector and stakeholder engagement beyond 2020 in line with the 2030 Agenda. Increased representation of the health, agricultural, finance and industrial sectors among government, national and regional focal points will support efforts to mainstream the sound management of chemicals across government departments. Among non-government stakeholders, continued efforts to communicate with and reach out to downstream businesses and industries, as well as civil society more broadly, will further support this pathway.

14. It is recognized that the current global approach remains fragmented, and an overarching platform could enhance cooperation and collaboration among relevant stakeholders and sectors, while building capacity, increasing overall efficiency and accelerating action for the sound management of chemicals and waste. The global platform would have the purpose of providing an overarching umbrella to promote work and collaboration across existing entities, while respecting their individual legal autonomy.

² Available at www.saicm.org/Resources/Publications/tabid/5507/language/en-US/Default.aspx.

15. With that in mind, the Co-Chairs propose that stakeholders at the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group contemplate the following:

(a) Making recommendations for a voluntary, multisectoral and multi-stakeholder instrument that would be forwarded for consideration and decision at the fifth session of the Conference, building on the current Strategic Approach and allowing for continuity of current relevant efforts, such as those to identify gaps, build capacity and implement chemicals management schemes. This is the focus of the present paper and, for the purpose of related discussions, it could be referred to as “SAICM 2.0”.³

(b) Considering a possible broader platform to address the fragmented nature of initiatives and agreements to promote international chemicals and waste management. While developing the approach in item (a) above, it was felt by many that the vision, strategic objectives and targets developed would also apply to a broader platform for the sound management of chemicals and waste. Specifically, it is proposed that the Open-ended Working Group consider the applicability of the vision, objectives and targets to a broader platform that could influence the overall sound management of chemicals and waste.

16. Seeking high-level engagement could garner awareness and support for international work on chemicals and waste. That could result in increased momentum and the focusing of resources in a coordinated way across the full multisectoral scope of chemicals and waste activities. For example, recommendations from the fifth session of the Conference could be forwarded to the General Assembly. A resolution of the General Assembly could then be forwarded by Member States to the most relevant governing bodies, as appropriate (e.g., the conferences of the parties to multilateral environmental agreements, the World Health Assembly, the Environment Assembly, the International Labour Conference and the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) for them to agree on the appropriate actions for that body as set out in the General Assembly resolution.

17. If desired by the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, discussions on this broader platform could be further elaborated by participants at the upcoming intersessional process regarding:

(a) the scope, role, function and governance of that broader platform;

(b) the process for the further development of such a broader platform towards presenting recommendations at the fifth session of the Conference. Those discussions and their outcomes would contribute and be without prejudice to discussions occurring in other forums.

18. Finally, we would like to highlight that there are different views on the scope of waste to be addressed beyond 2020, and further discussion is needed in that regard.

II. Co-Chairs’ paper: Sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

A. Preamble

*Considerations*⁴

19. *A preamble could be developed and considered at a later date in the process, for example at the third meeting of the intersessional process. If a preamble is pursued, it could be largely based on pre-existing text from the Dubai Declaration, the 2030 Agenda, resolution IV/4 of the Conference, relevant resolutions and declarations from other forums, and other relevant texts.*

20. *The third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group may wish to discuss the anticipated outcomes of the fifth session of the Conference and how they would relate to a potential preamble and future declarations, and consider whether to develop proposed text in moving forward.*

³ Note that the proposed name would be reviewed and potentially revised moving forward.

⁴ Considerations have been set out in the present paper to provide an explanatory rationale to the reader.

B. Introduction

Considerations

21. *The proposed introduction and structure outlined in the present paper is modelled after the Overarching Policy Strategy, taking into account discussions and stakeholder input during the intersessional process to date.*
22. The range of global actions for the sound management of chemicals and waste fosters comprehensive multi-stakeholder, multisectoral national and international engagement and action, including both binding and non-binding approaches, and contributes to the 2030 Agenda.
23. Building on the results, experiences and lessons learned of the Strategic Approach from its initiation in 2006, the instrument proposed herein reflects the recognition of the need for increased engagement of sectors and stakeholders in working together to protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of chemicals across their life cycle and of waste.
24. The present document describes recommendations for a multi-stakeholder, multisectoral instrument for action and engagement that aims to accelerate progress and strengthen partnerships, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 17 (strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development), to protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of chemicals across their life cycle and of waste.

C. Vision

25. The vision shared by all stakeholders is to protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of chemicals and waste, to ensure healthy lives and a sustainable, safe planet for all.

D. Scope

26. The scope of the proposed instrument encompasses the environmental, economic, social, health, agricultural and labour aspects of managing chemicals and waste, in order to enhance sustainable development and circularity. The instrument takes due account of the instruments and processes that have been developed to date and is flexible enough to take account of new ones without duplicating efforts.
27. The involvement of all relevant sectors and stakeholders across the life cycle at the local, national, regional and global levels is critical to the sound management of chemicals and waste. Stakeholders include Governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, industries, businesses, the financial sector, workers, retailers and academia. Sectors are understood to include, but not be limited to, agriculture, environment, health, education, finance, development, construction and labour.

E. Principles and approaches

28. In developing and implementing the sound management of chemicals and waste, stakeholders should be guided by:
- (a) Principles and approaches in the following:
 - (i) Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)
 - (ii) The Future We Want (2012)
 - (iii) Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework (2011);
 - (iv) United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007)
 - (v) Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management (2006)
 - (vi) Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (2002)
 - (vii) United Nations Millennium Declaration (2000)
 - (viii) Bahia Declaration on Chemical Safety (2000)
 - (ix) Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992)
 - (x) Agenda 21 (1992), in particular chapters 6, 8, 19 and 20 thereof

- (xi) Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment) (1972), in particular principle 22 therein
- (b) The following agreements and programmes, where applicable:
 - (i) Minamata Convention on Mercury (2017)
 - (ii) International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management (2014)
 - (iii) International Health Regulations (2005)
 - (iv) Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (2004)
 - (v) Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2004)
 - (vi) ILO Convention No. 174 concerning the Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents (1997)
 - (vii) ILO Convention No. 170 concerning Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work (1993)
 - (viii) Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (1992)
 - (ix) Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1989)

29. The list above includes global principles, approaches and agreements. Stakeholders should also be guided by any relevant regional principles, approaches and agreements that are applicable to their specific region or a specific issue.

F. Strategic objectives and targets for the sound management of chemicals and waste

30. The following strategic objectives will guide stakeholders in their efforts at all levels to address the sound management of chemicals and waste:

- Strategic objective A: Measures are identified, implemented and enforced in order to prevent and minimize harm from chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste;
- Strategic objective B: Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data, information and awareness is generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions;
- Strategic objective C: Issues of concern that warrant global action are identified, prioritized and addressed;
- Strategic objective D: Benefits are maximized and risks to human health and the environment are prevented through innovative and sustainable solutions and forward thinking;
- Strategic objective E: The importance of the sound management of chemicals and waste to achieve sustainable development is recognized by all, actions are accelerated and necessary partnerships are established to foster interaction among stakeholders and to mobilize resources.

31. Targets to support the attainment of each objective are described in the appendix.

G. Institutional arrangements

1. International conference⁵

32. The international conference will undertake periodic reviews of the instrument. The functions of the international conference will be:

- (i) To promote the implementation of existing international instruments and programmes on chemicals and waste and to promote coherence among them;
- (ii) To promote the strengthening of national chemicals and waste management capacities;

⁵ Recognizing that stakeholders will need to reflect upon the title further, we are using the generic term “international conference”.

- (iii) To promote, enhance and support participation by and interaction among stakeholders and sectors in the international conference and in the programme of work;
- (iv) To promote awareness of new developments and trends and identify links to sustainable development;
- (v) To move the strategy forward and set priorities for the programme of work;
- (vi) To determine processes to guide appropriate action on issues of global concern as they arise and to facilitate and forge consensus on and provide an avenue to focus attention on priorities for cooperative action;
- (vii) To provide guidance to the secretariat and to stakeholders on implementation;
- (viii) To establish and task technical, policy and/or science subsidiary and/or ad hoc expert bodies as appropriate;
- (ix) To facilitate the mobilization of financial and technical resources for the operation and implementation of the sound management of chemicals and waste;
- (x) To receive reports from all relevant stakeholders on progress in implementation and to disseminate information as appropriate;
- (xi) To evaluate and report on the implementation of programmes that are fulfilling the vision with a view to reviewing progress against the objectives, targets and milestones and updating the programme of work as necessary.

33. The international conference will have a high-level, multisectoral and multi-stakeholder segment. The function of that segment will be:

- (i) To engage the commitment at the highest possible level of officials and representatives of all stakeholder groups to address the sound management of chemicals and waste;
- (ii) To provide a high-level international forum for multi-stakeholder and multisectoral discussion and exchange of experience on chemicals and waste issues, in line with the 2030 Agenda, with the participation of non-governmental stakeholders in accordance with the applicable rules of procedure;
- (iii) To promote the inclusion of sound management policies for chemicals and waste in national sustainable development plans and in relevant sectoral plans and budgets (in respect of, for example, the fields of health, labour, social issues, environment, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, research and education);
- (iv) To strengthen linkages, partnerships and national coordination arrangements and mechanisms for chemicals and waste at the national, regional and international levels;
- (v) To strengthen linkages, partnerships and national coordination arrangements and mechanisms for other relevant aspects and sectors, including biodiversity and climate change, and with other stakeholders of the 2030 Agenda at the national, regional and international levels.

2. Bureau of the international conference

34. The international conference should have a Bureau with functions in accordance with the rules of procedure of the international conference. The Bureau should adequately represent the regions of the world as well as the multi-stakeholder and multisectoral nature of the beyond 2020 instrument.

3. Secretariat

35. The functions to be performed by the secretariat will be:

- (i) To promote the establishment and maintenance of a network of stakeholders at the national, regional and, in the case of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, international levels;
- (ii) To promote and facilitate the implementation of the sound management of chemicals and waste, including capacity-building and technical assistance, under the guidance of the international conference;
- (iii) To continue to strengthen working relationships with participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) and their networks, other United Nations bodies and the secretariats of relevant international agreements in order to draw upon their sectoral expertise;

- (iv) To facilitate and promote the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information, including the development and dissemination of guidance materials to support stakeholder implementation, as well as provide information clearinghouse services;
- (v) To facilitate the meetings and intersessional work of the international conference as well as regional meetings, and to disseminate the reports and recommendations of the international conference, including to relevant global and regional organizations and institutions;
- (vi) To support the functioning of technical, policy and scientific subsidiary and ad hoc expert bodies established by the international conference;
- (vii) To promote, enhance and support the participation of all sectors and stakeholders in the international conference and the programme of work, including in meetings of the international conference and regional meetings;
- (viii) To report to the international conference on implementation by all stakeholders.

H. Mechanisms to support implementation

1. Rules of procedure

Considerations

36. *Once the form and function of the new instrument have been further elaborated, stakeholders may wish to consider text on rules of procedure for the international conference. In that regard, the Rules of Procedure adopted at the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management remain relevant. It may be worthwhile to review and update, as appropriate and relevant, the rules established for the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session pursuant to its resolution II/1.*

2. National implementation

- (i) To sustain an integrated approach for the sound management of chemicals and waste, each Government should establish arrangements such as national plans of action for implementation on an interministerial or inter-institutional basis, in consultation with stakeholders, so that concerned national department and stakeholder interests are represented and all relevant substantive areas are addressed.
- (ii) To facilitate communication, nationally and internationally, each Government should designate or develop a network of national focal points that represent the multi-stakeholder and multisectoral nature of the instrument to communicate on the sound management of chemicals and waste matters. This would include invitations to participate in meetings and disseminate information. The national focal points should be representative of the country's interministerial or inter-institutional arrangements, where such arrangements exist.
- (iii) To support effective implementation, stronger efforts are required to ensure that national implementation involves the engagement of the appropriate range of stakeholders and sectors (e.g., the health, agriculture and labour sectors) to address national priorities.

3. Regional and sectoral cooperation and coordination

- (i) Priorities and capacities for implementation vary among regions and subregions according to their different economic and other circumstances.
- (ii) Regional, interregional and sectoral collaboration play integral roles in supporting the sound management of chemicals and waste at all levels, including among trading partners and other regional organizations.
- (iii) Regional meetings and coordination mechanisms play an important role in enabling stakeholders in each region to exchange experience and identify priority needs in relation to implementation, as well as to develop regional positions on key issues.
- (iv) Regions and subregions are encouraged, where appropriate:
 - a. To identify common priorities;
 - b. To develop regional implementation plans for the sound management of chemicals and waste, and to consider regional or subregional approaches and projects;
 - c. To appoint a regional focal point.

- (v) Regional focal points are to play a facilitative role within their regions, including undertaking activities determined at the regional level, such as chairing regional meetings, disseminating information of interest to focal points within their region, collecting views from national focal points on matters of interest to the region, identifying opportunities for regional cooperation, assisting in the flow of information and views from the region to its Bureau member, as appropriate, and reporting periodically on the outcomes of their regional meetings and other regional activities.

4. Engagement of intergovernmental bodies, international organizations, the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals and chemicals and waste-related conventions

- (i) Relevant intergovernmental bodies, international organizations, IOMC and chemicals and waste-related conventions should strengthen their engagement and support national implementation.
- (ii) Intergovernmental bodies, international organizations, IOMC and chemicals and waste-related conventions should coordinate relevant activities and programmes of work, in line with the 2030 Agenda and within their individual mandates. Regional conventions and programmes can also make a significant contribution to the sound management of chemicals and waste and should coordinate as relevant.

5. Engagement of non-government actors

- (i) Non-government actors should continue to actively contribute expertise, data and knowledge to the sound management of chemicals and waste as an inherent part of the 2030 Agenda.

Civil society engagement

- (ii) The meaningful participation of public-interest, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations can make significant contributions to the implementation of the sound management of chemicals and waste. They can serve as effective chemical safety resources by generating data, raising public awareness and contributing to the design and implementation of chemical safety policies and programmes.

Industry and business engagement

- (iii) Cooperative action, capacity-building and mentoring by industries and businesses on global priorities can make significant contributions to the implementation of the sound management of chemicals and waste. This includes, among other things, voluntary industry initiatives, product stewardship, green chemistry and information exchange.
- (iv) All industry sectors should participate in the development and implementation of legal requirements, policies, projects and partnerships on the sound management of chemicals and waste. The stewardship of chemicals should include the full life cycle, including primary producers, the downstream manufacturing sector, distributors and vendors, building on existing initiatives where relevant. Both sector-specific and cross-sectoral strategies could be used to engage chemical producers and users.

Academia engagement

- (v) Academia should contribute to and cooperate in the generation of relevant knowledge, data and information on the monitoring of chemicals and waste, including in respect of issues of concern that warrant global action.

6. Subsidiary and ad hoc expert bodies

37. The international conference should have the ability to establish subsidiary and ad hoc, time-limited groups to study and provide advice to the international conference on scientific, technical and/or policy issues not already covered by existing forums.

38. Such groups should be geographically balanced, transparent, flexible and academically credible; promote two-way dialogue between disciplines and between science and policy; promote awareness-raising activities; and incorporate strict standards of rigor, including peer review, to be approved by the international conference. The functions could include but are not limited to:

- (i) Identifying, prioritizing and providing recommendations to address chemicals and waste issues of global concern;
- (ii) Facilitating implementation in developing countries through, for example, basic regulatory schemes;

- (iii) Assessing the scale, sources and health and environmental costs of chemicals and waste; analysing and developing response options;
- (iv) Facilitating innovation and making recommendations that maximize the benefits of sustainable and safer alternatives;
- (v) Developing indicators to support the effective review of the objectives, targets and milestones and the effective functioning of the instrument.

7. Other mechanisms to support implementation

Considerations

39. *Once the mechanisms addressed in subsections 1 to 6 above have been determined, other mechanisms to support implementation may be discussed, such as:*

- *Appropriate and effective mechanisms for taking stock of progress;*
- *Mechanisms for capacity-building;*
- *A mechanism for updating the instrument over time;*
- *Mechanisms for collaboration and multisectoral/multi-stakeholder engagement.*

I. Financial considerations

1. Integrated approach to financing

40. Stakeholders will take steps to implement an integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and waste, including, in particular, making tangible progress with respect to the following three components:

(a) Mainstreaming

41. National Governments should integrate sound chemicals management into their development plans and priorities. For developing countries and countries with economies in transition, the mainstreaming of their national chemicals and waste priorities into the development planning processes for funding as part of official development assistance will increase their access to significant funding for national priorities in relation to chemicals and waste.

(b) Private-sector involvement

42. Private-sector entities throughout the value chain and the financial sector should increase their contributions to the implementation of the sound management of chemicals and waste through a range of approaches and partnerships. The private sector should also undertake further work to extend producer responsibility and public-private partnerships.

43. The financial sector is asked to develop guidance for investing in companies that have chemicals management schemes in place, for example, the development of loan criteria for sustainable banking.

(c) Dedicated external financing

44. External financing complements the components of mainstreaming and industry involvement. Stakeholders should secure funds, including development assistance aid, from innovative donor sources, which can be facilitated by mainstreaming at the national level.

45. Donors should, where possible, provide dedicated external financing, including, for example, resources to support the Global Environment Facility and other multilateral, regional and bilateral sources of financing, and to support the effective implementation of the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.

46. All stakeholders, including philanthropists, venture capitalists, NGOs and civil society, should contribute to the instrument's financing in accordance with their means.

2. Specific fund to support implementation

Considerations

47. *Under the Strategic Approach, the Quick Start Programme trust fund was a specific time-limited fund meant to enable start-up activities for national coordination. Positive experiences*

from the Quick Start Programme have been expressed and some suggested that a similar fund should be considered beyond 2020. In the draft independent evaluation, a number of the successes of the Quick Start Programme have been highlighted, including its flexibility and ease of application, the tangible nature of its results, its high value for money, and the ground-level sustainability of the projects funded from it.

48. *Some stakeholders have suggested that there is a need for a new fund created specifically to support the programme of work beyond 2020 and accessible to all sectors.*

3. Establishment of and engagement in multisectoral partnerships

49. Stakeholders are encouraged to create and implement multisectoral partnerships linked to the 2030 Agenda to effectively address specific chemicals and waste issues of global concern. Stakeholders are also encouraged to explore funding opportunities by engaging mechanisms in all sectors.

4. Financing the secretariat

50. Governments and other stakeholders are invited to provide resources to enable the Secretariat to fulfil the assigned functions and tasks set out in subsection G (3) above, including by:

- (i) Inviting UNEP to arrange for the adaptation and reinforcement of the existing voluntary trust fund to support those tasks;
- (ii) Inviting all countries and regional economic integration organizations to contribute;
- (iii) Inviting the private sector, including industry, foundations and other non-governmental organizations, to also contribute.

5. Other considerations

Considerations

51. *Other suggestions and topics have been raised by stakeholders, including opportunities to mobilize resources at the regional and sectoral levels.*

52. *Stakeholders may wish to reflect on whether those considerations have been adequately reflected in the text that we have proposed and provide other relevant input as appropriate.*

Appendix

Strategic objectives and targets

Targets to support the attainment of each strategic objective are described below.

Strategic objective A: Measures are identified, implemented and enforced in order to prevent and minimize harm from chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste.⁶

Considerations: Intended to address the need for all countries to have basic capacity, legal frameworks and institutional mechanisms to manage chemicals and waste, including illegal trafficking thereof, and for other stakeholders, such as industry, to also assume their responsibilities to prevent harm from chemicals throughout their life cycle.

Target A.1: Countries adopt, implement and enforce legal frameworks that address risk prevention and the reduction of adverse impacts from chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste.⁷

Target A.2: Countries have sufficient capacity to address chemicals and waste issues nationally, including appropriate inter-agency coordination and stakeholder participation mechanisms, such as national action plans.

Target A.3: Countries are implementing the chemicals and waste-related multilateral environmental agreements, as well as health, labour and other relevant conventions, and voluntary mechanisms such as the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

Target A.4: Stakeholders have incorporated the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste into their planning, policies and practices, thereby supporting the development and implementation of chemicals management systems and other sector-appropriate mechanisms.

Target A.5: Governments and industry ensure that workers are protected from the risks associated with chemicals and waste and that workers have the means to protect themselves.

Strategic objective B: Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data, information and awareness is generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions.

Considerations: Intended to address the need for new information and data to be generated to address gaps and for greater transparency and accessibility, as well as to address the need for training and education to protect all levels of society.

Target B.1: Comprehensive data and information for chemicals on the market are available and accessible, including information and data on properties, health and environmental effects, uses, hazard- and risk-assessment results and risk-management measures, monitoring results and regulatory status throughout their life cycle.

Target B.2: All stakeholders, in particular industries and regulators, have and are using the most appropriate and standardized tools, guidelines and best practices for assessments and sound management, as well as for the prevention of harm, risk reduction, monitoring and enforcement.

Target B.3: Information and standardized methods are available and used to understand the impacts of chemicals and waste for improved burden-of-disease and cost-of-inaction estimates, to inform the advancement of chemical safety measures and to measure progress towards reducing those impacts.

Target B.4: Educational, training and public awareness programmes on chemical safety and sustainability have been developed and implemented, including for vulnerable populations, along with worker safety curricula and programmes at all levels.

Target B.5: Countries and stakeholders are implementing training on environmentally sound and safer alternatives, as well as on substitutions and the use of safer alternatives, such as agroecology.

⁶ The focus of the present paper is to seek clarity on the proposed objectives and targets before including any examples of milestones.

⁷ Stakeholders may wish to decide whether targets should be time bound. Dates have not been inserted in the present draft.

Strategic objective C: Issues of concern that warrant global action are identified, prioritized and addressed.

Considerations: Intended to cover the need to effectively identify, select and address issues of concern that warrant global action. The intention is to cover topics similar in nature to those covered by the Strategic Approach, emerging policy issues and other issues of concern, as well as topics such as managing specific chemicals, the burden of disease and financing. There may be a need to develop and identify the criteria for issues of concern.

Target C.1: Programmes of work including timelines are established, adopted and implemented for identified issues of concern.

Target C.2: Information on the properties and risk management of chemicals across the supply chain and the chemical contents of products is available to all to enable informed decisions.

Strategic objective D: Benefits are maximized and risks to human health and the environment are prevented through innovative and sustainable solutions and forward thinking.

Considerations: Intended to cover the ongoing need for innovative thinking and solutions to address current and future aspects of managing chemicals and waste, such as life-cycle management, the circular economy, green and sustainable chemistry, safer alternatives, better recycling technologies and resource efficiency.

Target D.1: Companies adopt corporate policies and practices that promote resource efficiency and that incorporate the development, production and use of sustainable and safer alternatives, including new technologies and non-chemical alternatives.

Target D.2: Governments implement policies that promote innovation to facilitate the recycling and re-use of products, the adoption of sustainable and safe alternatives, including new technologies and non-chemical alternatives (e.g., the prioritized licensing of reduced-risk alternatives, assessment frameworks, labelling schemes and purchasing policies).

Target D.3: Companies, including from the investment sector, incorporate strategies and policies to support the sound management of chemicals and waste in their investment approaches and business models and apply internationally-recognized reporting standards where relevant.

Target D.4: Companies apply sustainable production principles and life-cycle management in the design of chemicals, materials and products, taking reduced-risk, design-for-recycling and non-chemical solutions and processes into account.

Target D.5: Industry associations promote change towards sustainability and the safe management of waste and of chemicals and consumer products throughout their life cycles, including in sharing information and building the capacity of small and medium-sized enterprises to reduce risks.

Strategic objective E: The importance of the sound management of chemicals and waste to achieve sustainable development is recognized by all, actions are accelerated and necessary partnerships are established to foster interaction among stakeholders and to mobilize resources.

Considerations: Intended to address the need for high-level commitment across sectoral boundaries, to ensure appropriate attention is given and action taken to accelerate progress, and to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Target E.1: The highest levels of stakeholder organizations, including government, industry, civil society and international organizations in all relevant sectors, formally recognize the importance of and commit to action on the sound management of chemicals and waste, and recognize its relevance to sustainable development.

Target E.2: Policies and processes for the management of chemicals and waste are integrated into national and regional development strategies.

Target E.3: Inter- and intra-sectoral partnerships, networks and collaborative mechanisms are established to mobilize resources, to share information, experiences and lessons learned, and to promote coordinated action at the regional and international levels.