



STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT



The Strategic Approach and Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste - Beyond 2020

SAICM Regional Meetings Toward the Fourth Intersessional Process (IP4)

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS 2022

OVERALL OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES.

- a. Discussion of outcomes of the **Virtual Working Groups (VWGs)** held between October 2020 – February 2021.
- b. Deliberations on **IP3 outcome text not considered** during the VWGs on **vision, scope, principles and approaches, and strategic objectives**.
- c. Facilitate the **exchange of regional information and knowledge**, reviewing progress towards the current SAICM objectives. To ramp up ambition and strengthen a future instrument.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

OVERALL STRUCTURE OF REGIONAL MEETINGS

- Adoption of Agenda.
- Regional focal point provides overview of overall objectives and expected outcomes of respective regional meeting.
- ICCM5 President provides expected outcomes of the regional meeting in the context of both IP4 and ICCM5. To ramp up ambition and strengthen a future instrument.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN ALL REGIONAL MEETINGS

- a) Update from the [BRS Conventions and Minamata Convention Secretariats](#) and IOMC members.
- b) [Substantive preparations](#) for the fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
- c) Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Inter Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemical (IOMC) to update on current and recent work, within the context of the face-to-face segment of the 2021/2022 BRS COPs, the second segment of the Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-4), and the work of the IOMC.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

IP4 scheduled for 29 August to 2 Sept. 2022 in
Bucharest, Romania.

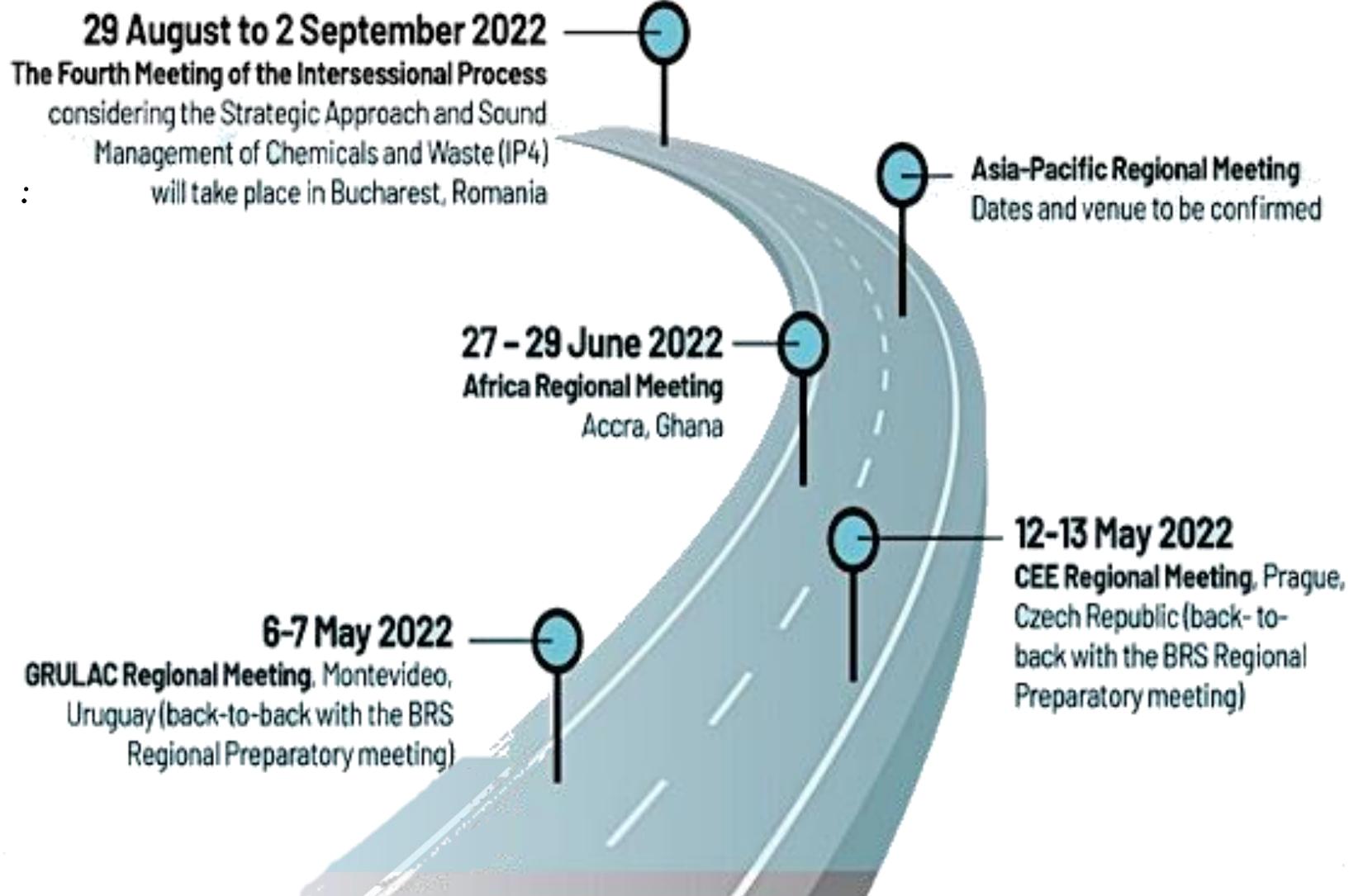
Regional and stakeholder consultations are also scheduled to take place the weekend before IP4 from **27 to 28 Aug. 2022**.

REGIONAL MEETINGS:

- GRULAC, 6-7 May, Montevideo, Uruguay (back-to-back with the BRS Regional Preparatory meeting)
- CEE Regional Meeting, 12-13 May 2022, Prague, Czech Republic (back-to-back with the BRS Regional Preparatory meeting)
- Africa Regional Meeting, 27 – 29 June 2022, Accra, Ghana
- Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting, dates to be confirmed, Jordan
- WEOG / EUJUSSCANNZUK, dates to be confirmed, online

In addition, a 20-minute slot has been provided during the BRS Regional Preparatory meetings that will be held between end March to mid May 2022.

STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT



SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

c. Compilation of recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020” text not considered during the VWGs.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS MAIN GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Governments, international organisations, industry and the private sector, civil society, the scientific and academic community and all other relevant stakeholders should intensify and prioritise efforts on the sound management of chemicals and waste, towards the achievement of target 12.4 of the 2030 Agenda and thereby contribute also to numerous other SDGs.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS MAIN GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Urgent and resolute action at all levels needed to implement the 2030 Agenda in relation to the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through:
- an improved enabling framework for the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term, as emphasized by the UNEA.
 - improved framework should address lifecycle approaches and the chemicals-product-waste interface; as well as materials, such as plastics, and the minimisation and where feasible prevention of hazardous substances in material cycles.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

d. Compilation of recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste Beyond 2020 and the outcomes of the Virtual Working Groups held between October 2020 – February 2021.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

VISION

[Strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term requires a] [the] vision shared by all stakeholders:

- (i) To protect human health and the environment from the [harmful] [adverse] effects of chemicals and [their] [associated] waste, [towards] [to enable] [promote] [for] [to ensure] healthy lives and a sustainable, safe planet for all.

ALT (i) Healthy lives and a sustainable, safe planet for all by protecting human health and the environment from the [harmful] [adverse] effects of chemicals and [their] waste.

Note: : These brackets apply to considerations regarding 'waste' across the entire paper. Policy guidance is required from SAICM stakeholders.

SCOPE

1. The scope encompasses [the environmental, economic, social, health, agricultural and labour [all] aspects of managing chemicals and [their] [all] waste[s], in order to enhance sustainable development [and [non toxic] circularity [environmental integrity] [and the protection of human rights] [and resource efficiency]].
The instrument takes due account of the instruments and processes that have been developed to date and is flexible enough to take account of new ones without duplicating efforts.
2. The involvement of all relevant sectors and stakeholders across the life cycle at the local, national, regional and global levels is critical to the sound management of chemicals and waste. Stakeholders include [but are not limited to] Governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, industries, businesses, the financial sector, development banks, academia, workers, retailers and individuals. Sectors are understood to include, but not be limited to, agriculture, environment, health, education, finance, development, construction and labour.

PRINCIPLES AND APPROACHES

Strategic objectives and targets for the sound management of chemicals and waste

- A:** [Measures are identified, implemented and enforced in order to prevent or, where not feasible, minimize harm from chemicals throughout their life cycle [and waste]
- B:** Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data and information are generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions;
- C:** Issues of concern [that warrant [global] [and] [joint] action] are identified, prioritized and addressed;
- D:** Benefits to human health and the environment are maximized and risks are prevented or, where not feasible, minimized through safer alternatives, innovative and sustainable solutions and forward thinking;
- E:** [The importance of the sound management of chemicals and waste as an essential element to achieving sustainable development is recognized by all]; adequate financial and non-financial resources are [identified and] mobilized; actions are accelerated; and necessary [transparent and accountable] partnerships are established to foster cooperation among stakeholders].



PRINCIPLES AND APPROACHES

Strategic objectives and targets for the sound management of chemicals and waste

[Recommended targets that could be used as a basis for further intersessional work, alongside indicator development, to support the attainment of each strategic objective, are described in the appendix.

In addition, relevant milestones to follow up progress on the sound management of chemicals and waste, notably at the national level, may also be developed in parallel.

[There will also need to be a process developed for measuring our progress]. The milestones could also be kept up to date regularly as part of the future programme of work of SAICM and conveyed to all relevant organisations and stakeholders for consideration within their own mandates, as appropriate.]

[The Overall Orientation and Guidance, including its eleven basic elements and six activity areas, continue to be relevant in assisting countries in their efforts to ensure the sound management of chemicals and waste and should therefore continue to be implemented.]

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

- e. Co-facilitator(s) will provide a 30-minute presentation highlighting the methodology used, its outcomes and key issues that the regional group needs to be made aware of.
- Presentation will be followed by a **one-hour discussion** to provide further explanation and clarification with an overall aim to seek stakeholders' views, **to build consensus and reach a common understanding on the outcomes of VWGs.**

2020 - 2021

4 VIRTUAL WORKING GROUPS



- Oct. 2020 – Feb. 2021, **4 Virtual Working Groups** held discussions to support the intersessional process.
- Objective - to develop proposals for tangible outcomes, including notes identifying gaps, text proposals, and suggestions for new or alternate text
- VWGs were **not intended to replace formal face-to-face discussions** at IP4 or negotiations that will take place at ICCM5 but to build understanding and prepare delegates for the foreseeable negotiations.

OUTCOMES OF VIRTUAL WORKING GROUPS

- **VWG 1 on targets, indicators and milestones** agreed further deliberation is needed to develop draft targets (incorporating a SMART approach) before extensive work can be dedicated towards indicators and milestones.
- **VWG 2 on governance and mechanisms** - Governments should establish arrangements such as national plans of action for implementation, strengthened multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder engagement, mechanisms for taking stock of progress, etc.

***** There was also strong support for **strengthening the science policy interface for the chemicals and waste agenda**.

- On **issues of concern, VWG 3**, broad agreement that the emerging policy issues process has been useful in raising the profile of specific issues globally but that a clear plan of action is needed.
- **VWG 4** acknowledged the need to elaborate the integrated approach to **financing** for the sound management of chemicals and waste.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

f. Update of logistical preparations for the fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

- SAICM Secretariat and the Government of Germany to present an update on preparations for IP4 and ICCM5.

SAICM REGIONAL MEETINGS

g. Exchange of regional information and knowledge, reviewing progress towards the current SAICM objectives

- Facilitated by regional focal point, participants may wish to share information on activities and initiatives that support the current SAICM objectives taking place within the region.



<http://www.saicm.org>
saicm.chemicals@un.org



Follow us
@ChemandWaste
#Beyond2020 #SAICM



United Nations Environment
Chemin des Anémones 11-13
CH-1219 Chatelaine, Geneva
Switzerland