Fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4)
Bucharest, Romania, 29 August – 2 September 2022

IP4 Discussion Document on Enhancing Multi-Sectoral Participation Beyond 2020

Submission by the Government of Canada

Note by the secretariat

The annex to the present note contains a submission by the Government of Canada. It is reproduced as received by the secretariat, without formal editing.
Annex: IP4 Discussion Document on Enhancing Multi-Sectoral Participation Beyond 2020

Objective:

- To develop concrete measures to enhance multi-sectoral participation and engagement so that the Beyond 2020 instrument more fully addresses the comprehensive environmental, economic, social, health and labour impacts of chemicals.

Context:

- SAICM texts, resolutions and discussions emphasize the inter-sectoral nature of the Strategic Approach and reiterate the importance of multi-sectoral engagement to address international chemicals management.
- SAICM_IP.4/INF23 outlines the benefits of increased sectoral engagement in SAICM and a number of possible actions to facilitate sectoral engagement. This document also notes that the SAICM evaluation reveals that sectoral contribution and expertise into the SAICM processes remain below the expectations raised by the framework’s plans and strategies.
- The intersessional process provides an opportunity to develop an ambitious and comprehensive global framework for the beyond 2020 period with increased and meaningful engagement of all relevant sectors and stakeholders.
- The SAICM framework should promote multi-sectoral engagement and remove barriers that may inadvertently favour one sector over another.

Proposal for Discussion:

Canada suggests intersessional work to outline a proposal for concrete actions to enhance multi-sectoral engagement that could be included in the Beyond 2020 instrument and/or its supporting documents. This effort could include, inter alia:

1. Strengthening institutional arrangements, by, for example, developing an Annex to complement the Rules of Procedure (Resolution ICCM II/1 Rules of procedure of the International Conference on Chemicals Management) to frame practical measure to enhance multi-sectoral participation. This could include:

   - Drawing on the IOMC proposal in the Parking Lot of the Governance VWG, which suggested to:
     - “add observers in accordance with Rule 15 paragraph 5 of Rules of Procedure, the ICCM President shall invite to the Bureau one government representative from each of the agriculture, labour and health sectors and that FAO, ILO and WHO be invited to facilitate nomination of these representatives”.

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1 e.g., SAICM Dubai Declaration, Overarching Policy Strategy, Resolutions ICCM I/1 Implementation Arrangements, ICCM II/8 Health aspects of the sound management of chemicals, ICCM III/2 Emerging Policy Issues, ICCM III/4 Strategy for Strengthening the Engagement of the Health Sector in the Sound Management of Chemicals, ICCMII Summary of High Level Segment Discussion, ICCM III President’s summary of the high Level dialogue, and Overall Orientation and Guidance Document.
Clarifying Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure, by underlining the importance of collaboration with IOMC organizations in the convening of the sessions of the conference as was originally envisioned in ICCM Resolution 1.1, para 5.

- For example, this could include having the logos of all IOMC organizations on official documents from the Beyond 2020 instrument and having parts of the agenda led by the different sectors.

2. Developing best practices for National Focal Points to strengthen inter-ministerial and inter-institutional collaboration, drawing on the proposal put forward by the African Region at ICCM2 and re-released for IP4 as SAICM_IP.4/INF/7 on Possible Guidelines for National Focal Points.

3. Drafting a resolution (or text within another resolution) for ICCM5 to acknowledge the work done by various sectors on chemicals and seek to better leverage these efforts.

- Specific to human health, this would recognize the achievements of the WHO’s Chemicals Road Map, approved by the 70th World Health Assembly, setting out actions needed to achieve the 2020 goal and beyond.

- The resolution could similarly link to work undertaken by other sectors that intersect with the Beyond 2020 framework.

4. Concretely reflecting implementation of the WHO’s Chemicals Road Map by the health sector as a critical contribution to achieving the vision and objectives of the Beyond 2020 instrument in the text, including as a possible target or indicator.

Reference Documents:

- SAICM_IP.4.2_Rev.1 Compilation of recommendations for ICCM5 – SECTION VI D


- SAICM/IP.4/INF/5/Rev.1 Stakeholder input on contributions to achieve enhanced sectoral and stakeholder engagement for beyond 2020

- SAICM/IP.4/INF/7/Rev.1 Possible guidelines for National Focal Points

- SAICM_IP.4/INF/23 Proposed actions to facilitate sectoral engagement in the SAICM policy process