

VIRTUAL WORKING GROUP ON GOVERNANCE AND MECHANISMS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION

FINAL PARKING LOT 5 March 2021

During the course of its work, the co-facilitators of the Virtual Working Group on Governance and Mechanisms to Support Implementation created the concept of the “Parking Lot” as a place for the group to consolidate and highlight issues that need further discussion; it represents a codification of “mental notes” that the group or members of the group agreed it either did not want to overlook or would not be able to resolve until a later stage of the overall Intersessional Process. The issues in the Parking Lot range from strongly held views of certain stakeholders to ideas that were suggested but not discussed, and are therefore presented informally in the order that the sections for which they are relevant appear in the textual recommendations of the VWG (Part I). The VWG recommends that further discussion take place with respect to the issues listed below.

Section B

USA: Footnote for “waste”: Given that this is the first reference to “waste” in this document, the United States is highlighting it to ensure that footnote 1, which notes that the brackets around chemicals and [their associated] waste apply to consideration of waste across the entire text, is recognized and duly noted.

Paragraph 1

A Group of NGOs: Add “National action plans should be aimed at achieving the targets and indicators for the Strategic Objectives and Issues of Concern.” This paragraph was not open for comment during the VWG meeting as there were no existing brackets to resolve. It has been placed in the parking lot in the event that the stakeholders wish to consider new text at a later time.

Section D

FAO, ILO, WHO: Proposed new text to address a gap: “In light of the multisectoral character of SAICM, and in accordance with Rule 15 paragraph 5 of Rules of Procedure, the ICCM President shall invite to the Bureau one government representative from the each of the agriculture, labour and health sectors. FAO, ILO and WHO shall be invited to facilitate nomination of the representatives”. There was not sufficient time to discuss this possible addition; further consideration of whether to accept it is needed.

IOMC: Proposed new text to replace paragraph 13: “To contribute actively to the implementation of the beyond 2020 framework, the IOMC should continue to promote broad engagement and coordination of the policies, work programmes, and activities of relevant intergovernmental organizations, further strengthening international cooperation and multi-sectoral engagement in the sound management of chemicals and waste.”

Section G

Paragraphs 1 and 2

UNEP, SDPI Pakistan, GAHP, EU/MS, USA, and ICCA with input from others: There was a high level of interest in ensuring that the reporting by all stakeholders is provided to the Secretariat in such a way that the information can be compiled and considered in a standardized, productive, and understandable way

such that the international conference can use the information to assess progress. Text was added to paragraph 2 to note that reporting by all stakeholders should be consistent with any guidance or template provided by the international conference, but the intersessional process might want to consider whether to provide further direction in the text to creating such guidance or template.

ALT 3_{bis}

At the end of the process, the VWG did not have time to consider Switzerland's proposal for a potential process to conduct Voluntary Peer Reviews (VPRs), currently included as a concept in Section G, ALT 3_{bis}. This is left for further consideration of the VWG in the future, with the following process details below:

1. Request

A country requests a VPR and develops, in collaboration with the SAICM Secretariat, the terms of reference (TOR). A call for experts is launched, and the Secretariat assembles the review team.

2. Review

The team of experts undertakes the review, in general through a country visit. They meet with representatives of government and stakeholders. The focus would be the questions specified in the ToR. The outcome of the review is a report by the group of experts.

3. Publication and Launch of Report

The publication of the report provides an opportunity to discuss the findings with stakeholders in the country and allows attention to be drawn to issues where improvement is envisioned. Making it available on the SAICM website can also help inform interested stakeholders in other countries.