

Preparations for the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management

Consultation note

1. The present note on preparations for the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management has been developed by the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) for consultation with SAICM stakeholders. It sets out the mandate and proposes a venue, date, agenda, participation formula and budget for the session. **Stakeholders are invited to submit comments to the secretariat on the proposed session arrangements by 28 February 2008 by e-mail at saicm@chemicals.unep.ch or by fax at +41 22 797 3460.** Any comments submitted will be posted on the SAICM website.

A. Mandate

2. At its first session, held in Dubai from 4 to 6 February 2006, the Conference adopted the Overarching Policy Strategy, one of the three SAICM constituent documents,¹ which provides, in paragraph 24, that the Conference will undertake periodic reviews of SAICM and perform the following functions:

- (a) To receive reports from all relevant stakeholders on progress in implementation of SAICM and to disseminate information as appropriate;
- (b) To evaluate the implementation of SAICM with a view to reviewing progress against the 2020 target,² taking strategic decisions and programming, prioritizing and updating the approach as necessary;
- (c) To provide guidance on implementation of SAICM to stakeholders;
- (d) To report on progress in implementation of SAICM to stakeholders;
- (e) To promote implementation of existing international instruments and programmes;
- (f) To promote coherence among chemicals management instruments at the international level;
- (g) To promote the strengthening of national chemicals management capacities;
- (h) To work to ensure that the necessary financial and technical resources are available for implementation of SAICM;
- (i) To evaluate the performance of the financing of SAICM;
- (j) To focus attention and call for appropriate action on emerging policy issues as they arise and to forge consensus on priorities for cooperative action;
- (k) To promote information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation;
- (l) To provide a high-level international forum for multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral discussion and exchange of experience on chemicals management issues with the participation of non-governmental organizations in accordance with applicable rules of procedure;
- (m) To promote the participation of all stakeholders in the implementation of SAICM.

1 The other two constituent documents are the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management and the Global Programme of Action (SAICM/ICCM.1/7, annexes I and III).

2 The "2020 target" refers to the aim set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

B. Convening the second session of the Conference

3. In its resolution I/1, adopted at its first session, the Conference invited the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to convene subsequent sessions of the Conference, working in collaboration with the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), the United Nations Development Programme and other intergovernmental organizations.

C. Venue and date

4. Paragraph 25 of the Overarching Policy Strategy provides that the second session of the Conference should be held in 2009 and that, “where appropriate, sessions of the Conference should be held back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations in order to enhance synergies and cost-effectiveness and to promote the Strategic Approach’s multi-sectoral nature.” Following consultation with IOMC-participating and observer organizations and the concurrence of the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Executive Director of UNEP has tentatively scheduled the second session of the Conference to take place in Geneva from 11 to 15 May 2009, immediately before the sixty-second World Health Assembly. The second session would itself be preceded by the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

D. Provisional agenda and annotated provisional agenda

5. Following a request from the member States of the European Union and of the “JUSSCANNZ” group of countries (Japan, United States, Switzerland, Canada, Australia, Norway and New Zealand) at their meeting in Paris on 12 June 2007, the secretariat has developed the attached drafts of the provisional agenda (SAICM/ICCM.2/1) and annotated provisional agenda (SAICM/ICCM.2/1/Add.1) for the second session for consultation with all stakeholders. Stakeholders are invited to note that the proposed agenda items are based on the official functions of the Conference set out above, with the addition of several items that the participants may wish to adopt as standard items for each session of the Conference, such as those relating to budget matters and collaboration with intergovernmental organizations.

E. Preparations for the second session

6. The second session of the Conference will be preceded by a meeting of the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group charged with preparing draft rules of procedure for consideration by the Conference. As indicated in the secretariat’s separate consultation note of 26 July 2007, the meeting of the Working Group has been tentatively scheduled to take place in Rome from 22 to 24 October 2008, back-to-back with the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.

7. With the anticipated holding of a meeting for Latin American and Caribbean countries in late 2007 or early 2008, all regional groups will have had an opportunity for initial intersessional consultations.³ Subject to the availability of resources, some regions may hold further such meetings in the year preceding the second session of the Conference, and provision will be made for each region to meet in Geneva for final consultations on Sunday, 10 May 2009 on the eve of the second session. Regional focal points may also wish to facilitate discussions in preparation for the second session through teleconferences and e-mail correspondence.

8. Stakeholders may wish to develop positions and proposals on key issues⁴ and, through the secretariat, circulate them in advance of the session in order to give other stakeholders the opportunity to reflect upon them.

9. In collaboration with the secretariat and an international steering committee, the Government of Canada is facilitating a project to develop modalities for reporting on the implementation of SAICM. Stakeholders wishing to take the lead in facilitating inputs on other key items of business for the second session of the Conference are encouraged to coordinate with the secretariat as soon as possible.

3 Regional meetings have been held as follows: African region, Cairo, 11–14 September 2006; EU-JUSSCANNZ countries, Barcelona, 20–22 November 2006 and Paris, 12 June 2007; Central and Eastern Europe region, Riga, 4–6 December 2006; Asia-Pacific region, Bangkok, 21–23 May 2007. Reports of the meetings are available at <http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/regionalmeetings.htm>.

4 The African and Central and Eastern European regions have already developed regional positions on financial considerations which may be found in the meeting reports referred to in the previous footnote.

10. The Overarching Policy Strategy provides, in paragraph 27, that the Conference should have a Bureau with the functions specified in the rules of procedure. Because the rules of procedure will not be decided upon until the second session, the structure of the Bureau is not yet known. It is suggested, however, that the Conference consider adopting the draft rules of procedure prepared by the Working Group or, if further work on those rules is required during the session, that it consider initially using the rules of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, *mutatis mutandis*. It is therefore assumed that the second session of the Conference might commence with an interim Bureau consisting, at a minimum, of the traditional quintet of a president and four vice-presidents, with one of the vice-presidents acting as rapporteur. In order to ensure a smooth start to the session, and without prejudice to any structure ultimately agreed upon by the Conference, each regional group would be encouraged to agree on at least one nomination for an interim Bureau of the second session of the Conference and to communicate its nominations to the secretariat in advance of the session. In addition, groups may wish to identify possible candidates to chair any contact groups that may be established during the session, such as a legal drafting group or a budget group.

F. Participation formula and languages

11. The multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral character of SAICM was a prominent feature in its development and the continued engagement of the full spectrum of stakeholders will be critical to its successful implementation. The Overarching Policy Strategy indicates in paragraph 24 (l), that the functions of the Conference include providing “a high-level international forum for multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral discussion and exchange of experience on chemicals management issues with the participation of non-governmental organizations in accordance with applicable rules of procedure”. In paragraph 28 it sets out the functions of the secretariat, including to facilitate “maximum multi-stakeholder participation” in sessions of the Conference.

12. In the light of the above, the secretariat proposes that participation at the second session of the Conference be open to representatives of all interested Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, subject to credentials and accreditation requirements similar to those applied at the first session of the Conference⁵ (to be confirmed when the Conference adopts its rules of procedure). Participation by all relevant sectors should be encouraged. The secretariat proposes that, subject to the availability of resources, travel funding be provided at a level at least equal to that provided for the first session of the Conference and the sessions of the Preparatory Committee. This would mean funding the air travel and daily subsistence allowances of two representatives from each developing and transition economy Government and approximately 20 non-governmental representatives. Governments seeking travel funding would be required to nominate individuals from two different sectors, such as agriculture, environment, health, industry and labour. Geographical, sectoral and gender balance and past involvement in the SAICM process would be taken into account in the allocation of travel funding to non-governmental organizations. In addition, in order to boost multi-sectoral participation, budgetary provision could be made for additional daily subsistence allowances to support attendance at the second session of the Conference by a limited number of stakeholders expected to participate in the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the sixty-second World Health Assembly.

13. In the light of experience with the first session of the Conference and sessions of the Preparatory Committee, and taking into account the timing of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the sixty-second World Health Assembly, the secretariat estimates that approximately 600 people will participate in the second session of the Conference on the basis of the funding proposed above.

14. To facilitate effective participation by all stakeholders, the second session of the Conference will be held in the six official languages of the United Nations.⁶ Discussions with the secretariat of the Stockholm Convention have commenced with regard to possible sharing of conference services in order to reduce costs.

G. High-level dimension of the second session of the Conference

⁵ Each Government participating in the first session of the Conference was required to provide credentials for its representatives issued either from its head of state or Government or by its minister for foreign affairs following the standard procedure used for meetings of the conferences of the parties to international agreements and governing bodies of intergovernmental organizations. The participation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations at the first session of the Conference was confirmed by a simple accreditation procedure based on organizations' registration for the session.

⁶ Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

15. Stakeholders may wish to consider how best to implement paragraph 24 (l) of the Overarching Policy Strategy, which indicates that the Conference should “provide a high-level international forum”. Options for the second session of the Conference might include:

- (a) The inclusion of prominent individuals as keynote speakers during the opening ceremony;
- (b) The scheduling of a high-level segment on the last one or two days of the session to allow for speeches by ministers, heads of organizations and other senior representatives;
- (c) The organization of special events during the session, such as a thematic roundtable for ministers, heads of organizations and other senior representatives;
- (d) The issuing of a formal declaration, following on from the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management, as one of the outcomes of the session.

H. Links with the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the sixty-second World Health Assembly

16. As noted above, it is proposed that budgetary provision be made to facilitate attendance at the second session of the Conference by a limited number of relevant stakeholders participating in the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the sixty-second World Health Assembly. In addition, the draft annotated provisional agenda for the second session of the Conference suggests that there be an interface with these two other important meetings as follows. It is anticipated that decisions taken at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention will feature in the discussion of the outcome of the work of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and coordination between the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention and the Stockholm Convention. In the case of the sixty-second World Health Assembly, it is suggested that, under an agenda item on collaboration with intergovernmental organizations, the Conference at its second session consider communicating to the sixty-second World Health Assembly its views on the importance of public health issues in the implementation of SAICM. Another possible means of establishing a link to the sixty-second World Health Assembly would be to make health issues the focus of the thematic roundtable suggested above. Stakeholders may wish to reflect further on how the Conference might best capitalize on the fact that its second session will be held just after the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and just before the sixty-second World Health Assembly.

I. Budget and fundraising

17. Taking into account the above-mentioned proposals, the estimated costs of the second session of the Conference are set out in the following table. It should be emphasized that these are initial estimates and subject to refinement on the basis of official quotations for conference services, confirmation of cost-sharing with the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the identification of funded participants. More detailed estimates are currently being prepared for consideration by potential donors.

Initial budget estimate for the second session of the Conference, 11–5 May 2009 (including regional meetings on 10 May)

Item	Estimated cost (US \$)
Conference services ⁷	300,000
Full travel funding for 300 participants	1,155,300
Partial travel funding for 40 participants	82,040
Miscellaneous	60,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,597,340</i>

⁷ Including translation of documents, interpretation, equipment, support staff, etc.

International Conference on Chemicals Management
Second session
Geneva, 11–15 May 2009

Draft provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (d) Appointment of a credentials committee;
 - (e) Organization of work.
3. Report of the credentials committee.
4. Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management:
 - (a) Modalities for reporting by stakeholders on progress in implementation;¹
 - (b) Evaluation of and guidance on implementation;²
 - (c) Implementation of and coherence among international instruments and programmes;³
 - (d) Strengthening of national chemicals management capacities;⁴
 - (e) Financial and technical resources for implementation;⁵
 - (f) Emerging policy issues;⁶
 - (g) Information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation.⁷

¹ SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy paragraph 24 (a).

² Ibid, paragraphs 24 (b), (c) and (d).

³ Ibid, paragraphs 24 (e) and (f).

⁴ Ibid, paragraphs 24 (g).

⁵ Ibid, paragraphs 24 (h) and (i).

⁶ Ibid, paragraph 24 (j).

⁷ Ibid, paragraph 24 (k).

5. Collaboration with intergovernmental organizations.⁸
 6. Activities of the secretariat and adoption of the budget.⁷
 7. Venue and date of the third session of the Conference.
 8. Other matters.
 9. Adoption of the report.
 10. Closure of the session.
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⁸ Based on the agendas of the World Health Assembly, Committee B. The Conference may wish to adopt this as a standard agenda item for all of its meetings.

⁹ Based on Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, agendas of the first, second and third meetings of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/POPS/COP.1/1, UNEP/POPS/COP.2/1, UNEP/POPS/COP.3/1). The Conference may wish to adopt this as a standard agenda item for all of its meetings.

International Conference on Chemicals Management

Second session

Geneva, 11–15 May 2009

Agenda item 2 (c)

Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda

Draft annotated provisional agenda

Item 1. Opening of the session

1. The second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 11 May 2009, at the International Conference Centre Geneva, in Geneva, Switzerland.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered.

Item 2. Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the rules of procedure

3. The Conference may wish to decide to adopt the draft rules of procedure prepared by the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group at its first meeting, held in Rome from 22 to 24 October 2008, which are set forth in the report of that meeting (SAICM/ICCM.2/2). In the event that the Conference decides not to adopt the draft rules prepared by the Working Group at the outset of the current session, it may wish to consider using provisionally the rules of procedure of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, mutatis mutandis, to govern the current session until such time as it agrees on final rules of procedure.

(b) Election of officers

4. Subject to the rules of procedure, the Conference will elect its president, [] vice-presidents and [].¹ One of the vice-Presidents will also act as rapporteur.
5. Upon election, the president will preside in accordance with the rules of procedure.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

6. The Conference may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda contained in document SAICM/ICCM.2/1.

(d) Appointment of the credentials committee

7. The Conference may wish to appoint a credentials committee to discharge the functions specified in paragraph 11, below, with the assistance of the secretariat.

(e) Organization of work

8. The Conference may wish to meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day, subject to adjustment as necessary.

¹ Prior to issuance of the annotated provisional agenda, this section will be updated in the light of recommendations from the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group

Item 3. Report of the Credentials Committee

9. As indicated in the letter inviting Governments to participate in the second session of the Conference, the credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers must be submitted to the secretariat, if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. Information regarding any change in the composition of any delegation must also be submitted to the secretariat. Government credentials must be issued either by a head of state or government or by a minister for foreign affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. If credentials are submitted in the form of a copy or by fax, original credentials must be submitted upon registration. Please note that submission of credentials prior to the session will greatly facilitate the advance clearing process by the secretariat.

10. As indicated in the letter inviting them to participate in the session, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations must be duly accredited. The name of any such organization seeking accreditation is to be submitted to the secretariat, if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. At the same time, each organization must submit to the secretariat the names of its representatives to the session. Any late changes in those names must also be submitted to the secretariat. Please note that submission of a pre-registration form or registration at the session by individual representatives will be considered a request for accreditation by the organization concerned.

11. The credentials committee, with the assistance of the secretariat, will examine the credentials and accreditation of the representatives at the session and report to the Conference on the results of its examination. The Conference will consider the report of the Committee and render a decision on the extent to which credentials and accreditation have been duly submitted in the proper form.

12. The representatives attending the session may participate in the session pending the decision of the Conference upon their credentials and accreditation.

Item 4. Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

(a) Modalities for reporting by stakeholders on progress in implementation

13. Paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management² lists the functions of the Conference. Among its other functions the Conference is to “receive reports from all relevant stakeholders on progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach and to disseminate information as appropriate” and is to “report on progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach to stakeholders.” Paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy calls on the secretariat to facilitate such reporting.

14. During the period following the first session of the Conference, the Government of Canada sponsored a project on the development of possible reporting modalities through collaboration between the secretariat and an international steering committee chaired by Canada. The Conference may wish to consider the draft indicators and other reporting modalities developed through the project, which are described in the project report (SAICM/ICCM.2/3), with a view to deciding upon indicators to guide future reporting on implementation of the Strategic Approach.

(b) Evaluation of and guidance on implementation

15. Paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy also provides that the Conference is to “evaluate the implementation of the Strategic Approach with a view to reviewing progress against the 2020 target³ and taking strategic decisions, programming, prioritizing and updating the approach as necessary,” and is to “provide guidance on implementation of the Strategic Approach to stakeholders.” The Conference will have before it a consolidated report by the secretariat on implementation of the Strategic Approach during the period since its adoption in February 2006 (SAICM/ICCM.2/4). In seeking input for the report the secretariat invited Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take account of the draft indicators developed in the course of the Canadian-led project on reporting modalities referred to above. The Conference may wish to consider the report with a view to evaluating initial progress and making recommendations to guide stakeholders in the further implementation of the Strategic Approach.

² SAICM/ICCM.1/7, annex II.

³ The “2020 target” refers to the aim set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

(c) Implementation of and coherence among international instruments and programmes

16. Paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy further provides that another function of the Conference is to “promote implementation of existing international instruments and programmes.” The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on the ratification and implementation status of the principal international instruments and programmes relating to the sound management of chemicals (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/1). In addition, the Conference will have before it the report of the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme on the operation of the Programme from 2006 to 2009 (SAICM/ICCM.2/5).⁴ The strategic priorities of the Programme include the development and strengthening of national chemicals management institutions, plans, programmes and activities to implement the Strategic Approach, building upon work conducted to implement international chemicals-related agreements and initiatives. The Conference may wish to note the information contained in the documents, consider ways in which further implementation of the instruments and programmes could be promoted, and make recommendations accordingly.

17. The Overarching Policy Strategy provides that another function of the Conference is to “promote coherence among chemicals management instruments at the international level.” In that regard, the Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat containing in its annex the final report on the work of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Chemicals and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, together with a summary of the consideration of that report by the conferences of the parties to the Basel and Rotterdam Conventions at their ninth and fourth meetings, respectively (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/2).⁵ The Conference may wish to note the outcome of the work of the ad hoc joint working group and consider ways in which coherence between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and other relevant chemicals management instruments could be promoted, and make recommendations accordingly.⁶

(d) Strengthening of national chemicals management capacities

18. In its paragraph 24, the Overarching Policy Strategy provides that the functions of the Conference include to “promote the strengthening of national chemicals management capacities.” The Conference will have before it a report on implementation of the Strategic Approach during the period since its adoption in February 2006 (SAICM/ICCM.2/4), a report of the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme on the operation of the Programme from 2006 to 2009 (SAICM/ICCM.2/5) and a report of the Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee (IOCC) on the work of the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) to strengthen national chemicals management capacities (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/3).⁷ The Conference may wish to consider these documents with a view to making recommendations on the strengthening of national chemicals management capacities and, if appropriate, endorsing certain guidance documents and identifying any gaps in the available guidance.

(e) Financial and technical resources for implementation

19. Paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy provides that another function of the Conference is to “work to ensure that the necessary financial and technical resources are available for implementation” and to “evaluate the performance of the financing of the Strategic Approach.” Paragraph 19 provides that the financial arrangements for the Strategic Approach include, among other things: actions at the national or sub-national level to support financing of Strategic Approach objectives; enhancing industry partnerships and financial and technical participation in the implementation of Strategic Approach objectives; integration of Strategic Approach objectives into multilateral and bilateral development assistance cooperation; making more effective use of and building upon existing sources of

⁴ The Quick Start Programme, supported by a trust fund together with multilateral, bilateral and other forms of cooperation, was established in accordance with paragraph 19 of the Overarching Policy Strategy and resolution I/4 of the International Conference on Chemicals Management. The Programme supports activities to enable initial capacity-building and implementation of the Strategic Approach in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

⁵ The ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention was held in ****, Indonesia, from ** to ** 2008. The fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention was held in Rome from 27 to 31 October 2008. A summary of the consideration of the report by the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention at its fourth meeting, held in Geneva from 4 to 8 May 2009 will be made available in document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/2/Add.1.

⁶ Drafting note: As the International Conference on Chemicals Management has no authority to instruct the governing bodies of the instruments, its recommendations might focus on indirect measures such as the potential for SAICM national focal points and inter-ministerial committees to assist in coordinating Convention-related work at the national level.

⁷ The appropriateness of such a report and willingness of the IOMC-participating organizations to prepare it needs to be discussed with IOCC.

relevant global funding,⁸ supporting initial capacity-building activities for the implementation of Strategic Approach objectives by establishing the Quick Start Programme; and inviting Governments and other stakeholders to provide resources to enable the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to fulfil the tasks set out in paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy. In its resolution I/4 the Conference provided that the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme should report to the Conference at its second and third sessions on the implementation of the Programme.

20. The Conference will have before it a report by the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme on the operation of the Programme from 2006 to 2009 (SAICM/ICCM.2/5) and a report by the secretariat on financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/6).⁹ The Conference may wish to consider those reports with a view to making recommendations on ensuring the availability of resources for supporting implementation of the Strategic Approach and an evaluation of the performance of financing of the Strategic Approach.

(f) Emerging policy issues

21. Another function of the Conference listed in paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy is to “focus attention and call for appropriate action on emerging policy issues as they arise and to forge consensus on priorities for cooperative action.” The Conference will have before it the following meeting reports and submissions from international scientific and policy discussion forums which it may wish to take into account:... [to be completed]¹⁰.

22. The Conference may wish to consider the above reports with a view to recommending possible cooperative action on priority emerging issues.

(g) Information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation

23. In its paragraph 24, the Overarching Policy Strategy provides that the functions of the Conference include to “promote information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation.” The Conference will have before it notes by the secretariat on the establishment of the information clearing house for the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/7) and on the engagement of scientific organizations in support of implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/8). The Conference may wish to consider the above-mentioned documents with a view to recommending further action in the period between the second and third sessions of the Conference and, if appropriate, recognizing the availability of relevant national, regional and global information resources that could contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Approach.

Item 5. Collaboration with intergovernmental organizations

24. In resolution I/1 adopted at its first session, the Conference commended the Strategic Approach to the attention of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations and encouraged them to endorse or otherwise appropriately acknowledge the Strategic Approach with a view to incorporating its objectives into their programmes of work within their mandates and to report thereon to the Conference. Furthermore, in their Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management,

⁸ Including by “inviting the Global Environment Facility and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and its Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol within their mandates to consider whether and how they might support implementation of appropriate and relevant Strategic Approach objectives.”

⁹ Information on financial and technical resources will be available in various documents before the Conference, such as the report of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board and the report on initial implementation of the Strategic Approach. To facilitate a focused discussion on such matters, however, the secretariat envisages that a separate report drawing together all relevant information in a single document might be warranted. Subject to the availability of resources, it may be appropriate to commission a professional report on the topic on a similar basis to that of the financial considerations study that was prepared for consideration by the Preparatory Committee for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management at its third session, in September 2005. That study was sponsored by a donor Government and researched and written by a consultant under the auspices of the World Bank and the secretariat. Should stakeholders agree that such a report on financial and technical resources would assist the Conference in fulfilling its functions of ensuring the availability of resources and evaluating the performance of financing, the secretariat would seek out donors willing to fund such an undertaking and circulate a draft terms of reference for consultation prior to commissioning the report.

¹⁰ Relevant reports may include those of the fifth and sixth sessions of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety, held, respectively, in Budapest from 25 to 28 September 2006 and in Dakar from 15 to 19 September 2008; the 41st Congress of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, held in Turin, Italy, from 5 to 11 August 2007; the Fifth World Congress of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, held in Sydney, Australia, from 3 to 7 August 2008; and the International Panel on Chemical Pollution. The relevance and availability of such reports will be assessed by the secretariat with a view to their possible citation in the final annotated provisional agenda. [SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/4 to 8]

ministers, heads of delegation and others assembled at the first session of the Conference committed themselves to striving “to integrate the Strategic Approach into the work programmes of all relevant United Nations organizations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes consistent with their mandates as accorded by their respective governing bodies.” The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on action taken by the governing bodies of intergovernmental organizations in relation to the Strategic Approach and on steps taken to integrate the Strategic Approach into the work programmes of those organizations (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/9). In addition, the Conference will have before it the IOCC report on the work of IOMC-participating organizations to strengthen national chemicals management capacities (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/3).¹¹ The Conference may wish to take note of the information contained therein.

25. In its resolution I/3 adopted at its first session, the Conference invited the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety to “continue its important role in providing an open, transparent and inclusive forum for discussing issues of common interest and also new and emerging issues, and to continue to contribute through this to the implementation of the Strategic Approach... and the work of other chemicals-related international organizations and institutions.” The Conference will have before it a report by the Forum on its contributions to the implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/10).¹² The Conference may wish to take note of the report.¹³

26. The second session of the Conference is being held immediately before the sixty-second World Health Assembly in accordance with expectations set out in the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach and resolution I/1 of the Conference providing that sessions of the Conference should be held back-to-back with meetings of governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations. The Conference will have before it a report by the World Health Organization summarizing the organization’s activities in support of the implementation of the Strategic Approach and highlighting public health issues arising from the use of chemicals in various sectors (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/11). The Conference may wish to take note of the report of the World Health Organization and to consider communicating to the World Health Assembly a message regarding the importance it attaches to public health issues in the implementation of the Strategic Approach.

27. Decision 22/4 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme calls for the Strategic Approach to be “regularly reviewed to assess progress on chemical safety, in the light of the targets set at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in cooperation with other relevant processes”. One of the targets contained in paragraph 23 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,¹⁴ is the achievement of sound chemicals management by 2020, which was subsequently also taken up as the overall objective of the Strategic Approach.¹⁵ Progress in the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation is regularly evaluated by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. Participants at the second session of the Conference may therefore wish to note that at its eleventh session, held in New York from 28 April to 9 May 2003, the Commission agreed on a multi-year programme of work which includes “chemicals” as one of the thematic clusters to be considered in its 2010–2011 cycle. The Conference will have before it a briefing note provided by the secretariat of the Commission on preparations for the Commission’s consideration of chemicals in its 2010–2011 cycle (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/12). The Conference may wish to consider adopting a resolution commending the report of the second session of the Conference to the attention of the Commission as a potential contribution to the latter’s deliberations and encouraging Strategic Approach stakeholders to engage actively in the Commission’s work on chemicals.

¹¹ The appropriateness of such a report and willingness of the IOMC participating organizations to prepare it will need to be confirmed by the IOCC.

¹² The appropriateness of such a report and willingness of the IFCS secretariat to prepare it will need to be confirmed by the IFCS secretariat.

¹³ At its fifth session, held in Budapest from 25 to 29 September 2006, the Forum adopted a resolution establishing a working group on the future role and functions of the Forum, “including options for its institutional arrangement and consideration of a joint secretariat with SAICM..., its possible relation to ICCM, and its contribution to the implementation of SAICM, for consideration at Forum VI.” The resolution also provided that at its sixth session the Forum “shall, if it so decides, propose a draft decision for possible consideration by the ICCM.” The Conference may therefore be invited to consider the outcomes of the Forum’s deliberations, possibly under the present agenda item. If so, the present annotated provisional agenda will be updated accordingly.

¹⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.I. and corrigendum) chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

¹⁵ “The overall objective of the Strategic Approach is to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle so that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.” Paragraph 13, Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management. See also paragraph 23 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation reproduced in the appendix to the Overarching Policy Strategy.

Item 6. Activities of the secretariat and adoption of the budget

28. The Conference will have before it a report by the secretariat on its activities, expenditures and income during the period 2006–2009 and the proposed programme of work and budget of the secretariat for the period 2009–2012 (SAICM/ICCM.2/9). The Conference may wish to take note of the information contained in the above-mentioned document and consider the possible action suggested. If necessary, updated information will be provided on expenditures incurred and contributions pledged or received in document SAICM/ICCM.2/9/Add.1.

Item 7. Venue and date of the third session of the Conference

29. In paragraph 26, the Overarching Policy Strategy provides for the third session of the Conference to be held in 2012 unless otherwise decided by the Conference. The Overarching Policy Strategy and resolution I/1 adopted by the Conference at its first session call for sessions of the Conference, where appropriate, to be held back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations in order to enhance synergies and cost-effectiveness and to promote the multi-sectoral nature of the Strategic Approach. The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on the scheduling of the first and second sessions of the Conference back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Assembly, respectively, and on the meetings of governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations expected to take place in 2012 (SAICM/ICCM.2/ INF/13). The Conference may wish to agree on a venue and date for its third session or to determine a process by which the date and venue of its next session could be decided following the conclusion of the current session.

Item 8. Other matters

30. The Conference may wish to consider other matters raised by participants in the course of the session.

Item 9. Adoption of the report

31. At its final meeting of the session, the Conference will be invited to consider and adopt the report on the work of the Conference at its second session as prepared by the Rapporteur. The report, containing text relating to the proceedings in the plenary meetings of the session through Thursday, 14 May 2009, will be presented for consideration and approval by the Conference on Friday, 15 May. The Conference may at that time wish to approve the report, with any amendments it may wish to make.. In keeping with the practice followed by the Conference at its first session, the Conference may agree that the section of the report pertaining to the plenary meetings taking place on Friday will be prepared by the Rapporteur, in cooperation with the secretariat, and incorporated in the session report under the authority of the President of the Conference. The final report on the work of the session will be circulated after the closure of the session.

Item 10. Closure of the session

32. It is expected that the session will be closed by the President by 6 p.m. on Friday, 15 May 2009.
