

U.S. Submission Regarding a Possible ICCM5 High-Level Declaration

The United States appreciates the chance to submit input and views on the key elements of a High Level Declaration. As we have noted previously, we are eager to focus our efforts toward reaching consensus on the Beyond 2020 Instrument to replace SAICM, particularly as this important work has been delayed by the COVID-19 global pandemic, and we do not view such a declaration as strictly being necessary. The United States believes that if a declaration is agreed to by the stakeholders, it must be short to ensure that it can capture the desired political attention and focused on endorsing the Beyond 2020 Instrument recommended for adoption at ICCM5. It should also reconfirm our shared goal of working toward the sound management of chemical and note the progress countries have made in advancing chemicals management under SAICM, recognizing that further progress is necessary to achieve our collective vision. We believe that focusing the declaration on these core criteria can avoid political controversy and minimize any potential disruption to the crucial negotiations to create the new entity to replace SAICM. The United States looks forward to working with other stakeholders in the High Level Declaration informal group on an outcome that all stakeholders can support.