



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة
联合国环境规划署



Reference: DTIE/PB/sm

Date: 21 June 2008

Dear Madam or Sir,

Since its adoption by the International Conference on Chemicals Management in Dubai in February 2006, the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management has established itself as an important new framework for global efforts to improve chemical safety. I am delighted to learn of initial progress in implementation, including through the efforts of the diverse community of national and civil society stakeholders of the Strategic Approach, the setting up of the Strategic Approach secretariat, the Quick Start Programme and regional coordination mechanisms, and the supportive work of the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC).

The achievements of the Strategic Approach in its first phase of implementation would not have been possible without the generous support of a large number of donors. The resources provided by donor Governments and organizations to finance the Quick Start Programme and the core functions and activities of the Strategic Approach secretariat have been critical for its success. I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of Governments and organizations that have graciously hosted Strategic Approach regional meetings, workshops and consultations.

The Strategic Approach is dependent on your continuing support to attain the Johannesburg Summit goal of the sound management of chemicals by 2020. In that regard, I wish to highlight upcoming budgetary needs in four priority areas. A prime objective is the financing of the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management in May 2009 and the preceding meeting of its Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group in October 2008. Of equal importance is the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund, for which the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme has set annual fund-raising targets of around \$7 million. The annual core budget of the Strategic Approach secretariat has been set at approximately \$1.2 million by the Conference, excluding activities such as regional meetings. Finally, international organizations, such as UNEP and its IOMC partners, rely on donor contributions to enable them to support implementation of the Strategic Approach in developing and transition economy countries.

I hope that it will be possible for your organization to consider contributing financially to this important endeavour.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner
Executive Director

Selected Strategic Approach NGO focal points (e.g. industry associations)

cc: Strategic Approach focal points

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