VIRTUAL WORKING GROUP ON GOVERNANCE AND MECHANISMS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION

REQUEST FOR ELECTRONIC FEEDBACK

TOPICS: NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION; SUB-REGIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION; AND ENHANCED SECTORAL AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Co-facilitators: Karissa Kovner, USA and Teeraporn Wiriutikorn, Thailand

Mandate: Make proposals that progress work in lead-up to IP4.

Please, after carefully reading/considering the full original texts of the relevant paragraphs in document SAICM/IP.4/2, … as requested our proposals on the text/s are shared in the text below (in Bold & Green). Thanks - Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)/Dr. Mahmood A. Khwaja (MAK)

B. NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION (Page 8, Section VI.B)

Paragraph 1. Comments not requested (no existing brackets)

Paragraph 2. Based on the first sentence of the compilation text, please explain in no more than two sentences your organization’s view on the government focal point(s) and the primary role of the focal point(s). The first sentence reads as follows:

To facilitate communication, nationally and internationally, each Government should [designate or develop a network of] [a political and a technical national focal point] [to communicate on the SAICM matters and develop a network at the national level of coordinators] that represent the multi-stakeholder and multisectoral nature of [SAICM] [the instrument to communicate on the sound management of chemicals and waste matters].

The bold text above supported, brackets recommended to be removed from it, in view of shared responsibilities, expedited decision making and the national government constrained resources, viz-a-viz expertise & finance, especially of the developing countries & CET (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 3. It has been noted that the parenthetical should include the environmental sector. Given the environmental nature of this instrument, the co-facilitators intend to remove the brackets in the parenthesis in further iterations of this section.

- Agree and support the co-facilitators intention above, to remove the bracket.
- However, it’s most surprising that the industrial/manufacturing sector is not mentioned here. SAICM is as much about “Chemicals Production and Consumption, as it is about “Environment and Health.” We recommend adding “Industrial,” at this stage, if possible, with or without brackets (SDPI/MAK)
Paragraph 4. There is no existing text on “reporting back on national plans.” Therefore, the co-facilitators, noting that there is no requirement for any stakeholder to have a national plan, propose and request views on the following text for the consideration of this Virtual Working Group on Nov. 19th:

Any stakeholder that chooses to create a national plan of action or program of implementation for itself may, [when appropriate], report back, [within a year] to the International Conference on Chemicals Management.¹

- The above Co-facilitators proposed text seems both wage & weak, for any meaningful reporting back or reporting back at all. We feel that if the stakeholder has developed a PoA or a PoI, it’s in the stakeholder’s interest to report back, for the stakeholder positive improved image. We propose Removing the old text and adding the new proposed alternative text (in Bold), without/with bracket as above, for consideration. (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 5. Paragraph 5 is currently in brackets. Based on the progress of the Virtual Working Group on Targets and Indicators and the importance placed on the implementation of the targets at IP-3, the co-facilitators recommend the removal of the brackets on this paragraph.

- We recommend a decision to be daffered, till the outcome/recommendations of the VG on T & I is completed and available. Till then the Paragraph 5 may be retained in Brackets. (SDPI/MAK)

¹ Subject to further discussions regarding the name of the Beyond 2020 Instrument.
- We suggest removing the brackets also in the above \textit{(SDPI/MAK)}. \\

Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4 contain a very limited set of brackets with respect the levels of geographic engagement. Based on the understanding that the engagement of all stakeholders, regardless of their geographic level, has been highlighted as important throughout the IP process, the co-facilitators propose that the text reflect all of the geographic levels proposed by removing the limited brackets in paragraphs 1-4 and correcting the punctuation in further iterations of this section.

\begin{description}
\item[Paragraph 1.] regions [and] subregions [and countries]
\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{Proposed by co-facilitators:} regions, subregions, and countries
\item \textit{, may be removed before the \textit{“An”d above. \textit{(SDPI/MAK)}.}}
\end{itemize}
\item[Paragraph 2.] \textit{[International,]}
\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{Proposed by co-facilitators:} International,
\item \textit{Agree and support \textit{(SDPI/MAK)}}
\end{itemize}
\item[Paragraph 3.] \textit{[International and]}
\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{Proposed by co-facilitators:} International and
\item \textit{Agree and support \textit{(SDPI/MAK)}}
\end{itemize}
\item[Paragraph 4.] Regions and subregions [and countries]
\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{Proposed by co-facilitators:} Regions, subregions, and countries
\item \textit{, may be removed before the \textit{“And” above \textit{(SDPI/MAK)}.}}
\end{itemize}
\item[Paragraph 5.] Comments not requested (no existing brackets)
\end{description}
D. ENHANCED SECTORAL AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
(Pages 10-11, Section VI.D)

This section was considered extensively at IP-3. Views are requested only on the existing language in the remaining brackets.

Paragraph 1. [and commitment]
Support removing the bracket and keeping the text. (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 2. At the national level, governments, as appropriate, should [undertake][pursue], in accordance with their laws, regulations and policies, [taking into account their national circumstances.] actions to build or improve regulatory and non-regulatory frameworks and institutional structures and capacities for multi-sectoral coherence [for the sound management of chemicals and wastes][in the implementation of the beyond 2020 instrument], as well as [promote][encourage] complementary action by relevant stakeholders.

We support the text in “Bold” above and suggest removal of brackets. (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 3. [conventions,]
- Support the text above and removal of the brackets. (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 4. It is also essential that at the international level, relevant international organizations and bodies, in particular the IOMC organizations [and the chemicals and waste-related conventions,] also support national and regional efforts to enable and enhance the participation of stakeholders and sectors and to promote awareness regarding the crosscutting nature of the sound management of chemicals and waste as [an essential element] [a contribution] to achieve the sustainable development goals.

- We support the text in “Bold” above and suggest removal of brackets. (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 5. In addition, mindful of the need to avoid duplication and taking into account their respective mandates [and constituencies], [such][relevant] international organizations and bodies [should be][are] invited to [endorse and adopt][formally recognize] [the beyond 2020 instrument] and strengthen their own engagement on [and ownership of] policies and actions for the sound management of chemicals and waste [through establishing a mechanism to coordinate activities and further include them in their programmes of work and budgets], [including coordinating relevant activities and programmes of work] relating to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its sustainable development goals and targets.

- We support the text in “Bold” above and suggest removal of the brackets from it.
The rest of the bracketed text may be removed or brackets remain. (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 6. [the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste] [the implementation of the beyond 2020 instrument]
- We support the text in “Bold” above and suggest removal of the brackets from it.
The rest of the bracketed text may be removed (SDPI/MAK)

Paragraph 7. [throughout the value chain of chemicals and waste]
We agree with the above text and removal of the brackets.
Paragraphs 8-10. \textit{Comments not requested (no existing brackets)}

Paragraph 11. The second half of the sentence contains a single bracket related to the assessment of the levels of achievement [resulted in progress]. The co-facilitators recommend the removal of the brackets on this paragraph.

\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{Support the text above with the removal of the brackets. (SDPI/MAK)}
\end{itemize}

Paragraph 12. All efforts to enhance sectoral and stakeholder engagement should be expected to lead to strengthened cooperation and coordination with respect to the [sound management of chemicals and waste][implementation of the beyond 2020 instrument], following a common and shared [and timeless] vision to be adopted by ICCM-5 [, [taking into account any engagement] [and endorsed] [and formally recognized] by the UN General Assembly (UNGA), other relevant international bodies such as the governing bodies of the IOMC members, and relevant MEAs [to secure the necessary ownership]].

\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{We support the text in “Bold” above and suggest removal of the brackets from it. The rest of the bracketed text may be removed. (SDPI/MAK)}
\end{itemize}

Paragraph 13. Paragraph 13 is currently in brackets. Based on the discussion at IP-3 and the importance placed on the existing role of the IOMC Organizations, the co-facilitators recommend the removal of the brackets on this paragraph.

\textit{We agree with the Co-facilitators and support the text and removal of brackets from the paragraph. (SDPI/MAK)}

We appreciate and thank the Co-facilitators for providing their valuable proposed text & suggestions/comments and IOMC for the opportunity offered to us, to contribute to IP on SAICM beyond 2020, by sharing our thoughts/comments and suggestions.

\textit{We hope the above are helpful/useful, inshallah.}

\textit{Wishing all the very best.}

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