12th meeting of the Quick Start Programme
Executive Board
Teleconference, 18 December 2019
Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda
The Quick Start Programme Trust Fund

Terms of reference for the administration of a special fund for the Quick Start Programme of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

Note by the secretariat

The secretariat has the honour to circulate, in the annex to the present note, the Terms of reference for the administration of a special fund for the Quick Start Programme of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).
Special Trust Fund for the SAICM Quick Start Programme

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF A SPECIAL TRUST FUND FOR THE QUICK START PROGRAMME OF THE STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT (SAICM)

1. The Trust Fund is established in response to decision GCSS.IX/1 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and resolution of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (the Conference) at its first session held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from 4 to 6 February 2005.

2. The purpose of the Trust Fund is to receive and account for contributions from Governments, regional economic integration organizations, the private sector, including industry, foundations, other non-governmental organizations, and other SAICM stakeholders to finance the operational budget of the Quick Start Programme to provide seed money to support the objective and strategic priorities of the Programme, as described in ICCM Resolution 4.

3. The Trust Fund shall be open to receive voluntary contributions for five years from the date of its establishment by the Executive Director. Funds may be disbursed for a maximum of seven years from that date. In the event that the Conference decides to terminate the Trust Fund, the Conference shall provide the Executive Director of UNEP at least six months before the date of termination so decided.

4. The Executive Director shall maintain and administer the Trust Fund in accordance with the financial regulations, rules and directives of the United Nations and of the Environment Fund of UNEP as applicable. Personnel engaged by UNEP for the purpose of the Trust Fund shall be recruited and administered in accordance with the provisions of such regulations, rules and directives.

5. Payments to the Trust Fund shall be deposited in convertible currency in a bank account to be designated by UNEP.

6. Contributions received into the Trust Fund and not immediately required for the financing of the approved operational budget shall be invested at the discretion of the United Nations in consultation with the head of the SAICM secretariat and income earned shall be credited to the Trust Fund.

7. No commitments against the resources of the Trust Fund may be made in advance of corresponding resources having become available.

8. In the event that the Conference decides to terminate this Trust Fund, the Conference shall, in consultation with UNEP, on the distribution of any uncommitted balances after all liquidation expenses have been met.

9. In accordance with the United Nations rules, UNEP shall deduct from the income of the Trust Fund programme support costs, charged on actual expenditures of the Trust Fund at a rate approved by the General Assembly and/ or, in line with the general policy of the United Nations.

10. The accounts and financial management of this Trust Fund shall be subject to the general internal and external audit process of the United Nations.