



SAICM/ACG.4/INF/4

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Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda*

**Outcomes of second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management and follow-up action:
Commission on Sustainable Development**

**Draft note on potential questions and issues for consideration at the
Fourth Regional Implementation Meeting of the United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa**

Note by the secretariat

The secretariat has the honour to circulate, in annex to the present note, a draft note prepared by the secretariat for the consideration of meeting participants concerning the Regional Implementation Meeting of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), which will be held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 October 2009. The Regional Implementation Meeting aims to prepare the contribution from the UNECA region to the 18th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, which will be held in New York from 3 to 14 May 2010 to consider chemicals as one of the five main thematic issues (more information on the Commission's work is available in SAICM/ACG.4/INF/2). The note contains draft questions and issues which meeting participants may wish to reflect on in preparing for the Regional Implementation Meeting.

* SAICM/ACG.4/1.

Annex

Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

18th Cycle of the Commission on Sustainable Development

POTENTIAL QUESTIONS AND ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION AT UNECA RIM

1. The secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management submits the following questions and issues relating to chemicals management for the consideration of SAICM stakeholders participating in the African Regional Implementation Meeting for Sustainable Development, scheduled to take place from 26 to 30 October 2009 in Addis Ababa.
2. Potential questions and issues relating to chemicals management for consideration at RIM:
 - Relationship between existing frameworks with regard to promoting the sound management of chemicals at the global level.
 - Avoiding duplication between different frameworks and seeking mutual reinforcement as well as synergies towards the achievement of the objective of sound chemicals management by 2020.
 - Outcomes of CSD process to be fed into SAICM / ICCM3 which offers a comprehensive policy forum to pursue the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation objective of sound chemicals management by 2020.
 - Utility of SAICM to promote sound management of chemicals at national, regional and global levels.
 - Progress achieved in SAICM implementation.
 - Contribution to the identification of emerging policy issues to be considered at the third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management to be held in 2012: CSD to provide information to the Open-ended Working Group for the assessment of proposals concerning emerging policy issues.¹
 - Mainstreaming of sound chemicals management in development strategies and assistance efforts.
 - Financing of sound management of chemicals.
 - Regional efforts in relation to the achievement of the 2020 objective.

¹ According to para. 11 of resolution II/4, adopted by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session, the OEWG will consider “regional inputs and other information to assess the proposals” taking into account specific criteria (i.e. magnitude of the problem and its impact on human health or the environment; extent to which the issue is being addressed by other bodies, particularly at the international level, and how it is related to, complements, or does not duplicate such work; existing knowledge and perceived gaps in understanding about these issues; extent to which the issue is of a cross-cutting nature; information on the anticipated deliverables from action on the issue); hence, CSD could offer its contribution to the OEWG on issues nominated and made public as provided for in para. 6, resolution II/4.

- Acknowledgement by CSD of SAICM and invitation to provide input to CSD policy review on chemicals.
- Role of the private sector in supporting the global sound management of chemicals (ICCM2 resolution II/7, para. 7)
- The importance of chemicals management for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (ICCM2 resolution II/7, para. 5)
- Progress achieved in fostering synergies between the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes 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 and with the Strategic Approach as a useful experience in improving the effectiveness of multilateral environmental agreements and processes (ICCM2 resolution II/7, para. 8).
