First meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020
Brasilia, Brazil, 7-9 February 2017
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*
Taking stock of progress: Update on the independent evaluation of SAICM 2006 – 2015


Note by the secretariat

1. In support of the intersessional process and overall decision-making, the Strategic Approach secretariat has contracted an independent evaluator to conduct an independent evaluation of the Strategic Approach from 2006 – 2015, in line with the Annex to Conference resolution IV/4.

2. The secretariat has the honour to provide, in the annex to the present note, the interim report for the independent evaluation of the Strategic Approach from 2006 – 2015. It is presented as received by the secretariat, without formal editing.

3. Participants may wish to provide feedback and input to the independent evaluator on the interim report.

*SAICM/IP.1/1
Annex

Interim Report

Independent Evaluation of the Strategic Approach
from 2006 - 2015

PREPARED BY INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR: MR ROBERT NURICK
I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
To be developed for the final evaluation report.

II. INTRODUCTION
The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is a voluntary policy framework to foster the sound management of chemicals and wastes, and particularly to achieve the 2002 Johannesburg goal that “by 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on human health and the environment”. This voluntary process for international cooperation bridges international and national policy, as chemicals and wastes have significant local impacts that are not relevant for an international instrument. It also bridges the responsibilities and opportunities of all relevant stakeholders, including governments, industry and civil society.

SAICM seeks to be broad in its remit and approach through its focus on the entire scope of chemicals management. That is, it addresses the majority of chemicals (as opposed to the limited lists of chemicals from, for example, the Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions) including all agricultural and industrial chemicals; and all aspects of the chemical lifecycle, from generation to use and disposal. The involvement of many sectors and stakeholders are interconnected in SAICM.

SAICM aims to coordinate, catalyse and facilitate action to improve management of chemicals at all levels. It is a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral forum that is governed by a series of ‘SAICM Documents’ composed of:

- Dubai Declaration;
- Overarching Policy Strategy;
- Global Plan of Action; and
- Resolutions adopted by the ICCM, including the Overall Orientation and Guidance for achieving the 2020 goal of sound management of chemicals endorsed in 2015.

These “documents” all relate to the target date of 2020 as provided for by the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. It is evident that, in the face of rapidly growing and expanding production and use of chemicals, including the anticipated transfer of significant chemical production to developing countries over the coming decades, the challenges of sound chemicals management are constantly evolving and remain a priority for action in getting to and beyond 2020.

III. OBJECTIVE
The objective of the evaluation is to provide an analysis to support the intersessional process of the ICCM to develop recommendations and to enable ICCM5 to take an informed decision on future arrangements for the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
The evaluation, where appropriate, will draw out lessons learned with respect to the implementation of the Strategic Approach, including:

- Impact of the Strategic Approach;
- Strengths, weaknesses and gaps in implementing the Strategic Approach, taking into account the eleven basic elements identified in the Overall Orientation and Guidance;
- Progress towards targets;
- Institutional arrangements within the voluntary multisectoral and multi-stakeholder approach of the Strategic Approach.

IV. BRIEF HISTORY
To be developed for the draft evaluation report.

V. SCOPE, THEORY OF CHANGE APPROACH AND METHODS

(a) Scope
The terms of reference for the evaluation are set out in the Annex to ICCM resolution IV/4 (see Appendix to this report). The scope of the evaluation together with the questions to be addressed will be finalised in collaboration with key stakeholders during the initial stages of the work.

A significant component of the evaluation will be the identification of the impacts of the Strategic Approach. This requires consideration of the counterfactual – what would have happened in regard to chemicals and waste management in the absence of the Strategic Approach. In the context of global chemicals management, this entails looking at the issues and measures already addressed by other policy frameworks and instruments, notably the legally binding multi-lateral environmental agreements on chemicals and waste including Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam, but also various related conventions of the World Health Organization, the International Labor Organisation, the biodiversity-related conventions, and the work of IOMC organisations. At the national and regional level, the influence of SAICM as a driver may be compared against other regional policy or groupings such as the relevant requirements of accession to the EU or OECD.

The evaluation will assess the strengths, weaknesses and gaps in implementing the Strategic Approach, taking into account the 11 basic elements for the sound management of chemicals identified in the Overall Orientation and Guidance. This will include reviewing the:

- Strengths of the Strategic Approach as a voluntary based instrument, and the contribution of the Strategic Approach to the development of other national, regional and global policy instruments;
- Extent to which the Strategic Approach is an effective instrument 'to close the gap' in capacity and implementation of sound management of chemicals between developed and developing countries;
- Focus on inclusive multi-stakeholder collaboration and gender and social dimensions of chemicals management, with the explicit focus on vulnerable groups;
• Institutional arrangements within the multisectoral and multi-stakeholder approach;

• Management arrangement for the Strategic Approach including: the capacity of national focal points to deliver on activities; the effectiveness of the coordination mechanisms for facilitating communication and involvement; the funding model; monitoring progress indicators and reporting arrangements for tracking progress; and the secretariat arrangements.

The outcome of the evaluation will provide information, as appropriate, to enable the inter-sessional process to develop recommendations and to enable the ICCM at its fifth session to take an informed decision on future arrangements for the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

It is envisaged that the evaluation will be mainly a desk based study – review of documents and engagement with stakeholders through skype and email. Where the opportunity arises, face-to-face meetings, focus groups and workshops will add to the depth of the analysis and the strength of the evaluation. Discussions with the Secretariat in the initial stages will seek to identify where such opportunities exist.

(b) Approach

An inclusive and participatory evaluation process is proposed, such that as wide a range of stakeholders as possible will provide their perspectives and input into the evaluation, thereby maximising the likelihood of buy-in and support for the results presented. In particular the independent evaluator will work closely with the regional and national focal points through their responsibilities to act as an effective conduit for communication on Strategic Approach matters, including invitations to participate in meetings and information dissemination in-line with paragraph 23 of Overarching Policy Strategy.

The independent evaluator will also work with focal points and stakeholders from civil society organizations, trade unions, health, industry and the United Nations agencies. The involvement of regional centers under the Basel and Stockholm Conventions will also be explored.

The evaluation will be grounded in a Theory of Change approach that is particularly appropriate for SAICM. A Theory of Change seeks to map out the pathways to impact from a range of actions, recognising that these pathways are neither linear nor take place within a closed system; rather the Theory of Change is based on the premise that organisations seeking to influence change operate within an open and non-linear system. This is particularly relevant to SAICM that encompasses many diverse stakeholders working across multiple sectors. Further, the Overarching Policy Framework is a voluntary agreement, with success depending upon inter-connected but independent multilateral environmental agreements and outcomes of national policy processes.

The Theory of Change will seek to reflect both concrete measureable impacts as well as changes in attitudes, behaviours and approaches to chemicals management.

A Theory of Change will provide the framework to review the success of SAICM to date in achieving its objectives and thereby its overall goal. It will also provide the structure for providing information to inform recommendations for SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
The approach will comprise a review of documents, an on-line survey and participatory mixed-methods, including workshops, focus groups and one-to-one interviews all complemented on-line engagement.

**Stage 1: Interim Report – Presented to the first intersessional meeting**

The interim report sets out the proposed structure of the independent evaluation report and includes the findings from an online survey.

**Stage 2: Comprehensive evaluation and review period – February to October 2017**

The period of February to October 2017 will be the comprehensive evaluation and review period.

At the first intersessional meeting, the evaluator will facilitate focus group discussions with the different stakeholder groups attending the meeting.

The aim of these focus group discussions will be to enable the different stakeholders to reflect on the findings in the interim report, to articulate their views and perspectives on their vision of the post-2020 strategic approach, the pathways to achieving this vision, and their role within this. This information will be used to develop the Theory of Change for considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

Each focus group will be two hours and attended by a different stakeholder group. Details and a schedule for the focus groups is available in Information Document 4.

The evaluator will follow up with stakeholders to further explore the issues raised during the meetings. These follow-up meetings will be conducted over skype and email.

Furthermore, the evaluator will take the opportunity of attending other stakeholder meetings over the course of 2017 as and when they arise.

**Stage 3: Draft Report – December 2017**

The draft report will represent a comprehensive and complete assessment of the evaluation.

The draft report will be made available to the second meeting of the intersessional process considering SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, tentatively scheduled for March 2018.

**Stage 4: Submission of Final Report – April 2018**

This stage of the evaluation will involve circulating the draft report to all stakeholders, inviting feedback and comments. An on-line questionnaire will be developed to assist in this feedback process.

Follow up discussions with individual stakeholder representatives, and where possible, groups of stakeholders will take place. These discussions will be held face-to-face and virtually, over skype and email.

The final report will fully reflect the feedback and comments received during this stage.
The final report will be presented to the third meeting of the SAICM Open-ended Working Group, tentatively scheduled for September 2018. The executive summary will be made available in the six official United Nations languages.

VI. STRATEGIC APPROACH PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT

An online survey was designed to capture SAICM stakeholder views on the performance of SAICM. Over the period 14 November 2016 to 4 January 2017, 182 respondents completed, or partially completed, the survey. The following sections of this interim report present the initial findings from the online survey.

These findings will be further complemented by information drawn from the focus groups, interviews and a literature review that will take place over the period February to October 2017. The findings of the online survey, together with the findings from the subsequent work will be presented in the draft report presented to the second meeting of the intersessional process considering SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

(a) Objectives for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

There has been a mixed picture in achieving the Strategic Approach overarching policy strategy objectives over the period from 2006 to 2015.

Achievement of all but one objective, international illegal traffic, was considered as very successful or having had some success by at least 70% of respondents (see Table 1).

Hence, the path to achieving the five overarching policy strategy objectives can be viewed as a work in progress, with further work required by Strategic Approach stakeholders towards 2020 in order to achieve the 2020 goal. Whilst there has been notable success and effectiveness in developing policies and regulations in OECD countries to address many of the objectives, in non-OECD countries, and in particular the least developed, significant gaps remain in addressing the most basic safety and management requirements for realizing the 2020 goal.

Table 1: Stakeholder perceptions of degree of success in achieving the Strategic Approach overarching policy strategy objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>very successful</th>
<th>Some success</th>
<th>Little success</th>
<th>unsuccessful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Risk reduction</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity-building</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illegal int traffic</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Knowledge and information sharing

82% of stakeholders viewed the success made in achieving the goal of ‘knowledge and information sharing’ either ‘very successful’ or with ‘some success’. The Strategic Approach has had the most success in delivering on Knowledge and Information sharing, largely as a result of the efforts of the Strategic Approach secretariat in disseminating information on chemicals through publications, its website, the regional meetings, support and guidance to country focal points, and the Quick Start Programme (QSP).

In addition, other initiatives by IOMC organizations have supported this objective. For example, OECD Global portal to information on chemical substances (www.echemportal.org), UNITAR e-learning courses (funded through the QSP) and the EU REACH regulation portal (https://echa.europa.eu/regulations/reach).

However, whilst there has been success at the global, regional and national levels in sharing knowledge and information, gaps in achieving this objective remain. Whilst stakeholders recognize the progress made in disseminating information at the national level, within countries information and knowledge flows to federal and local levels is weak.

The enormity of the challenge that remains in knowledge and information sharing was highlighted in the UN General Assembly Human Rights Council, thirtieth session Report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes\(^1\), which highlighted the significant information gaps that exist, particularly within non-OECD countries:

"Furthermore, there is no global system to generate or share missing information among all countries. This major shortcoming has resulted in a lack of available information; inability to access information; and not-so-useful information, particularly with respect to the dangers confronting those who are most at risk of harm from hazardous substances and wastes. There remain grave information gaps on numerous substances that are used, produced, released and disposed as waste by industrial and governmental activities"\(^2\).

Risk reduction

81% of stakeholders viewed the success made in achieving the goal of risk reduction either ‘very successful’ or with ‘some success’. Stakeholders from OECD countries cite much progress in risk reduction strategies (e.g. EU REACH and Canada’s Chemicals Management Plan). Complex regulatory frameworks have evolved in these countries such that all aspects of chemicals management are covered from their use in production of goods, exposure levels, and disposal. However, for some stakeholders, the complexity of the EU regulatory system, makes it difficult to find out which rules apply and/or which items of information are available for a given substance.

Many non-OECD countries are at various stages of implementing the Globally Harmonized System for Classification and Labeling (GHS) – many of the preparatory tasks for implementation of GHS were funded by the Quick Start Programme. Other

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2 ibid p.5
Quick Start Programme funded projects on disposal of obsolete pesticides and phasing out of lead in paint have all, it is asserted, contributed to reduction in risk.

For just under 20% of stakeholders, little or no success has been achieved in addressing the risk reduction objective. The factors accounting for this include: the lack of effective management systems, including institutional structures, for chemicals at the national level and gaps in legislation; poor collaboration between different agencies with responsibility for chemical safety; insufficient training and capacity building of end-users of chemicals.

**Governance**

77% of stakeholders rated success on this objective as either ‘very successful’ or achieving ‘some success’. As with the preceding objectives, OECD country stakeholders considered that regulations were already in line with the Strategic Approach, and that inter-agency and inter-departmental coordination and collaboration was strong. It is worth noting that there was recognition that governance of chemicals management had been strengthened due to the Strategic Approach.

For non-OECD countries, evidence of this success was the creation of multi-stakeholder national coordination committees comprising both public and private sector representatives. However, the effectiveness of such committees had in some cases been limited due to the capacity constraints of members to participate.

Challenges remain as many non-OECD countries do not have laws governing chemicals management, and for those that do, enforcement mechanisms for implementation remain weak. Furthermore some respondents noted that the process of law making and establishment of regulations for chemicals management may not be considered a national priority by some, and resisted by others.

**Capacity-building and technical cooperation**

70% of stakeholders viewed the success made in achieving the goal of ‘capacity-building and technical cooperation’ either ‘very successful’ or with ‘some success’. Much of this success was attributed to the Strategic Approach Quick Start Programme. Other UN agencies, NGOs and the chemical industry have delivered capacity-building programmes in chemicals management. Those efforts were also recognized as have contributed to strengthened capacity at the national level.

Despite the successes of the range of different capacity-building programmes, the extent and reach of these programmes has not been sufficient to address the capacity constraints within developing countries. This has been attributed to a number of factors including the lack of priority given, as well as the ad hoc nature of the approach to capacity-building rather than a more strategic multi-stakeholder approach that includes government, NGOs and industry, as well as the organizations of the IOMC.

**International illegal traffic**

Progress to achieving this objective has been the least successful in the eyes of the stakeholders surveyed, with just over 53% of respondents who answered, indicating that achieving this goal was ‘very successful’ or met with ‘some success’. Some respondents highlight the success that the crop protection industry has had in addressing illegal traffic, although this view is not been shared within the Strategic Approach network. Some countries with comprehensive regimes for addressing illegal
traffic and that have implemented the relevant multilateral environmental agreements, have taken steps to share information with developing countries. There are examples in developing countries of training for customs officers and greater regular monitoring of borders.

Nevertheless, illegal international traffic remains a serious threat to developing countries. Counterfeit pesticides, trade in mercury (for artisanal and small-scale gold mining), e-waste dumping, smuggling of prohibited chemicals and a lack of public awareness and a lack of capacity of customs service were cited as some of the challenges faced in dealing with this issue.

(b) Identifying and taking action on new or emerging issues

Lead in paint

Of all the emerging policy issues, addressing lead in paint has been identified as by far the most successful. 86% of respondents thought that they had been either very successful or had had some success in incorporating the lead in paint issue into their activities (see Table 2).

For stakeholders from OECD countries, the lead in paint issue had been addressed before it was identified as an emerging policy issue for the Strategic Approach. For stakeholders from developing and economy-in-transition countries, the success resulted from a combination of approaches – legislation banning lead in paint, raising awareness among paint manufacturers on the dangers of lead in paint on health, and encouraging voluntary action by them. Concerted action and campaigns by civil society also kept this issue on the agenda.

Table 2: degree of success in incorporating the SAICM emerging policy issues and other issues of concern your activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Very successful</th>
<th>Some success</th>
<th>Little success</th>
<th>Unsuccessful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lead in paint</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chemicals in products</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nanotechnology</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSLEEP</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrine</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pharmaceutical pollutants</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perfluorinated</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>highly hazardous</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chemicals in products

Stakeholders have mixed views on the success of addressing this emerging policy issue. 73% considered they had had some success or were very successful in addressing this issue. OECD stakeholders highlighted the extensive regulations and policies that are already in place in these countries to address the issue.
Developing country stakeholders highlighted the lack of capacity and resources to address this issue observing that most products are imported and authorities are not able to monitor for chemical composition. Civil society stakeholders expressed concern on the relationship between confidential business information and health and safety information, as expressed in the SAICM CiP programme:

“According to the CiP Programme, governments are responsible for CBI [confidential business information] protection, but the Programme encourages only "voluntary sharing of relevant information with governments." In other words, industry does not need to provide governments with full access to information on chemicals in products but requires CBI protection instead.”

**Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials**

66% of stakeholders expressed the view that they were either very successful or had some success in addressing this issue. The indicator of success relates to progress in: developing guidelines on use; research on immunotoxicology of nanomaterials; developing nanotechnology testing tools; scoping reports on potential use and health, environmental and safety implications; workshops on awareness raising and elearning courses; stakeholder dialogues.

**Hazardous substances within the lifecycle of electrical and electronic products (HSLEEP)**

62% of respondents considered that they were very successful or had some success in addressing this issue. Amongst the OECD countries and countries in Central and Eastern Europe, this success relates to: the creation of legislation that regulates electrical and electronic waste; the efforts of industry associations in raising awareness of this emerging policy issue amongst the electronics industry; development of guidelines for export of second hand electrical and electronic goods.

For those stakeholders (38%) who felt that little or no success was being achieved in this area (mainly in developing countries), they noted the increasing issue of dumping of e-waste and the potential environmental and health impacts of this phenomenon. Factors accounting for the lack of success included a lack of public awareness of the issue, and the lack of legislation, capacity and resources to deal with this issue effectively.

**Endocrine disrupting chemicals**

72% of respondents considered that they have been very successful or have had some success in addressing this issue. Success centers on awareness-raising of what are, and the potential dangers of EDCs, the identification of EDCs and the development of testing regimes for assessing impacts on health and wildlife.

There is on-going debate between stakeholders as to the testing regime that is most appropriate for EDCs. Those that advocate a (linear) dose-response function approach for each chemical in isolation, are at odds with those that advocate a non-linear approach to risk assessment that also addresses the issue of synergistic effects of...

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combinations of more than one EDCs. Furthermore, these advocates also argue for risk assessment that distinguishes between the different effects for different ages – from fetuses, to children, to reproductive adults, to older people.  

**Environmentally persistent pharmaceutical pollutants**

While this issue was only adopted as a Strategic Approach emerging policy issues at ICCM4 in 2015, awareness was raised about the issue at Strategic Approach regional meetings in 2013-2014. 60% of respondents considered that they had been very successful or had had some success in addressing this issue. OECD stakeholders had success through their own research and environmental risk assessments. Industry stakeholder organisations have developed the Eco-Pharmaco-Stewardship (an environmental management approach involving multi-stakeholder collaboration) and raised awareness within the EU of appropriate medicine disposal through a social media campaign.  

**Perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives**

75% of respondents considered that they were very successful or had had some success in addressing this issue. Much of this success was attributed to the regulatory regimes in the EU and other OECD countries. Within developing countries stakeholders lacked the resources and capacity to monitor POPs.

**Highly hazardous pesticides**

Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) were formally taken up by Strategic Approach stakeholders at ICCM4 in 2015. At the same time, awareness was raised through discussions at Strategic Approach regional meetings in 2013-2014. 80% of respondents considered that they were very successful or had had some success in addressing this issue. Much of this success was attributable to national legislation banning the production and use of a number of such pesticides. In developing countries, civil society organisations have done much to raise awareness among farmers, governments and regional bodies of the dangers of using such pesticides and supporting transition to alternative farming systems.

Representatives of the crop protection industry (producers of pesticides) have also committed to a voluntary review of their pesticide portfolio to identify those that meet the HHP criteria, and have committed to adopt appropriate measure to manage risk which could include the withdrawal of specific pesticides.

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6 See footnote 4, p.25
7 See footnote 6, p.7
(c) Coordination and cooperation with relevant multilateral environmental agreements and organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals.

This section will be developed after consultation with stakeholders in Brasilia (6-10 February), with IOMC representatives on 31 March 2017 and representatives at the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm COPs (24 April – 5 May 2017).

(d) Relevance of impacts to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including an assessment of the mantra ‘Leave no one behind’, and how this relates to the impacts of the Strategic Approach on gender, age, ethnicity and vulnerability

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a significant opportunity to mainstream the sound management of chemicals and waste into national development planning. Chemicals management is embedded throughout the SDGs and, are in effect, mainstreamed into the goals. In particular, the sound management of chemicals and waste has a direct influence on achieving the following SDGs:8

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

A review of the targets associated with each SDG reveal the pervasiveness of the sound management of chemicals and waste in the 2030 agenda as well as the centrality of ensuring vulnerable groups are ‘not left behind’.

8 UN (2015) United Nations and Sound Chemicals Management: Coordinating delivery for Member States and sustainable development, p. 19
For Goal 2:

Target 2.1: By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

Target 2.3: By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

Target 2.4: By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality

Achieving these targets related to Goal 2, will require the concerted efforts of SAICM stakeholders including governments, civil society, the crop protection industry and research bodies, to ensure sufficient terrestrial and aquatic nutritional resources are produced using an array of safe chemical inputs, green chemistry and sustainable aquatic and agricultural practices.

For Goal 3

Target 3.8: Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

Target 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

Target 3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks

Achieving target 3.8 will depend on SAICM stakeholders, including the pharmaceutical industry. Achieving target 3.9 will depend on continued progress in realising the five SAICM overarching policy objectives as well as continued delivery on the emerging policy issues. Achieving target 3.d will, amongst other things, benefit countries in to strengthen capacity to deal with chemical accidents, including institutional-strengthening for poison centres.

For Goal 6

Target 6.1: By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

Target 6.3: By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally

Achieving these targets will depend on the continued efforts of SAICM stakeholders: civil society organisations raising awareness of the dangers from chemical contamination and advocating for the phasing out of HHPs, implementation of the Minamata Convention, and support for the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions.
For Goal 8

Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

Achieving this target will depend on the continued efforts of SAICM to address the hazardous working conditions of the informal sector, e.g. artisanal gold mining, waste recycling and farming. It will also depend on ensuring safe working conditions for those workers exposed to hazardous chemicals and processes.

For Goal 9

Target 9.4: By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities.

Achieving this target will require continued multi-stakeholder collaboration within the SAICM community such as industry organisations and civil society organisations, including trade unions. It will also require continued efforts in addressing emerging policy issues including: chemicals in products, nanotechnology, hazardous substances within the lifecycle of electrical and electronic products (HSLEEP), environmentally persistent pharmaceutical pollutants, perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives.

For Goal 11

Target 11.6: By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.

Achieving this target will require continued SAICM stakeholder efforts to address many of the emerging policy issues as well as continued progress towards the five overarching policy objectives.

For Goal 12

Target 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

Target 12.5: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

Target 12.4 is the SAICM 2020 goal. Achieving this target will require continued efforts by SAICM stakeholders to deliver on all five overarching policy objectives.

For Goal 13

Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

Achieving this target will require national governments to develop policies and plans that integrate a portfolio of greenhouse gas reducing measures that will include
recycling, reuse, green design of buildings, infrastructure and technologies. Chemicals and waste management will be an important element of these measures.

For Goal 14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 14.1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Managing industrial and agricultural chemical runoff into waterways and the marine environment will be a significant component to achieving this target. SAICM stakeholders have a major role to play in this.

For Goal 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Achieving this target will require continued efforts to sustainably manage chemicals throughout their entire lifecycle from production to disposal. SAICM stakeholders will continue to play a significant role in this.

Mainstreaming of sustainable management of chemicals and waste into the SDGs represents an opportunity for significant funding flows. Integration into national development planning: Governments have signed up to the SDGs and are now committed to deliver on the targets for each goal. As was the case of the MDGs, international development assistance to developing countries will be conditional on demonstrating how the SDG targets (including those that address chemical and waste management) have been integrated into national development plans.

e) Maintenance and development of indicators of progress

70% of respondents considered that indicators of progress had been very effective or had had some effect in assessing progress towards the sound management of chemicals and waste (see table 3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3: Stakeholder perceptions on effectiveness of indicators of progress in measuring progress towards the 2020 goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very effective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The indicators are ‘user friendly’, simple and straightforward. The data generated from monitoring of the 20 indicators has been used to report on progress made towards the 2020 goal at ICCM3 and ICCM4. The regular reporting on these 20 indicators has allowed for an assessment of the progress made over time and highlight areas of success and areas of concern, as well as areas of action that are required.9

The indicator system has evolved over time with different components of the monitoring system being introduced at different times. The 20 indicators of progress were defined in 2009 and aligned to the five overarching policy strategy objectives. In 2015 the eleven basic elements were endorsed by the ICCM and consideration was given to considering the 20 indictors of progress in-line with the eleven basic elements. Whilst, this alignment fits up to a point, the challenge of integrating the basic elements with the existing 20 indicators of progress has been acknowledged:

While there is some coherence in this relationship, stakeholders may wish to further examine the indicators with a view to improving their coverage of the basic elements for future reporting.10

Further application of the indicators to the emerging policy issues may be causing further challenges. Other challenges include, inconsistent reporting across all countries and under-reporting.

A more fundamental challenge, however, is that the indicators, as defined, are not able to monitor the effectiveness or impact of the activities that they are measuring.

Nevertheless, retaining the existing 20 indicators of progress to 2020 is appropriate given the baseline that has been developed and useful insights are gained when comparing results over different time periods.11 Some regions have produced detailed reports on progress made towards the 20 indicators.12

Looking beyond 2020, consideration can be given to developing a revised set of indicators to the existing 20 indicators of progress. Such a set of revised indicators would address the existing shortcomings of the 20 indicators of progress, in particular the need to assess the effectiveness or impact of the activities designed to meet the overarching policy objectives, including the basic elements and emerging policy issues.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides an important framework and incentive for enhanced cooperation and collaboration. A revised set of Strategic Approach indicators could also align with the indicators that have been agreed to monitor progress towards the targets set for the SDGs. Table 4 provides some relevant examples of the SDGs with the agreed specific indicators and targets.

10 ibid, p.15
11 ibid, that compares over 2009-2010 and the 2011-2013 periods.
Table 4: Examples of relevant indicators associated with SDG targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicator¹³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination</td>
<td>3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks</td>
<td>3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally</td>
<td>6.3.1 Proportion of wastewater safely treated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment</td>
<td>8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</td>
<td>12.4.1 Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

f) Identifying and taking action on regional and subregional needs for advancing sound management of chemicals and waste

To be published as an Addendum SAICM/IP.1/5 when it is available.

VII. Evaluation results and lessons learnt

To be developed for the draft evaluation report presented to the second meeting of the intersessional process considering SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. It will include the following sections:

a) Impact of the Strategic Approach: strengths, weaknesses and gaps
b) Progress made towards targets
c) Institutional arrangements within the voluntary multi-sectoral approach of the Strategic Approach
d) Management of the Strategic Approach
APPENDIX

Annex to ICCM Resolution IV/4

The Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 –
Terms of reference for the evaluation of the Strategic Approach to International
Chemicals Management

I. Objective

1. The present document outlines the terms of reference for the independent evaluation of the
Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management called for by the International
Conference on Chemicals Management in its resolution IV/4.

2. The aim of the evaluation is to provide information to enable the intersessional process
referred to in paragraph 2 of resolution IV/4 to develop recommendations and to enable the
International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fifth session to take an informed
decision on future arrangements for the Strategic Approach and the sound management of
chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

II. Methodology

3. The secretariat is requested to engage an independent evaluator to produce an evaluation
consistent with the present terms of reference.

4. The evaluation is to cover the period from the adoption of the Strategic Approach in 2006 to
2015. It may also cover any insights gained in the period from 2015 to the finalization of the
evaluation.

5. The evaluation should take into account, among other things, the available evaluation of
progress in implementing the Strategic Approach, the evaluation of the Quick Start Programme,
the relevant reports and resolutions from the International Conference on Chemicals
Management, the Open-ended Working Group and regional meetings, the overall orientation
and guidance, and national implementation plans of the Strategic Approach. The evaluator may
also collect information from stakeholders on their experiences implementing the Strategic
Approach, and may use various methods of qualitative and quantitative information collection,
including questionnaires and interviews, taking into account regional, gender and stakeholder
balance.

III. Report on the evaluation

6. An interim report on the evaluation will be made available to all stakeholders at least one
month ahead of the first meeting of the intersessional process. A draft of the final report will be
made available to all stakeholders at least one month ahead of the second meeting of the
intersessional process. The final report, taking into account, as appropriate, the additional
comments on the draft final report from stakeholders, will be made available to all stakeholders
at least two months before the meeting of the Open-ended Working Group that will precede the
fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.

7. The reports will contain an introduction, an executive summary and a brief history of the
Strategic Approach, and will present information in support of conclusions and, where
appropriate, lessons drawn in respect of the implementation of the Strategic Approach, including,
in particular:

(a) Impact of the Strategic Approach;
(b) Strengths, weaknesses and gaps in implementing the Strategic Approach, taking into account the eleven basic elements identified in the overall orientation and guidance;

(c) Progress towards targets;

(d) Institutional arrangements within the voluntary multisectoral and multi-stakeholder approach of the Strategic Approach.

8. The independent evaluator will present information, as appropriate, on the following elements in the report, on the understanding that the information provided is intended to inform rather than prejudge intersessional discussions on the subject:

(a) Objectives for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020;

(b) Identifying and taking action on new or emerging issues;

(c) Coordination and cooperation with relevant multilateral environmental agreements and organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals;

(d) Relevance of impacts to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(e) Maintenance and development of indicators of progress;

(f) Identifying and taking action on regional and subregional needs for advancing sound management of chemicals and waste.

9. The evaluation should be focused and succinct and its executive summary should be made available in the six official languages of the United Nations.