Third virtual meeting of the Informal Drafting Group
on a possible ICCM5 High-level Declaration
Tuesday, 9 February 2021, from 13:00 – 15:00 CET

INFORMAL DRAFTING GROUP ON A POSSIBLE ICCM5 HIGH-LEVEL DECLARATION ON THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS AND WASTE BEYOND 2020

Co-facilitators' summary of the 3rd Virtual Meeting: Open discussion and guidance on a selection of elements and structure

1) Co-facilitators' summary of submissions

The Co-facilitators briefly presented the key issues raised in the written submissions on the first draft for the proposed High-level Declaration (HLD) circulated on 23 December 2020. These included: that the elements for the HLD should build on the Dubai Declaration and be presented in a document no longer than 2 - 3 pages; disagreement regarding the scope of the HLD and whether it should focus on the beyond 2020 instrument or be broader to include the entire chemicals and waste agenda as well as link to other issues such as biodiversity and climate; a stronger commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda; and the level of ambition.

2) Dubai Declaration

In their submissions, several stakeholders had expressed their wish that the elements of the proposed HLD should build on the Dubai Declaration. Following a review of the elements in the Dubai Declaration six elements from the Dubai Declaration were identified that were not addressed in the draft document circulated in December 2020. These included:

- **Human rights (paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Dubai Declaration)** – participants largely agreed that the element of human rights should be included in the HLD;
- **Industry's obligation to make data available (paragraph 20 of the Dubai Declaration), public access to information (paragraph 21), protection of confidential business information (paragraph 22)** – on these three elements, participants noted that data should not only be available but also accessible/understandable by all stakeholders.
- **The non-binding character of the Strategic Approach (paragraph 28 of the Dubai Declaration)** – participants largely agreed that it is not necessary to have a specific paragraph on the non-binding character of the instrument, rather they stressed that the HLD should be drafted in a way that makes it clear that it is non-binding.
- **The importance of implementation and taking stock of progress (paragraph 29 of the Dubai Declaration)** – the majority of participants did not see the need to include this element in the HLD

because it was operational, although some requested for its inclusion given that it contains commitments.

The group discussed whether the substance of each paragraph should be included in the HLD and under which section. The Co-facilitators will take the stakeholders' views into consideration in their further work.

3) Commitments

In order to gain a clearer understanding of stakeholder views with regards to the commitments, a number of issues that were raised in the written submissions were discussed during the virtual meeting. These included:

- **The issue of illegal traffic** – several participants noted that illegal traffic is not the only problem to be addressed but that legal trade of chemicals that are banned/restricted in the country of origin as currently practiced can also lead to adverse effects; the element should be considered under the section on actions to avoid duplication;
- **The extent of reference to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs** – participants largely agreed that the connection between the SMCW and the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda should be made more prominent; and
- **Science-Policy Interface** – participants largely agreed that reference to a SPI for chemicals and waste is crucial.

4) The way forward

In light of the indefinite postponement of IP4 and ICCM5, the Co-facilitators announced that an additional meeting will take place on 9 March 2021.

The Co-facilitators hope to address key issues such as terminology and additional commitments found in the first draft of the HLD as well as attempt to identify the highest priority elements.

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